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PREFACE

The heritage of the *King James Version* started with the sixteenth century translation of William Tyndale. Tyndale’s work greatly influenced the translators of the *King James Version*, and thus, many of his renditions of the text were retained in the 1611 translation of the *King James Version*. Many revisions have been made to the original *King James Version* since its first publication. The *International King James Version* is another revision into contemporary English. Because of the great respect that Bible students have had for the *King James Version*, the publishers of this revision worked with the purpose of bringing the original 1611 translation to an expanded audience of readers who speak English as their second language. Since there is never an end to the work of translation, the same is true in reference to the work of revision. All languages change, and thus, the changes of the language into which any version is rendered must continually be incorporated into new revisions. Because of the continued impact of the original *King James Version* on the religious world, it was believed by those who have worked with this revision that the heritage of the original translation should be continued through revisions that would bring the literary styles of the original *King James Version* into contemporary English that is easy to read.

All who were involved in the *International King James Version* project maintained a high regard for the verbal plenary inspiration of the Scriptures. The guiding principle was maintained that every word in the original autographs was inscribed without error through the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit in inspiration. The Bible in its entirety was given to men from God as the Holy Spirit carried along the minds of godly men in order that the original autographs be written without error. The art of preserving the Scriptures through the work of scribes who faithfully copied the original autographs, was not inspired. However, through the providential hand of God, we believe that the Scriptures have been preserved for us today in a form with which God is pleased, and by which all men can come to a knowledge of the message of the gospel.

This revision was made with general reference to the principles of translation that were maintained by the original translators of the 1611 *King James Version*. A literal approach to rendition was foremost in the minds of the revisers. Except for the translation of idioms, every effort was made to avoid paraphrasing. In those texts where a word or phrase is highly inferred, italics are used to alert the reader to the fact that a particular word or phrase has been necessarily included to make the reading of the text understood. When any revision of the original translation was made, every effort was made to bring the rendition into clear and natural English that reflects literary quality in contemporary English. Since one of the purposes of this version was to bring the original text of the Scriptures alive in contemporary English, at-
tention was given to sentence structure that could easily be understood. Short sentences have been incorporated in order to give the reader the advantage of a better understanding of the text. In shortening sentences, most of the Hebrew and Greek conjunctions that were often used instead of punctuation in the original autographs, have been retained in order to maintain reading similarity with the original King James Version. Depending on the context, however, we have taken the liberty to translate the Greek word kai with justifiable English equivalents that aid in maintaining continuity of reading.

In order to produce a revision in contemporary English that is easy to read, and yet faithful to the original Hebrew and Greek texts, some revisions have been made in order to conform to contemporary literary style. Present-day vocabulary, punctuation and syntax have been determined according to present-day literary style. The archaic words of “thee” and “thou,” and similar old English words, have been changed to contemporary forms. The “eth” and “est” endings have thus given way to the modern usage of verb spelling and wording. In order to maintain honor of God, pronouns that are used in reference to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have been capitalized. Because of the difficulty of determining the standards of weights, measures and monies, the original ancient words have been retained. All quotations of the Old Testament in the New Testament have been placed in italics and quotation marks in order to alert the reader to their presence in the text. Quotation marks without italics have been used to signify the biblical author’s quotation of speakers in the text. The symbol ¶ indicates paragraphs. Subtitles have been added in the text in order to aid the student to identify major changes of subjects by the original authors.

Every effort has been made to remain faithful to the original Hebrew and Greek texts. Though the original translators of the 1611 translation worked from an assortment of reliable manuscripts, we have felt compelled to include textual revisions of the Nestle and United Bible Societies’ texts in determining readings with more significant manuscript evidence. Verses and phrases that are in brackets are those readings that are questioned by the Nestle and United Bible Societies’ texts, and yet, have been retained in this revision because of sufficient manuscript evidence.

The International King James Version is the result of a sincere interest on the part of thousands of Christians who believe that God communicates to the world today through His written word. This version is the work of dedicated believers in the Bible who seek to present to the world a version that is easy to read by those who seek to understand God’s message of grace to all men. We send this version forth with the goal that men and women throughout the world will have a greater opportunity to study God’s will, and by obedience to such, live their lives in an acceptable manner before our Creator in waiting for the coming of His Son.
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Genesis 1

Chapter 1

Creation

1 ¶ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
2 And the earth was without form and void. And darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters.
3 Then God said, “Let there be light.” And there was light.
4 And God saw the light, that it was good. And God divided the light from the darkness.
5 And God called the light day. And the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
6 ¶ Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters. And let it divide the waters from the waters.”
7 And God made the expanse. And He divided the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so.
8 And God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.
9 ¶ Then God said, “Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place and let the dry land appear.” And it was so.
10 And God called the dry land earth. And the gathering together of the waters, He called seas. And God saw that it was good.
11 Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth grass, the plants yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after its kind, whose seed is in itself upon the earth.” And it was so.
12 So the earth brought forth grass and plants bearing seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them after their kind. And God saw that it was good.
13 And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.
14 ¶ Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heaven to divide the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years.
15 “And let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth.” And it was so.
16 And God made two great lights, the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also.
17 ¶ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,
18 and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.
19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.
20 ¶ Then God said, “Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creatures that have life, and birds that may fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens.”
21 And God created great creatures, and every living creature that moves, that the waters brought forth abundantly after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind. And God saw that it was good.
22 Then God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas. And let birds multiply on the earth.”
23 And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.
24 ¶ Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: livestock and creeping things, and beasts of the earth after their kind.” And it was so.
25 And God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and livestock after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, in one kind. And God saw that it was good.
26 ¶ Then God said, “Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every
creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

27 So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him. He created them male and female.

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it. And have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

29 ¶ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant bearing seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed. To you it will be for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Chapter 2

1 ¶ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all the hosts of them.

2 So on the seventh day God ended His work that He had made. And He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had made.

3 And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He had rested from all His work that God created and made.

Adam and Eve

4 ¶ This is the history of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

5 before any plant of the field had appeared on the earth and before any plant of the field had grown. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

6 But there went up a mist from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.
21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept. And He took one of his ribs and closed up the place with flesh.

22 And with “the rib that the LORD God had taken from man, He made a woman and brought her to the man.

23 Then Adam said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She will be called Woman because she was taken out of Man.”

24 “For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and will cleave to his wife. And they will be one flesh.

25 Now they were both naked, the man and his wife. And they were not ashamed.

Chapter 3

The Fall of Man

1 Now “the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, God has said, ‘You will not eat of every tree of the garden.’”

2 Then the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden.

3 “But of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You will not eat of it, nor will you touch it, lest you die.’”

4 “But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die,

5 “for God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will then be opened and you will be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

6 “Now when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. And she gave also to her husband with her and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

8 Then they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. “So Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 ¶ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where are you?”

10 And he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked. So I hid myself.”

11 And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded that you should not eat?”

12 Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I ate.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me and I ate.”

14 And the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, you are cursed above all livestock and above every beast of the field. You will go on your belly and dust you will eat all the days of your life. 15 “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed. He will bruise your head, and you will bruise His heel.”

16 To the woman He said, “I will greatly multiply your pain and your conception. In pain you will bring forth children. And your desire will be to your husband and he will rule over you.”

17 And to Adam He said, “Because you have hearkened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You will not eat of it’, cursed is the ground for your sake. In toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. 18 “Thorns also and thistles will grow for you. And you will eat the plants of the field. 19 “In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, “for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return.”

20 ¶ And Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.
21 To Adam also and to his wife the LORD God made coats of skins and clothed them.

22 ¶ Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become as one of us, to know good and evil. And now, he must not be allowed to put forth his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever.”

23 Therefore, the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to cultivate the ground from where he was taken.

24 So He drove out the man. And He placed at the east of the garden of Eden Chuz Cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Chapter 4

Cain and Abel

1 ¶ Now Adam lay with Eve his wife. And she conceived and gave birth to Cain. And she said, “I have acquired a manchild with the help of the LORD.”

2 And she again gave birth to his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 Now in process of time it came to pass that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground as an offering to the LORD.

4 But Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD looked with favor on Abel and on his offering.

5 But to Cain and to his offering, He had no regard. And Cain was very angry and his countenance fell.

6 Then the LORD said to Cain, Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?

7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

8 Then Cain talked with Abel his brother. And it came to pass when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

9 ¶ Then the LORD said to Cain, Where is Abel your brother?” And he said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?”

10 And He said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries to Me from the ground.

11 ¶ And now you are cursed from the earth that has opened her mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand.

12 ¶ When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a restless wanderer you will be in the earth.”

13 Then Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear.

14 ¶ Behold, You have driven me out this day from the face of the earth, and from Your face I will be hidden. And I will be a fugitive and a restless wanderer in the earth. And it will come to pass that whoever finds me will kill me.”

15 ¶ Then the LORD said to him, “Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance will be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

16 ¶ Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

17 ¶ And Cain lay with his wife. And she conceived and bare Enoch. And he built a city and called the name of the city Enoch, after the name of his son.

18 Now to Enoch was born Irad, and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech.

19 ¶ And Lamech took to himself two wives. The name of the one was Adah and the name of the other Zillah.

20 And Adah gave birth to Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and those who have livestock.

21 And his brother’s name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute.

22 And Zillah, she also gave birth to Tubalcain, an instructor of every forger in brass and iron. And the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.

23 And Lamech said to his wives, Adah and
Zillah, “Hear my voice you wives of Lamech. Hearken to my speech, ‘for I have killed a man for wounding me, and a young man for hurting me.

24 “If Cain will be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy-sevenfold.”

25 ¶ Then Adam lay with his wife again. And she gave birth to a son, and called his name Seth, for she said, “God has appointed for me another offspring in place of Abel, whom Cain killed.”

26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son. And he called his name Enos. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

Chapter 5

Genealogy from Adam to Noah

1 ¶ This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.

2 He created them male and female. And He blessed them and called them Mankind in the day when they were created.

3 When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he begot a son in his own likeness, after his image. And he called his name Seth.

4 And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years. And he begot sons and daughters.

5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years. And he died.

6 ¶ Now Seth lived one hundred and five years, and begot Enos.

7 And Seth lived after he begot Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters.

8 So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years. And he died.

9 ¶ Now Enos lived ninety years and begot Cainan.

10 And Enos lived after he begot Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begot sons and daughters.

11 So all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years. And he died.

12 ¶ Now Cainan lived seventy years, and begot Mahalaleel.

13 And Cainan lived after he begot Mahalaleel eight hundred and forty years, and begot sons and daughters.

14 So all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years. And he died.

15 ¶ Now Mahalaleel lived sixty-five years, and begot Jared.

16 And Mahalaleel lived after he begot Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begot sons and daughters.

17 So all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety-five years. And he died.

18 ¶ Now Jared lived one hundred sixty-two years, and he begot Enoch.

19 And Jared lived after he begot Enoch eight hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

20 And all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years. And he died.

21 ¶ Now Enoch lived six hundred and five years, and begot Methuselah.

22 And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah three hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

23 So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years.

24 And Enoch walked with God. And he was not, for God took him.

25 ¶ Now Methuselah lived one hundred and eighty-seven years and begot Lamech.

26 And Methuselah lived after he begot Lamech seven hundred and eighty-two years and begot sons and daughters.

27 So all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years. And he died.

28 ¶ Now Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and begot a son.

29 And he called his name Noah, saying, “This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands because of the ground that the LORD has cursed.”

30 Now Lamech lived after he begot Noah five hundred and ninety-five years and begot sons and daughters.

31 So all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years. And he died.

32 And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham and Japheth.
Chapter 6

The Flood

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when men began to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born to them,
2 that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful. And they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.
3 Then the LORD said, "My spirit will not always contend with man, because he is mortal. Nevertheless, his days will be one hundred and twenty years.
4 There were Nephilim on the earth in those days and also afterwards, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men of old, men of renown.
5 ¶ And God saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
6 So the LORD grieved that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him in His heart.
7 Then the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast and the creeping things, and the birds of the sky, for I grieve that I have made them."
8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.
9 ¶ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a just man and blameless in his time. And Noah walked with God.
10 And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.
11 ¶ The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.
12 And God looked on the earth, and beheld, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.
13 Then God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them. And behold, I will destroy them with the earth.
14 "Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood. You will make rooms in the ark and cover it within and without with pitch.
15 "And this is how you will make it: The length of the ark will be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.
16 "You will make a window for the ark, and finish it to a cubit from the top. And the door of the ark you will set in the side of it. You will make it with lower, second and third stories.
17 "And behold, I, even I am bringing a flood of waters upon the earth in order to destroy all flesh wherein is the breath of life from under heaven. And everything that is on the earth will die.
18 "But with you I will establish My covenant. And you will come into the ark, you and your sons, and your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.
19 ¶ "And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every kind, you will bring into the ark to keep them alive with you. They will be male and female.
20 ¶ "Of the birds after their kind and of animals after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive.
21 ¶ And take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you will gather it to yourself. And it will be for food for you and for them."
22 ¶ Thus Noah did according to all that God commanded him.

Chapter 7

1 ¶ And the LORD said to Noah, "Come with all your house into the ark, for I have seen you to be righteous before Me in this generation.
2 Of every clean beast you will take with you by sevens, the male and its female. And of beasts that are not clean, take by two, the male and its female.
3 Of birds also of the sky take by sevens, the male and the female, to keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth.
4 For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights. And every living thing that I have made I will destroy from off the face of the earth."
5 So Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.
6 Now Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.
7 ¶ So Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.
8 Of clean animals and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth,
9 they went in two by two to Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.
10 Then it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.
11 ¶ In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the floodgates of heaven were opened.
12 Then the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.
13 ¶ In the same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah’s wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, entered into the ark, they and every animal after its kind, and all the livestock after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort.
14 And they went to Noah into the ark two by two of all flesh in which is the breath of life.
15 And those that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him. Then the LORD shut him in.
16 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.
17 ¶ Now the flood was forty days upon the earth. And the waters increased and lifted up the ark, so that it was lifted up above the earth.
18 So the waters prevailed and increased greatly upon the earth. And the ark went upon the face of the waters.
19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth. And all the high hills that were under the whole heaven, were covered.
20 Fifteen cubits higher, the waters prevailed. And the mountains were covered.
21 ¶ And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of birds and of livestock and of animals, and of every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth, and every man.
22 All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was on the dry land, died.
23 Thus every living thing was destroyed that was upon the face of the earth, both man and animals, and the creeping things, and the birds of the heaven. And they were destroyed from the earth. ¶ But Noah only remained alive, and those who were with him in the ark.
24 ¶ So the waters prevailed upon the earth one hundred and fifty days.

Chapter 8

1 ¶ But God remembered Noah and every living thing and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. Then God made a wind to pass over the earth and the waters subsided.
2 ¶ The fountains also of the deep and the floodgates of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained.
3 Then the waters returned from off the earth continually. And after the end of one hundred and fifty days the waters were decreased.
4 ¶ And the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month.
5 And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.
6 ¶ Then it came to pass at the end of forty days that Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made.
7 And he sent out a raven that went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.
8 He also sent out from himself a dove to see if the waters were decreased from off the face of the ground.
9 But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot. So she returned to him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. Then he put forth his hand and took her, and pulled her in to himself into the ark.
10 So he stayed yet another seven days. And again he sent out the dove out of the ark.
11 And the dove came to him in the evening, and lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off. So Noah knew that the waters were decreased from off the earth.
12 So he stayed yet another seven days, and sent out the dove, which did not return to him again.
13 ¶ Then it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth. So Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry.
14 And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dried.
15 ¶ Then God spoke to Noah, saying,
16 “Go forth out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and your sons’ wives with you.
17 “Bring forth with you every living thing that is with you, of all flesh, both of birds, and of animals, and of every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, so that they may breed abundantly on the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.
18 So Noah went forth, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him.
19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, after their kind, went forth out of the ark.
20 ¶ And Noah built an altar to the LORD. And he took of every clean beast and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.
21 Then the LORD smelled a sweet aroma. And the LORD said in His heart, “I will not again curse the ground anymore for man’s sake, for the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth.”
22 “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease.”

Chapter 9
God’s Covenant With Noah

1 ¶ So God blessed Noah and his sons. And He said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth.
2 “And the fear of you and the terror of you will be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the sky, upon all that moves on the earth, and upon all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered.
3 “Every moving thing that lives will be food for you. I give to you all things as I gave you the green plant.
4 “But flesh with its life, that is, its blood, you will not eat.
5 “And surely I will require your lifeblood, from every beast I will require it. And from every man, from every man’s brother I will require the life of man.
6 ¶“Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man will his blood be shed, for in the image of God He made man.
7 “And you, be fruitful and multiply. Bring forth abundantly on the earth and multiply on it.”
8 ¶ Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying,
9 “Now behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you,
10 “and with every living creature that is with you, of the birds, of the livestock, and of every beast of the earth with you, from all that go out of the ark, even every beast of the earth.
11 “And I will establish My covenant with you. All flesh will not be cut off anymore by the waters of a flood, nor will there anymore be a flood to destroy the earth.”
12 Then God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters will no more
become a flood to destroy all flesh.
16 “And the rainbow will be in the cloud, and I will look on it so that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”
17 And God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

The Sons of Noah
18 ¶ And the sons of Noah who went forth out of the ark were Shem and Ham and Japheth. “Now Ham was the father of Canaan.
19 These were the three sons of Noah, and from them the whole earth was populated.
20 ¶ Now Noah became a farmer and he planted a vineyard.
21 Then he drank of the wine and was drunken. Now he was uncovered within his tent.
22 So Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside.
23 Then Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it on both their shoulders and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. So their faces were backward and they did not see their father’s nakedness.
24 Then Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him.
25 So he said, “Cursed be Canaan. A servant of servants he will be to his brethren.”
26 And he said, “Blessed be the LORD God of Shem, and Canaan will be his servant.
27 “God will enlarge Japheth, and he will dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan will be his servant.”
28 So Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.
29 Now all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years. And he died.

Chapter 10
Birth of Nations
1 ¶ Now this is the account of the generations of Shem, Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah. And sons were born to them after the flood.
2 ¶ The sons of Japheth were Gomer and Magog and Madai and Javan and Tubal and Meshech and Tiras.
3 The sons of Javan were Ashkenaz and Riphat and Togarmah.
4 The sons of Javan were Elishah and Tarshish, Kittim and Dodanim.
5 From these the coastland people were separated into their lands, everyone after his language, after their families, into their nations.
6 ¶ And the sons of Ham were Cush and Mizraim and Put and Canaan.
7 The sons of Cush were Seba and Havilah and Sabtah and Raamah and Sabteca. And the sons of Raamah were Sheba and Dedan.
8 And Cush begot Nimrod. He began to be a mighty one in the earth.
9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore, it is said, “Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.”
10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.
11 Out of that land went forth Asshur. And he built Nineveh and the cities of Rehoboth and Calah
12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (the same is the principal city).
13 And Mizraim became the father of Ludim and Anamim and Lehahim and Naphtuhim
14 and Pathrusim and Casluhim (from whom came Philistim) and Caphtorim.
15 And Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth,
16 and the Jebusite and the Amorite and the Girgasite
17 and the Hivite and the Arite and the Sinite
18 and the Arvadite and the Zemarite and the Hamathite. And afterward were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad.
19 And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon as you go toward Gerar, as far as Gaza; as you go toward Sodom and Gomorrah and Admah and Zeboim, even as far as Lasha.
20 ¶ These were the sons of Ham according to their families, according to their languages, by their countries and by their nations.

21 ¶ To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born.

22 x The sons of Shem were 3Elam and 4Asshur and 5Arpachshad and 6Lud and Aram.

23 The sons of Aram were 7Uz and Hul and 8Gether and Mash.

24 And Arphaxad begot Salah, and 9Salah begot Eber.

25 And to Eber were born two sons. The name of one was Peleg, for in his days was the earth divided. And his brother's name was Joktan.

26 And Joktan begot Almodad and Sheleph and Hazarmaveth and Jerah

27 and Hadoram and Uzal and Diklah

28 and Obal and Abimaela and Sheba

29 and Ophir and Havilah and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan.

30 And their settlement was from Mesha as you go to Sephar, a mountain of the east.

31 These were the sons of Shem according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, according to their nations.

32 ¶ These were the families of the sons of Noah according to their generations, by their nations. And by these were the nations separated on the earth after the flood.

Chapter 11

The Tower of Babel

1 ¶ And the whole earth used one language and one speech.

2 Now it came to pass as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the 11land of Shinar. And they settled there.

3 Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make brick and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone and they used slime for mortar.

4 And they said, “Come, let us build a city and a tower whose top may reach to heaven. And let us make for ourselves a name, lest we are scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.”

5 Then the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the children of men built.

6 And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people and they all have one language. And this they begin to do. And now, nothing will be impossible for them that they have imagined to do.

7 “Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.”

8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth. And they stopped building the city.

9 Therefore, its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Genealogy of Shem

10 ¶ These are the generations of Shem. Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood.

11 And Shem lived after he begot Arphaxad five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

12 ¶ Now Arphaxad lived thirty-five years, and begot Salah.

13 And Arphaxad lived after he begot Salah four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.

14 ¶ Now Salah lived thirty years, and begot Eber.

15 And Salah lived after he begot Eber four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.

16 ¶ Now Eber lived thirty-four years, and begot Peleg.

17 And Eber lived after he begot Peleg two hundred and nine years, and begot sons and daughters.

18 ¶ Now Peleg lived thirty years, and begot Reu.

19 And Peleg lived after he begot Reu two hundred and nine years, and begot sons and daughters.

20 ¶ Now Reu lived thirty-two years, and begot Serug
hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters.

22 ¶ Now Serug lived thirty years, and begot Nahor.

23 And Serug lived after he begot Nahor two hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

24 ¶ Now Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and begot m Terah.

25 And Nahor lived after he begot Terah one hundred and nineteen years, and begot sons and daughters.

26 ¶ And Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram, Nahor and Haran.

27 ¶ Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah begot Abram, Nahor and n Haran. And Haran begot Lot.

28 And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in o Ur of the Chaldees.

29 And Abram and p Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram’s wife was q Sarai, and the name of Nahor’s wife was r Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcach and the father of Iscah.

30 But s Sarai was barren. She had no child.

31 ¶ Then Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son’s son, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram’s wife, and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan. Then they came into the land of Canaan.

32 Now the days of Terah were two hundred and five years. And Terah died in Haran.

Chapter 12

Call of Abram

1 ¶ Now the a Lord had said to Abram, “Go forth from your country and from your relatives and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.

2 b And I will make of you a great nation. c And I will bless you and make your name great. d And you will be a blessing.

3 e “And I will bless those who bless you, and curse him who curses you. f And in you will all families of the earth be blessed.”

4 ¶ So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him. g And Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

5 So Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother’s son, and all their h possessions that they had gathered, and the souls that they had acquired in Haran. And they went forth to go into the land of Canaan. Then they came into the land of Canaan.

6 So Abram passed through the land to the place of i Shechem, to the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanites w ere then in the land.

7 And the LORD k appeared to Abram and said, l “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built m an altar to the LORD who had appeared to him.

8 Then he moved from there to a mountain on the east side of n Bethel. And he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Hai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and o called on the name of the LORD.

9 Then Abram journeyed, going on further toward p the South.

Abram Goes to Egypt

10 ¶ Now there was a famine in the land. And Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land.

11 Now it came to pass when he came near to enter into Egypt that he said to Sarai his wife, “Behold now, I know that you q are a beautiful woman to look upon.

12 r Therefore, it will come to pass when the Egyptians will see you that they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ So they will kill me, but they will save you alive.

13 “Please say that you are s my sister so that it may be well with me for your sake, and that t my soul will live because of you.”

14 ¶ So it came to pass that when Abram came into Egypt, the Egyptians saw the woman that she was very beautiful.

15 The princes also of Pharaoh saw her and commended her before Pharaoh. And u the woman was taken into Pharaoh’s house.

16 v Now he treated Abram well for her sake. And he had sheep and oxen and male donkeys, and menservants and maidservants, and...
female donkeys and camels.

17 Then the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram’s wife.

18 So Pharaoh called Abram and said, “What is this that you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?

19 “Why did you say, ‘She is my sister’ so that I might have taken her to me for my wife? Now therefore, behold your wife, take her and go your way.”

20 Then Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him. So they sent him away with his wife and all that he had.

Chapter 13

Abram and Lot Separate

1 ¶ Then Abram went up out of Egypt to the Negev, he and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him.

2 And Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold.

3 So he went on his journeys from the Negev even to Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai,

4 to the place of the altar that he had made there at the first. And there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

5 ¶ And Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents.

6 Now the land was not able to sustain them so that they might dwell together, for their possessions were great. So they could not dwell together.

7 Then there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s livestock and the herdsmen of Lot’s livestock. And the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelt then in the land.

8 ¶ And Abram said to Lot, “Please let there be no strife between me and you, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brethren.

9 “Is not the whole land before you? Please separate yourself from me. If you will take the left hand, then I will go to the right. Or if you depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.”

10 So Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the plain of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you come to Zoar.

11 Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated themselves from each other.

12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan and Lot settled in the cities of the plain. And he pitched his tent as far as Sodom.

13 But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinners before the LORD.

14 ¶ And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Lift up now your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward,

15 ¶ for all the land that you see, to you I will give it and to your descendants forever.

16 “And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then will your descendants also be numbered.

17 “Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it, for I will give it to you.”

18 Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron. And he built there an altar to the LORD.

Chapter 14

Abram’s Rescue of Lot

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations,

2 that these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

3 All these were joined together in the valley of Siddim, which is the Salt Sea.
Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

Now in the fourteenth year, Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, came and defeated the Rephaim in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh Kiriathaim, and the Horites in their Mount Seir, to Elparan, which is by the wilderness.

And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which is Kadesh, and conquered all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who dwelt in Hazazon Tamar.

Then there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar. And they joined in battle with them in the valley of Siddim, with Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar – four kings against five.

Then the valley of Siddim was full of tar pits. So the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled and fell there, and those who remained fled to the mountains.

Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food. And they went their way.

And they took Lot, Abram’s nephew who dwelt in Sodom and his goods. And they departed.

Then there came one who had escaped and told Abram the Hebrew, for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner. Now these were allies with Abram.

Now when Abram heard that his relative was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen. And he pursued them as far as Dan.

Then he divided his men against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them. And he pursued them as far as Hobah, which is on the north of Damascus.

So he brought back his relative Lot and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

¶ Then the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings who were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king’s valley.

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine. Now he was the priest of the most high God.

And he blessed him, and said, “Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth.

“And blessed be the most high God who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” And he gave him tithes of all.

Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons and take the goods for yourself.”

And Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have lifted up my hand to the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

“so that I will not take a thread or a sandal, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’—

except only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men that went with me, Aner, Eshcol and Mamre. Let them take their portion.”

Chapter 15

God’s Covenant With Abram

¶ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not fear, Abram. I am your shield and your exceeding great reward.”

Then Abram said, “Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless and the steward of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”

And Abram said, “Behold, to me You have given no offspring, And behold, one born in my house is my heir.”

And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “This will not be your heir, but he who will come forth out of your own body will be your heir.”

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5 Then He took him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And he said to him, “So will your descendants be.”

6 Then he believed in the LORD. And He accounted it to him for righteousness.

7 ¶ And He said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees to give you this land to inherit it.”

8 Then he said, “Lord GOD, how will I know that I will inherit it?”

9 And He said to him, “Bring Me a heifer of three years old, and a female goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”

10 Then he brought to Him all these and divided them in two, and laid each half opposite the other. But he did not divide the birds.

11 Now when the birds came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

12 ¶ And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram. And behold, terror and great darkness fell upon him.

13 Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know for certain that your descendants will be foreigners in a land that is not theirs. And they will serve them, and they will oppress them four hundred years.

14 “And also that nation, whom they will serve, I will judge. And afterward they will come out with great possessions.

15 “And you will go to your fathers in peace. You will be buried in a good old age.

16 “But in the fourth generation they will come here again, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

17 ¶ Now it came to pass when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking firepot and a burning lamp passed between these pieces.

18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates:

19 “the Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites

20 “and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaims

21 “and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Girgashites and the Jebusites.”

Chapter 16

Hagar and Ishmael

1 ¶ Now a Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. And she had a handmaid, b an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

2 So Sarai said to Abram, “Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my handmaid. Perhaps I may obtain children by her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

3 Now after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Abram’s wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her handmaid, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife.

4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she began to despise her mistress.

5 So Sarai said to Abram, “My wrong be on you. I have given my maid into your bosom, and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes. The LORD judge between me and you.”

6 But Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your maid is in your hand. Do to her as it pleases you.” And when Sarai dealt harshly with her, she fled from her face.

7 ¶ And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

8 And he said, “Hagar, Sarai’s maid, from where have you come? And where will you go?” And she said, “I am fleeing from the face of my mistress Sarai.”

9 Then the angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress and submit yourself under her hands.”

10 And the angel of the LORD said to her, “I will multiply your descendants exceedingly so that they will not be numbered for multitude.”

11 And the angel of the LORD said to her,
“Behold, you are with child and will bear a son, and will call his name Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your affliction.

12 “And he will be a wild man. His hand will be against every man and every man’s hand against him. And he will dwell in the presence of all his brethren.”

13 So she called on the name of the LORD who spoke to her, “You are the God who sees me,” for she said, “I have now seen the One who sees me.”

14 Therefore, the well was called Beer Lahai Roi. Behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.

15 ¶ So Hagar bore Abram a son. And Abram called his son’s name, which Hagar bore, Ishmael.

16 And Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

Chapter 17

The Covenant of Circumcision

1 ¶ Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram. And He said to him, “I am the Almighty God. Walk before Me and be blameless.

2 “And I will make My covenant between Me and you. And I will multiply you exceedingly.”

3 Then Abram fell on his face. And God talked with him, saying,

4 “As for me, behold, My covenant is with you and you will be a father of many nations.

5 “Neither will your name anymore be called Abram, but your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations.

6 “And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come out of you.

7 “And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you.

8 “And I will give to you and to your descendants after you the land wherein you are a foreigner, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession. And I will be their God.”

9 ¶ And God said to Abraham, “You will keep My covenant, therefore, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.

10 ¶ “This is My covenant that you will keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you. Every male child among you will be circumcised.

11 ¶ “And you will circumcise the flesh of your foreskin, and it will be a sign of the covenant between Me and you.

12 “And he who is eight days old will be circumcised among you, every male child throughout your generations, a servant that is born in the house or bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.

13 “He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised. And My covenant will be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

14 “And the uncircumcised male child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul will be cut off from his people. He has broken My covenant.”

15 ¶ Then God said to Abraham, “As for Sarah your wife, you will not call her name Sarai, but Sarah will be her name.

16 “And I will bless her and give you also by her. Yes, I will bless her and she will be a mother of nations; kings of people will come from her.”

17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, “Will a child be born to him who is one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?”

18 And Abraham said to God, “O that Ishmael might live before You!”

19 Then God said, “Sarah your wife will indeed bear you a son. And you will call his name Isaac. And I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.

20 “And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful. And I will multiply him exceedingly.

I Ex 3:7,9 m Jb 24:5; 39:5-8 n Gn 25:18 o Gn 32:30 p Gn 14:7 q vs 3; Gn 12:4 Chapter 17: a Gn 12:7; 18:1; b Gn 28:3; 35:11 c Gn 6:9; Dt 18:13 d Gn 15:18 e Gn 13:16; 15:5 f vs 17; Gn 18:2 g Gn 35:11; 48:19 h Ne 9:7 i Rm 4:17 j vs 16; Gn 35:11 k vss 13,19; Ps 105:9,10 l Lv 11:45; 26:12,45 m Gl 3:16 n Gn 12:7; 13:15,17 o Ex 19:5; p Jn 7:22; At 7:8 q Ex 12:48; Dt 10:16 r Lv 12:3 s Ex 12:44 t Gn 18:10 u vs 6; Gn 36:31 v vs 3 w vs 16; Gn 21:2 x Gn 26:2-5 y Gn 16:10
ingly. He will beget twelve princes and I will make him a great nation.

21 "But My covenant I will establish with aIsaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this set time in the next year."

22 Then He finished talking with him, and bGod went up from Abraham.

23 ¶ So Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all who were born in his house, and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham’s house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the very same day, as God had said to him.

24 And Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

25 And eIshmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. 

26 In the same day Abraham was circumcised and his son Ishmael.

27 And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

Chapter 18
Visitors From God

1 ¶ Then the aLORD appeared to him in the bplains of Mamre. And he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day.

2 Then he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three cmen stood by him. And when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door and bowed himself toward the ground.

3 And he said, “My Lord, if now I have found favor in your sight, please do not pass by Your servant.

4 “Please allow a little water to be brought. dWash your feet and rest yourselves under the tree.

5 “And I will bring a piece of bread and comfort your hearts; after that you may go on, for you have come to your servant.” And they said, “Do as you have said.”

6 Then Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of fine flour, knead it and make cakes.”

7 And Abraham ran to the herd and took a tender and good calf and gave it to a young man. And he hurried to prepare it.

8 And he took butter and milk and the calf that he had dressed, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree and they ate.

9 Then they said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “There, in the tent.”

10 Then He said, “I will certainly return to you about this time next year. And behold, Sarah your wife will have a son.” And Sarah heard it in the tent door that was behind him.

11 Now aAbraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age. Sarah had passed the age of childbearing.

12 Therefore, Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “After I have become old will I have pleasure, my bLord being also old?”

13 Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Will I indeed bear a child when I am so old?’

14 “Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son.”

15 Then Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. And He said, “No, but you did laugh.”

Abraham’s Pleas for Sodom

16 ¶ So kthe men rose up from there and looked toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

17 ¶ And the LORD said, “Will I indeed keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring on Abraham that which he has spoken about him.”

18 “since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed in him?

19 “For aI know him, that he will command his children and his household after him. And they will bkeep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring on Abraham that which he has spoken about him.”

20 So the LORD said, “Because the outcry
of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous,
21 “I will go down now and see if they have done entirely according to its outcry that has come to Me. And if not, I will know.”
22 ¶ Then the men turned their faces from there and went toward Sodom. But Abraham still stood before the LORD.
23 And Abraham drew near, and said, “Will You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?
24 “Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will You also destroy it and not spare the place for the fifty righteous who are in it?
25 “Far be it from You to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked. Far be it from You. Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”
26 So the LORD said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.”
27 Then Abraham answered and said, “Behold now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord, who am but dust and ashes.
28 “Suppose there will lack five of the fifty righteous. Will You destroy all the city for lack of five?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for forty’s sake.”
29 And he spoke to Him yet again, and said, “Suppose there will be forty found there.” And He said, “I will not do it for forty’s sake.”
30 Then he said to Him, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Suppose ten will be found there.” And He said, “I will not destroy it if I find thirty there.”
31 And he said, “Behold now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose there will be twenty found there.” And He said, “I will not destroy it for twenty’s sake.”
32 Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Suppose ten will be found there.” And He said, “I will not destroy it for ten’s sake.”
33 Then the LORD went His way as soon as He had finished communing with Abraham. And Abraham returned to his place.

Chapter 19
Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

1 ¶ Now there came two angels to Sodom at evening as Lot sat at the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose up to meet them. And he bowed himself with his face to the ground.
2 Then he said, “Behold now, my lords, please turn into your servant’s house and stay all night, and wash your feet, and you will rise up early and go on your way.” And they said, “No, but we will stay in the street all night.”
3 But he strongly urged them, so they turned in to him and entered into his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread. And they ate.
4 ¶ But before they laid down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both old and young, all the people from every quarter.
5 Then they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came in to you this night? Bring them out to us so that we may have relations with them.”
6 So Lot went out to them at the door, and shut the door after him.
7 And he said, “Please, my brothers, do not behave wickedly.
8 “Behold now, I have two daughters who have not had relations with man. Please let me bring them out to you, and you do to them as is good in your eyes; only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.”
9 But they said, “Stand back.” And they said again, “This one came in to stay, and he acts as a judge. Now we will deal worse with you than with them.” And they pressed hard upon the man Lot and came near to break the door.
10 But the men put forth their hand and pulled Lot into the house to them. And they shut the door.
11 And they struck the men who were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary trying to find the door.
12 ¶ Then the men said to Lot, “Do you have
anyone else here? A son-in-law, and your sons, and your daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring them out of this place,

13 “for we will destroy this place. Because their outcry has become so great before the face of the LORD, the LORD has sent us to destroy it.”

14 So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law who married his daughters. And he said, “Up, get out of this place, for the LORD will destroy this city.” But to his sons-in-law he seemed as one who mocked.

15 And when the morning arose, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the iniquity of the city.”

16 But while he lingered, the men laid hold on his hand and on the hand of his wife and on the hand of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him. And they brought him out and set him outside the city.

17 Now it came to pass when they had brought them outside, that he said, “Escape for your life. Do not look behind you, neither stay in all the plain. Escape to the mountain, lest you be consumed.”

18 But Lot said to them, “Oh, not so, my Lord!

19 “Behold now, your servant has found grace in your sight and you have magnified your mercy that you have showed to me in saving my life. And I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil overtake me and I die.

20 “Behold now, this city is near to flee to, and it is a little one. Please, let me escape there (is it not a little one?) and my soul will live.”

21 Then he said to him, “See, I have favored you concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city for which you have spoken.

22 “Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there.” Therefore, the name of the city was called Zoar.

23 ¶ The sun had risen over the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven.

25 And he overthrew those cities and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew upon the ground.

26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

27 ¶ Then Abraham arose early in the morning and went to “the place where he stood before the LORD.

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

29 ¶ Now it came to pass when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when He overthrew the cities in which Lot dwelt.

The Two Daughters of Lot

30 ¶ Now Lot went up out of Zoar and dwelt in the mountain and his two daughters with him, for he feared to dwell in Zoar. And he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

31 And the firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old and there is not a man on the earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth.

32 “Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him so that we may preserve a lineage for our father.”

33 And they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father, and he did not perceive when she lay down, nor when she arose.

34 Then it came to pass on the following day that the firstborn said to the younger, “Behold, I lay last night with my father. Now let us make him drink wine this night also, and you go in and lie with him so that we may preserve a lineage for our father.”

35 And they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father, and he did not perceive when she lay down nor when she arose.

36 ¶ Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father.

37 And the firstborn bore a son and called...
his name Moab. The same is the father of the Moabites to this day.
38 And the younger also bore a son and called his name Benammi. The same is the father of the children of Ammon to this day.

Chapter 20

Abraham and Abimelech
1 ¶ Now Abraham journeyed from there toward the Negev and settled between Kadesh and Shur. He then sojourned in Gerar.
2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.” And Abimelech, king of Gerar, sent and took Sarah.
3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man’s wife.”
4 But Abimelech had not come near her. And he said, “Lord, will you slay also a righteous nation?
5 “Did he not say to me, ‘She is my sister’? And she, herself said, ‘He is my brother.’ In the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands I have done this.”
6 Then God said to him in a dream, “Yes, I know that you did this in the integrity of your heart, for I also withheld you from sinning against Me. Therefore, I did not allow you to touch her.
7 “Now therefore, restore the man his wife for he is a prophet. And he will pray for you and you will live. And if you do not restore her, know that you will surely die, you and all who are yours.”
8 ¶ Therefore, Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants. And he told all these things in their ears. And the men were very afraid.
9 Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, “What have you done to us? And how have I offended you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not be done.”
10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What have you seen, that you have done this thing?”
11 Then Abraham said, “Because I thought, surely the fear of God is not in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.”
12 “And indeed, she is my sister. She is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother. And she became my wife.”
13 “And it came to pass when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, that I said to her, ‘This is your kindness that you will show to me: at every place where we will go, say of me, “He is my brother.”’”
14 ¶ And Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male and female servants, and gave them to Abraham. And he restored to him Sarah his wife.
15 And Abimelech said, “Behold, my land is before you. Settle where it pleases you.”
16 Then to Sarah he said, “Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. Behold, it is your vindication before all who are with you, and before all men you are cleared.” Thus she was rebuked.
17 ¶ So Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his female servants. Then they bore children.
18 ¶ For the LORD had closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.

Chapter 21

Birth of Isaac
1 ¶ So the LORD visited Sarah as He had said. And the LORD did to Sarah as He had spoken.
2 For Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.
3 And Abraham called the name of his son that was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.
4 Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.
5 Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.
6 Then Sarah said, “God has made me laugh so that all who hear will laugh with me.”
7 And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah should have given children suck? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Sending Away of Hagar and Ishmael

8 ¶ Now the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned.

9 Now Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking.

10 Therefore, she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son, for the son of this bondwoman will not be heir with my son, even with Isaac."

11 § Now the thing was very distressful in Abraham's sight because of his son.

12 So God said to Abraham, "Let it not be distressful in your sight because of the lad, and because of your bondwoman. In all that Sarah has said to you, hearken to her voice, for in Isaac will your descendants be named.

13 "And also of the son of the bondwoman I will make a nation, because he is your descendant."

14 So Abraham rose up early in the morning and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

15 ¶ And the water was used up in the bottle, and she laid the child under one of the shrubs.

16 Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about a bowshot away, for she said, "Let me not see the death of the child." And she sat opposite him and lifted up her voice and wept.

17 Then God heard the voice of the lad. And the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, "What is the matter with you, Hagar? Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is.

18 "Arise, lift up the lad and hold him in your hand, for I will make of him a great nation."

19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. Then she went and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad a drink.

20 And God was with the lad. And he grew and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

21 And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran. And his mother took a wife for him out of the land of Egypt.

Treaty at Beersheba

22 ¶ Now it came to pass at that time that Abimelech and Phichol, the chief captain of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, "God is with you in all that you do.

23 "Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son. But according to the kindness that I have done to you, you will do to me and to the land wherein you have sojourned."

24 Then Abraham said, "I will swear."

25 ¶ Then Abraham rebuked Abimelech because of a well of water that Abimelech's servants had violently taken away.

26 And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing. You did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today."

27 So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and both of them made a covenant.

28 And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.

29 And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What do these seven ewe lambs mean that you have set by themselves?"

30 And he said, "You will take these seven ewe lambs from my hand so that they may be a witness to me, that I have dug this well."

31 Therefore, he called that place Beersheba, because there both of them swore an oath.

32 Thus they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech rose up, and Phichol the chief captain of his army, and they returned to the land of the Philistines.

33 Then Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God.

34 And Abraham sojourned in the 'Philistines' land many days.
Chapter 22

Testing of Abraham

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after these things that "God tested "Abraham. And He said to him, "Abraham." And he said, "Behold, here I am."

2 Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac whom you love, and go into the land of "Moriah and offer him there as a "burnt offering upon one of the mountains that I will tell you."

3 ¶ Then Abraham rose up early in the morning and saddled his donkey. And he took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son, and split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he rose up and went to the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. I and the lad will go there and worship. And we will come again to you."

7 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son. Then he took the fire in his hand and a knife, and both of them went together.

9 Then Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself a lamb for a burnt offering." So both of them went together.

9 ¶ Then they came to the "place that God had told him. And Abraham built an "altar there and laid the wood in order. And he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

11 Then "the angel of the LORD called to him out of heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham." And he said, "Here I am."

12 And he said, "Do not lay your hand upon the lad, nor do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son from Me."

13 Then Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.

14 So Abraham called the name of that place "The-LORD-Will-Provide," as it is said to this day, "In the mountain of the LORD "it will be provided."

15 Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham out of heaven a second time.

16 And He said, "By Myself I have sworn," says the LORD, "because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,

17 "that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the "stars of heaven and as the "sand that is upon the sea shore. And "your descendants will possess the gate of their enemies.

18 "And in your seed will all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have "obeyed My voice."

19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham settled at Beersheba.

22 Then it came to pass after these things that it was told Abraham, saying, "Behold, Milcah, she has also borne children to your brother Nahor:

21 "Huz his firstborn and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram

22 "and Chesed and Hazo and Pildash and Jidlaph and Bethuel."

23 And Bethuel begot "Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham’s brother.

24 And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, bore also Tebah and Gaham and Thahash and Maachah.

Chapter 23

Death of Sarah

1 ¶ Now Sarah was one hundred and twenty-seven years old. These were the years of the life of Sarah.

2 Then Sarah died in "Kirjath Arba. The same
is Hebron in the land of Canaan. And Abra-
ham came to mourn for Sarah and to weep
for her.
3 And Abraham rose up from before his dead,
and spoke to the sons of ^Heth, saying,
4 “I am a foreigner and a sojourner with
you. Give me a possession for a burial site
with you so that I may bury my dead out of
my sight.”
5 Then the children of Heth answered Abra-
ham, saying to him,
6 “Hear us, my lord. You are a mighty ^prince
among us. In the choice of our graves, bury
your dead. None of us will withhold from you
his grave so that you may bury your dead.”
7 Then Abraham stood up and bowed him-
self to the people of the land, even to the chil-
dren of Heth.
8 And he communed with them, saying, “If it
is your wish that I should bury my dead out
of my sight, hear me and approach ^Ephron,
the son of Zohar for me,
9 so that he may give me the cave of
Machpelah which he has, that is at the end of
his field; for as much money as it is worth he
will give it to me for a possession of a burial
site among you.”
10 And Ephron dwelt among the children of
Heth. And Ephron the Hittite answered Abra-
ham in the audience of the children of Heth,
even of all who went in at the gate of his city,
saying,
11 “No, my lord, hear me. The land is worth
four hundred ^shekels of silver. What is that
between me and you? Bury, therefore, your
dead.”
16 So Abraham listened to Ephron. And Abra-
ham ^weighed to Ephron the silver that
he had named in the audience of the sons of
Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current
money with the merchant.
17 ¶ So the ^field of Ephron that was in
Machpelah which was before Mamre, the
field, and the cave that was therein, and all
the trees that were in the field that were in the
territory all around, were made sure
18 to Abraham for a possession in the
presence of the children of Heth, before all
who went in at the gate of his city.
19 So after this, Abraham buried Sarah his
wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah
before Mamre. The same is Hebron in the land
of Canaan.
20 And the field, and the cave that is therein,
were made sure to Abraham for a possession
of a burial place by the sons of Heth.

Chapter 24

Isaac and Rebekah

1 ¶ Now Abraham was old and well stricken
in age. And the LORD had ^blessed Abraham
in all things.
2 So Abraham said to his eldest servant of
his house that ruled over all that he had,
b“Please put your hand under my thigh,
3 and I will make you swear by the LORD,
the ^cGod of heaven, and the God of the earth,
that you will not take a wife for my son from
the daughters of the ^dCanaanites among whom
I live.
4 But you will go to my country and to my
relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”
5 Then the servant said to him, “Suppose the
woman will not be willing to follow me to
this land. Must I take your son back to the
land from where you came?”
6 And Abraham said to him, ^“Beware that
you do not take my son back there.
7 ^The LORD God of heaven, who took me
from my father’s house and from the land of
my relatives, and who spoke to me, and who
spoke to me, saying, ^‘To your descendants I
will give this land,’ He will send ‘His angel

Gn 10:15; 15:20; c Lv 25:23; 1 Ch 29:15; Ps 39:12; Hb 11:9,13
d Gn 14:14; 20:7 e Gn 25:9 f vs 18; Gn 34:20,24; Rt 4:1,11
g Ex 30:13 h 2 Sm 14:26; Jr 32:9; Zc 11:12 i Gn 25:9; 49:29,30; 50:13 j vs 10
Chapter 24: a vs 35; Gn 12:2 b Gn 47:29 c Gn 14:19,22
d Gn 10:18,19; 26:34,35; 28:1,2,8 e Gn 12:1; Hb 11:15 f vs 8 g vs 3 h Gn 12:7; 13:15; 15:18 i Gn 16:7; 21:17; 22:11; Ex 23:20,23
before you and you will take a wife for my son from there.
8 “And if the woman will not be willing to follow you, then you will be free from this my oath; only do not take my son back there.”
9 And the servant 1 put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning that matter.
10 ¶ Then the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master and departed, for all the goods of his master were in his hand. And he arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the 2 city of Nahor.
11 And he made his camels to kneel down outside the city by a 3 well of water at the time of the evening, even the 4 time when women go out to draw water.
12 And he said, 5 “O LORD God of my master Abraham, please give me success this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham.
13 “Behold, 6 I stand here by the well of water, and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water.
14 “So let it come to pass that the damsel to whom I will say, ‘Please let down your jar so that I may drink,’ and she will say, ‘Drink, and I will give your camels drink also,’ let the same be the one whom You have appointed for Your servant Isaac. And by this I will know that You have shown kindness to my master.”
15 ¶ Now it came to pass 7 before he had finished speaking, that behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham’s brother, with her jar on her shoulder.
16 And the girl was very 8 beautiful to look upon, a virgin, and no man had had relations with her. And she went down to the well and filled her pitcher and came up.
17 Then the servant ran to meet her, and said, “Please let me drink a little water from your jar.”
18 And 9 she said, “Drink, my lord.” And she quickly lowered her jar to her hand and gave him a drink.
19 And when she had finished giving him a drink, “she said, “I will also draw water for your camels until they have finished drinking.”
20 Then she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, and ran again to the well to draw water. And she drew for all his camels.
21 ¶ And the man was gazing at her in silence, to know whether the LORD had made his journey successful or not.
22 ¶ Then it came to pass when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden ring of half a shekel in weight, and two bracelets for her hands, of ten shekels in weight of gold,
23 and said, “Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father’s house for us to lodge in?”
24 And she said to him, “I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.”
25 She said again to him, “We have plenty of both straw and feed, and room to lodge in.”
26 Then the man 10 bowed down his head and worshiped the LORD.
27 And he said, 11 “Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham who has not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master. For me, the LORD has led me in the way to the house of my master’s brethren.”
28 Then 12 the girl ran and told her mother’s house about these things.
29 ¶ And Rebekah had a brother whose name was Laban. And 13 Laban ran out to the man, to the well.
30 And it came to pass when he saw the ring and bracelets on his sister’s hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, “Thus spoke the man to me,” that he came to the man, and behold, he was standing by the camels at the well.
31 And he said, 14 “Come in, blessed of the LORD. Why do you stand outside, for I have prepared the house, and room for the camels?”
32 ¶ Then the man came into the house. And he unloaded his camels and gave straw and feed for the camels, and water to wash his
feet and the men’s feet who were with him.

And there was food set before him to eat. But he said, “I will not eat until I have told my business.” And he said, “Speak on.”

Then he said, “I am hAbraham’s servant.

“And the LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become great. And He has given him i flocks and herds and silver and gold and male servants and female servants and camels and donkeys.

k“And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old. lAnd he has given him all that he has.

m“And my master made me swear, saying, ‘You will not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell.

n‘But you will go to my father’s house and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son.’

m “So I said to my master, ‘Suppose the woman will not follow me.’

o“And he said to me, ‘The nLORD, before whom I walk, will send His angel with you and prosper your way. And you will take a wife for my son from my relatives and from my father’s house.

p ‘Then you will be free from my oath, when you come to my relatives. And if they do not give her to you, you will be free from my oath.’

q “Then qI came this day to the well, and said, ‘O LORD God of my master Abraham, if now You do prosper my way which I go;

r ‘behold, rI stand by the well of water, and it will come to pass that when the virgin comes forth to draw water, and I say to her, s “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,”

s ‘And she says to me, “You drink, and I will also draw for your camels;”’ let the same be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master’s son.’

r “And before I had finished speaking in my heart, behold, uRebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder. And she down to the well and drew water. And I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’

v “And she quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder, and said, “Drink, and I will give your camels drink also.’ So I drank, and she made the camels drink also.

w “And ‘I asked her, and said, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ And she said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ And I put the ring on her nose and the bracelets on her hands.

x “And yI bowed down my head and worshiped the LORD, and praised the LORD God of my master Abraham, zwho had led me in the right way to take my master’s relative’s daughter for his son.

y “And now if you will a deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me. And if not, let me know so that I may turn to the right hand or to the left.”

z Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, “The thing comes from the LORD. b We cannot speak to you bad or good.

a “Behold, Rebekah is before you, take her and go, and let her be your master’s son’s wife, as the LORD has spoken.”

b Now it came to pass when Abraham’s servant heard their words, that he worshiped the LORD, c bowing himself to the ground.

d “And the servant brought forth d jewels of silver and jewels of gold and clothing, and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother.

e And they ate and drank, he and the men who were with him. And they tarried all night. Then they rose up in the morning, and he said, “Send me away to my master.”

f Then her brother and her mother said, g “Let the girl remain with us a few days, at the least ten. After that she may go.”

h Then he said to them, “Do not delay me, since the LORD has prospered my way. Send me away so that I may go to my master.”

i And they said, “We will call the girl and inquire at her mouth.”

j So they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” And she said, “I will go.”

k So they sent away Rebekah their sister and her nurse, with Abraham’s servant and his men.

l And they blessed Rebekah, and said to
her, “You are our sister. bBe the mother of thousands of ten thousands. And may your descendants possess the gate of those who hate them.”

61 ¶ So Rebekah arose, and her maids, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man. And the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

62 Then Isaac came from the way of Beer Lahai Roi, for he dwelt in the Negev.

63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide. And he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and behold, camels were coming.

64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she dismounted from the camel,

65 for she had said to the servant, “What man is this who walks in the field to meet us?” And the servant had said, “It is my master.” Therefore, she took a veil and covered herself.

66 Then the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.

67 So Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. And he took Rebekah and she became his wife. And he loved her. And Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Chapter 25
Death of Abraham

1 ¶ Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah.

2 And she bore him Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah.

3 Now Jokshan begot Sheba and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim and Letushim and Leummim.

4 And the sons of Midian were Ephah and Epher and Hanoch and Abidah and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.

5 bSo Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac.

6 But to the sons of the concubines which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he still lived, eastward, to the land of the east.

7 ¶ And these are the days of the years of Abraham’s life that he lived, cone hundred and seventy-five years.

8 Then Abraham breathed his last and died in a dgood old age, an old man and full of years. And he was egathered to his people.

9 And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, that is before Mamre, fthe field that Abraham purchased from the sons of Heth. There Abraham was buried with Sarah his wife.

10 Now it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that gGod blessed his son Isaac. And Isaac dwelt by the dwell of Lahairoi.

Ishmael’s Sons

12 ¶ Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah’s handmaid, bore to Abraham.

13 And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: Nebajoth, the firstborn of Ishmael, and Kedar and Adbeel and Mibsam

14 and Mishma and Dumah and Massa,

15 Hadar and Tema, Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah.

16 These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their towns and by their camps; ktwelve princes according to their nations.

17 And these are the years of the life of Ishmael, lone hundred and thirty-seven years. And he breathed his last and died, and was mgathered to his people.

18 And they settled from Havilah to Shur, that is before Egypt, as you go toward Assyria. And he died in the presence of all his brethren.

Jacob and Isau

19 ¶ Now these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham’s son: Abraham begot Isaac.

20 And Isaac was forty years old when he took pRebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padan-aram, the sister
to Laban the Syrian.
21 And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the \textsuperscript{q}LORD answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived.
22 And the children struggled together within her. And she said, “If it be so, why am I this way?” And she went to inquire from the LORD.
23 Then the LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two manner of people will be separated from your body. \textsuperscript{r}And the one people will be stronger than the other. And the elder will serve the younger.”
24 Now when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.
25 And the first came out red all over like a hairy garment. And they called his name Esau.
26 Then after that his brother came out, and \textsuperscript{u}his hand took hold on Esau’s heel. And his name was called Jacob. Now Isaac was \textsuperscript{v}sixty years old when she gave birth to them.
27 ¶ And the boys grew. And Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field. And Jacob was a perfect man, dwelling in tents.
28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.
29 Now Jacob cooked \textsuperscript{w}pottage, and Esau came from the field. And he was famished.
30 Then Esau said to Jacob, “Please feed me with that red pottage, for I am famished.” Therefore, his name was called Edom.
31 Then Jacob said, “Sell me this day your birthright.”
32 And Esau said, “Behold, I am about to die, so what profit will this birthright \textsuperscript{x}be to me?”
33 Then Jacob said, “Swear to me this day.” And he swore to him. And he \textsuperscript{y}sold his birthright to Jacob.
34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew. And he ate and drank, and rose up and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Chapter 26
Isaac and Abimelech

1 ¶ Now there was a \textsuperscript{a}famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to \textsuperscript{b}Abimelech king of the Philistines to Gerar.
2 And the LORD \textsuperscript{c}appeared to him, and said, “Do not go down into Egypt. \textsuperscript{d}Dwell in the land that I will tell you.
3 “Sojourn in this land and I will be with you, and will bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these countries. And I will perform the \textsuperscript{e}oath that I swore to Abraham your father.
4 “And \textsuperscript{f}I will make your descendants to multiply as the stars of heaven. And I will give to your descendants all these countries, and \textsuperscript{g}in your descendants will all the nations of the earth be blessed,
5 “because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.”
6 ¶ So Isaac dwelt in Gerar.
7 Then the men of the place asked him about his wife. And he said, \textsuperscript{j}“She is my sister,” for he was afraid to say, “She is my wife,” thinking, “the men of the place might kill me for Rebekah, because she was \textsuperscript{k}beautiful to look upon.”
8 Now it came to pass when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out through a window, and saw, and behold, Isaac was caressing his wife Rebekah.
9 Then Abimelech called Isaac, and said, “Behold, of a surety she is your wife.  So how could you say, ‘She is my sister’?” And Isaac said to him, “Because I said, ‘Lest I die on account of her.’”
10 Then \textsuperscript{l}Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us.”
11 So Abimelech charged all his people, saying, “He who touches this man or his wife...
will surely be put to death.”

12 ¶ Then Isaac sowed in that land and received in the same year a hundredfold. And the LORD blessed him.

13 And the man became great, and went forward and grew until he became very great.

14 For he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds, and a great household of servants. And the Philistines envied him.

15 For all the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them and filled them with earth.

16 Then Abimelech said to Isaac, “Go from us, for you are much greater than us.”

17 ¶ So Isaac departed from there and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and settled there.

18 And Isaac dug again the wells of water that they had dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham. And he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.

19 Now Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and found there a well of springing water.

20 And the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s herdsmen, saying, “The water is ours.” And he called the name of the well Esek, because they strove with him.

21 And they dug another well, and they quarreled for that also. And he called the name of it Sitnah.

22 So he moved from there and dug another well, and for that they did not quarrel. And he called the name of it Rehoboath. And he said, “For now the LORD has made room for us and we will be fruitful in the land.”

23 ¶ Then he went up from there to Beersheba.

24 And the LORD appeared to him the same night, and said, “I am the God of Abraham your father. Do not fear, for I am with you and will bless you, and multiply your descendants for My servant Abraham’s sake.”

25 So he built an altar there, and called on the name of the LORD. And he pitched his tent there. And there Isaac’s servants dug a well.

26 ¶ Then ‘Abimelech went to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath one of his friends, and Phichol the chief captain of his army.

27 And Isaac said to them, “Why have you come to me, seeing you hate me and have sent me away from you?”

28 And they said, “We saw plainly that the LORD was with you. And we said, ‘Let there now be an oath between us, even between us and you, and let us make a covenant with you, so that you will do us no harm, just as we have not touched you, and as we have done to you nothing but good, and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD.’”

29 So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank.

30 Then in the morning they arose early and swore to one another. And Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace.

31 Now it came to pass the same day that Isaac’s servants came and told him concerning the well that they had dug. And they said to him, “We have found water.”

32 So he called it Shebah. Therefore, the name of the city is Beersheba to this day.

33 ¶ And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite.

34 ¶ And Isaac was forty years old when ‘he took to wife Rebekah the daughter of Bechara of the family of Haran.

35 And ‘he brought grief to Isaac and to Rebekah.

Chapter 27

Isaac Blesses Jacob

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Isaac was old, and ‘his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called Esau his eldest son and said to him, “My son.” And he said to him, “Here I am.”

2 ¶ And he said, “Behold now, I am old. I do not know the day of my death.

3 “Now therefore please take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me.

4 “And prepare savory meat for me such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, so that..."
my soul may bless you before I die.”

5 ¶ Now Rebekah heard when Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for game and to bring it.

6 Then Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son, saying, “Behold, I heard your father speak to Esau your brother, saying,

7 ‘Bring me venison and prepare me savory meat so that I may eat and bless you before the LORD before my death.’

8 “Now therefore, my son, ḡobey my voice according to what I command you.

9 “Go now to the flock and bring me from there two good kids of the goats. And I will make them savory meat for your father, such as he loves.

10 “Then you will bring it to your father so that he may eat, and that he may bless you before his death.”

11 And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, “Behold, Esau my brother is a ḥairy man and I am a smooth man.

12 “Perhaps ḱmy father will feel me and I will seem to him as a deceiver, and I will bring a curse upon myself and not a blessing.”

13 Then his mother said to him, “Upon me be your curse, my son; only ṣobey my voice and go get them for me.”

14 So he went and got them, and brought them to his mother. And his mother made savory meat such as his father loved.

15 And Rebekah took the best ḝclothes of her elder son Esau, that were with her in the house. And she put them on Jacob her younger son.

16 Then she put the skins of the younger of the goats on his hands, and on the smooth of his neck.

17 And she gave the savory meat and the bread that she had prepared into the hand of her son Jacob.

18 ¶ Then he came to his father, and said, “My father.” And he said, “Here I am. Who are you, my son?”

19 Then Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done according as you asked me. Please Ṽget up, sit and eat of my game so that “your soul may bless me.”

20 And Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” And he said, “Because the LORD your God brought it to me.”

21 Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Please come near so that ᴏI may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not.”

22 So Jacob went near to Isaac his father. And he felt him, and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.”

23 And he did not recognize him because his hands were ḱhairy as his brother Esau’s hands. So he blessed him.

24 And he said, “Are you really my son Esau?” And he said, “I am.”

25 And he said, “Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son’s game so that ḳmy soul may bless you.” And he brought it near to him, and he ate. And he brought him wine and he drank.

26 Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come near now and kiss me, my son.”

27 So he came near and kissed him. And he smelled the smell of his clothes, and ṡblessed him and said, “See, ṽthe smell of my son is as the smell of a field ṷthat the LORD has blessed.”

28 “Therefore, ṽGod give you of the dew of heaven and the fatness of the earth and plenty of corn and wine.

29 ṽ“Let people serve you and nations bow down to you. ṼBe lord over your brethren and Ṽlet your mother’s sons bow down to you. ṽCursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be those who bless you.”

30 ¶ Now it came to pass as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob had hardly gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting.

31 And he also had made savory meat and brought it to his father. And he said to his father, “Let my father arise and eat of his son’s game so that “your soul may bless me.”

32 And Isaac his father said to him, ṽb“Who
are you?” And he said, “I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.”

33 Then Isaac trembled exceedingly, and said, “Who? Where then is the one who hunted game and brought it to me, and I have eaten of all before you came, and have blessed him? Yes, and he will be blessed.”

34 Now when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said to his father, “Bless me, even me also, O my father.”

35 Then he said, “Your brother came deceitfully and has taken away your blessing.”

36 And he said, “Is not he rightly named Jacob. For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing.”

37 And Isaac answered and said to Esau, “Behold, I have made him your lord and all his relatives I have given to him for servants. And with grain and wine, I have sustained him. And what will I do now for you, my son?”

38 Then Esau said to his father, “Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father.” And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

39 So Isaac his father answered and said to him, “Behold, your dwelling will be the fertility of the earth and of the dew of heaven from above. And by your sword you will live and will serve your brother. And it will come to pass when you become restless that you will break his yoke from off your neck.”

Chapter 28

1 ¶ Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and charged him. And he said to him, “You will not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan.

2 “Arise, go to Padan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother’s father. And from there take for yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban your mother’s brother.

3 “May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you so that you may be a multitude of people.

4 “And may He give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your descendants with you, so that you may inherit the land wherein you are a foreigner, which God gave to Abraham.”

5 So Isaac sent Jacob away. And he went to Padan-aram to Laban, son of Bethuel the Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob’s and Esau’s mother.

6 ¶ Then Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Padan-aram to take for himself a wife from there, and that as he blessed him he gave him a charge, saying, “You will not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan,”

7 and that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother and had gone to Padan-aram.

8 So Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan did not please Isaac his father.

9 Then Esau went to Ishmael and took
Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife in addition to the wives he had.

**Jacob’s Dream**

10 ¶ So Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran.
11 And he came to a certain place and stayed there all night because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and placed it under his head. And he lay down in that place to sleep.
12 Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth. And the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God ascending and descending on it.
13 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants.
14 “And your descendants will be as the dust of the earth. And you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south. And in you and in your descendants will all the families of the earth be blessed.
15 “And behold, I am with you and will keep you in all places where you go. And I will bring you again into this land, for I will not leave you until I have done that which I have spoken to you.”
16 And Jacob awoke out of his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.”
17 So he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”
18 ¶ Then Jacob rose up early in the morning and took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar. And he poured oil on the top of it.
19 Then he called the name of that place Bethel. But at the first time of that name was called Luz.
20 Then Jacob vowed a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothes to put on,
21 “so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then will the LORD be my God.
22 “And this stone that I have set for a pillar will be God’s house. And of all that You will give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

**Chapter 29**

**Jacob in Padan-aram**

1 ¶ Then Jacob went on his journey and came into the land of the people of the east.
2 And he looked and saw a well in the field. And behold, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it, for out of that well they watered the flocks. And a great stone was on the well’s mouth.
3 So when all the flocks were gathered there, they rolled the stone from the well’s mouth and watered the sheep. And then they put the stone back on the well’s mouth in its place.
4 ¶ Then Jacob said to them, “My brothers, from where did you come?” And they said, “We are from Haran.”
5 And he said to them, “Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?” And they said, “We know him.”
6 And he said to them, “Is he well?” And they said, “He is well. And behold, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep.”
7 Then he said, “Behold, it is still high day. It is not time that the flocks should be gathered together. Water the sheep, and go, and feed them.”
8 And they said, “We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together, and they roll the stone from the well’s mouth; then we water the sheep.”
9 ¶ Now while he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father’s sheep, for she kept them.
10 Now it came to pass when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother’s brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother’s brother, that Jacob went near and rolled the stone from the well’s mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother’s brother.
11 Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up
his voice and wept.

12 And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father’s relative, and that he was Rebekah’s son. And she ran and told her father.

13 ¶ Now it came to pass when Laban heard the news of Jacob his sister’s son, that he ran to meet him. And he embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things.

14 Then Laban said to him, “Surely you are my bone and my flesh.” And he stayed with him a month.

Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel

15 ¶ Now Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my relative, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what will your wages be?”

16 Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the elder was Leah and the name of the younger was Rachel.

17 Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel was lovely in form and beautiful.

18 Now Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, “I will serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter.”

19 Then Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you, than that I should give her to another man. Stay with me.”

20 So Jacob served seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him but a few days, for the love he had for her.

21 ¶ Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife, for my days are completed, so that I may go in to her.”

22 So Laban gathered together all the men of the place and made a feast.

23 Now it came to pass in the evening that he took Leah his daughter and brought her to him. And he went in to her.

24 Then Laban gave to his daughter, Leah, Zilpah his maid for a handmaid.

25 Now it came to pass in the morning that, behold, it was Leah. And he said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?”

26 Then Laban said, “It must not be practiced in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.

27 ¶ complete her week, and we will give you this one also for the service that you will serve with me for another seven years.”

28 So Jacob did so and completed her week. And he gave him Rachel his daughter as his wife.

29 And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid.

30 Then he went in also to Rachel, and he loved Rachel more than Leah. And he served with Laban for another seven years.

The Children of Jacob

31 ¶ Now when the LORD saw that Leah was unloved, he opened her womb. But Rachel was barren.

32 Then Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben, for she said, “Surely the LORD has looked upon my affliction. Now therefore my husband will love me.”

33 Then she conceived again and bore a son. And she said, “Because the LORD has heard that I was unloved, He has therefore given me this son also.” And she called his name Simeon.

34 And she conceived again and bore a son. And she said, “Now this time my husband will be attached to me because I have borne him three sons.” Therefore, he was named Levi.

35 And she conceived again and bore a son. And she said, “Now I will praise the LORD.” Therefore, she called his name Judah. Then she stopped bearing.

Chapter 30

1 ¶ Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister. And she said to Jacob, “Give me children, or else I die.”

2 Then Jacob’s anger was kindled against Rachel. And he said, “Am I in God’s place, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?”
And she said, “Behold my maid Bilhah, go in to her and she will bear on my knees so that I too may have children by her.”

So she gave him Bilhah her handmaid as a wife, and Jacob went in to her.

And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son.

Then Rachel said, “God has judged me and has also heard my voice. And He has given me a son.” Therefore, she called his name Dan.

And Bilhah, Rachel’s maid, conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.

And Rachel said, “With great wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed.” And she called his name Naphtali.

When Leah saw that she had stopped bearing, she took Zilpah her maid and gave her Jacob as a wife.

And Zilpah, Leah’s maid, bore Jacob a son.

And Leah said, “What good fortune.” And she called his name Gad.

Then Zilpah, Leah’s maid, bore Jacob a second son.

And Leah said, “Happy am I, for the daughters will call me blessed.” And she called his name Asher.

Now Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest and found mandrakes in the field. And he brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, “Please give me some of your son’s mandrakes.”

And she said to her, “Is it a small matter that you have taken my husband? And would you also take away my son’s mandrakes?” And Rachel said, “Therefore, he will lie with you tonight for your son’s mandrakes.”

And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him. And she said, “You must come in to me, for surely I have hired you with my son’s mandrakes.” And he lay with her that night.

And God hearkened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob the fifth son.

Then Leah conceived again and bore Jacob the sixth son.

And Leah said, “God has endowed me with a good dowry. Now my husband will dwell with me because I have borne him six sons.” And she called his name Zebulun.

And afterwards she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah.

¶ And God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her and opened her womb.

So she conceived and bore a son, and said, “God has taken away my reproach.”

And she called his name Joseph, and said, “The LORD will add to me another son.”

Increase of Jacob’s Flocks

Now it came to pass when Rachel had born Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away so that I may go to my own place and to my own country.

Give me my wives and my children ifor whom I have served you, and let me go, for you know my service that I have done for you.”

But Laban said to him, “If it pleases you and I have found favor in your eyes, stay with me, for I have learned by experience that the LORD has blessed me for your sake.”

Then he said, “Name me your wages, and I will give it.”

And he said to him, “You know how I have served you, and how your livestock has been with me.

For it was little that you had before I came, and it is now increased to a multitude. And the LORD has blessed you since my coming. And now, when will I provide for my own house also?”

So he said, “What will I give you?” And Jacob said, “You will not give me anything. If you will do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep your flock.

I will pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted sheep, and all the brown ones among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and of such will be my wages.
33 “So my honesty will testify for me in the future when you come to check concerning my wages. Everyone that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the sheep, that will be counted stolen with me.”

34 Then Laban said, “Behold, let it be according to your word.”

35 So he removed that day the male goats that were ringstreaked and spotted, and all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, and every one that had some white on it, and all the brown among the sheep. And he gave them into the hand of his sons.

36 And he set three days’ journey between himself and Jacob. And Jacob fed the rest of Laban’s flocks.

37 ¶ Then Jacob took rods of green poplar and of the hazel and chestnut tree, and peeled white strips in them, and made the white appear that was in the rods.

38 And he set the rods that he had peeled before the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs when the flocks came to drink so that they should conceive when they came to drink.

39 So the flocks conceived before the rods, and brought forth striped, speckled and spotted.

40 Then Jacob separated the lambs and set the faces of the flocks toward the striped and all the brown in the flock of Laban. And he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban’s livestock.

41 Now it came to pass whenever the stronger livestock conceived, that Jacob laid the rods before the eyes of the livestock in the gutters so that they might conceive among the rods.

42 But when the flocks were feeble, he did not put them in. So the feeblest were Laban’s and the stronger Jacob’s.

43 So the man increased exceedingly. And he had much livestock, and female and male servants, and camels and donkeys.

Chapter 31
Jacob Flees From Laban

1 ¶ Now Jacob heard the words of Laban’s sons, saying, “Jacob has taken away all that was our father’s, and of that which was our father’s he has acquired all this glory.”

2 And Jacob beheld the attitude of Laban, and behold, it was not toward him as before.

3 ¶ And the LORD said to Jacob, “Return to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you.”

4 Then Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field to his flock.

5 And he said to them, “I see your father’s attitude, that it is not toward me as before, but the God of my father has been with me.

6 “And you know that with all my power I have served your father.

7 “And your father has deceived me and changed my wages ten times. But God did not allow him to hurt me.

8 “If he said thus, ‘The speckled will be your wages,’ then all the flock bore speckled. And if he said thus, ‘The striped will be your wages,’ then all the flock bore striped.

9 “Thus God has taken away the flock of your father and given them to me.”

10 “Now it came to pass at the time when the flock conceived, that I lifted up my eyes and saw in a dream, and behold, the rams that leap upon the flocks were streaked, speckled and spotted.

11 “And the angel of God spoke to me in a dream, saying, ‘Jacob,’ and I said, ‘Here I am.’

12 “And he said, ‘Lift up your eyes now and see all the rams that leap upon the flocks are streaked, speckled and spotted. For I have seen all that Laban does to you.

13 ‘I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar, and where you vowed a vow to Me. Now arise and get out of this land and return to the land of your relatives.’”

14 Then Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, “Is there still any portion or inheritance for us in our father’s house?

15 “Are we not considered by him as foreigners? For he has sold us and has also entirely consumed our money.

16 “For all the riches that God has taken from our father is ours and our children’s. Now
then, do whatever God has said to you.”
17 ¶ Then Jacob rose up and set his sons and his wives on camels.
18 And he carried away all his livestock and all his goods that he had gathered, his acquired livestock that he had gathered in Paddan-aram, to go to Isaac his father in the land of Canaan.
19 Now Laban went to shear his sheep. And Rachel had stolen the idols that were her father’s.
20 So Jacob deceived Laban the Syrian by not telling him that he was fleeing.
21 So he fled with all that he had. And he rose up and passed over the river, and set his face toward the mountains of Gilead.
22 ¶ Then it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob had fled.
23 Then he took his brothers with him and pursued after him seven days’ journey. And they overtook him in the mountains of Gilead.
24 Now God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night. And He said to him, “Take heed that you do not speak to Jacob either good or bad.”
25 ¶ Then Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the mountain. And Laban, with his brothers, camped in the mountains of Gilead.
26 And Laban said to Jacob, “What have you done, that you have gone away unaware to me, and carried away my daughters as captives taken with the sword?
27 “Why did you flee away secretly, and steal away from me, and did not tell me so that I might have sent you away with joy and with songs, with timbrel and with lyre;
28 “and have not allowed me to kiss my sons and my daughters? You have now done foolishly in doing this.
29 “It is in the power of my hand to do you harm. But ‘the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, “Take heed that you do not speak to Jacob either good or bad.’
30 “And now you have indeed gone away because you longed greatly after your father’s house. But why have you stolen ‘my gods?’”
31 And Jacob answered and said to Laban, “Because I was afraid, for I thought that you would take your daughters from me by force. 32 “With whomever you find your gods, let him not live; in the presence of our kinsmen point out what is yours with me, and take it for yourself.” For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them. 33 ¶ And Laban went into Jacob’s tent and into Leah’s tent, and into the two maidservants’ tents. But he did not find them. Then he went out of Leah’s tent and entered into Rachel’s tent.
34 Now Rachel had taken the images and put them in the camel’s saddle, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but did not find them.
35 And she said to her father, “Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before you, for the manner of women is upon me.” And he searched, but did not find the images.
36 ¶ Now Jacob was angry and contended with Laban. And Jacob answered and said to Laban, “What is my trespass? What is my sin, that you have so hotly pursued after me?
37 “Though you have searched all my goods, what have you found of all your household goods? Set it here before my kinsmen and your kinsmen so that they may judge between us both.
38 “These twenty years I have been with you. Your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried their young, and I have not eaten the rams of your flock.
39 “That which was torn by beasts I did not bring to you. I bore the loss of it. You required it of my hand whether stolen by day or stolen by night.
40 “This was my situation: In the day the drought consumed me and the frost by night. And my sleep departed from my eyes.
41 “Thus I have been twenty years in your house. I served you fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your flock. And you have changed my wages ten times.
42 “If ‘the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had not been with me, surely you would have now sent me away empty. ‘God has seen my affliction and the
labor of my hands, so He brendered judgment last night.”

43 ¶ Then Laban answered and said to Jacob, “These daughters are my daughters, and these children are my children, and these flocks are my flocks. And all that you see is mine. And what can I do this day to these my daughters, or to their children whom they have borne?

44 “Now therefore come, let us dmake a covenant, you and I, and let it be for a witness between you and me.”

45 And Jacob took a stone and set it up for a pillar.

46 Then Jacob said to his kinsmen, “Gather stones.” And they took stones and made a heap. And they ate there by the heap.

47 And Laban fcalled it Jegarsahaduth, but Jacob called it Galeed.

48 And Laban said, “This heap is a witness between you and me when we are absent from one another.

49 i“The God of Abraham, and the God of their father, judge between us.” And Jacob swore by the jfear of his father Isaac.

50 kThen Jacob offered sacrifice upon the mountain, and called his kinsmen to eat the meal. And they ate the meal and tarried all night in the mountain.

55 And early in the morning Laban rose up and lkissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them. Then Laban departed and returned to his place.

Chapter 32

Jacob Prepares to Meet Esau

1 ¶ So Jacob went on his way, and athe angels of God met him.

2 And when Jacob saw them, he said, “This is God’s host.” And he called the name of that place bMahanaim.

3 ¶ Then Jacob csent messengers before him to Esau his brother to the land of cSeir, the country of cEdom.

4 And he commanded them, saying, “Thus will you speak to my lord Esau: ‘Your servant Jacob said thus, “I have sojourned with Laban, and dstayed there until now.

5 “And eI have oxen and donkeys, flocks and male and female servants. And I have sent to tell my lord so that I may find favor in your sight.’”

6 ¶ Then the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother Esau, and he is also coming to meet you, and four hundred men with him.”

7 Then Jacob was hgreatly afraid and distressed. And he divided the people that were with him, and the flocks and herds and the camels, into two bands.

8 And he said, “If Esau comes to the one company and smites it, then the other company that is left will escape.

9 ¶ Then Jacob said, “O iGod of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me, j‘Return to your country and to your relatives, and I will deal well with you,’

10 “I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and kof all the truth that You have showed to Your servant, for with my staff I passed over this Jordan, and now I have become two companies.

11 “Please deliver me lfrom the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me and the mothers with the children.

12 “And You said, m‘I will surely prosper you and nmake your descendants as the sand of the sea that cannot be numbered for multitude.’”

13 ¶ So he lodged there that same night. And he selected from what he had with him a
present for his brother Esau:
14 two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams,
15 thirty milking camels with their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys.
16 Then he delivered them into the hand of his servants, every drove by itself, and said to his servants, “Pass over before me and put a space between droves.”
17 And he commanded the first one, saying, “When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, saying, ‘To whom do you belong, and where are you going? And whose are these before you?’
18 “Then you will say, ‘They belong to your servant Jacob. It is a present sent to my lord Esau. And behold, he is also behind us.’”
19 And he also commanded the second and the third, and all who followed the droves, saying, “On this manner you will speak to Esau when you find him.
20 “Now you will also say, ‘Behold, your servant Jacob is behind us.’” For he said, “I will appease him with the present that goes before me. And afterward I will see his face. Perhaps he will accept it from me.”
21 So the present went over before him, while he himself lodged that night in the camp.

**Jacob Wrestles With God**
22 ¶ And he rose up that night and took his two wives and his two maids and his eleven sons, and passed over the ford of the Jabbok.
23 Then he took them and sent them over the stream. And he sent over whatever he had.
24 So Jacob was left alone and there a man wrestled with him until daybreak.
25 And when he saw that he did not prevail against him, he touched the socket of his thigh. And the socket of Jacob’s thigh was out of joint as he wrestled with him.
26 Then he said, “Let me go, for the day breaks.” And he said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”
27 Then he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.”
28 And he said, “Your name will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed.”
29 Then Jacob asked him, and said, “Please tell me your name.” And he said, “Why is it that you ask for my name?” And he blessed him there.
30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, “for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.”
31 Now as he passed over ‘Penuel, the sun rose upon him and he was limping on his thigh.
32 Therefore, to this day the children of Israel do not eat the sinew of the hip which is on the socket of the thigh, because he touched the socket of Jacob’s thigh in the sinew of the hip.

**Chapter 33**

**Jacob Meets Esau**
1 ¶ Then Jacob lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids.
2 And he put the maids and their children in front and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph last.
3 And he passed over ahead of them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.
4 ¶ Then Esau ran to meet him and embraced him. And he fell on his neck and kissed him. And they wept.
5 And he lifted up his eyes and saw the women and the children. Then he said, “Who are these with you?” And he said, “The children whom God has graciously given your servant.”
6 Then the handmaidens came near, they and their children. And they bowed themselves.
7 Then Leah also with her children came near and bowed themselves, and afterward came Joseph near with Rachel. And they bowed themselves.
8 And he said, “What do you mean by all this company that I have met?” And he said, “These are to find favor in the sight of my lord.”
¶ Then Esau said, “I have enough, my brother. Keep what you have to yourself.”

And Jacob said, “No, please, if now I have found favor in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, for I see your face as one sees the face of God, and you have received me favorably.

“Please take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough.” And he urged him and he took it.

And he said, “Let us take our journey and go, and I will go before you.”

Then he said to him, “My lord knows that the children are frail and the flocks and herds with young are with me. And if they are driven hard one day, all the flocks will die.

“I please let my lord go on ahead before his servant, and I will lead on slowly, according to the pace of the livestock that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come to my lord to Seir.”

And Esau said, “Let me now leave with you some of the people who are with me.” And he said, “What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord.”

So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir.

And Jacob journeyed to Succoth. And he built for himself a house, and made shelters for his livestock. Therefore, the name of the place is called Succoth.

Then Jacob came to the city of Shechem that is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan-aram. And he pitched his tent before the city.

And he bought the parcel of a field where he had spread his tent from the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem’s father, for one hundred pieces of money.

And he erected there an altar and called it Elelohe-Israel.

Chapter 34
Dinah and Shechem

¶ Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.

And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her by force and lay with her, and defiled her.

And he was deeply attracted to Dinah the daughter of Jacob. And he loved the girl and spoke kindly to her.

So Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, “Get me this young girl for a wife.”

And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter, but his sons were with his livestock in the field. So Jacob held his peace until they came.

Then Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to speak with him.

And the sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard it. And the men were grieved, and they were very angry because he had done a disgraceful thing in Israel by lying with Jacob’s daughter, a thing which ought not to be done.

But Hamor spoke with them, saying, “The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter. Please give her to him as a wife,

and make marriages with us, and give your daughters to us and take our daughters for yourselves.

And you will dwell with us. And the land will be before you. Dwell and trade in it and acquire possessions in it.”

Then Shechem said to her father and to her brothers, “Let me find grace in your eyes and I will give whatever you say to me.

“Ask of me whatever dowry and gift and I will give according as you will say to me. But give me the girl as a wife.”

¶ And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully. And they spoke deceitfully because he had defiled Dinah their sister.

So they said to them, “We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one that is uncircumcised, for that would be a disgrace to us.

“But on this condition we consent to you. If you will be as we are, in that every male of you be circumcised,

then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters for ourselves.
And we will dwell with you and we will become one people.

17 “But if you will not listen to us to be circumcised, then we will take our daughter and we will be gone.”

18 ¶ And their words pleased Hamor and Shechem Hamor’s son.

19 Now the young man did not delay to do the thing, because he was delighted with Jacob’s daughter. And he was more honorable than all the house of his father.

20 And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city and spoke with the men of their city, saying,

21 “These men are friendly with us. Therefore, let them dwell in the land and trade in it, for behold, the land is large enough for them. Let us take their daughters to us as wives and let us give them our daughters.

22 “Only on this condition will the men consent to us to dwell with us, to be one people: that every male among us be circumcised as they are circumcised.

23 “Will not their livestock and their substance and every beast of theirs be ours? Only let us consent to them and they will dwell with us.”

24 And all who went out of the gate of his city listened to Hamor and to his son Shechem. And every male was circumcised, all who went out of the gate of his city.

25 ¶ Now it came to pass on the third day when they were sore, that two of Jacob’s sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah’s brothers, took each man his sword and came upon the city unaware. And they slew all the males.

26 Then they slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem’s house and went out.

27 The sons of Jacob came upon the slain and looted the city, because they had defiled their sister.

28 They took their sheep and their oxen and their donkeys, and that which was in the city and that which was in the field.

29 And all their wealth and all their little ones and their wives they took captive, and even looted all that was in the houses.

30 Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, “You have brought trouble on me by making me obnoxious among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites. And since I am few in number, they will gather themselves together against me and slay me. And I will be destroyed, I and my house.”

31 And they said, “Should he deal with our sister as with a harlot?”

Chapter 35

Jacob Returns to Bethel

1 ¶ Then God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. And make there an altar to God, who appeared to you when you fled from the face of your brother.”

2 Then Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put away the foreign gods that are among you and be clean, and change your garments.

3 “And let us arise and go up to Bethel, and I will make there an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and was with me in the way that I went.”

4 So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that were in their hands and all their earrings that were in their ears. And Jacob hid them under the oak that was by Shechem.

5 Then they journeyed. And the terror of God was upon the cities that were around them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob.

6 So Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him.

7 And he built an altar there. And he called the place Elbethel, because God appeared to him there when he fled from the face of his brother.

8 ¶ But Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, died. And she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak. And the name of it was called Allon Bachuth.

9 ¶ Then God appeared to Jacob again when he came out of Padan-aram, and blessed him.

10 And God said to him, “Your name is Jacob. Your name will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel will be your name.” And He called his name Israel.
11 Then God said to him, “I am [a]God Almighty. [b]Be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a [c]company of nations will be from you. And [d]kings will come out of your body.
12 “And [e]the land that I gave Abraham and Isaac, to you I will give it, and to your descendants after you I will give the land.”
13 And [f]God went up from him in the place where He talked with him.
14 Then Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with Him, even a pillar of stone. And he poured a drink offering on it, and he poured oil on it.
15 And Jacob called the name of the place where God spoke with him, Bethel.

Deaths of Rachel and Isaac
16 ¶ So they journeyed from Bethel, and there was but a little distance to go to [g]Ephrath. And Rachel began to give birth, and she had hard labor.
17 Then it came to pass when she was in hard labor that the midwife said to her, “Do not fear. [h]You will have this son also.”
18 Now it came to pass as her soul was departing (for she died) that she called his name Benoni. But his father called him Benjamin.
19 So [i]Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.
20 And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave, which is the [j]pillar of Rachel’s grave to this day.
21 ¶ Then Israel journeyed and pitched his tent beyond the tower of Edar.
22 Now it came to pass when Israel dwelt in that land, that [k]Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father’s concubine. And Israel heard of it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:
23 The [l]sons of Leah were Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn, and Simeon and Levi and Judah and Issachar and Zebulun.
24 The [m]sons of Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin.
25 And the [n]sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s maids were Dan and Naphtali.
26 And the [o]sons of Zilpah, Leah’s maids were Gad and Asher. These are the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Padan-aram.
27 ¶ And Jacob came to Isaac his father at [p]Mamre of Kiriatharba, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.
28 Now the days of Isaac were [q]one hundred and eighty years.
29 And Isaac breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people, being old and full of days. Then his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Chapter 36
Descendants of Esau
1 ¶ Now these are the generations of [r]Esau, who is Edom.
2 Esau took [s]his wives from the daughters of Canaan: Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite;
3 and Bashemath Ishmael’s daughter, sister of Nebajoth.
4 And Adah bore Eliphaz to Esau, and Bashemath bore Reuel.
5 And Aholibamah bore Jeush and Jaalam and Korah. These are the sons of Esau who were born to him in the land of Canaan.
6 And Esau took his wives and his sons and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle and all his beasts, and all his possessions that he had acquired in the land of Canaan, and went to another land away from his brother Jacob.
7 For their riches were too great for them to dwell together. And the land wherein they were foreigners could not sustain them because of their livestock.
8 Thus Esau dwelt in [t]Mount Seir; Esau is Edom.
9 ¶ And these are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in Mount Seir:
10 These are the names of Esau’s sons: Eliphas the son of Adah the wife of Esau, Reuel the son of Bashemath the wife of Esau.
11 And the sons of Eliphas were Teman, Omar, Zepho and Gatam and Kenaz.
12 And Timna was a concubine to Eliphas,
Esau’s son, and she bore Amalek to Eliphaz. These were the sons of Adah, Esau’s wife.

13 And these are the sons of Reuel: Nahas and Zerah, Shammah and Mizzah. These were the sons of Basemath Esau’s wife.

14 And these were the sons of Aholibahamah, the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon, Esau’s wife. And she bore to Esau, Jeush and Jaalam and Korah.

15 ¶ These were the sons of Esau. The sons of Eliphaz, the firstborn son of Esau, are chief Teman, chief Omar, chief Zepho, chief Kenaz, chief Korah, chief Gatam, and chief Amalek. These are the chiefs who came from Eliphaz in the land of Edom. These were the sons of Adah.

16 ¶ And these are the sons of Reuel Esau’s son: chief Nahas, chief Zerah, chief Shammah, chief Mizzah. These are the chiefs who came from Reuel in the land of Edom. These are the sons of Basemath Esau’s wife.

17 ¶ And these are the sons of Aholibahamah Esau’s wife: chief Jeush, chief Jaalam, chief Korah. These were the chiefs who came from Aholibahamah the daughter of Anah, Esau’s wife.

18 ¶ These are the sons of Esau, who is Edom, and these are their chiefs.

19 These are the sons of Seir the Horite, who inhabited the land: Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah

20 and Dishon and Ezer and Dishan. These are the chiefs of the Horites, the children of Seir in the land of Edom.

21 And the children of Lotan were Hori and Hemam. And Lotan’s sister was Timna.

22 And the children of Shobal were these: Alvan and Manahas and Ebal, Shepho and Onam.

23 And these are the children of Zibeon: both Ajah and Anah—he was the Anah who found the donkeys in the wilderness as he fed the donkeys of Zibeon his father.

24 And these are the children of Anah—there were the Anah who found the donkeys in the wilderness as he fed the donkeys of Zibeon his father.

25 And the children of Anah were these: Dishon and Aholibahamah the daughter of Anah.

26 And these are the children of Dishon: Hemdan and Esiban and Ithran and Cheran.

27 The children of Ezer are these: Bilhan and Zaavan and Akan.

28 The children of Dishan are these: Uz and Aran.

29 ¶ These are the chiefs who came from the Horites: chief Lotan, chief Shobal, chief Zibeon, chief Anah,

30 chief Dishon, chief Ezer, chief Dishan. These are the chiefs that came from Hori, among their chiefs in the land of Seir.

Rulers of Edom

31 ¶ And these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned there over the children of Israel.

32 And Bela the son of Beor reigned in Edom. And the name of his city was Dinhabah.

33 And Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his place.

34 And Jobab died, and Husham of the land of Temani reigned in his place.

35 And Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Avith.

36 And Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place.

37 And Samlah died, and Saul of Rehoboth by the river reigned in his place.

38 And Saul died, and Baalhanan the son of Achbor reigned in his place.

39 And Baalhanan the son of Achbor died, and Hadar reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Pau, and his wife’s name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab.

40 ¶ And these are the names of the chiefs who came from Esau, according to their families, after their places, by their names: chief Timnah, chief Alvah, chief Jetheth,

41 chief Aholibahamah, chief Elah, chief Pinon,

42 chief Kenaz, chief Teman, chief Mibzar,

43 chief Magdiel, chief Iram. These are the chiefs of Edom, according to their habitations in the land of their possession. Esau was the father of the Edomites.

Chapter 37

Dreams of Joseph

1 ¶ Now Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his
father was a sojourner, in the land of Canaan.

2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, when he was seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father’s wives. And Joseph brought a bad report to his father.

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children because he had been born to him in his old age. And he made for him a coat of many colors.

4 And when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him. And they could not speak peaceably to him.

5 ¶ Then Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers. And they hated him even more.

6 And he said to them, “Please listen to this dream that I have dreamed; 7 “for behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and lo, my sheaf arose and also stood erect. And behold, your sheaves stood around about and bowed down to my sheaf.”

8 And his brothers said to him, “Will you actually reign over us? Or will you indeed have dominion over us?” And they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

9 ¶ Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers. And he said, “Behold, I have dreamed another dream. And behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars bowed down to me.”

10 And he told it to his father and to his brothers. And his father rebuked him, and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Will I and your mother and your brothers actually come to bow down ourselves to you to the earth?”

11 And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

Selling of Joseph

12 ¶ And his brothers went to feed their father’s flock in Shechem.

13 Then Israel said to Joseph, “Do not your brothers feed the flock in Shechem? Come, and I will send you to them.” And he said to him, “Here I am.”

14 So he said to him, “Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring me word again.” So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.

15 Now a certain man found him, and behold, he was wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, “What are you seeking?”

16 And he said, “I seek my brothers. Please tell me where they are feeding their flocks.”

17 Then the man said, “They have moved from here, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’” And Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.

18 ¶ Now when they saw him afar off, even before he came near to them, they conspired against him to kill him.

19 And they said to one another, “Behold, this dreamer is coming.

20 “Come now therefore and let us kill him and cast him into some pit. And we will say, ‘Some evil beast has devoured him.’ And we will see what will become of his dreams.”

21 But Reuben heard it and he delivered him out of their hands, and said, “Let us not kill him.”

22 And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood. But cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him.” He said this so that he might rescue him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.

23 ¶ So it came to pass when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his coat, his coat of many colors that was on him.

24 Then they took him and cast him into a pit. Now the pit was empty, for there was no water in it.

25 Then they sat down to eat bread. And they lifted up their eyes and looked, and behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites was coming from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.

26 And Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?”
47

“Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and do not let our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh.” And his brothers listened.

Then some Midianite traders passed by. And they pulled him up and lifted Joseph out of the pit. And they sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they brought Joseph into Egypt.

¶ Now Reuben returned to the pit, and behold, Joseph was not in the pit. And he tore his clothes.

Then he returned to his brothers and said, “The child is not there. And I, where will I go?”

And they took Joseph’s coat, and killed a male goat, and dipped the coat in the blood.

Then they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father. And they said, “This we have found. Examine it to see whether it is your son’s coat or not.”

And he recognized it, and said, “It is my son’s coat. An evil beast has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn in pieces.”

And Jacob tore his clothes, and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days.

And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him. But he refused to be comforted. And he said, “For I will go down into the grave to my son mourning.” Thus his father wept for him.

Now the Midianites sold him into Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard.

Chapter 38
Judah and Tamar

¶ Now it came to pass at that time that Judah departed from his brothers and visited a certain Adullamite whose name was Hirah.

And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shuah. And he took her and went in to her.

So she conceived and bore a son. And he called his name Er.

Then she conceived again and bore a son. And she called his name Onan.

And still again she conceived and bore a son. And she called his name Shelah. And he was at Chezib when she bore him.

Then Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn whose name was Tamar.

And Er, Judah’s firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, so the LORD slew him.

So Judah said to Onan, “Go in to your brother’s wife and marry her, and raise up offspring for your brother.”

And Onan knew that the offspring would not be his. So it came to pass, when he went in to his brother’s wife, that he emitted it on the ground in order not to give offspring for his brother.

And the thing that he did displeased the LORD. Therefore, He slew him also.

Then Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, “Remain a widow at your father’s house until Shelah my son is grown.” For he said, “Lest perhaps he also die as his brothers.” And Tamar went and dwelt in her father’s house.

¶ Now in the process of time the daughter of Shuah, Judah’s wife, died. And Judah was comforted and went up to his sheepshearers to Timnath, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite.

And it was told Tamar, saying, “Behold, your father-in-law is going up to Timnath to shear his sheep.”

So she took off her widow’s garments and covered herself with a veil, and wrapped herself. And she sat in an open place that is by the way to Timnath, for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she had not been given to him as a wife.

When Judah saw her, he thought she was a harlot, because she had covered her face.

So he turned to her by the way, and said, “Please let me come in to you.” For he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, “What will you give me so that you may come in to me?”

Then he said, “I will send you a young goat from the flock.” So she said, “Will you give me a pledge until you send it?”
18 And he said, “What pledge will I give you?” And she said, “Your signet and cord, and your staff that is in your hand.” And he gave it to her and went in to her, and she conceived by him.

19 Then she arose and departed. And she removed her veil and put on the garments of her widowhood.

20 And Judah sent the young goat by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive his pledge from the woman’s hand. But he did not find her.

21 Then he asked the men of that place, saying, “Where is the harlot that was openly by the wayside?” And they said, “There was no harlot in this place.”

22 So he returned to Judah, and said, “I cannot find her. And also the men of the place said that there was no harlot in this place.”

23 Then Judah said, “Let her keep them, lest we are shamed. Behold, I sent this young goat and you have not found her.”

24 ¶ Now it came to pass about three months after that it was told Judah, saying, “Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the harlot. And also, behold, she is with child by harlotry.” And Judah said, “Bring her out and let her be burned.”

25 When she was brought out, she sent to her father-in-law, saying, “By the man whose these are, am I with child.” And she said, “Please discern whose are these, the signet and cords and staff.”

26 Then Judah acknowledged them, and said, “She has been more righteous than I, because I did not give her to Shelah my son.” And he did not have relations with her again.

27 ¶ Now it came to pass in the time of her giving birth, that behold, twins were in her womb.

28 And it came to pass while she was giving birth that the one put out his hand. And the midwife took and bound on his hand a scarlet thread, saying, “This one came out first.”

29 Then it came to pass as he drew back his hand, that behold, his brother came out. And she said, “How have you broken through? This breach is on you.” Therefore, his name was called Perez.

30 And afterward came out his brother who had the scarlet thread on his hand. And his name was called Zarah.

Chapter 39
Joseph and Potiphar’s Wife

1 ¶ Now Joseph was brought down to Egypt. And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the hands of the Ishmaelites, who had brought him down there.

2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a successful man. And he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

3 Now his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

4 So Joseph found favor in his sight, and he served him. And he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

5 Now it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian’s house for Joseph’s sake. And the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house and in the field.

6 So he left all that he had in Joseph’s hand. And he did not know what he had, except the bread that he ate. And Joseph was a handsome person, and well favored.

7 ¶ Now it came to pass after these things that his master’s wife cast her eyes upon Joseph. And she said, “Lie with me.”

8 But he refused, and said to his master’s wife, “Behold, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand.

9 “There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?”

10 Now it came to pass as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not listen to her, to lie by her or to be with her.

11 Now it came to pass about this time that

Joseph went into the house to do his business. And there was none of the men of the house inside.

12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” And he left his garment in her hand and fled and ran out.

13 So it came to pass when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and had fled outside,

14 that she called to the men of her house and spoke to them, saying, “See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice.

15 “And it came to pass when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me and fled, and went outside.”

16 So she left his garment beside her until his lord came home.

17 And she spoke to him according to these words, saying, “The Hebrew servant whom you have brought to us, came in to me to mock me.

18 “And it came to pass as I lifted up my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me, and fled outside.”

19 ¶ Now it came to pass when his master heard the words of his wife that she spoke to him, saying, “After this manner your servant did to me,” that his wrath was kindled.

20 And Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, a place where the king’s prisoners were bound. And he was there in the prison.

21 ¶ But the †LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy. And He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

22 And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph’s hand all the prisoners that were in the prison. And whatever they did there, he was responsible for it.

23 The ‡keeper of the prison did not supervise anything under Joseph’s charge because the †LORD was with him. And that which he did, the †LORD made it prosper.

Chapter 40
The Cupbearer and the Baker

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after these things that the †butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the king of Egypt.

2 And Pharaoh was furious with his two officers, against the chief of the butlers and against the chief of the bakers.

3 So he put them in confinement in the house of the ‡captain of the guard, in the prison, the place where Joseph was bound.

4 And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he took care of them. And they were in confinement for some time.

5 ¶ Then both of them dreamed a dream, each man his dream in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison.

6 And Joseph came in to them in the morning and observed them, and behold, they were sad.

7 Then he asked Pharaoh’s officers who were with him in the ward of his lord’s house, saying, “Why are your faces so sad today?”

8 And they said to him, “We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter for it.”

9 ¶ Then the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, “In my dream, behold, a vine was before me.

10 “And in the vine there were three branches. And it was as though it budded, and its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters of it brought forth ripe grapes.

11 “And Pharaoh’s cup was in my hand. And I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh’s cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh’s hand.”

12 Then Joseph said to him, “This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days.

13 “Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your place. And you will deliver Pharaoh’s cup into his hand, according to the former manner when you were his butler.

14 “But think of me when it goes well with
you. And please show kindness to me and make mention of me to Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house.

15 "For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews. And here also I have done nothing that they should put me in the dungeon."

16 ¶ When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said to Joseph, "I also saw in my dream, and behold, I had three white baskets on my head.

17 "And in the uppermost basket there was all kinds of baked food for Pharaoh. And the birds ate them out of the basket on my head."

18 Then Joseph answered and said, "This is the interpretation of it: The three baskets are three days.

19 "Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head from you and will hang you on a tree. And the birds will eat your flesh off you."

20 ¶ So it came to pass on the third day, which was Pharaoh’s birthday, that he made a feast to all his servants. And he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants.

21 And he restored the chief butler to his butlership again, and he gave the cup into Pharaoh’s hand.

22 But he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had interpreted to them.

23 However, the chief butler did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Chapter 41
Pharaoh’s Dreams

1 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of two full years that Pharaoh dreamed, and behold, he stood by the river.

2 And behold, there came up out of the river seven cows sleek and fat. And "they fed in a meadow.

3 And behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ugly and gaunt. And they stood by the other cows on the bank of the river.

4 Then the ugly and gaunt cows ate up the seven sleek and fat cows. Then Pharaoh awoke.

5 Then he slept and dreamed the second time. And behold, seven ears of grain came up on one stalk, plump and good.

6 And behold, seven thin ears and scorched with the east wind sprang up after them.

7 Then the seven thin ears devoured the seven plump and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and behold, it was a dream.

8 Then it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled. And he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all the wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dream, but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

9 ¶ Then the chief butler spoke to Pharaoh, saying, "I do remember my offenses this day.

10 "Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in confinement in the house of the captain of the bodyguard, both me and the chief baker.

11 "And we had dreamed a dream in one night, he and I. Both of us dreamed according to the interpretation of his own dream.

12 "Now there was with us there a young man, a Hebrew, a servant to the captain of the guard. And we told him, and he interpreted for us our dreams. To each one he interpreted according to his own dream.

13 "And just as he interpreted for us, so it happened. He restored me to my office, and he hanged him."

14 ¶ Then Pharaoh sent and called for Joseph, and they hurriedly brought him out of the dungeon. And he shaved himself and changed his clothes. And he came in to Pharaoh.

15 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have dreamed a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. And I have heard about you, that you can understand a dream in order to interpret it."

16 Then Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me. God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.”

17 So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In my dream, behold, I stood on the bank of the river.

18 "And behold, there came up out of the river seven cows, fat and fine looking. And
they fed in a meadow.

19 "And behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and gaunt, such as I have never seen for ugliness in all the land of Egypt.

20 "Then the lean and ugly cows ate up the first seven fat cows.

21 "Yet when they had eaten them up, it could not be detected that they had eaten them, for they were still ugly as at the beginning. So I awoke.

22 "Then I saw in my dream, and behold, seven ears came up on one stalk, full and good.

23 "And behold, seven ears, withered, thin and scorched with the east wind, sprang up after them.

24 "Then the thin ears devoured the seven good ears. So I told this to the magicians, but there was no one who could explain it to me."

25 ¶ Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dream of Pharaoh is one. lGod has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do.

26 "The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years. The dream is one.

27 "And the seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years. And the seven empty ears scorched with the east wind will be mseven years of famine.

28 "This is the thing that I have spoken to Pharaoh. nGod has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do.

29 "Behold, oseven years of great abundance are coming in all the land of Egypt.

30 "And there will arise after them pseven years of famine, and all the abundance will be forgotten in the land of Egypt. And the famine will consume the land.

31 "And the abundance will not be known in the land by reason of that subsequent famine, for it will be very severe.

32 q"Now as for the repeating of the dream to Pharaoh twice, it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

33 "Now therefore, let Pharaoh look out for a rdiscreet and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt.

34 "Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up a fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven years of abundance.

35 "And qlet them gather all the food of those good years that come, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

36 "Then that food will be for reserve for the land for the seven years of famine that will be in the land of Egypt, that the land not perish during the famine."

37 ¶ And the proposal was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

38 Then Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find such a one as this, a man rin whom the Spirit of God is?”

39 So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has showed you all this, sthere is no one so discreet and wise as you are.

40 "tYou will be over my house, and according to your word will all my people be ruled. Only in the throne will I be greater than you.”

41 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you tover all the land of Egypt.”

42 So Pharaoh utook off his ring from his hand, and put it on Joseph’s hand. And he vput a gold chain around his neck.

43 And he made him ride in the second chariot that he had. And they cried before him, “Bow the knee!” And he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

44 ¶ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, and wyou no man will lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.”

45 And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphnath-Paaneah. And he gave him as a wife, Asenath, the daughter of Potipherah priest of wOn. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.

46 ¶ Now Joseph was xvthirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

Joseph Works for Egypt

44 ¶ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, and “without you no man will lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.”

45 And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphnath-Paaneah. And he gave him as a wife, Asenath, the daughter of Potipherah priest of “On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.

46 ¶ Now Joseph was xvthirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.
47 Then in the seven abundant years the earth brought forth by handfuls.
48 And he gathered up all the food of the seven years that were in the land of Egypt, and stored the food in the cities. He stored in every city the food from its own surrounding fields.
49 Thus Joseph stored up grain in great abundance like the sand of the sea, until he stopped measuring it, for it was beyond measure.
50 ¶ And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bore to him.
51 And Joseph called the name of the first-born Manasseh, “For God,” he said, “has made me forget all my trouble and all my father’s house.”
52 And the name of the second he called Ephraim, “For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.”
53 ¶ Now the seven years of abundance that were in the land of Egypt, were ended.
54 And the seven years of famine began to come according as Joseph had said. And the famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread.
55 And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried out to Pharaoh for bread. And Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph. Whatever he says to you, do.”
56 ¶ Then Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians. And the famine became severe in the land of Egypt.
57 And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph in order to buy grain, because the famine was severe in all lands.

Chapter 42
Joseph’s Brothers Go to Egypt
1 ¶ Now when Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, “Why are you looking at one another?”
2 Then he said, “Behold, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt. Go down there and buy for us from that place so that we may live and not die.”
3 So Joseph’s ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt.
4 But Jacob did not send Joseph’s brother Benjamin with his brothers, for he said, “Lest some harm come upon him.”
5 And the sons of Israel came to buy grain among those who were coming, for the famine was in the land of Canaan.
6 ¶ Now Joseph was the governor over the land. And he was the one who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed themselves down before him with their faces to the earth.
7 And Joseph saw his brothers, and he knew them. But they did not recognize him.
8 And Joseph knew his brothers, but they did not recognize him.
9 And Joseph remembered the dreams that he dreamed of them, and said to them, “You are spies! You have come to see the nakedness of the land!”
10 Then they said to him, “No, my lord, but your servants are twelve men, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan. And behold, the youngest is with our father. And one is not.”
11 “We are all one man’s sons. We are honest men. Your servants are not spies.”
12 And he said to them, “No, but you have come to see the nakedness of the land.”
13 And they said, “Your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan. And behold, the youngest is this day with our father. And one is not.”
14 Then Joseph said to them, “It is as I said to you, you are spies.
15 “By this you will be tested. By the life of Pharaoh you will not go forth from here except your youngest brother comes here.
16 “Send one of you and let him bring your brother, and you will be kept in prison so that your words may be proved, whether there is any truth in you. Or else, by the life of Pharaoh surely you are spies.”
17 And he put them all together into prison for three days.
18 ¶ Then Joseph said to them the third day,
“Do this and live, for I fear God. 
19 “If you are honest men, let one of your brothers be bound in the house of your prison, but you, go and carry grain for the famine of your houses.
20 “But bring your youngest brother to me, so will your words be verified and you will not die.” And they did so.
21 And they said to one another, “We are guilty concerning our brother in that we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear. Therefore, this distress has come upon us.”
22 Then Reuben answered them, saying, “Did I not tell you, saying, ‘Do not sin against the child,’ and you would not listen? Therefore, behold, his blood is now required of us.”
23 And they did not know that Joseph understood them, for he spoke to them by an interpreter.
24 Then he turned himself away from them and wept. And he returned to them again and communed with them. And he “took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes.
25 ¶ Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with grain and to restore every man’s money in his sack, and to give them provision for the way. And thus he did to them.
26 So they loaded their donkeys with the grain and departed from there.
27 Now as one of them opened his sack to give his donkey feed in the inn, he saw his money, for behold, it was in his sack’s mouth.
28 And he said to his brothers, “My money has been returned, and behold, it is even in my sack.” And their hearts sank, and they were afraid, saying to one another, “What is this that God has done to us?”
29 ¶ So they came to Jacob their father in the land of Canaan and told him all that happened to them, saying,
30 “The man who is the lord of the country spoke roughly to us, by this I will know that you are honest men. Leave one of your brothers here with me and take food for the famine of your households, and go.
31 ¶ Then it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that every man’s bundle of money was in his sack. And when they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid.
32 Then Joseph said to his brothers, “You have bereaved me of my children. Joseph is no more and Simeon is no more, and you would take Benjamin away. All these things are against me.”
33 ¶ Then Jacob their father said to them, “You have bereaved me of my children. Joseph is no more and Simeon is no more, and you would take Benjamin away. All these things are against me.”
34 Then Reuben spoke to his father, saying, “Kill my two sons, if I do not bring him to you. Deliver him into my hand and I will bring him to you again.”
35 ¶ And he said, “My son will not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he is left alone. If harm befall him by the way in which you go, then you will bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.”

Chapter 43
Second Journey to Egypt
1 ¶ And the famine was severe in the land.
2 Now it came to pass when they had eaten up the grain that they had brought out of Egypt, their father said to them, “Go again, buy for us a little food.”
3 And Judah spoke to him, saying, “The man did solemnly warn us, saying, ‘You will not see my face unless your brother is with you.’
4 “If you will send our brother with us, we will go down and buy you food.
5 “But if you will not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, ‘You will not see my face unless your brother is with you.’”
6 Then Israel said, “Why did you deal so
wrongfully with me by telling the man whether you still had another brother?"
7 And they said, “The man asked us directly of our state, and of our relatives, saying, ‘Is your father still alive? Do you have another brother?’ And we told him according to the nature of these questions. Could we possibly know that he would say, ‘Bring your brother down’?”
8 ¶ Then Judah said to Israel his father, “Send the lad with me and we will arise and go so that we may live, and not die, both we and you, and also our little ones.
9 “I will be surety for him. You may hold me responsible for him. If I do not bring him to you, and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever.
10 “For if we had not delayed, surely by now we could have returned this second time.”
11 Then their father Israel said to them, “If it must be so now, then do this. Take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels and carry down a present for the man, a little balm and a little honey, spices and myrrh, nuts and almonds.
12 “And take double money in your hand, and the money that was brought again in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hand. Perhaps it was a mistake.
13 “Take also your brother, and arise, go again to the man.
14 “And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, so that he may release your other brother and Benjamin. ‘If I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.’”
15 ¶ Then the men took this present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin. And they rose up and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph.
16 And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, “Bring these men to my house, and slay an animal. And make ready, for these men will dine with me at noon.”
17 So the man did as Joseph said, and brought the men into Joseph’s house.
18 Now the men were afraid because they were brought into Joseph’s house. And they said, “Because of the money that was returned in our sacks the first time we are brought in so that he may seek occasion against us, and fall on us and take us for slaves with our donkeys.”
19 Then they came near to the steward of Joseph’s house. And they communed with him at the door of the house,
20 and said, “Oh sir, we indeed came down the first time to buy food.
21 “And it came to pass when we came to the inn, that we opened our sacks, and behold, every man’s money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight. And we have brought it back in our hand.
22 “And we have brought down other money in our hands to buy food. We do not know who put our money in our sacks.”
23 And he said, “Peace be to you. Do not be afraid. Your God and the God of your father has given you treasure in your sacks. I had your money.” Then he brought Simeon out to them.
24 Then the man brought the men into Joseph’s house, and gave them water, and they washed their feet. And he gave their donkeys feed.
25 Then they prepared the present for Joseph’s coming at noon, for they heard that they should eat bread there.
26 ¶ Now when Joseph came home, they brought into the house to him the present that was in their hand, and bowed themselves to him to the earth.
27 Then he asked them of their welfare, and said, “Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?”
28 And they answered, “Your servant our father is in good health. He is still alive.” And they bowed down their heads and prostrated themselves.
29 Then he lifted up his eyes and saw his younger brother, of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?”
30 And they answered, “Your servant our father is in good health. He is still alive.” And they bowed down their heads and prostrated themselves.
31 ¶ Then Joseph hurried out for he was deeply moved over his brother. And he sought some...
where to weep. So he entered into his room and ywept there.

31 Then he washed his face, and went out and zcontrolled himself. And he said, “Serve the meal.”

32 So they served him by himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by themselves, because the Egyptians could not eat bread with the Hebrews, for that is an aabomination to the Egyptians.

33 And they sat before him, the bfirstborn according to his birthright and the youngest according to his youth. And the men looked in astonishment at one another.

34 Then he took servings to them from before him. cBut Benjamin’s serving was five times as much as any of theirs. So they drank and were merry with him.

Chapter 44
Silver Cup in the Sack

1 ¶ aThen he commanded the steward of his house, saying, “Fill the men’s sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man’s money in his sack’s mouth.

2 “Then put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, and his grain money.” And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

3 As soon as the morning dawned, the men were sent away, they and their donkeys.

4 And when they had gone out of bthe city, and not yet far off, Joseph said to his steward, “Up, follow after the men. And when you overtake them, say to them, ‘Why have you rewarded evil for good?

5 ‘Is not this the one from which my lord drinks and which he indeed uses for cdivination? You have done evil in doing this.’”

6 ¶ And he overtook them and he spoke to them these same words.

7 And they said to him, “Why does my lord speak such words as these? God forbid that your servants should do according to this thing.

8 “Behold, dthe money that we found in our sacks’ mouths we brought again to you out of the land of Canaan. How then could we steal silver and gold out of your lord’s house?

9 “With whomever of your servants it is found, let him die, and we also will be my lord’s e/slaves.”

10 And he said, “Now let it also be according to your words. He with whom it is found will be my slave and you will be innocent.”

11 Then every man speedily took down his sack to the ground, and every man opened his sack.

12 And he searched, beginning at the eldest and ending at the youngest. And gthe cup was found in Benjamin’s sack.

13 Then they h/tore their clothes, and every man loaded his donkey and returned to hthe city.

14 ¶ And Judah and his brothers came to Joseph’s house, for he was still there. iAnd they fell before him on the ground.

15 Then Joseph said to them, “What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that such a man as I can certainly practice k/divination?”

16 And Judah said, “What will we say to my lord? What will we speak? Or, how will we clear ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants. Behold, we are my lord’s l/slaves, both we and he also with whom the cup has been found.”

17 And he said, “God forbid that I should do this. But the man in whose hand the cup has been found, he will be my slave. And as for you, get you up in peace to your father.”

18 ¶ Then Judah came near to him, and said, “Oh my lord, may your servant please speak a word in my lord’s ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant, for myou are equal to Pharaoh.

19 “My lord asked his servants, saying, ‘Have you a father, or a brother?’

20 “And we said to my lord, ‘We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, oa little one, and his brother p/is dead. And he alone is left of his mother, and his father loves him.’

21 “And you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me so that I may set my eyes on


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him.
22 "And we said to my lord, 'The lad cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.'
23 "And you said to your servants, "Except your youngest brother come down with you, you will not see my face again.'
24 "Then it came to pass when we came up to your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord.
25 "And our father said, 'Go again, and buy us a little food.'
26 "And we said, 'We cannot go down. If our youngest brother is with us, then we will go down, for we may not see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.'
27 "And your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons.
28 'And the one went out from me, and I said, "Surely he is torn in pieces," and I have not seen him since.
29 'And if you take this one also from me, and harm befalls him, you will bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.'
30 "Now, therefore do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, that you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.
31 "For the famine has been in the land these two years, and still there are five years in the which there will neither be plowing nor harvest.
32 "And your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, 'If I do not bring him to you, then I will bear the blame to my father forever.'
33 "Now therefore, please let your servant abide instead of the lad a slave to my lord. And let the lad go up with his brothers.
34 "For how will I go up to my father, and the lad is not with me, lest perhaps I see the evil that will come on my father?"

Chapter 45

Joseph Reveals Himself

1 ¶ Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. And he cried, "Have everyone go out from me." So there was no man with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
2 Then he wept aloud. And the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.
3 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" And his brothers could not answer him, for they were troubled at his presence.
4 And Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near to me." And they came near. And he said, "I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt.
5 "Now therefore do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, that you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.
6 "For the famine has been in the land these two years, and still there are five years in the which there will neither be plowing nor harvest.
7 "And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.
8 "So now it was not you who sent me here, but God. And He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.
9 "Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus said your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me, do not delay.'
10 "And you will dwell in the land of Goshen, and you will be near to me, you and your children, and your children's children and your flocks and your herds and all that you have.
11 "And there I will provide for you, for there are still five years of famine; lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty.
12 "And behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that is speaking to you.
13 "And you will tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. And you will hurry and bring down my father here."
14 Then he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept. And Benjamin wept on his neck.
Moreover, he kissed all his brothers, and wept on them. And after that his brothers talked with him.

Now when the news was heard in Pharaoh’s house that Joseph’s brothers had come, it pleased Pharaoh and his servants.

And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Say to your brothers, ‘This do: load your beasts and go to the land of Canaan,

and take your father and your households, and come to me. And I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and you will eat the fat of the land.

Now you are commanded—do this. Take wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father and come.

Also do not regard your goods, for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.’”

And the children of Israel did so. And Joseph gave them wagons according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey.

To all of them he gave each one ‘changes of clothes, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of clothes.

And to his father he sent after this manner: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and meat for his father on the journey.

So he sent his brothers away, and they departed. And he said to them, “See that you do not quarrel on the journey.”

And they went up out of Egypt and came into the land of Canaan to Jacob their father.

And they told him, saying, “Joseph is still alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt.” And Jacob’s heart fainted, for he did not believe them.

Then they told him all the words of Joseph that he had said to them. And when he saw the “wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived.

And Israel said, “It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.”

Chapter 46

Jacob Moves to Egypt

Then Israel set out on his journey with all that he had. And he came to Beersheba and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night, and said, “Jacob, Jacob.” And he said, “Here I am.”

And He said, “I am God, the God of your father. Do not fear to go down to Egypt, for I will there make of you a great nation.

“I will go down with you into Egypt. And I will also surely bring you up again. And Joseph will put his hand on your eyes.’”

Then Jacob rose up from Beersheba. And the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father and their little ones and their wives in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

And they took their cattle and their goods that they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and came to Egypt, Jacob, and all his descendants with him;

his sons and his sons’ sons with him, his daughters and his sons’ daughters, and all his descendants he brought with him to Egypt.

Now these are the names of the children of Israel that came to Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn.

And the sons of Reuben: Hanoch and Phallu and Hezron and Carmi.

And the sons of Simeon: Jemuel and Jamin and Ohad and Jachin and Zohar and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman.

And the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohas and Merari.

And the sons of Judah: Er and Onan and Shelah and Pharez and Zarah (but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan). And the sons of Pharez were Hezron and Hamul.

And the sons of Issachar: Tola and Phuvah and Job and Shimron.

And the sons of Zebulun: Sered and Elon and Jahleel.

These are the sons of Leah whom she bore to Jacob in Padan-aram, with his daughter Dinah; all the souls of his sons and his daughters were thirty-three.
16 ¶ And the sons of Gad: Ziphion and Haggi, Shuni and Ezbon, Eri and Arodi and Areli.
17 And the sons of Asher: Jimnah and Ishuah and Isui and Beriah and Serah their sister. And the sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel.
18 These are the sons of Zilpah, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter. And these she bore to Jacob these sixteen souls.
19 ¶ The sons of Rachel Jacob’s wife: Joseph and Benjamin.
20 And to Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bore to him.
21 And the sons of Benjamin were Belah and Becher and Ashbel, Gera and Naaman, Ehi and Rosh, Muppim and Huppim and Ard.
22 These are the sons of Rachel, who were born to Jacob; all the souls were fourteen.
23 ¶ And the sons of Dan: Hushim.
24 And the sons of Naphtali: Jahzeel and Guni and Jezer and Shillem.
25 These are the sons of Bilhah, whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter, and she bore these to Jacob; all the souls were seven.
26 ¶ All the souls that came with Jacob to Egypt, who came out of his loins, besides Jacob’s sons’ wives, all the souls were sixty-six.
27 And the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt, were two souls; all the souls of the house of Jacob, who came to Egypt, were seventy.
28 ¶ And he sent Judah before him to Joseph, to direct his way to Goshen. And they came into the land of Goshen.
29 Then Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen, and presented himself to him. And he fell on his neck and wept on his neck a long time.
30 And Israel said to Joseph, “Now let me die, since I have seen your face, because you are still alive.”
31 Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his father’s house, “I will go up and show Pharaoh, and will say to him, ‘My brothers and my father’s house, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me.
32 ‘And the men are shepherds, for their trade has been to feed livestock. And they have brought their flocks and their herds, and all that they have.’
33 “And it will come to pass when Pharaoh will call you, and will say, ‘What is your occupation?’
34 “you will say, ‘Your servants’ trade has been keepers of livestock from our youth even until now, both we and also our fathers,’ so that you may dwell in the land of Goshen, for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.”

Chapter 47
1 ¶ Then Joseph came and told Pharaoh, and said, “My father and my brothers and their flocks and their herds and all that they have, have come out of the land of Canaan. And behold, they are in the land of Goshen.”
2 Then he took some of his brothers, even five men, and presented them to Pharaoh.
3 And Pharaoh said to his brothers, “What is your occupation?” And they said to Pharaoh, “Your servants are shepherds, both we and also our fathers.”
4 They said to Pharaoh, “We have come to sojourn in the land, for your servants have no pasture for their flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. Now, therefore, please let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen.”
5 Then Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, “Your father and your brothers have come to you.
6 “The land of Egypt is at your disposal. Have your father and brothers dwell in the best of the land. Let them live in the land of Goshen. And if you know any capable men among them, then make them rulers over my livestock.”
7 ¶ So Joseph brought in Jacob his father and set him before Pharaoh. And Jacob blessed Pharaoh.
8 Then Pharaoh said to Jacob, “How old are you?”
9 And Jacob said to Pharaoh, “The days of the years of my pilgrimage are one hundred...
and thirty years. Few and evil have been the days of the years of my life. And I have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.”

10 Then Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.

11 ¶ So Joseph settled his father and his brothers, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.

12 Then Joseph provided his father and his brothers and all his father’s household with bread according to their families.

Famine in Egypt

13 ¶ Now there was no bread in all the land, for the famine was severe, so that the land of Egypt and all the land of Canaan languished by reason of the famine.

14 So Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the grain that they bought. And Joseph brought the money to Pharaoh’s house.

15 And when money was spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph, and said, “Give us bread, for why should we die in your presence? For the money is gone.”

16 Then Joseph said, “Give your livestock, and I will give you food for your livestock, if the money is gone.”

17 So they brought their livestock to Joseph. And Joseph gave them bread in exchange for horses and for the flocks and for the livestock of the herds and for the donkeys. And he fed them with bread for all their livestock for that year.

18 When that year was ended, they came to him the second year, and said to him, “We will not hide it from my lord, how that our money is spent. My lord also has our herds of livestock. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies and our lands.

19 “Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants to Pharaoh. And give us seed, so that we may live and not die, that the land may not be desolate.”

20 ¶ Then Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for the Egyptians sold every man his field, because the famine prevailed over them. So the land became Pharaoh’s.

21 And as for the people, he moved them to cities from one end of the borders of Egypt even to the other end.

22 Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a portion assigned to them by Pharaoh. And they ate their portion that Pharaoh gave them. Therefore, they did not sell their land.

23 Then Joseph said to the people, “Behold, I have today bought you and your land for Pharaoh. Now here is seed for you and you will sow the land.

24 “And it will come to pass in the increase, that you will give a fifth part to Pharaoh and four parts will be your own, for seed of the field and for your food and for those of your households and for food for your little ones.”

25 And they said, “You have saved our lives. Let us find grace in the sight of my lord and we will be Pharaoh’s slaves.”

26 So Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt to this day, that Pharaoh should have a fifth part, except for the land of the priests only, which did not become Pharaoh’s.

27 ¶ And Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen. And they had possessions therein and grew and multiplied exceedingly.

28 And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years. So the whole age of Jacob was one hundred and forty-seven years.

29 Now the time drew near that Israel must die. So he called his son Joseph, and said to him, “If now I have found favor in your sight, please put your hand under my thigh and deal kindly and truly with me. Please do not bury me in Egypt,

30 “But I will lie with my fathers, and you will carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burial place.” And he said, “I will do as you have said.”

31 And he said, ¶“Swear to me.” And he swore
to him. And Israel bowed himself on the head of the bed.

Chapter 48

Manasseh and Ephraim

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after these things that one told Joseph, “Behold, your father is sick.” So he took with him his two sons, aManasseh and Ephraim.

2 And one told Jacob, and said, “Behold, your son Joseph is coming to you.” And Israel strengthened himself and sat up in the bed.

3 And Jacob said to Joseph, “God Almighty appeared to me at cLuz in the land of Canaan and blessed me.

4 “And He said to me, ‘Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you. And I will make of you a multitude of people, and will give this land to your descendants after you for an everlasting possession.’

5 “And now your two sons, dEphraim and Manasseh, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you into Egypt are mine, as Reuben and Simeon, they will be mine.

6 “But your offspring that have been born after them will be yours, and will be called after the name of their brothers in their inheritance.

7 “And as for me, when I came from ePadan, fRachel died by me in the land of Canaan in the way, when there was but a little way to go to Ephrath. And I buried her there in the way of Ephrath. The same is Bethlehem.”

8 ¶ When Israel gsaw Joseph’s sons, and said, “Who are these?”

9 And Joseph said to his father, “They are my sons, whom God has given me in this place.” And he said, “Please bring them to me and I will bless them.”

10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim from age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near to him and he kissed them and embraced them.

11 And Israel said to Joseph, “I had not expected to see your face. And behold, God has showed me also your offspring.”

12 And Joseph brought them out between his knees, and he bowed himself with jhis face to the ground.

13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel’s left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel’s right hand. And he brought them near to him.

14 Then Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on Ephraim’s head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh’s head, guiding his hands wittingly, kfor Manasseh was the firstborn.

15 And he blessed Joseph, and said, “God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, lthe God who fed me all my life to this day,

16 m“the angel who redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads. And let my name be named on them and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac. nAnd let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.”

17 ¶ And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him. And he held up his father’s hand, to remove it from Ephraim’s head to Manasseh’s head.

18 And Joseph said to his father, “Not so, my father, for this is the firstborn. Put your right hand on his head.”

19 And his father refused, and said, “I know, my son, I know. He also will become a people, and he also will be great. But truly his younger brother will be greater than he, and phis descendants will become a multitude of nations.”

20 So he blessed them that day, saying, “In you will Israel bless, saying, ‘God make you like Ephraim and like Manasseh.’” And he set Ephraim before Manasseh.

21 Then Israel said to Joseph, “Behold, I die. But qGod will be with you and bring you again to the land of your fathers.

22 Moreover, I have given to you one portion above your brothers which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow.”

Chapter 49

Jacob Blesses His Sons

1 ¶ Then Jacob called to his sons, and said,
“Assemble yourselves together so that I may
tell you that which will befall you in the last
days.
1 Gather yourselves together, and hear, you
sons of Jacob. And hearken to Israel your fa-
ther.
2 Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might
and the beginning of my strength, the excel-
lency of dignity and the excellency of power.
3 Unstable as water, you will not excel
because you went up to your father’s bed, to
my couch, and then you defiled it.
4 Simeon and Levi are brothers, instruments
of cruelty are in their dwelling place.
5 Let not my soul come into their council.
Let not my glory be united with their assem-
bly, for in their anger they slew a man, and
in their self-will they hamstrung an ox.
6 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce;
and their wrath, for it was cruel. I will dis-
perse them in Jacob, and scatter them in Is-
rael.
7 Judah is a lion’s whelp. From the prey,
my son, you are gone up. He couches. He lies
down as a lion. And as an old lion, who will
rouse him up?
8 The sceptre will not depart from Judah,
nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until
Shiloh comes. And to Him will the obedi-
ence of the people be.
9 He ties his foal to the vine, and his
donkey’s colt to the choice vine. He washed
his garments in wine, and his clothes in the
blood of grapes.
10 His eyes will be red with wine, and his
teeth white with milk.
11 Zebulun will dwell at the seashore. And
he will be for a haven of ships. And his border
will be to Sidon.
12 Issachar is a strong donkey, couching
down between two burdens.
13 And he saw that rest was good, and the
land that it was pleasant. And he bowed his
shoulder to bear and became a slave at forced
labors.
14 Dan will judge his people as one of the
tribes of Israel.
15 Dan will be a serpent in the way, a snake
in the path that bites the horse’s heels, so that
his rider will fall backward.
16 Gad, raiders will overcome him. But he
will raid at their heels.
17 Out of Asher his food will be rich, and
he will yield royal dainties.
18 Naphtali is a doe let loose. He gives
beautiful words.
19 Joseph is a fruitful vine, even a fruitful
vine by a well, whose branches run over the
wall.
20 The archers have sorely grieved him, and
shot at him, and hated him.
21 But his bow remained firm, and the arms
of his hands were made strong by the hands
of the ‘Mighty God of Jacob (From there is the
Shepherd, the ‘Stone of Israel),
22 by the ‘God of your father who will help
you, and by the Almighty who will bless you
with blessings of heaven above, blessings of
the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the
breasts and of the womb.
23 The blessings of your father have pre-
vailed above the blessings of my ancestors to
the utmost bound of the everlasting hills.
They will be on the head of Joseph, and on
the crown of the head of the one who was
separate from his brothers.
24 Benjamin is a ravenous wolf. In the
morning he will devour the prey and at night
he will divide the spoil.”
25 Then he charged them, and said to them,
Death of Jacob
“I am to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite,

30 “in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burial place.

31 “There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife. And there I buried Leah.

32 “The purchase of the field and of the cave that is therein was from the children of Heth.”

33 And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

Chapter 50

1 ¶ And Joseph fell upon his father’s face, and wept on him, and kissed him.

2 Then Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. And the physicians embalmed Israel.

3 Now forty days were required for it, for such is the period required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.

4 ¶ And when the days of his mourning were past, Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh, saying, “If now I have found favor in your eyes, please speak in the ears of Pharaoh, saying,

5 ‘My father made me swear, saying, “Behold, I die. In my grave that I have dug for myself in the land of Canaan, there you will bury me.” Now therefore please let me go up and bury my father, and I will come again.’”

6 And Pharaoh said, “Go up and bury your father according as he made you swear.”

7 ¶ Then Joseph went up to bury his father. And with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt,

8 and all the house of Joseph, and his brothers, and his father’s house. Only their little ones and their flocks and their herds, they left in the land of Goshen.

9 And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen. And it was a very great company.

10 Then they came to the threshingfloor of Atad that is beyond Jordan. And there they mourned with a great and very sorrowful lamentation. And he made a mourning for his father seven days.

11 Now when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said, “This is a grievous mourning for the Egyptians.” Therefore, the name of it was called Abelmizraim, which is beyond Jordan.

12 ¶ And his sons did to him according as he commanded them,

13 for his sons carried him into the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, before Mamre which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burial place.

14 After he had buried his father, Joseph returned into Egypt, he and his brothers, and all who went up with him to bury his father.

Joseph Reassures His Brothers

15 ¶ Now when Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “Joseph will perhaps hate us, and will certainly pay us back all the evil that we did to him.”

16 And they sent a messenger to Joseph, saying, “Your father commanded before he died, saying,

17 ‘So will you say to Joseph, “Please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin, for they did evil to you.”’ And now, please forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father.” And Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

18 And his brothers also went and fell down before his face. And they said, “Behold, we are your servants.”

19 And Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in God’s place?

20 “But as for you, you thought evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring to pass as it is this day, to preserve many people alive.
21 “Now therefore, do not fear. I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them, and spoke kindly to them.

**Death of Joseph**

22 ¶ So Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he and his father’s house. And Joseph lived one hundred and ten years.

23 And Joseph saw Ephraim’s children of the third generation. The children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up on Joseph’s knees.

**EXODUS**

1 § Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came into Egypt. Every man and his household came with Jacob:

2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah,

3 Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin,

4 Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher.

5 And all the souls who came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls, for Joseph was in Egypt already.

6 So Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation.

7 And the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly and multiplied, and became exceedingly mighty. And the land was filled with them.

8 ¶ Now there rose up a new king over Egypt who did not know Joseph.

9 And he said to his people, “Behold, the children of Israel are more and mightier than we.

10 “Come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply and it come to pass that when there is any war, they join also to our enemies, and fight against us and depart from the land.”

11 Therefore, they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Rameses.

12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in fear of the children of Israel.

13 So the Egyptians ruthlessly made the children of Israel to labor.

14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage in mortar and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service wherein they made them serve, was with hard labor.

15 ¶ Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was Shiphrah and the name of the other was Puah.

16 And he said, “When you do the work of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you will kill him. But if it is a daughter, then she will live.”

17 But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.

18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this thing, and have saved the male children alive?”

19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women, for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come in to them.”

20 Therefore, God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very mighty.

21 Now it came to pass because the midwives

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**Chapter 1**

**Oppression of Israel**

1 § Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came into Egypt. Every man and his household came with Jacob:

2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah,

3 Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin,

4 Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher.

5 And all the souls who came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls, for Joseph was in Egypt already.

6 So Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation.

7 And the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly and multiplied, and became exceedingly mighty. And the land was filled with them.

8 ¶ Now there rose up a new king over Egypt who did not know Joseph.

9 And he said to his people, “Behold, the children of Israel are more and mightier than we.

10 “Come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply and it come to pass that when there is any war, they join also to our enemies, and fight against us and depart from the land.”

11 Therefore, they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Rameses.

12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in fear of the children of Israel.

13 So the Egyptians ruthlessly made the children of Israel to labor.

14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage in mortar and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service wherein they made them serve, was with hard labor.

15 ¶ Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was Shiphrah and the name of the other was Puah.

16 And he said, “When you do the work of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you will kill him. But if it is a daughter, then she will live.”

17 But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.

18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this thing, and have saved the male children alive?”

19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women, for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come in to them.”

20 Therefore, God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very mighty.

21 Now it came to pass because the midwives
feared God ‘that He established households for them.

22 Then Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, “Every son who is born, you will cast into the river. And every daughter, you will save alive.”

Chapter 2
The Birth of Moses

1 ¶ Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a daughter of Levi.
2 And the woman conceived and bore a son. bAnd when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him for three months.
3 Now when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him and daubed it with tar and pitch. And she put the child in it and set it in the reeds by the river’s bank.
4 ¶ Then his sister stood afar off to see what would happen to him.
5 ¶ Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river. And her maidens walked along by the river’s side. And when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to fetch it.
6 Now when she had opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, “This is one of the Hebrews’ children.”
7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Will I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women so that she may nurse the child for you?”
8 And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Go.” And the maid went and called the child’s mother.
9 Then Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child away and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” And the woman took the child and nursed it.
10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter and he became her son. And she called his name Moses, and she said, “Because I drew him out of the water.”

Moses Flees to Midian

11 ¶ Now it came to pass in those days iwhen

Moses was grown that he went out to his brethren and looked on their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brothers.

12 So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

13 ¶ And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews were fighting each other. And he said to him who did the wrong, “Why are you striking your companion?”
14 And he said, “Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Are you intending to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?” cAnd Moses feared and said, “Surely this thing is known.”

15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to kill Moses. dBut Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian. And he sat down by a well.

16 ¶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. tAnd they came and drew water and filled the troughs to water their father’s flock.
17 Then the shepherds came and drove them away. But Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock.
18 Now when they came to Reuel their father, zhe said, “Why is it that you have returned so soon today?”
19 And they said, “An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us and watered the flock.”
20 Then he said to his daughters, “And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him so that he may eat bread.”
21 So Moses was content to dwell with the man. And he gave Moses b Zipporah his daughter.
22 And she bore him a son. And he called his name c Gershom, for he said, “I have been da sojourner in a foreign land.”
23 ¶ Now it came to pass iin the course of time that the king of Egypt died. And the children of Israel g roaned because of the bondage. And they cried and their cry came up to God because of the bondage.
24 And God b heard their groaning. And God
65

International King James Version

Exodus 3

remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob.
25 So God looked on the children of Israel. And God acknowledged them.

Chapter 3

Moses and the Burning Bush

1 ¶ Now Moses kept the flock of a Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.
2 Then the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. And he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.
3 Then Moses said, “I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burned up.”
4 So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the midst of the bush, and said, “Moses, Moses.” And he said, “Here I am.”
5 Then He said, “Do not come near. Take off your shoes from off your feet, for the place whereon you stand is holy ground.”
6 He also said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.
7 ¶ Then the LORD said, “I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt. And I have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.
8 “And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.”
9 “Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me. And I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.
10 “Come now therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh so that you may bring forth My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”
11 Then Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?”
12 And He said, “Certainly I will be with you, and this will be a token to you that I have sent you. When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will serve God on this mountain.”
13 ¶ And Moses said to God, “Behold, when I come to the children of Israel, and will say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ now they will say to me, ‘What is His name?’ What will I say to them?”
14 And God said to Moses, “I AM THAT I AM.” And He said, “Thus you will say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”
15 Then God furthermore said to Moses, “Thus you will say to the children of Israel, ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever and this is My memorial to all generations.
16 “Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, “I have surely visited you and seen what has been done to you in Egypt.
17 “So I have said, ‘I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.”
18 “And they will hearken to your voice. And you will come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt. And you will say to him, ‘The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us. And now let us go, we beseech you, three days’ journey into the wilderness so that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.’
19 “And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand.

20 “So I will \textsuperscript{b}stretch out My hand and smite Egypt with \textsuperscript{a}all My wonders that I will do in the midst of it. And \textsuperscript{a}after that he will let you go.

21 “Then \textsuperscript{a}I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. And it will come to pass that when you go, you will not go empty-handed.

22 \textsuperscript{b}But every woman will borrow from her neighbor, and from her who lives in her house, \textsuperscript{m}jewels of silver and jewels of gold and clothing. And you will put them on your sons and on your daughters, and thus, \textsuperscript{a}you will plunder the Egyptians.”

Chapter 4

**God’s Sign for Moses**

1 ¶ Then Moses answered and said, “But suppose they will not believe me, nor hearken to my voice, for they will say, ‘The LORD has not appeared to you.’”

2 So the LORD said to him, “What is that in your hand?” And he said, “A staff.”

3 Then He said, “Cast it on the ground.” And he cast it on the ground and it became a serpent. And Moses fled from before it.

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” And he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand.

5 “Do this so that they may \textsuperscript{a}believe that the \textsuperscript{b}LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.”

6 And the LORD further said to him, “Put now your hand into your bosom.” And he put his hand into his bosom. And when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous \textsuperscript{c}like snow.

7 Then He said, “Put your hand into your bosom again.” And he put his hand into his bosom again and took it out of his bosom, and behold, \textsuperscript{d}it was turned again as his other flesh.

8 “Now it will come to pass if they will not believe you, nor hearken to the voice of the \textsuperscript{e}first sign, they will believe the voice of the \textsuperscript{f}latter sign.

9 “And it will come to pass if they will not believe also these two signs, nor hearken to your voice, that you will take of the water of the river and pour it on the dry land. And the \textsuperscript{f}water that you take out of the river will become blood on the dry land.”

10 ¶ Then Moses said to the LORD, “O my Lord, I \textsuperscript{h}am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant. But \textsuperscript{g}I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue.”

11 So the LORD said to him, \textsuperscript{b}“Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes the dumb or deaf or the seeing or the blind? Is it not I, the LORD? \n
12 “Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you will say.”

13 And he said, “O my Lord, \textsuperscript{j}please send by the hand of whomever \textsuperscript{else} You may send.”

14 Now the \textsuperscript{e}anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses. And He said, “Is not Aaron the Levite your \textsuperscript{l}brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, \textsuperscript{m}he comes forth to meet you. And when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart.

15 “And \textsuperscript{a}you will speak to him and \textsuperscript{p}put words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth. And \textsuperscript{p}I will teach you what you will do.

16 “Now he will be your spokesman to the people. And he will be as a mouth for you and \textsuperscript{q}you will be as God to him.

17 “And you will take this staff in your hand with which you will do signs.”

Moses Returns to Egypt

18 ¶ Then Moses went and returned to ‘Jethro his father-in-law, and said to him, “Please let me go and return to my brethren who are in Egypt and see whether they are still alive.” And Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.”

19 Now the LORD said to Moses in ‘Midian, “Go back to ‘Egypt, for ‘all the men who sought your life are dead.”

20 So Moses \textsuperscript{w}took his wife and his sons and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the \textsuperscript{a}staff of God in his hand.

21 Then the LORD said to Moses, “When you go back to Egypt see that you do all the
wonders before Pharaoh that I have put in your hand. However, I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.

22 Then you will say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Israel is my son, even My first-born.

23 And I say to you, let my son go so that he may serve Me. And if you refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay your son, even your first-born.”’”

24 ¶ Now it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the LORD met him and sought to kill him.

25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, “Surely you are a husband of blood to me.”

26 So He let him go. Then she said, “You are a husband of blood”—because of the circumcision.

27 ¶ Then the LORD said to Aaron, “Go into the wilderness to meet Moses.” And he went and met him on the mountain of God and kissed him.

28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs that He had commanded him.

29 So Moses and Aaron went and gathered to together all the elders of the children of Israel.

30 And Aaron spoke all the words that the LORD had spoken to Moses. And he did the signs in the sight of the people.

31 So the people believed. And when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that He had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.

Chapter 5
Bricks Made Without Straw

1 ¶ Then afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Let My people go so that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.’”

2 But Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.”

3 Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go three days’ journey into the desert and sacrifice to the LORD our God, lest He fall on us with pestilence or with the sword.”

4 But the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why do you draw the people away from their works? Get back to your labors!”

5 Then Pharaoh said, “Behold, the people of the land are now many and you make them rest from their labors.”

6 So Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying,

7 “You will no longer give the people straw to make brick as previously. Let them go and gather straw for themselves.

8 “And the quota of the bricks that they were making previously, you will lay on them. You are not to reduce any of it. For they are idle; therefore they cry out, saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’

9 “Let more work be laid on the men so that they may work in it, and let them not regard false words.”

10 ¶ So the taskmasters of the people went out, and their officers, and they spoke to the people, saying, “Thus says Pharaoh, ‘I will not give you straw.

11 ‘You go and get straw where you can find it, but none of your work will be reduced.’”

12 So the people were scattered throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble instead of straw.

13 And the taskmasters pressed them, saying, “Fulfill your works, your daily tasks, as when there was straw.”

14 And the officers of the children of Israel whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them, were beaten. And they asked, “Why have you not fulfilled your task in making brick both yesterday and today, as previously?”

15 ¶ Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried out to Pharaoh, saying, “Why do you deal this way with your servants?

16 “There is no straw given to your servants, and they keep saying to us, ‘Make brick!’” And
behold, your servants are beaten, but the fault is in your own people.”

17 But he said, “You are lazy. You are lazy. Therefore you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’

18 “Therefore, go now and work, for no straw will be given you, yet you will deliver the quota of bricks.”

19 Now the officers of the children of Israel saw that they were in trouble because they were told, “You will not reduce your daily quota of bricks.”

20 ¶ So when they left Pharaoh’s presence, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there waiting for them.

21 ¶ And they said to them, “The LORD look upon you and judge you because you have made us odious in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

God Promises Freedom

22 ¶ Then Moses returned to the LORD, and said, “Lord, why have You brought harm to this people? Why did You even send me?

23 “For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people, nor have You delivered Your people at all.”

Chapter 6

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh, for with a strong hand he will let them go and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land.”

2 ¶ So God spoke to Moses and said to him, “I am the LORD.

3 ¶ And I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by My name the LORD I did not make Myself known to them.

4 ¶ And I have also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, wherein they were foreigners.

5 ¶ And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage. And I have remembered My covenant.

6 “Therefore say to the children of Israel, ‘I am the LORD and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will deliver you out of their bondage. And I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.

7 ¶ And I will take you for Me a people, and I will be to you a God. And you will know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

And I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. And I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.”

9 So Moses spoke thus to the children of Israel. But they did not hearken to Moses because of their discouraged spirit and cruel bondage.

10 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Go in and speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.”

11 ¶ And Moses spoke before the LORD, saying, “Behold, the children of Israel have not hearkened to Me. How then will Pharaoh hear me, for I am unskilled in speech?”

Genealogy of Moses and Aaron

13 So the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron. And He gave them a charge for the children of Israel and for Pharaoh king of Egypt to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

14 ¶ These are the heads of their fathers’ houses: the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch and Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. These are the families of Reuben.

15 And the sons of Simeon: Jemuel and Jamin and Ohad and Jachin and Zohar and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman. These are the families of Simeon.

16 And these are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations: Gershon and Kohas and Merari. And the years of the life of Levi were one hundred and thirty-seven years.

17 ¶ The sons of Gershom: Libni and Shimi, ac-
cording to their families.

18 And the sons of Kohas: Amram and Izhar and Hebron and Uzziel. And the years of the life of Kohas were one hundred and thirty-three years.

19 And the sons of Merari: Mahali and Mushi. These are the families of Levi according to their generations.

20 ¶ And Amram took for himself Jochebed his father’s sister to wife, and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were one hundred and thirty-seven years.

21 And the sons of Izhar: Korah and Nepheg and Zichri.

22 And the sons of Uzziel: Mishael and Elzaphan and Zithri.

23 And Aaron took for himself Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Naashon, to wife. And she bore him Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

24 And the sons of Korah: Donkeyir and Elkanah and Abiasaph. These are the families of the Korhites.

25 And Eleazar Aaron’s son took one of the daughters of Putiel to wife. And she bore him Phinehas. These are the heads of the fathers of the Levites according to their families.

26 ¶ It was the same Aaron and Moses to whom the LORD said, “Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their families.”

27 These are the ones who spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring out the children of Israel from Egypt. It was the same Moses and Aaron.

Aaron Speaks for Moses

28 ¶ Now it came to pass on the day when the LORD spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt,

29 that the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “I am the LORD. Speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you.”

30 But Moses said before the LORD, “Behold, I am unskilled in speech. How then will Pharaoh hearken to me?”

Chapter 7

1 So the LORD said to Moses, “See, I have made you as a god to Pharaoh. And Aaron your brother will be your prophet.

2 “You will speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother will speak to Pharaoh so that he sends the children of Israel out of his land.

3 “And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart and multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt.

4 “But Pharaoh will not hearken to you so that I may lay My hand on Egypt and bring forth My armies and My people the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.

5 “And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch forth My hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them.”

6 So Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded them, so they did.

7 Now Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three years old when they spoke to Pharaoh.

Aaron’s Staff Becomes a Snake

8 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

9 “When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, ‘Show a miracle for yourselves,’ then you will say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and cast it before Pharaoh, and it will become a serpent.’”

10 So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh. And they did as the LORD had commanded. And Aaron cast down his staff before Pharaoh and it became a serpent.

11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts.

12 For every man cast down his staff and they became serpents. But Aaron’s staff swallowed up their staffs.

13 Then Pharaoh’s heart was hardened so that he did not hearken to them, as the LORD had said.
The Plague of Blood

14 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, w“Pharaoh’s heart is hardened. He refuses to let the people go.

15 “Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he is going out to the xwater, and you will stand by the river’s bank to meet him. And you will take in your hand the ystaff that was turned into a serpent.

16 “Then you will say to him, z“The LORD God of the Hebrews has sent me to you, saying, ‘Let My people go so that they may serve Me in the wilderness. And behold, you have not listened until now.’

17 ‘Thus says the LORD, “In this byou will know that I am the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters that are in the river with the staff that is in my hand, and cthey will be turned to dblood.

18 “And the fish that is in the river will die, and the river will stink. And the Egyptians will iloathe to drink from the water of the river.”’”

19 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, “Say to Aaron, e‘Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their streams, over their rivers, and over their ponds, and over all their pools of water, so that they may become blood, and that there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.’”

20 So Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded. And he grafted up the staff and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

21 And the fish that were in the river died. And the river stank and the Egyptians icould not drink from the water of the river. And there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

22 jBut the magicians of Egypt did so with ktheir enchantments. And Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not hearken to them, l‘as the LORD had said.

23 Then Pharaoh turned and went into his house. His heart was not moved by this.

24 And all the Egyptians dug around the river for water to drink, for they could not drink from the water of the river.

The Plague of Frogs

25 ¶ So seven days were fulfilled after the LORD had smitten the river.

Chapter 8

1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let My people go so that they may serve Me.

2 “And if you brefuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all your borders with c‘frogs.

3 “And the river will bring forth frogs abundantly that will go up and come into your house and into your dbedroom and on your bed and into the house of your servants and on your people and into your ovens and into your kneading bowls.

4 “And the frogs will come up both on you and on your people and on all your servants.’”’

5 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, “Say to Aaron, e‘Stretch forth your hand with your staff over the streams, over the rivers and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come upon the land of Egypt.’”

6 So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and fthe frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.

7 gAnd the magicians did the same with their enchantments, and brought up frogs on the land of Egypt.

8 ¶ Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, h“Pray to the LORD so that He may take away the frogs from me and from my people, and I will let the people i‘go so that they may sacrifice to the LORD.’”

9 Then Moses said to Pharaoh, “I give to you the honor of setting the time for your servants to pray for you and for your servants and for your people, to destroy the frogs from you and your houses so that they may remain in the river only?”

10 And he said, “Tomorrow.” And he said, “May it be according to your word so that you may know jthat there is none like the LORD our God.”
11 “And the frogs will depart from you and from your houses and from your servants and from your people. They will remain only in the river.”
12 Then Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh. And Moses kissed out to the LORD because of the frogs that he had brought against Pharaoh.
13 So the LORD did according to the word of Moses, and the frogs died out of the houses, out of the villages and out of the fields.
14 And they gathered them together into heaps. And the land stank.
15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not hearken to them as the LORD had said.

The Plague of Lice

16 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and smite the dust of the land so that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.’”
17 And they did so, for Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice on man and on beast. All the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.
18 Then the magicians tried with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not. So there were lice on man and on beast.
19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” And Pharaoh’s heart was hardened and he did not hearken to them, as the LORD had said.

The Plague of Flies

20 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh as he comes out to the water. And say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let my people go so that they may serve Me.’”
21 “For if you will not let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and on your servants and on your people, and into your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies, and also the ground on which they are.
22 “And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen in which My people dwell so that no swarms of flies will be there, to the end that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the land.
23 “And I will put a division between My people and your people. Tomorrow this sign will occur.”’”
24 And the LORD did so. And there came a grievous swarm of flies on the house of Pharaoh and into his servants’ houses and into all the land of Egypt. The land was wasted because of the swarm of flies.
25 ¶ Then Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron, and said, “Go! Sacrifice to your God in the land.”
26 And Moses said, “That would not be right, for we would be sacrificing the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God. If we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not stone us?
27 “We will go three days’ journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as He will command us.”
28 Then Pharaoh said, “I will let you go so that you may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness, only you will not go very far away. Intercede for me.”
29 And Moses said, “Behold, I go out from you and I will pray to the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people tomorrow. But do not let Pharaoh deal deceitfully anymore in not letting the people go sacrifice to the LORD.”
30 So Moses went out from Pharaoh and entreated the LORD.
31 And the LORD did according to the word of Moses. And He removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people, not one remained.
32 But Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also. Neither would he let the people go.

Chapter 9

The Plague of Livestock Death
1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and tell him, ‘Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews, “Let My people go so that they may serve Me."

2 “For if you refuse to let them go, and will continue to hold them,
3 “behold, the hand of the LORD will be on your livestock that are in the field, on the horses, on the donkeys, on the camels, on the oxen and on the sheep. There will be a very severe pestilence.

4 “And the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt. And nothing will die of all that belongs to the children of Israel.”’”

5 Then the LORD appointed a set time, saying, “Tomorrow the LORD will do this thing in the land.”

6 So the LORD did this thing on the next day, and fall the livestock of Egypt died. But not one died of the livestock of the children of Israel.

7 Then Pharaoh sent, and behold, there was not one of the livestock of the Israelites dead. So the heart of Pharaoh was hardened and he did not let the people go.

The Plague of Boils

8 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses and to Aaron, “Take for yourselves handfuls of ashes from the furnace and let Moses sprinkle it toward the sky in the sight of Pharaoh.

9 “And it will become fine dust in all the land of Egypt, and will become boils breaking out with sores on man, and on beast throughout all the land of Egypt.”

10 So they took ashes from the furnace and stood before Pharaoh. And Moses sprinkled it up toward the sky, and it became boils breaking out with sores on man and on beast.

11 And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians.

12 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not hearken to them just as the LORD had spoken to Moses.

The Plague of Hail

13 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews, “Let My people go so that they may serve Me.

14 “For I will at this time send all My plagues on your heart and on your servants, and on your people so that you may know that there is no one like Me in all the earth.

15 “For now I will stretch out My hand so that I may smite you and your people with pestilence, and you will be cut off from the earth.

16 “And for this very purpose I have raised you up, in order to show in you My power, and that My name may be declared throughout all the earth.

17 “Still you exalt yourself against My people in that you will not let them go.

18 “Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as has not been in Egypt since it was founded until now.

19 “Send therefore now and gather your livestock and all that you have in the field, for on every man and beast that will be found in the field, and will not be brought home, the hail will come down on them and they will die.”’”

20 He who feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his livestock flee into the houses.

21 And he who did not regard the word of the LORD left his servants and his livestock in the field.

22 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven so that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man and on beast and on every plant of the field, throughout all the land of Egypt.”

23 So Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven. And the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along on the ground. And the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt.

24 So there was a very severe hail and fire mingled with the hail, such as had not been in
all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.
25 And the 4hail struck throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast. And the hail struck every plant of the field and broke every tree of the field.
26 *Only in the land of Goshen where the children of Israel were, there was no hail.*

Then Pharaoh sent and called for Moses and Aaron and said to them, *“I have sinned this time. The LORD is righteous and I and my people are wicked.”*

28 *“Pray to the LORD so that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail, for it is enough. I will let you go and you will stay no longer.”*

29 And Moses said to him, “As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands to the LORD and the thunder will cease, nor will there be anymore hail so that you may know that the earth is the Lord’s.

30 “But as for you and your servants, I know that you will not yet fear the LORD God.”

31 Now the flax and the barley was struck, for the barley was in the ear and the flax was in bud.

32 But the wheat and the spelt were not struck, for they were not grown up.

33 So Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh and spread out his hands to the LORD. And the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured on the earth.

34 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders had ceased, he sinned again and hardened his heart, he and his servants.

35 And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened. He would not let the children of Israel go just as the LORD had spoken by Moses.

Chapter 10

The Plague of Locusts

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go in to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants so that I might show these signs of Mine before him,

2 “and that you may tell in the ears of your son, and of your son’s son what things I have done in Egypt, and My signs that I have done among them so that you may know that I am the LORD.”

3 ¶ So Moses and Aaron came in to Pharaoh and said to him, “Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews, ‘How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Let My people go so that they may serve Me.

4 ‘For if you refuse to let My people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring the locusts into your territory.

5 ‘And they will cover the face of the land so that one will not be able to see the land. And they will eat the rest of what has escaped, which remains to you from the hail. And they will eat every tree that grows for you out of the field.

6 ‘Then they will fill your houses and the houses of all your servants, and the houses of the Egyptians which neither your fathers nor your fathers’ fathers have seen since the day that they were on the earth to this day.’” And he turned himself and went out from Pharaoh.

7 Then Pharaoh’s servants said to him, “How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the men go so that they may serve the LORD their God. Do you not know that all Egypt is destroyed?”

8 So Moses and Aaron were brought again to Pharaoh. And he said to them, “Go, serve the LORD your God. Who are they who will go?”

9 And Moses said, “We will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds, for we must hold a feast to the LORD.”

10 Then he said to them, “The LORD had better be with you when I let you and your little ones go, for evil is before you.

11 “Not so! Go now you who are men and serve the LORD, for that is what you desired.” And they were driven out from Pharaoh’s presence.

12 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts so that they may come up on the land of Egypt, and eat every plant of the land, even all that the hail has left.”
13 So Moses stretched forth his staff over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind on the land all that day and all that night. Now when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.

14 And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt and rested in all the territory of Egypt. They were very grievous. Before them there had never been so many locusts, nor after them would there be so many.

15 For they covered the face of the whole land so that the land was darkened. And they ate every plant of the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. And there did not remain any green thing in the trees or in the plants of the field throughout all the land of Egypt.

16 ¶ Then Pharaoh hurriedly called for Moses and Aaron. And he said, “I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you.

17 “Now therefore please forgive my sin only this once and ‘entreat the LORD your God so that He may only take away from me this death.”

18 So he went out from Pharaoh and entreated the LORD.

19 And the LORD turned a mighty strong west wind that took away the locusts and cast them into the Red Sea. Not one locust remained in all the territory of Egypt.

20 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart so that he would not let the children of Israel go.

The Plague of Darkness

21 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven so that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness that may be felt.”

22 So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days.

23 They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

24 ¶ Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, “Go! Serve the LORD. Only let your flocks and your herds be detained. Let your ‘little ones also go with you.”

25 And Moses said, “You must give us also sacrifices and burnt offerings so that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

26 “Our livestock also will go with us. Not a hoof will be left behind, for we must take some of them to serve the LORD our God. And even we do not know with what we must serve the LORD until we arrive there.”

27 ¶ But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart and he would not let them go.

28 So Pharaoh said to him, “Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more, for in the day you see my face you will die!”

29 Then Moses said, “You have spoken well. I will never see your face again.”

Chapter 11
The Plague on the Firstborn

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Once more I will bring one plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. Afterwards he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely thrust you out from here completely.

2 “Speak now in the ears of the people and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, ‘jewels of silver and jewels of gold.”

3 “So the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Furthermore, the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people.

4 And Moses said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt.

5 And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt will die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the mill, and all the firstborn of the animals.

6 And there will be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has not been before and such as will never be again.
7 jBut against none of the children of Israel kwill a dog move its tongue, against man or animal, so that you may know how the LORD makes a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.’
8 “And all these your servants will come down to me and bow down themselves to me, saying, ‘Get out, and all the people that follow you,’ and after that I will go out.” mAnd he went out from Pharaoh in a great anger.
9 Then the LORD said to Moses, n“Pharaoh will not hearken to you, so that oMy wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”

10 So Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh. And the pLORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

Chapter 12

The Passover

1 ¶Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
2 a“This month will be to you the beginning of months. It will be the first month of the year to you.
3 “Speak to all the assembly of Israel, saying, ‘On the t tenth day of this month each man will take a lamb for himself, according to the house of his fathers, a lamb for each house.
4 ‘And if the household is too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating will make your count for the lamb.
5 ‘Your lamb will be cwithout blemish, a male of the first year. You will take it out from the sheep or from the goats.
6 ‘And you will keep it until the qfourteenth day of the same month. And the whole assembly of Israel will kill it in the evening.
7 ‘And they will take of the blood and put it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses in which they eat it.
8 ‘And they will eat the meat in that cnight, oroasted with fire. And they will eat it with ounleavened bread and bitter herbs.
9 ‘Do not eat it of it raw, nor boiled at all with water. But oroast it with fire, his head with his legs and with its entrails.
10 ‘And you will leave none of it until the morning. And that which remains of it until the morning, you will burn with fire.
11 ‘And in this manner you will eat it: with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet and your staff in your hand. And you will eat it in haste. It is the LORD’S Passover.
12 ‘For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast. And I will execute judgment tagainst all the gods of Egypt. uI am the LORD.
13 ‘And the blood will be to you for a token on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague will not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.
14 ‘So this day will be a memorial to you. And you will keep it as a feast vby an ordinance forever.
15 wSeven days you will eat unleavened bread. But on the first day you will put away leaven out of your houses, for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, vthat person will be cut off from Israel.
16 ‘And in the first day there will be a holy assembly, and also in the seventh day there will be a holy assembly to you. No manner of work will be done on them, except that which every man must eat. That only may be done by you.
17 ‘And you will observe the feast of unleavened bread, for on this very day I brought your armies wout of the land of Egypt. Therefore, you will observe this day throughout your generations as an ordinance forever.
18 x“In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you will eat unleavened bread until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.
19 wySeven days there will be no leaven found in your houses; for whoever eats that which is leavened, even that person will be cut off from the assembly of Israel, whether he is a foreigner.
or born in the land.
20 ‘You will eat nothing leavened. In all your
habitations, you will eat unleavened bread.’”
21 ¶ Then aMoses called for all the yelders of
Israel. And he said to them, “Go and take for
yourselves a lamb according to your families,
and kill the Passover lamb.
22 a“And you will take a bunch of hyssop and
dip it in the blood that is in the basin. bStrike
the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood
that is in the basin. None of you will go out-
side at the door of his house until the morning.
23 c“For the LORD will pass through to smite
the Egyptians. And when he sees the dblood
on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the
LORD will pass over the door and will enot
allow the fdestroyer to come into your houses
to smite you.
24 “And you will gobserve this event for an
ordinance for you and your sons forever.
25 “And it will come to pass when you have
come to the land that the LORD will give you
according has He has promised, you will keep
this service.
26 i“And it will come to pass when your chil-
dren will say to you, ‘What do you mean by
this service?’
27 “that you will say, i“It is the sacrifice of the
LORD’S Passover who passed over the houses
of the children of Israel in Egypt when He
smote the Egyptians and delivered our
houses.”’ And the people k bowed the head and
worshiped.
28 And the children of Israel went away and ldid
as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron,
so they did.
29 ¶ mNow it came to pass at midnight
that nthe LORD smote all the firstborn in the land
of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who
sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive
who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn
of the olivestock.
30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and
all his servants, and all the Egyptians. And there
was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a
house where there was not one dead.

The Exodus
31 ¶ Then he pcalled for Moses and Aaron by
night and said, “Rise up and get out from
among my people, qboth you and the children
of Israel. Go, serve the LORD as you have
said.
32 s“Also take your flocks and your herds as
you have said and be gone, and bless me also.”
33 tAnd the Egyptians urged the people, that
they might send them out of the land in haste,
for they said, “We will be all dead men.”
34 So the people took their dough before it
was leavened, with their kneading bowls be-
ing bound up in their clothes on their shoul-
ders.
35 And the children of Israel did according to
the word of Moses, for they asked from the
Egyptians qjewels of silver and jewels of gold
and clothing.
36 s“And the LORD gave the people favor in
the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted
them what they requested. So they tplundered
the Egyptians.
37 Then the uchildren of Israel journeyed from
vRameses to Succoth, about w600,000 men on
foot, besides children.
38 And a xmixed multitude went up also with
them, flocks and herds and a large number of
clivestock.
39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the
dough that they brought forth out of Egypt, for
it was not leavened because dthey were driven
out of Egypt and could not tarry, nor had they
prepared for themselves any food.
40 ¶ Now the sojourning of the children of
Israel who dwelt in Egypt was e430 years.
41 And it came to pass at the end of the 430
years, even the same day it came to pass, that
fall the hosts of the LORD went out from the
land of Egypt.
42 It is a night of solemn observance to the
LORD for bringing them out from the land of
Egypt. This is that night of the LORD of sol-
lemn observance for all the children of Israel
throughout their generations.
Passover Regulations

43 ¶ Now the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “This is the ordinance of the Passover: no foreigner is to eat of it.
44 “But every man’s bondservant who is bought for money, when you have ‘circumcised him, then he will eat of it.
45 A foreigner and a hired bondservant will not eat of it.
46 “It will be eaten in one house. You will not carry any of the meat outside the house.
47 j“A foreigner and a hired bondservant will not eat of it.
48 “It will be eaten in one house. You will not carry any of the meat outside the house. You will not break a bone of it.
49 l“All the assembly of Israel will keep it.
50 m“When a foreigner sojourns with you, and will keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it. And he will be as one who is born in the land, for no uncircumcised person will eat of it.
51 n“One law will be to him who is homeborn and to the foreigner who sojourns among you.”

Thus did all the children of Israel. As the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

51 ¶ Now it came to pass the same day that the LORD brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts.

Chapter 13

Dedication of the Firstborn

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 a“Sanctify to Me all the firstborn. Whoever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of animal, is Mine.”
3 ¶ So Moses said to the people, b“Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage. For by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place. There will be no leavened bread eaten.
4 c“On this day in the month Abib you came out.
5 “And it will be when the LORD will bring you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to your fathers, and will give it to you,
6 d“Seven days you will eat unleavened bread. And on the seventh day there will be a feast to the LORD.
7 “Unleavened bread will be eaten seven days. And there will be no leavened bread among you, nor will there be leaven seen with you in all your borders.
8 “And you will tell your son in that day, saying, ‘This is done because of what the LORD did to me when I came forth out of Egypt.’
9 “And it will be for a sign to you on your hand and for a memorial between your eyes, that the Lord’s law may be in your mouth. For with a strong hand the LORD brought you out of Egypt.
10 e“Therefore, you will keep this ordinance in its season from year to year.
11 ¶ “And it will be when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and will give it to you,
12 f“that you will set apart to the LORD all that opens the womb and every first offspring that comes from an animal that you have; the males will be the LORD’S.
13 “And every first offspring of a donkey you will redeem with a lamb. And if you will not redeem it, then you will break its neck. And you will redeem all the firstborn of man among your children.
14 g“‘And it will be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is this?’ that you will say to him, h“By strength of hand the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt.’

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h Nm 9:14 i Gn 17:12,13 j Lv 22:10 k Jn 19:33,36 l Ex 12:6 m Nm 9:14 n Nm 15:15,16 o Ex 12:41; 20:2 p Ex 6:26 Chapter 13: a Lk 2:23 b Dt 16:3 c Ex 3:20; 6:1 d Ex 12:8,19 e Ex 12:2,23; 15:4 f Ex 3:8,17 g Gn 17:8 h Ex 6:8 i Ex 12:25,26 j Ex 12:15-20 k Ex 12:19 l Ex 10:2; 12:26; 13:14 m Dt 6:8; 11:18 n Ex 12:14,24 o Ex 13:5 p Nm 21:3 q Lv 27:26 r Ex 34:20 s Nm 3:46;47; 18:15,16 t Dt 6:20 u Ex 13:3,9 v Ex 12:29 w Ex 13:9
Crossing the Red Sea

17 ¶ Now it came to pass when Pharaoh had let the people go that God did not lead them through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near, for God said, “Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt.”

18 But God led the people around the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt armed for battle.

19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had made the children of Israel solemnly swear, saying, “God will surely visit you, and you will carry up my bones with you away from here.”

20 So they set out on their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham on the edge of the wilderness.

21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud in order to lead them on the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, in order to travel by day and night.

Chapter 14

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to the children of Israel so that they turn back and camp near Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to camp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon.

3 “For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, ‘They are entangled in the land. The wilderness has shut them in.’

4 “Then I will harden Pharaoh’s heart so that he will follow after them. And I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army so that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD.”

And they did so.

5 ¶ Now it was told to the king of Egypt that the people fled. And the heart of Pharaoh and of his bondservants was turned against the people. And they said, “Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?”

6 So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him.

7 And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over each one of them.

8 So the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And he pursued after the children of Israel. And the children of Israel boldly went out.

9 But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen and his army. And they overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth in front of Baal Zephon.

10 ¶ Now when Pharaoh drew close, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. And they were very afraid. So the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.

11 And they said to Moses, “Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, to carry us out of Egypt?

12 Is not this the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, ‘Let us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.”

13 Then Moses said to the people, “Do not fear! Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD that He will show you today. For the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever.

14 “The LORD will fight for you and you will hold your peace.”

15 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to Me? Speak to the children of Israel so that they go forward.

16 “Now lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel will go on dry land through the midst of the sea.

17 “And behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will follow them. And I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and through his horsemen.
18 “And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I have been honored through Pharaoh, through his chariots and through his horsemen.”

19 ¶ Then the angel of God who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them. And the pillar of the cloud went from before their face and stood behind them.

20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. It was a cloud of darkness to them, but it gave light by night to Israel, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. And the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night. And He made the sea into dry land and the waters were divided.

22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry land. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

23 Then the Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots and his horsemen.

24 Now it came to pass that in the morning watch that the LORD looked on the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud. And He troubled the army of the Egyptians.

25 And He took off their chariot wheels so that they drove them with difficulty. So the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

26 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may come again on the Egyptians, on their chariots and on their horsemen.”

27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. And the sea returned to its normal place when the morning appeared, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not one of them remained.

29 But the children of Israel walked on dry land in the midst of the sea. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

30 ¶ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians. And Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the sea shore.

31 And Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. Then the people feared the LORD and believed the LORD and His servant Moses.

Chapter 15

Song of Moses and Miriam

1 Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, “I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously. The horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

2 “The LORD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation. He is my father’s God, and I will exalt Him.

3 “The LORD is a warrior. The LORD is His name.

4 “Pharaoh’s chariots and his army He has cast into the sea. His chosen captains are also drowned in the Red Sea.

5 “The depths have covered them. They sank into the bottom as a stone.

6 “Your right hand, O LORD, has become glorious in power. Your right hand, O LORD, has dashed in pieces the enemy.

7 “And in the greatness of your excellency You have overthrown them who rose up against You. You sent forth Your wrath which consumed them as stubble.

8 “And with the blast of Your nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as a heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

9 “The enemy said, I will pursue. I will overtake. I will divide the spoil. My desire will be satisfied on them. I will draw my sword. My hand will execute vengeance for them.”

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hand will destroy them.’
10 “You blew with Your wind. The sea covered them. They sank as lead in the mighty waters.
11 “Who is like You among the gods, O LORD? Who is like You, ‘majestic in holiness, awesome in praises, ‘doing wonders?
12 “You stretched out Your right hand and the earth swallowed them.
13 “You in Your mercy have led forth the people You have redeemed. You have guided them in Your strength to Your holy habitation.
14 “The people will hear and be afraid. Sorrow will take hold on the inhabitants of Philistia.
15 “Then the chiefs of Edom will be amazed. The mighty men of Moab, trembling will take hold on them. All the inhabitants of Canaan will melt away.
16 °Fear and dread will fall on them. By the greatness of Your arm they will be motionless as a stone; until Your people pass over, O LORD, until the people pass over whom You have purchased.
17 “You will bring them in and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance, in the place, O LORD, that You have made for Your dwelling in the sanctuary, O Lord, that Your hands have established.
18 °The °LORD will reign forever and ever.”
19 For the °horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea. And the °LORD brought again the waters of the sea on them. But the children of Israel went on dry ground in the midst of the sea.
20 °Then Miriam the °prophetess, the °sister of Aaron, °took a timbrel in her hand. And all the women went out after her with ‘timbrels and with dances.
21 And Miriam °answered them, °“Sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously. The horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.”

Waters of Marah and Elim
22 °Then Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea and they went out into the wilderness of "Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no °water.
23 Now when they came to °Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore, the name of it was called Marah.
24 And the people °murmured against Moses, saying, °“What will we drink?”
25 Then he cried to the °LORD. And the °LORD showed him a tree. °When he threw it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He °made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there °He °tested them.
26 And He °said, °“If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the °LORD your °God, and will do what is right in His sight, and will give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of these °diseases on you that I have brought on the Egyptians. For °I am the °LORD °who heals you.”
27 °Then they °came to °Elim where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees. And they camped there by the waters.

Chapter 16
Manna and Quail
1 °Then all the assembly of the children of °Israel set out from °Elim and came to the wilderness of °Sin, which °is °between °Elim and °Sinai, on °the °fifteenth °day °of °the °second °month after °their °departure °from °the °land °of °Egypt.
2 °And °the °whole °assembly °of °the °children °of °Israel °murmured °against °Moses °and °Aaron °in °the °wilderness.
3 °And °the °children °of °Israel °said °to °them, °“°Would °to °God °we °had °died °by °the °hand °of °the °LORD °in °the °land °of °Egypt, °when °we °ate °bread °to °the °full. °For °you °have °brought °us °out °into °this °wilderness °to °kill °this °whole °assembly °with °hunger.”
4 °Then °the °LORD °said °to °Moses, °°“Behold, °I °will °rain °bread °from °heaven °for °you. °And °the °people °will °go °out °and °gather °a °certain °portion °every °day °so °that °I °may °test °them, °whether °or °not °they °will °°walk °in °My °law.

u 1 Kg 8:23 v Is 6:3 w 1 Ch 16:25 x Ps 77:11,14 y Ps 77:20 z Ps 78:54 a Ja 2:9 b Ps 48:6 c Gn 36:15,40 d Dt 2:4 e Nm 22:3,4 f Ja 5:1 g Ja 2:9-11,24 h Ja 2:9 i 1 Sm 25:37 j Jr 31:11 k Ps 44:2; 80:8,15 l Ps 2:6; 78:54,68 m Ps 68:16; 76:2; 132:13,14 n Is 57:15 o Ex 14:23 p Ex 14:28 q Jg 4:4 r Nm 26:59 s 1 Sm 18:6 t Jg 11:34; 21:21 u 1 Sm 18:7 v Ex 15:1 w Gn 16:7; 20:1; 25:18 x Nm 20:2 y Nm 33:8 z Ex 14:11; 16:2 a 2 Kg 2:21 b Ja 24:25 c Dt 8:2,16 d Dt 7:12,15 e Dt 28:7,25,58,60 f Ex 23:25 g Nm 33:9 Chapter 16: a Nm 33:10,11 b Ex 12:6,51; 19:1 c 1 Co 10:10 d Lm 4:9 e Nm 11:4,5 f Jn 6:31-35 g Dt 8:2,16 h Jg 2:22
“And it will come to pass on the sixth day that they will prepare what they bring in. And it will be twice as much as they gather daily.”

So Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, “At evening you will know that the LORD has brought you out from the land of Egypt.

And in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, for He hears your murmurings against the LORD. And what are we, that you murmur against us?”

And Moses said, “This will happen when the LORD will give you in the evening meat to eat, and in the morning bread to the full, for the LORD hears your murmurings that you murmur against Him. And what are we? Your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.”

Then Moses spoke to Aaron, “Say to all the assembly of the children of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your murmurings.’”

Now it came to pass as Aaron spoke to the whole assembly of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, ‘At evening you will eat meat and in the morning you will be filled with bread. And you will know that I am the LORD your God.’”

So it came to pass that at evening the quail came up and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

And when the dew had evaporated, behold, on the surface of the wilderness there lay a fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground.

And when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “It is manna.” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

“This is the thing that the LORD has commanded, ‘Gather of it according to what each one should eat. Take an omer for each person you have in your tent.’”

And the children of Israel did so, and some gathered more and some less.

And when they measured it with an omer, he who gathered much had nothing left over and he who gathered little had no lack. They gathered each one according to his need.

Then Moses said, “Let no man leave any of it until the morning.”

But they did not listen to Moses. Some of them left some of it until the morning. And it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them.

So they gathered it every morning, everyone according to his eating. And when the sun grew hot, it melted.

¶ Now it came to pass on the sixth day that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one person. And all the rulers of the assembly came and told Moses.

Then he said to them, “This is what the LORD has said, ‘Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Sabbath to the LORD. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil. And what remains over lay aside to be kept until the morning.’”

So they laid it aside until the morning, as Moses instructed. And it did not stink, nor was there any worm in it.

And Moses said, “Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD. Today you will not find it in the field.

Six days you will gather it. But on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, there will be none.”

Then it came to pass that some of the people went out on the seventh day in order to gather. And they found none.

Now the LORD said to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?

See, the LORD has given you the Sabbath. Therefore, He gives you on the sixth day the bread for two days. Remain every man in his place and let no one go out of his place on the seventh day.”
30 So the people rested on the seventh day.
31 And the house of Israel named it manna. And it was white like coriander seed. And the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.

32 ¶ Then Moses said, “This is the thing that the LORD commands, ‘Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations so that they may see the bread with which I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth out from the land of Egypt.’”

33 So Moses said to Aaron, “Take a pot and put an omer full of manna in it and lay it before the LORD to be kept for your generations.”

34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony to be kept.

35 And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land. They ate manna until they came to the borders of the land of Canaan.

36 (Now an omer is the tenth part of an ephah.)

Chapter 17

Water from a Rock

1 ¶ Now all the assembly of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin from place to place, according to the commandment of the LORD. And they pitched in Rephidim. And there was no water for the people to drink.

2 Therefore, the people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water so that we may drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you tempt the LORD?”

3 But the people thirsted there for water. And they murmured against Moses, and said, “Why is this that you have brought us up out of Egypt in order to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?”

4 So Moses cried to the LORD, saying, “What will I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”

5 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go before the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand your staff with which you smote the Nile River, and go.

6 ¶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb. And you will smite the rock and there will come water out of it so that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

7 So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrel of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us, or not?”

Defeat of the Amalekites

8 ¶ Then Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

9 So Moses said to Joshua, “Choose out men for us and go out. Fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.”

10 So Joshua did as Moses had said to him and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

11 Now it came to pass when Moses held up his hand that Israel prevailed. And when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

12 But Moses’ hands were heavy. And they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

13 And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

14 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this for a memorial in a book and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua. For I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven.”

15 And Moses built an altar and called the name of it The LORD is My Banner, for he said, “Because the LORD has sworn. The LORD will make war with Amalek from generation to generation.”

Chapter 18

Jethro Visits Moses

1 ¶ And Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses’ father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel his people, and that the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt.
After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his father-in-law, Jethro, received her and her two sons, of whom the name of the one was Gershom, for Moses said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."

And the name of the other was Eliezer, for he said, "The God of my father was my help, and He delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh."

Then Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife to Moses into the wilderness, where he camped at the mountain of God.

And he said to Moses, "I, your father-in-law, Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons with her."

So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law. And he bowed down and kissed him. And they asked each other about their welfare. And they came into the tent.

Then Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel’s sake, and all the hardship that had come on them on the journey, and how the LORD had delivered them.

And Jethro rejoiced over all the goodness that the LORD had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

Then Moses said to his father-in-law, "Blessed be the LORD who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods, because He did this to those who had treated Israel arrogantly."

Then Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God, and Aaron came and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses’ father-in-law before God.

Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses sat to judge the people. And the people stood by Moses from the morning to the evening.

And when Moses’ father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you do for the people? Why do you sit alone and all the people stand around you from morning until evening?"

And Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God. "When they have a matter, they come to me and I judge between the parties. And I make known to them the statutes of God and His laws."

Then Moses’ father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you are doing is not good. You will surely wear away, both you and this people who are with you, for this thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it by yourself.

Now listen to my voice. I will give you counsel and God will be with you. You must be the people’s representative before God so that you may bring the disputes to God. And you will teach them ordinances and laws, and will show them the way in which they must walk and the work that they must do.

Furthermore, you will provide out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth who hate covetousness. Place such over them to be officials of thousands, officials of hundreds, officials of fifties, and officials of tens.

And let them judge the people at all times. And it will be that every great matter they will bring to you, but every small matter they will judge. So it will be easier for yourself, and they will bear the burden with you.

If you will do this thing, and commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all this people will also go to their place in peace."

So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law, and did all that he had said.

And Moses chose able men out of all Israel and made them heads over the people, officials of thousands, officials of hundreds, officials of fifties and officials of tens.

And they judged the people at all times. The hard cases they brought to Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.
27 Then Moses let his father-in-law depart. And he went his way into his own land.

**Chapter 19**

*Israel at Mount Sinai*

1 ¶ In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, the same day they came to the wilderness of Sinai.

2 When they departed from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness. And Israel camped there before the mountain.

3 Then Moses went up to God. And the LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, “Thus will you say to the house of Jacob and tell the children of Israel:

4 ‘you have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself.

5 ‘Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you will be My own possession above all people, for all the earth is Mine.

6 ‘And you will be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you will speak to the children of Israel.”

7 ¶ So Moses came and called for the elders of the people. And he laid before their faces all these words that the LORD had commanded him.

8 And all the people answered together and said, “We will do all that the LORD has spoken.” And Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.

9 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will come to you in a thick cloud so that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever.” And Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.

10 ¶ And the LORD said to Moses, “Go to the people and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes.

11 “And be ready for the third day, for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people on Mount Sinai.

12 “And you will set bounds for the people around about, saying, ‘Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up into the mountain or touch the border of it. Whoever touches the mountain will surely be put to death.

13 ‘No hand will touch him, but he will surely be stoned or shot through; whether it is an animal or man. It will not live.’ When the trumpet sounds long, they will come up to the mountain.”

14 ¶ So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people. And they washed their clothes.

15 Then he said to the people, “Be ready for the third day. ‘Do not go near your wives.’

16 ¶ Now it came to pass on the third day in the morning that there were thunberings and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God. And they stood at the foot of the mountain.

18 And Mount Sinai was covered with smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. And the smoke ascended as the smoke of a furnace. And the whole mountain quaked greatly.

19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him by a voice.

20 Then the LORD came down on Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mountain. And Moses went up.

21 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go down and warn the people lest they break through to the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish.

22 “And let the priests also who come near to the LORD, sanctify themselves lest the LORD break forth on them.”

23 Then Moses said to the LORD, “The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You warned us, saying, ‘Set bounds around the mountain and sanctify it.’”

24 And the LORD said to him, “Go down and come up again, you and Aaron with you. But
do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD lest He break forth on them.”

25 So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.

Chapter 20:  

The Ten Commandments

1 ¶ Then God spoke all these words, saying, 
2 ¶ “I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt and out of the house of bondage. 
3 ¶ “You will have no other gods before Me. 
4 ¶ “You will not make for yourself any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 
5 ¶ “You will not bow down yourself to them, nor serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, 
6 ¶ “and showing mercy to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments. 
7 ¶ “You will not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold guiltless who takes His name in vain. 
8 ¶ “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 
9 ¶ “Six days you will labor and do all your work. 
10 ¶ “But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you will not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter, your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your livestock, nor your foreigner who is within your gates. 
11 ¶ “For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them. And He rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. 
12 ¶ “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God gives you. 
13 ¶ “You will not kill. 
14 ¶ “You will not commit adultery. 
15 ¶ “You will not steal. 
16 ¶ “You will not bear false witness against your neighbor. 
17 ¶ “You will not covet your neighbor’s house. You will not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.” 
18 ¶ Now all the people saw the thunderings and the lightning flashes and the noise of the trumpet and the mountain smoking. And when the people saw it, they moved and stood afar off. 
19 Then they said to Moses, “Speak to us and we will hear. But do not let God speak to us, or we will die.” 
20 So Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you in order that His fear may be with you so that you do not sin.” 
21 And the people stood afar off and Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Idols and Altars

22 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Thus you will say to the children of Israel, ‘You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. 
23 ‘You will not make other gods besides Me. Do not make for yourselves gods of silver or gods of gold. 
24 ‘You will make an altar of earth for Me. And you will sacrifice your burnt offerings on it and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In all places where I record My name, I will come to you and I will bless you. 
25 ‘And if you will make for Me an altar of stone, you will not build it of cut stone, for if you lift up your tool on it, you have defiled it. 
26 ‘Neither will you go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness not be exposed on it.’

Chapter 21:

Jewish Servants

2 ¶ “If you buy a Hebrew servant, he will serve...
for six years. And in the seventh year, he will go out free without payment.

3 “If he comes in by himself, he will go out by himself. If he is married, then his wife will go out with him.

4 “If his master has given him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children will be her master’s, and he will go out by himself.

5 “But if the servant will plainly say, ‘I love my master, my wife and my children. I will not go out free.’

6 “Then his master will bring him to the judges. He will also bring him to the door or to the door post. And his master will pierce his ear through with an awl. And he will serve him for life.

7 ¶ “And if a man sells his daughter to be a maidservant, she will not go out as the men-servants do.

8 “If she does not please her master who has betrothed her to himself, then he will let her be redeemed. He does not have the right to sell her to foreigners because of his unfairness to her.

9 “And if he has betrothed her to his son, he will deal with her according to the custom of daughters.

10 “If he takes to himself another wife, he must not diminish the first one of her food, clothing and conjugal rights.

11 “And if he does not do these three things for her, then she will go out free without payment of money.

Injury to Persons

12 ¶ “He who strikes a man so that he dies will surely be put to death.

13 “However, if a man did not lie in wait for him, but God delivered him into his hand, then I will appoint you a place where he may flee.

14 ¶ “But if a man schemes against his neighbor to slay him intentionally, you will take him from My altar so that he may die.

15 ¶ “And he who strikes his father or his mother, will surely be put to death.

16 ¶ “And he who strikes a man and sells him, or if he is found in his hand, he will surely be put to death.

17 ¶ “And he who curses his father or his mother, will surely be put to death.

18 ¶ “And if men strive together and one strikes another with a stone or with his fist, and he does not die, but remains in his bed,

19 “if he rises again and walks about on his staff, then he who struck him will go unpunished. He will pay only for the loss of his time. And he will care for him until he is completely healed.

20 ¶ “And if a man strikes his servant or his maid with a staff, and he dies under his hand, he will surely be punished.

21 “However, if he survives a day or two, he will not be punished, for he is his property.

22 ¶ “If men struggle and hurt a woman with child so that she gives birth prematurely, and yet there is no serious injury, he will surely be punished according as the woman’s husband will demand. And he will pay as the judges determine.

23 “And if any further injury follows, then you will give life for life,

24 “eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

25 “burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

26 ¶ “And if a man strikes the eye of his servant, or the eye of his maid so that it perishes, he will let him go free to compensate for his eye.

27 “And if he knocks out his manservant’s tooth or his maidservant’s tooth, he will let him go free to compensate for his tooth.

28 ¶ “If an ox gores a man or a woman so that they die, then the ox will surely be stoned, and his meat will not be eaten. But the owner of the ox will go unpunished.

29 “However, if the ox had a habit of goring with his horn, and his owner has been warned, but he has not kept it in, but it has killed a man or a woman, the ox will be stoned and his owner will also be put to death.

30 ¶ “If payment is demanded from him, he may redeem his life by paying whatever is demanded from him.

31 ¶ “Whether he has gored a son or has gored
a daughter, according to this rule it will be done to him.
32 “If the ox goes a manservant or a maidservant, he will give to their master thirty shekels of silver and the ox will be stoned.
33 ¶ “And if a man opens a pit, or if a man digs a pit, and not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it,
34 “the owner of the pit will make restitution, and give money to the owner. And the dead animal will be his.
35 ¶ “And if one man’s ox hurts another’s so that it dies, then they will sell the live ox and divide the money from it. And they will also divide the dead ox.
36 “Or if it is known that the ox had a habit of going, and his owner did not keep it in, he will surely pay ox for ox. And the dead ox will be his own.

Chapter 22
Security of Property
1 ¶ “If a man steals an ox or a sheep and kills it, or sells it, he will restore five oxen for an ox and four sheep for a sheep.
2 ¶ “If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there will be no blood shed for him.
3 ¶ “If the sun has risen on him, he is guilty of bloodshed. He will make full restitution. If he has nothing, then he will be sold for his theft.
4 ¶ “If the stolen possession is found alive in his possession, whether it is ox or donkey or sheep, he will restore double.
5 ¶ “If a man allows a field or a vineyard to be eaten and allows his animal to stray and it feeds in another man’s field, he will make restitution from the best of his own field and the best of his own vineyard.
6 ¶ “If fire breaks out and spreads into thornbushes so that the stacks of grain or the standing grain or the field is consumed, he who started the fire will surely make restitution.
7 ¶ “If a man gives to his neighbor money or possessions to keep and it is stolen out of the man’s house, if the thief is found let him pay double.
8 ¶ “If the thief is not found, then the master of the house will be brought to the judges to see whether he has laid his hand on his neighbor’s goods.
9 ¶ “For all manner of illegal possession of an ox, a donkey, a sheep, clothing, or any kind of lost thing that another challenges to be his, the case of both parties will come before the judges. He whom the judges will condemn will pay double to his neighbor.
10 “If a man delivers to his neighbor a donkey, or an ox, or a sheep, or any animal to keep, and it dies or is hurt, or driven away while no one is looking,
11 “then an oath of the LORD will be made between them both that he has not laid his hand on his neighbor’s goods. And the owner of it will accept it and he will not make restitution.
12 “And if it is stolen from him, he will make restitution to the owner.
13 “If it is torn in pieces, then let him bring it for evidence. He will not make restitution for what was torn.
14 ¶ “And if a man borrow anything from his neighbor and it is injured or dies while the owner is with it, he will make restitution.
15 “But if the owner is with it, he will not make restitution. If it is hired, the restitution comes from its hire.

Social Responsibilities
16 ¶ “And if a man seduces a virgin who is not promised to be married, and lies with her, he will surely pay the dowry for her to be his wife.
17 “If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he will pay money according to the dowry of virgins.
18 ¶ “You will not suffer a witch to live.
19 ¶ “Whoever lies with an animal will surely be put to death.
20 ¶ “He who sacrifices to any god, except to the LORD only, he will be utterly destroyed.
21 ¶ “You will neither wrong a foreigner, nor oppress him, for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.
22 ¶ “You will not afflict any widow or fatherless child.
23 “If you afflict them in any way, and they cry out at all to Me, I will surely hear their cry,
24 “and My wrath will be kindled. And I will kill you with the sword, and your wives will be widows and your children fatherless.
25 ¶“If you lend money to any of my people who are poor among you, you will not be to him as a creditor, nor will you charge him interest.
26 ¶“If you at all take your neighbor’s clothing as a pledge, you will deliver it to him before the sun goes down,
27 “for that is his only covering. It is his clothing for his body. What else will he sleep in? And it will come to pass when he cries out to Me, that I will hear, for I am gracious.
28 ¶“You will not blaspheme God, nor curse the ruler of your people.
29 ¶“You will not delay to offer the first of your ripe fruits and of your vintage. You will give to Me the firstborn of your sons.
30 ¶Likewise, you will do with your oxen and with your sheep. Seven days it will be with his mother and on the eighth day you will give it to Me.
31 ¶“And you will be a holy people to Me. Neither will you eat any meat that is torn by beasts in the field. You will cast it to the dogs.

Chapter 23
Laws of Justice and Mercy
1 ¶“You will not spread false reports. Do not join your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.
2 ¶“You will not follow a multitude to do evil. Neither will you speak in a dispute so as to side with the multitude to pervert justice.
3 ¶“Neither will you be partial to a poor man in his dispute.
4 ¶“If you meet your enemy’s ox or his donkey going astray, you will surely bring it back to him again.
5 ¶“If you see the donkey of him who hates you lying helpless under his burden, and you would refrain from helping it, you will surely help it for him.

6 ¶“You will not deny the justice to your poor in their disputes.
7 ¶“Keep far from a false matter. And do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not justify the wicked.
8 ¶“And you will take no bribe, for the bribe blinds the wise and perverts the words of the righteous.
9 ¶“Also you will not oppress a foreigner, for you know the heart of a foreigner, seeing you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.

Sabbath Laws
10 ¶“For six years you will sow your land and will gather its fruits.
11 ¶“But the seventh year you will let it rest and lie still so that the poor of your people may eat. And what they leave, the animals of the field will eat. In like manner you will deal with your vineyard and with your olive grove.
12 ¶“Six days you will do your work, and on the seventh day you will rest so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your handmaid and the foreigner may be refreshed.
13 ¶“And in all things that I have said be careful to keep. And make no mention of the name of other gods, nor let them be heard from your mouth.
14 ¶“Three times a year you will keep a feast to Me.
15 ¶“You will keep the feast of unleavened bread. You will eat unleavened bread seven days as I commanded you in the time appointed in the month Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt. And none will appear before Me empty.
16 ¶“You also will keep the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of your labors that you have sown in the field; also the feast of Ingathering that is at the end of the year when you have gathered in your labors out of the field.
17 ¶“Three times in the year all your males will appear before the Lord GOD.
18 ¶“You will not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leavened bread, nor will the fat of My sacrifice remain until the morning.
19 ¶The first of the firstfruits of your land you will bring into the house of the LORD your
20 ¶ Behold, I am sending an Angel before you to guard you in the way and to bring you into the place that I have prepared.  
21 “Be attentive to him and obey his voice. Do not provoke him, for he will not pardon your transgressions since My name is in him. 
22 “But if you will indeed obey his voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. 
23 “For My Angel will go before you and bring you into the land of the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites. And I will cut them off. 
24 “You will not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do after their works. But you will utterly overthrow them and break their images in pieces. 
25 “And you will serve the LORD your God and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you. 
26 “There will be no miscarriage or one barren in your land. I will fulfill the number of your days. 
27 ¶ “I will send My fear before you and will destroy all the people to whom you will come. And I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. 
28 “And I will send hornets before you that will drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite and the Hittite, from before you. 
29 “I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the beasts of the field multiply against you. 
30 “Little by little I will drive them out from before you until you have increased and possessed the land. 
31 “And I will set your boundary from the Red Sea even to the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert to the river. For I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand and you will drive them out before you.

32 “You will make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. 
33 “They will not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against Me. For if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”

Chapter 24
Reconfirming the Covenant
1 ¶ Then He said to Moses, “You and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, come up to the LORD and worship at a distance. 
2 “And Moses alone will come near the LORD. But they will not come near, nor will the people go up with him.” 
3 ¶ Then Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, “All the words that the LORD has said we will do.” 
4 So Moses wrote all the words of the LORD. And he rose up early in the morning and built an altar under the mountain with twelve pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. 
5 Then he sent young men of the children of Israel who offered burnt offerings and sacrifices of oxen to the LORD. 
6 Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins. And he sprinkled half of the blood on the people. And he said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you concerning all these words.” 
7 Then he took the book of the covenant and read in the audience of the people. And they said, “All that the LORD has said we will do. And we will be obedient.” 
8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it in the people. And he said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you concerning all these words.” 
9 ¶ Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. 
10 And they saw the God of Israel. And under his feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire stone as clear as the sky itself. 
11 But God did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the children of Israel. And they saw God. And they ate and drank.
12 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me into the mountain and remain there. And I will give you tablets of stone and a law and commandments that I have written so that you may teach them.”

13 So Moses rose up with his assistant Joshua. And Moses went up into the mountain of God.

14 And he said to the elders, “You wait here for us until we come again to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man has any matters to do, let him approach them.”

15 So Moses went up onto the mountain and a cloud covered the mountain.

16 And the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai and the cloud covered it six days. And the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

17 In the eyes of the children of Israel the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mountain.

18 Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Chapter 25
Offerings for the Tabernacle

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “Speak to the children of Israel so that they bring Me an offering. You are to receive the offering for Me from every man whose heart moves him to give.

3 “And this is the offering that you will take from them: gold and silver and bronze,

4 “and blue and purple and scarlet yarn, and fine linen and goat hair,

5 “and rams’ skins dyed red, and badger skins, and acacia wood,

6 “oil for the light, spices for anointing oil and for fragrant incense,

7 “onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod and in the breastplate.

8 “And let them make Me a sanctuary so that I may dwell among them.

9 “You will make it according to all that I show you, after the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all the instruments of it.

10 ¶ “And they will make an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high.

11 “And you will overlay it with pure gold, within and without you will overlay it. And you will make on it a crown of gold around it.

12 “And you will cast four rings of gold for it and put them in the four corners. And two rings will be in one side of it and two rings in the other side of it.

13 “And you will make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.

14 “And you will put the poles into the rings by the sides of the ark so that the ark may be carried with them.

15 ¶ The poles will be in the rings of the ark. They will not be taken from it.

16 “And you will put into the ark the testimony that I will give you.

17 ¶ And you will make a mercy seat of pure gold. It will be two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.

18 “And you will make two cherubim of gold. You will make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat.

19 “And make one cherub at one end and the other cherub at other end. You will make the cherubim of one piece with the mercy seat at its two ends.

20 “And the cherubim will stretch forth their wings upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings. The cherubim are to face one another, looking toward the mercy seat.

21 ¶ And you will put the mercy seat on top of the ark. And in the ark you will put the testimony that I will give you.

22 “And I will meet with you. And from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the children of Israel.

The Table

23 ¶ You will also make a table of acacia wood. It will be two cubits long, a cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.

24 “And you will overlay it with pure gold and make a crown of gold around it.

25 “And you will make for it a border of a hand breadth around it. And you will make a
golden crown to the border around it.

26 “And you will make for it four rings of gold. And you will put the rings in the four corners that are on its four feet.

27 “The rings will be close to the border as holders for the poles to carry the table.

28 “And you will make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold so that the table may be carried with them.

29 “And you will make its plates and dishes of pure gold, as well as its pitchers and bowls for the pouring out of the offerings.

30 “And at all times you will set on the table showbread before Me.

The Lampstand

31 ¶ “And you will make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand will be made of hammered work. Its shaft and its branches, its bowls, its knobs and its flowers will be of the same piece.

32 “And six branches will come out of the sides of it, three branches of the lampstand out of one side and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side.

33 “Three cups will be shaped like almonds, with a knob and a flower in one branch. And three cups shaped like almonds in the other branch, with a knob and a flower; and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand.

34 ¶ “And on the lampstand there will be four cups made like almonds with their knobs and their flowers.

35 “A knob will be under the first pair of branches coming out of it, and a knob under the second pair of branches coming out of it, and a knob under the third pair of branches coming out of it, for the six branches coming out of the lampstand.

36 “Their knobs and their branches will be of the same piece. All of it will be one hammered piece of pure gold.

37 “And you will make the seven lamps of it. And they will light its lamps so that they may give light in front of it.

38 “And its wick trimmers and its trays will be of pure gold.

39 “It will be made from a talent of pure gold, with all these accessories.

40 “And see that you make them after the pattern that was shown you in the mountain.

Chapter 26

The Tabernacle

1 ¶ “Moreover you will make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet material. You will make the cherubim with a skillful craftsman.

2 “The length of one curtain will be twenty-eight cubits, and the width of one curtain four cubits. And every one of the curtains will have the same measurements.

3 “The five curtains will be coupled together one to another. And the other five curtains will be coupled one to another.

4 “And you will make loops of blue material along the edge of the end curtain in one set, and do the same with the end curtain in the other set.

5 “You will make fifty loops in one curtain and you will make fifty loops in the edge of the curtain that is in the coupling of the second so that the loops may be opposite one another.

6 “And you will make fifty clasps of gold and couple the curtains together with the clasps so that it will be one tabernacle.

7 ¶ b“And you will make curtains of goat hair to be a covering over the tabernacle. You will make eleven curtains.

8 “The length of one curtain will be thirty cubits, and the width of one curtain four cubits. And the eleven curtains will have the same measurement.

9 “And you will join five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and will double the sixth curtain in the front of the tabernacle.

10 “And you will make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the coupling, and fifty loops in the edge of the curtain that couples the second.

11 “And you will make fifty clasps of bronze and put the clasps into the loops and couple the tent together so that it may be one.

12 “And the additional portion that remains of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remains, will hang over the backside of the tabernacle.

13 “And a cubit on the one side and a cubit on
the other side of that which remains in the length of the curtains of the tent, it will hang over the sides of the tabernacle on this side and on that side, to cover it.

14 “And you will make a covering for the tent of ram skins dyed red, and a covering above of badger skins.

15 ¶ “And you will make boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright.

16 “Ten cubits will be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half will be the width of one board.

17 “There will be two tenons in one board, set in order fitted to one another. Thus you will make for all the boards of the tabernacle.

18 “And you will make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side.

19 “And you will make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards, two sockets under one board for its two tenons and two sockets under another board for its two tenons.

20 “And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side there will be twenty boards,

21 “and their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.

22 “And you will make six boards for the sides of the tabernacle westward.

23 “And you will make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides.

24 “And they will be joined together beneath. And they will be joined together above the head of it to one ring. Thus it will be for them both. They will be for the two corners.

25 “And there will be eight boards and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.

26 ¶ “And you will make bars of acacia wood, five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,

27 “and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward.

28 “And the middle bar in the middle of the boards will reach from end to end.

29 “And you will overlay the boards with gold and make their rings of gold for places for the bars. And you will overlay the bars with gold.

30 “And you will erect the tabernacle according to its plan that was shown you in the mountain.

31 ¶ ²“And you will make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet material, and fine twined linen of a skillful craftsman. It will be made with cherubim.

32 “And you will hang it on four pillars of acacia wood overlaid with gold. Their hooks will be of gold upon four sockets of silver.

33 “And you will hang up the veil under the clasps so that you may bring within the veil the ark of the testimony. And the veil will serve as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies.

34 ³And you will put the mercy seat on the ark of the testimony in the holy of holies.

35 ⁴And you will set the table outside the veil and the lampstand opposite the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south. And you will put the table on the north side.

36 ¶ ⁵“And you will make a screen for the door of the tent of blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twined linen, the work of a weaver.

37 “And you will make for the screen five pillars of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. And their hooks will be of gold. And you will cast five sockets of bronze for them.

Chapter 27

The Altar of Burnt Offering

1 ¶ “And you will make an altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits wide. The altar will be square, and its height will be three cubits.

2 “And you will make its horns on its four corners. Its horns will be the same. And you will overlay it with bronze.

3 “And you will make its pails to receive its ashes, and its shovels and its basins and its fleshhooks and its firepans. You will make all its utensils of bronze.

4 “And you will make for it a grating of network of bronze. And on the net you will make four brazen rings in its four corners.
5 “And you will put it under the ledge of the altar so that the net may be even to the middle of the altar.
6 “And you will make poles for the altar, poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with bronze.
7 “And the poles will be put into the rings so that the poles will be on the two sides of the altar to carry it.
8 “You will make it hollow with boards. It will be made as it was shown you on the mountain.

The Courtyard
9 ¶ “And you will make the court of the tabernacle. On the south side southward there will be curtains for the court of fine twined linen one hundred cubits long for one side.
10 “And its twenty pillars and their twenty sockets will be of bronze. The hooks of the pillars and their bands will be of silver.
11 “And likewise for the north side in length there will be curtains of one hundred cubits long, and its twenty pillars and its twenty sockets of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their bands of silver.
12 ¶ “And for the breadth of the court on the west side there will be curtains of fifty cubits with their ten pillars and their ten sockets.
13 “And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward will be fifty cubits.
14 “The curtains of one side of the gate will be fifteen cubits with their three pillars and their three sockets.
15 “And on the other side will be curtains fifteen cubits with their three pillars and their three sockets.
16 ¶ “And for the gate of the court there will be a curtain of twenty cubits of blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twined linen, the work of a weaver, with their four pillars and their four sockets.
17 “All the pillars around the court will be filleted with silver. Their hooks will be of silver and their sockets of bronze.
18 “The length of the court will be one hundred cubits and the width fifty throughout, and the height five cubits of fine twined linen and their sockets of bronze.
19 “All the vessels of the tabernacle in all its service and all its pegs, and all the pegs of the court, will be of bronze.

Oil for the Lampstand
20 ¶ “And you will command the children of Israel that they bring you for the light pure oil of pressed olives, to make the lamp to burn continually.
21 “In the tabernacle of the assembly outside the veil that is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons will order it from evening to morning before the LORD. It will be a perpetual statute throughout their generations on behalf of the children of Israel.

Chapter 28
The Priest’s Garments
1 ¶ “Now take Aaron your brother and his sons with him from among the children of Israel so that he may minister to Me in the priest’s office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron’s sons.
2 “And you will make holy garments for Aaron your brother for glory and for beauty.
3 “And you will speak to all who are wise hearted whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom so that they may make Aaron’s garments to consecrate him, so that he may minister to Me in the priest’s office.
4 “And these are the garments that they will make: a breastplate and an ephod and a robe and a broidered tunic, a turban and a sash.
5 “And they will make it of gold, blue and purple and scarlet material, and of fine twined linen.

The Ephod
6 “And they will make it of gold, blue and purple and scarlet material, and of fine twined linen, with a skillful craftsman.
7 “It will have the two shoulder pieces joined at its two edges so that it will be joined together.
8 “And the skillfully woven band of the ephod...
that is on it will be of the same material, according to its work, even of gold, blue and purple and scarlet material, and fine twined linen.

9 “Then you will take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the children of Israel,
10 six of their names on one stone and the other six names of the rest on the other stone, according to their birth.
11 “With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, you will engrave the two stones with the names of the children of Israel. You will set them in settings of gold.
12 “Then you will put the two stones on the shoulders of the ephod for stones of memorial to the children of Israel. And Aaron will bear their names before the LORD on his two shoulders for a memorial.
13 “And you will make settings of gold,
14 and two chains of pure gold at the ends. You will make them of braided work and fasten the braided chains to the settings.

The Breastplate

15 ¶ “And you will make the breastplate of judgment by the work of a skillful craftsman. You will make it after the work of the ephod. You will make it of gold, blue and purple and scarlet material and of fine twined linen.
16 It will be square and folded double, a span in length and a span in width.
17 ¶ “And you will set in it four rows of stones. The first row will be a sardius, a topaz and an emerald.
18 “And the second row will be an emerald, a sapphire and a diamond.
19 “And the third row a jacinth, an agate and an amethyst.
20 “And the fourth row a beryl and an onyx and a jasper. They will be set in gold in their settings.
21 “And the stones will have the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each according to his name for the twelve tribes.
22 ¶ “For the breastplate you will make braided chains of pure gold, like a chain.
23 “And you will make on the breastplate two rings of gold. And you will put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate.
24 “And you will put the two braided chains of gold in the two rings that are on the ends of the breastplate.
25 “And the other two ends of the two braided chains you will fasten in the two settings, and put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod before it.
26 ¶ “And you will make two rings of gold. And you will put them on the two ends of the breastplate in its border that is in the inner side of the ephod.
27 “And you will make two other rings of gold and put them on the bottom of the two sides of the ephod, on the front of it close to the place where it is joined, above the skillfully woven band of the ephod.
28 “And they will bind the breastplate by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a cord of blue so that it may be above the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate not come loose from the ephod.
29 “And Aaron will bear the names of the children of Israel on the breastplate of judgment on his heart when he goes into the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually.
30 “And you will put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim. And they will be on Aaron’s heart when he goes in before the LORD. And Aaron will continually bear the judgment of the children of Israel on his heart before the LORD.

Various Priestly Garments

31 ¶ “And you will make the robe of the ephod all of blue.
32 “And there will be a hole in the top of it, in its middle. It will have a binding of woven work around its opening, like the opening of a coat of mail, so that it not be torn.
33 ¶ “And beneath on the hem of it you will make pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet material around its hem, and bells of gold between them all around;
34 “a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, all around on the hem of the robe. 
35 “And it will be on Aaron when he ministers. And his sound will be heard when he goes into the holy place before the LORD and when he comes out, so that he not die. 
36 ¶ “And you will make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it like the engravings of a signet, ‘Holy to the LORD.’ 
37 “And you will put it on a blue lace so that it may be on the forehead. It will be on the forehead of the turban. 
38 “And it will be on Aaron’s forehead so that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things that the children of Israel will hallow in all their holy gifts. And it will be always on his forehead so that they may be accepted before the LORD. 
39 ¶ “And you will embroider the coat of fine linen, and you will make the turban of fine linen, and you will make the sash of needlework. 
40 ¶ “And for Aaron’s sons you will make coats. And you will make for them sashes and caps for glory and for beauty. 
41 “And you will put them on Aaron your brother and his sons with him. And you will anoint them and consecrate them and sanctify them so that they may minister to Me in the priest’s office. 
42 “And you will make for them linen trousers to cover their nakedness. They will reach from the loins even to the thighs. 
43 “And they will be on Aaron and on his sons when they come into the tabernacle of the assembly, or when they come near to the altar to minister in the holy place so that they not bear iniquity and die. It will be a statute forever to him and his seed after him.

Chapter 29

Consecration of the Priests

1 ¶ “And this is the thing that you will do to them to consecrate them to minister to Me in the priest’s office. aTake one young bull and two rams without blemish,

2 “and b unleavened bread, and unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil. You will make them of wheat flour. 
3 “And you will put them in one basket and bring them in the basket with the bull and the two rams. 
4 “And you will bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly and wash them with water. 
5 “And you will take the garments and put on Aaron the coat and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the breastplate, and gird him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod. 
6 ¶ “And you will put the turban on his head and put the holy crown on the turban. 
7 “Then you will take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. 
8 “And you will bring his sons and put tunics on them. 
9 “Then you will gird them with sashes, Aaron and his sons, and put the caps on them. And the priest’s office will be theirs for a perpetual statute. And you will consecrate Aaron and his sons. 
10 ¶ “Then you will have a bull brought before the tabernacle of the assembly. And Aaron and his sons will put their hands on the head of the bull. 
11 “Then you will kill the bull before the LORD, by the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. 
12 “Now you will take of the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar. 
13 “Then you will take all the fat that covers the entrails and the lobe of the liver and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and burn them on the altar. 
14 “But the flesh of the bull and its skin and its dung, you will burn with fire outside the camp. It is a sin offering. 
15 ¶ “You will also take one ram, and Aaron and his sons will put their hands on the head of the ram. 
16 “Then you will slay the ram. And you will
take its blood and 'sprinkle it around on the altar.

17 “Then you will cut the ram in pieces and wash its entrails and its legs, and put them with its pieces and its head.

18 “And you will burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a 'burnt offering to the LORD. It is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD.

19 ¶ “And you will take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons will put their hands on the head of the ram.

20 “Then you will kill the ram and take some of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron and on the tip of the right ear of his sons and on the thumb of their right hand and on the great toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood around on the altar.

21 “And you will take of the blood that is on the altar and some of the “anointing oil, and sprinkle it on Aaron and on his garments and on his sons and on the garments of his sons with him. And he will be consecrated, as well as his garments and his sons and his sons’ garments with him.

22 “You also will take of the ram the fat and the rump and the fat that covers the entrails and the lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and the right thigh (for it is a ram of consecration),

23 “and one loaf of bread and one cake of oiled bread and one wafer out of the basket of the unleavened bread that is before the LORD; and you will put all these in the hands of Aaron and in the hands of his sons. And you will wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.

24 ¶ “Then you will take them from their hands and burn them on the altar for a burnt offering, for a sweet aroma before the LORD. It is an offering made by fire to the LORD.

26 “And you will take the ‘breast of the ram of Aaron’s consecration and wave it for a wave offering before the LORD. And it will be your portion.

27 “And you will sanctify the ‘breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the heave offering which is waved and that is offered up from the ram of the consecration, even of that which is for Aaron and from the one that is for his sons.

28 “And it will be Aaron’s and his sons’ by a statute forever from the children of Israel, for it is a heave offering. And it will be a heave offering from the children of Israel of the sacrifice of their peace offerings, even their heave offering to the LORD.

29 ¶ “And the ‘holy garments of Aaron ‘will be his sons’ after him, so that in them they may be anointed and consecrated.

30 ¶ “And that son who is priest in his place will put them on seven days when he comes into the tabernacle of the assembly to minister in the holy place.

31 ¶ “And you will take the ram of the consecration and ‘boil its flesh in the holy place.

32 “And Aaron and his sons will eat the flesh of the ram and the ‘bread that is in the basket by the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

33 ¶ “And they will eat those things by which the atonement was made in order to consecrate and to sanctify them. But foreigners will not eat from it because they are holy.

34 “And if any of the meat of the consecrations or of the bread remains until the morning, then you will burn the remainder with fire. It will not be eaten because it is holy.

35 ¶ “And thus you will do to Aaron and to his sons, according to all things that I have commanded you. You will consecrate them throughout seven days.

36 “And you will offer every day a bull for a sin offering for atonement. And you will cleanse the altar when you have made atonement for it. And you will anoint it to sanctify it.

37 “Seven days you will make atonement for the altar and sanctify it. And it will be an altar most holy. Whatever touches the altar will be holy.

38 ¶ “Now this is what you will offer on the altar: two one-year old lambs ‘each day, continually.

39 “The one lamb you will offer in the morn-
and the other lamb you will offer at evening;
40 “and with the one lamb one-tenth of an ephah of flour mingled with one-fourth part of a hin of beaten oil, and one-fourth part of a hin of wine for a drink offering.
41 “And the other lamb you will offer at evening. And you will do with it according to the meat offering of the morning and according to the drink offering, for a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD.
42 “This will be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly before the LORD. There I will meet you, to speak to you there.
43 “And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle will be sanctified by My glory.
44 “And I will sanctify the tabernacle of the assembly and the altar. I will also sanctify Aaron and his sons to minister to Me in the priest’s office.
45 “And I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God.
46 “And they will know that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt so that I may dwell among them. I am the LORD their God.

Chapter 30

The Altar of Incense

1 ¶ “And you will make an altar of acacia wood on which to burn incense.
2 “It will be a cubit long and a cubit wide. It will be square. And its height will be two cubits. Its horns will be of the same piece.
3 “Then you will overlay it with pure gold, its top and its sides all around, and its horns. And you will make a gold molding all around for it.
4 “Then you will make two golden rings for it under its molding. You will make them on its two side walls, two on opposite sides. And they will be holders for poles with which to carry it.
5 “And you will make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold.
6 “Then you will put it before the veil that is by the ark of the testimony, before the ‘mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with you.
7 “And Aaron will burn on it fragrant incense every morning. When he trims the lamps, he will burn incense on it.
8 “And when Aaron lights the lamps at evening, he will burn incense on it as a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.
9 “You will offer no strange incense on it, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering. Neither will you pour a drink offering on it.
10 “And Aaron will make atonement on its horns once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements. Once in the year he will make atonement on it throughout your generations. It is most holy to the LORD.”

Atonement Money

11 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
12 “When you take the census of the children of Israel after their number, then each man will give a ransom for his soul to the LORD when you number them so that there be no plague among them when you number them.
13 “This is what everyone who is numbered will give: half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary (a shekel is twenty gerahs), half a shekel will be an offering to the LORD.
14 “Every man included among those who are numbered, from twenty years old and above, will give an offering to the Lord.
15 “The rich will not give more and the poor will not give less than half a shekel when they give an offering to the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls.
16 “And you will take the atonement money of the children of Israel and will appoint it for the service of the tabernacle of the assembly so that it may be a memorial to the children of Israel before the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls.”

Vessels for Washing

17 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
18 “You will also make a laver of bronze,
and its foot also of bronze, for washing. And you will put it between the tabernacle of the assembly and the altar, and you will put water in it.

19 “For Aaron and his sons will wash their hands and their feet in it.

20 “When they go into the tabernacle of the assembly they will wash with water so that they do not die, or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD.

21 “So they will wash their hands and their feet so that they do not die. And it will be a statute forever for them, for him and for his seed throughout their generations.”

**Anointing Oil**

22 ¶ Furthermore, the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

23 “Take also for yourself quality spices—five hundred shekels of pure myrrh, and half as much sweet-smelling cinnamon (250 shekels), and 250 shekels of sweet-smelling cane,

24 “and 500 shekels of cassia, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, and a hin of olive oil.

25 “And you will make it an oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the perfumer. It will be a holy anointing oil.

26 ¶“And you will anoint the tabernacle of the assembly with it and the ark of the testimony, and the table and all its utensils, and the candlestick and its utensils, and the altar of incense,

27 “and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its stand.

28 “Then you will sanctify them so that they may be most holy. bWhatever touches them will be holy.

29 “And you will anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them so that they may minister to Me in the priest’s office.

30 ¶“And you will speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘This will be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations.

31 ¶“Do not pour it on man’s flesh. Neither will you make any other like it, after the composition of it. dIt is holy and it will be holy to you.

32 ¶“Whoever will mix anything like it, or whoever puts any of it on a foreigner, e will be cut off from his people.’”

**Incense**

34 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, g“Take for yourself sweet spices, stacte and onycha and galbanum, sweet spices with pure frankincense. There will be an equal portion of each.

35 ¶“And you will make a perfume, a compound b after the art of a perfumer. It is to be salted and pure and sacred.

36 ¶“Then you will beat some of it very fine and put part of it before the testimony in the tabernacle of the assembly where I will meet with you. lIt will be to you most holy.

37 ¶“And as for the perfume that you will make, kyou will not make for yourselves according to the composition of it. It will be to you holy for the LORD.

38 b“Whoever will make anything like it, to use as perfume, will be cut off from his people.”

**Chapter 31**

**Bezaleel and Aholiab**

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.

3 ¶“And I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom and in understanding and in all knowledge and in all manner of workmanship,

4 “to make artistic designs, to work in gold and in silver and in bronze,

5 “and in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

6 ¶“And behold, I have appointed with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. And in the hearts of all who are skilled I have put wisdom so that they may make all that I have commanded you;

7 ¶“the tabernacle of the meeting, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furniture of the tabernacle,

8 ¶“and the table and its furniture, and the pure gold lampstand with all its furniture, and the
altar of incense,
9 k“and the altar of burnt offering with all its furniture, and the l‘laver and its stand,
10 m‘and the garments for service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons to minister in the priest’s office,
11 n‘and the anointing oil, and o‘sweet incense for the holy place; according to all that I have commanded you they will do.”

The Sabbath
12 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
13 “Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, p‘Surely My Sabbaths you will keep. For
it qis a sign between Me and you throughout your generations so that you rmay know that I am the LORD who s‘sanctifies you.
14 ‘Therefore, you will keep the Sabbath, for
it tis holy to you. Everyone who defiles it will surely be put to death. For ‘whoever does any work on it, that soul will be cut off from among his people.
15 ‘Six days work may be done. But on the u‘seventh there is a Sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he will surely be put to death.
16 ‘Therefore, the children of Israel will keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.
17 ‘It is a ‘sign between Me and the children of Israel forever. For in v“six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.”
18 ¶ And He gave to Moses w‘two tablets of testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God, when He had made an end of communing with him on Mount Sinai.

Chapter 32

The Golden Calf
1 ¶ Now when the people saw that Moses x‘delayed to come down off the mountain, the people y‘gathered themselves together to Aaron. And they said to him, “Come, make us gods that will z‘go before us, for this Moses, the man w‘brought us up out of the land of Egypt,”
2 Then Aaron said to them, “Take off the \textit{golden earrings that are} on the ears of your wives, of your sons and of your daughters, and bring \textit{them} to me.”
3 So all the people took off the golden earrings that \textit{were} on their ears and brought \textit{them} to Aaron.
4 bAnd he received \textit{this} from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool after he had made it into a molten calf. And they said, “These \textit{are} your gods, O Israel, that b‘brought you up out of the land of Egypt.”
5 Now when Aaron saw \textit{it}, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation, and said, “Tomorrow \textit{is} a feast to the LORD.”
6 So they rose up early the next \textit{day} and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people z‘sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.
7 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, k“Go, get down, for your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have c‘corrupted themselves.
8 “They have turned aside quickly out of the way that m‘I commanded them. They have made for themselves a molten calf and have worshiped it. And they have sacrificed to it and said, ‘‘These \textit{are} your gods, O Israel, that have brought you up out of the land of Egypt.’’
9 Then the LORD said to Moses, o‘I have seen this people, and behold, it \textit{is} a stiffnecked people.
10 “Now therefore, p‘let Me alone so that q‘My wrath may wax hot against them and that I may consume them. And I \textit{will} make of you a great nation.”
11 ¶ ‘Then Moses entreated the LORD his God, and said, “LORD, why does Your wrath wax hot against Your people whom You have brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?
12 “tWhy should the Egyptians speak and say, ‘For mischief He brought them out in order to slay them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from Your fierce wrath and t‘change Your mind from doing this harm against Your people.
13 “Remember Abraham, Isaac and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of I will give to your seed. And they will inherit it forever.’”

14 So the LORD changed His mind of the harm that He said He would do to His people.

15 ¶ Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain. And the two tablets of the testimony were in his hand. The tablets were written on both their sides. They were written on the one side and on the other.

16 Now the tablets were the work of God. And the writing was the writing of God, graven on the tablets.

17 So when Joshua heard the sound of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, “There is a sound of war in the camp.”

18 And he said, “It is not the voice of those who shout for triumph, nor is it the voice of those who cry for being overcome. But I hear the sound of singing.”

19 ¶ Now it came to pass as soon as he came near to the camp that he saw the calf and the dancing. And Moses’ anger waxed hot. And he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them beneath the mountain.

20 ¶ Then he took the calf that they had made and burned it in the fire and ground it to powder. And he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.

21 Then Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you, that you have brought so great a sin on themselves?”

22 And Aaron said, “Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. aYou know the people, that they are prone to evil.

23 “For they said to me, ‘Make us gods that will go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’

24 “Then I said to them, ‘Whoever has any gold, let them take it off.’ So they gave it to me. Then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.”

25 ¶ Now when Moses saw that the people were out of control—for Aaron had not con-
trolled them to their shame among their en-
emies—

26 then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, “Who is on the LORD’S side? Let him come to me.” And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.

27 Then he said to them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Put every man his sword by his side and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp and slay every man his brother and every man his companion and every man his neighborhood.’”

28 So the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.

29 ¶ Then Moses said, “Dedicate yourselves today to the LORD—for every man has been against his own son and his own brother—in order that He may bestow a blessing on you this day.”

30 ¶ Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the LORD. Perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.”

31 So Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Oh, this people have sinned a great sin and have made for themselves gods of gold.

32 “Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—and if not, 3bblot me, I pray you, out of Your book that You have written.”

33 Then the LORD said to Moses, ¶“Whoever has sinned against Me, him I will blot out of My book.

34 “Therefore, go now. Lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you. Behold, My Angel will go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I punish, I will punish them for their sin.”

35 ¶ And the LORD plagued the people because they made the calf that Aaron made.

Chapter 33

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Depart, and go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land that I swore to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, saying, ¶“To your seed I will give it.”
2 “And I will send an angel before you. And I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite.

3 “Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey, for I will not go up in the midst of you because you are a stiffnecked people, and I might consume you on the way.”

4 Now when the people heard these sad tidings, they mourned. And no man put on his ornaments.

5 For the LORD had said to Moses, “Say to the children of Israel, ‘You are a stiffnecked people. I will come up into the midst of you in a moment and consume you. Now therefore, put off your ornaments from you so that I may know what to do with you.’”

6 So the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by Mount Horeb.

7 Then Moses took the tabernacle and pitched it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp. And he called it the tabernacle of the assembly. And it came to pass every one who sought the LORD went out to the tabernacle of the assembly that was outside the camp.

8 Now it came to pass when Moses went out to the tabernacle that all the people rose up and every man stood at his tent door. And they gazed at Moses until he had gone into the tabernacle.

9 Now it came to pass as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle. And the LORD talked with Moses.

10 When all the people saw the pillar of cloud stand at the tabernacle door, all the people rose up and worshiped, every man in his tent door.

11 Now the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When he returned again into the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart out of the tabernacle.

12 ¶ Then Moses said to the LORD, “See, ‘You say to me, ‘Bring up this people.’ But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, “I know you by name and you have also found grace in My sight.”

13 “Now therefore, I ask You, ‘if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way so that I may know You, that I may find grace in Your sight and consider that this nation is Your people.”

14 And He said, “My presence will go with you and I will give you rest.”

15 Then he said to Him, “If Your presence does not go with me, do not carry us up from here.

16 “For how will it be known that I and Your people have found grace in Your sight? Is it not by Your going with us so that we are separated, I and Your people, from all the people who are on the face of the earth?”

17 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will do this thing also that you have spoken. For you have found grace in My sight and I know you by name.

18 And he said, “I beseech You. Show me Your glory.”

19 Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.”

20 But He said, “You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live.”

21 Then the LORD said, “Behold, there is a place by Me, and you will stand there on a rock.

22 “And it will come to pass while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the clef of the rock and will cover you with My hand while I pass by.

23 “And I will take away My hand and you will see My back. But My face will not be seen.”

Chapter 34

New Tablets of Stone

1 ¶ Now the LORD said to Moses, “Cut out
two tablets of stone like the first, and b I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke.
2 “And be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai and present yourself there to Me on the ‘top of the mountain.
3 “And no man will dcome up with you. Do not let any man be seen throughout all the mountain. Do not let the flocks or herds feed in front of the mountain.”
4 ¶ So he cut two tablets of stone like the first. And Moses rose up early in the morning and went up to Mount Sinai as the LORD had commanded him. And he took in his hand the two tablets of stone.
5 Then the LORD descended in the ecloud and stood with him there. And he fcalled on the name of the LORD.
6 And the LORD passed by before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, The gLORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in hgoodness and itruth,
7 j “keeping mercy for thousands, kforgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and who will lby no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and on the grandchildren, to the third and to the fourth generations.”
8 And Moses made haste and mbowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.
9 And he said, “If now I have found grace in your sight, O Lord, let My Lord, nI pray you, go among us, for this is o stiffnecked people,
10 nand pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for Your oinheritance.”
11 ¶ Then He said, “Behold, I am going to make a covenant. Before all your people I will pdo marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation. And all the people among whom you will see the work of the LORD. For it is qaawesome thing that I will do with you.
12 “Observe what I command you this day. Behold, qa I am going to drive out before you the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.
13 “Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which you are going, lest it be for a snare in your midst.
14 “But you will wdestroy their altars, break their images and xcut down their groves.
15 ¶ “Do not worship any other god, for the hLORD whose cname is Jealous, is a fjealous God.
16 “Be careful not to make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, for when they yprostitute themselves after their gods and sacrifice to their gods, zthey will call you to z eat of their sacrifice.
17 ¶ “You will make for yourselves no molten gods.
18 ¶ “You will keep the feast of h unleavened bread. You will eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you in the appointed time of the month of Abib. For in the month of Abib you came out of Egypt.
19 ¶ “The first offspring of every womb belongs to Me, including all the firstborn males of your livestock, whether from herd or flock.
20 ¶ “But the kfirstborn of a donkey you will redeem with a lamb. And if you do not redeem it, then you will break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you will redeem. And no one will appear before Me lempty-handed.
21 ¶ m “Six days you will work. But on the seventh day you will rest. You will rest in plowing time and in harvest.
22 ¶ “And you will observe the feast of weeks with the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the end of the year.
23 ¶ “Three times in the year all your males will appear before the Lord GOD, the God of Israel.
24 ¶ “For I will wcast out the nations before you, and enlarge your borders. Neither will any man
covet your land when you will go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year.

25 ¶ “You will not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leaven. Neither will the sacrifice of the feast of the Passover be left until the morning.

26 ¶ “The first of the firstfruits of your land you will bring to the house of the LORD your God. You will not boil a kid in his mother’s milk.”

27 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write these words, for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.”

28 So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights. He did not eat bread or drink water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

Glow of Moses’ Face

29 ¶ Now it came to pass when Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the “two tablets of testimony in Moses’ hand, when he came down from the mountain, that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him.

30 And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone. And they were afraid to come near him.

31 Then Moses called to them. And Aaron and all the rulers of the assembly returned to him. And Moses talked with them.

32 Then afterward all the children of Israel came near. And he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

33 And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.

34 But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he took the veil off until he came out. And he came out and spoke to the children of Israel what he was commanded.

35 And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses’ face shone. And Moses put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with Him.

Chapter 35

Sabbath Restrictions

1 ¶ Then Moses gathered all the assembly of the children of Israel together. And he said to them, ¶ “These are the words that the LORD has commanded, that you should do them.

2 ¶ “Six days will work be done. But on the seventh day there will be to you a holy day, a Sabbath of rest to the LORD. Whoever does work on it will be put to death.

3 ¶ “You will kindle no fire throughout your dwellings on the Sabbath day.”

Materials for the Tabernacle

4 ¶ So Moses spoke to all the assembly of the children of Israel, saying, ¶ “This is the thing that the LORD commanded, saying,

5 ¶ “Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering of the LORD: gold and silver and bronze

6 ¶ and blue and purple and scarlet material and fine linen and goat hair

7 ¶ and ram skins dyed red and badger skins and acacia wood

8 ¶ and oil for the light and spices for anointing oil and for the sweet incense,

9 ¶ and onyx stones and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate.

10 ¶ ¶ And every wise hearted person among you come and make all that the LORD has commanded:

11 ¶ the tabernacle, its tent and its covering, its hooks and its boards, its bars, its pillars and its sockets,

12 ¶ the ark and its poles, with the mercy seat and the veil of the covering,

13 ¶ the table and its poles and all its vessels, and the showbread,

14 ¶ the lampstand also for the light and its furniture and its lamps, with the oil for the light,

15 ¶ and the incense altar and its poles, and the anointing oil and the sweet incense, and the curtain for the door at the entrance of the tabernacle,
16 "the altar of burnt offering, with its brazen grate, its poles and all its vessels, the laver and its foot,
17 "the curtains of the court, its pillars and their sockets, and the curtain for the door of the court,
18 "the pins of the tabernacle and the pins of the court, and their cords,
19 "the garments for service to do service in the holy place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons to minister in the priest’s office."

20 ¶ Then all the assembly of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses.
21 And everyone came whose heart was stirred up, and everyone whose spirit made him willing. They brought the LORD’S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the assembly, and for all its service and for the holy garments.
22 Then they came, both men and women, as many as had a willing heart. They brought bracelets and earrings and rings and tablets, all jewels of gold. And so did every man who offered an offering of gold to the LORD.
23 So every man with whom was found blue and purple and scarlet material and fine linen, and goat hair and red skins of rams and badger skins, bought them.
24 Everyone who offered an offering of silver and bronze, brought the Lord’s offering. And every man with whom was found acacia wood for any work of the service, brought it.
25 And all the women who were skillful spun with their hands and brought what they had spun, both of blue and of purple and of scarlet material and of fine linen.
26 And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun goat hair.
27 And the rulers brought onyx stones and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate,
28 and spice and oil for the light and for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense.
29 The children of Israel brought a willing offering to the LORD, every man and woman whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work that the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 36
1 ¶ Then Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every skillful person in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the sanctuary, will perform according to all that the LORD has commanded.”
2 ¶ Then Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every skillful person in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work.
3 And they received from Moses all the offering that the children of Israel had brought for the work of the sanctuary. And they continued to bring free offerings to him every morning.
4 And all the wise men who were performing all the work of the sanctuary came, every man from his work that he made.
5 And they spoke to Moses, saying,"The people bring more than enough for the construction work that the LORD commanded us to make.”
6 Then Moses gave commandment and they
caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, “Let neither man nor woman make anymore work for the offering of the sanctuary.” So the people were restrained from bringing more.

7 For the material they had was more than sufficient for all the work to make it.

_The Tabernacle_

8 ¶ And every skillful man among them who performed the work of the tabernacle made ten curtains of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet material, with cherubim of skillful craftsmen.

9 The length of one curtain was twenty-eight cubits, and the width of one curtain four cubits. The curtains were all of one size.

10 And he joined the five curtains to one another. And the other five curtains he also joined to one another.

11 Then he made loops of blue on the edge of one curtain from the selvedge in the coupling. He made the same in the outer edge of the other curtain of the second set.

12 ¶ He made fifty loops in one curtain, and he made fifty loops in the edge of the curtain that was in the coupling of the second. The loops held one curtain to another.

13 And he made fifty clasps of gold and coupled the curtains to one another with the clasps. So it became one tabernacle.

14 ¶ And he made curtains of goat hair for the tent over the tabernacle. He made eleven curtains.

15 The length of one curtain was thirty cubits, and four cubits was the width of one curtain. The eleven curtains were of one size.

16 And he joined five curtains by themselves and six curtains by themselves.

17 And he made fifty loops on the uttermost edge of the curtain in the coupling, and he made fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that joined the second.

18 Then he made fifty clasps of bronze to join the tent together so that it might be one.

19 And he made a covering for the tent of ram skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers’ skins above that.

20 ¶ Then he made boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright.

21 The length of a board was ten cubits and the width of each board was one and a half cubits.

22 One board had two tenons, equally distant from one another. Thus he did for all the boards of the tabernacle.

23 And he made boards for the tabernacle: twenty boards for the south side southward;

24 and he made forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for its two tenons and two sockets under another board for its two tenons.

25 And for the other side of the tabernacle, which is toward the north corner, he made twenty boards,

26 and their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.

27 Then for the sides of the tabernacle westward, he made six boards.

28 And he made two boards for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides.

29 And they were joined beneath and joined together at the head of it to one ring. Thus he did to both of them in both the corners.

30 And there were eight boards. And their sockets were sixteen sockets of silver, under every board two sockets.

31 ¶ Then he made bars of acacia wood, five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,

32 and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the tabernacle for the westward sides.

33 And he made the middle bar to pass through the boards from one end to the other.

34 And he overlaid the boards with gold, and made their rings of gold to be places for the bars, and overlaid the bars with gold.

35 ¶ Then he made a veil of blue and purple and scarlet material, and fine twined linen.

36 And he made for it four pillars of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold. Their hooks were of gold, and he cast them for them four sockets of silver.
37 And he made a pcurtain for the tabernacle door of blue and purple and scarlet material, and fine twined linen of needlework.
38 And he made the five pillars of it with their hooks. And he overlaid their tops and their bands with gold. But their five sockets were of bronze.

Chapter 37
The Ark
1 ¶ So Bezaleel made the bark of acacia wood. Its length was two and a half cubits and its width was one and a half cubits. And its height was one and a half cubits.
2 And he overlaid it with pure gold inside and outside. And he made a molding of gold all around it.
3 Then he cast for it four rings of gold to be set by its four corners, even two rings on the one side of it and two rings on the other side of it.
4 And he made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.
5 And he put the poles into the rings by the sides of the ark in order to carry the ark.
6 And he made the mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.
7 And on the two ends of the mercy seat he made two cherubim that were beaten out of one piece of gold.
8 There was one cherub on the end on this side and another cherub on the other end on that side. He made the cherubim at the two ends of one piece with the mercy seat.
9 And the cherubim spread out their wings on high and covered with their wings over the mercy seat, with their faces toward one another. The faces of the cherubim were toward the mercy seat.
10 ¶ And he made the table of acacia wood, two cubits long and a cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.
11 And he overlaid it with pure gold, and made a crown of gold for it all around it.
12 He also made for it a border of a bandwidth all around. And he made a crown of gold for its border all around.

The Lampstand
17 ¶ And he made the lampstand of pure gold. He made the lampstand of hammered work, its base and its branch, its cups, its knobs and its flowers, were of the same piece.
18 There were six branches going out of the sides of it. Three branches of the lampstand went out of the one side of it and three branches of the lampstand went out of the other side of it.
19 Three cups were made after the fashion of almonds in one branch, a knob and a flower. And three cups were made like almonds on another branch, a knob and a flower. So the six branches were extending from the lampstand.
20 And in the lampstand were four cups made like almonds, its knobs and its flowers;
21 and a knob under two branches of the same, and a knob under two branches of the same, and a knob under two branches of the same, according to the six branches extending out from it.
22 Their knobs and their branches were of the same. All of it was of one hammered piece of pure gold.
23 And he made its seven lamps and its snuffers and its snuffdishes of pure gold.
24 He made it from a talent of pure gold, and all its vessels.

The Altar of Incense
25 ¶ And he made the incense altar of acacia wood. The length of it was a cubit and the width of it a cubit. It was square. It was two
cubits high. Its horns were of the same.

26 And he overlaid it with pure gold, both the top of it and its sides all around, and its horns. He also made for it a crown of gold all around.

27 And he made two rings of gold for it under its crown, by the two corners of it, on its two sides, to be places for the poles to carry it.

28 And he made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.

29 ¶ And he made the holy anointing oil and the pure incense of fragrant spices according to the work of a perfumer.

Chapter 38

The Altar of Burnt Offerings

1 ¶ Then he made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood. Five cubits was its length and five cubits was its breadth. It was square. And it was three cubits high.

2 And he made its horns on its four corners. Its horns were of the same piece. And he overlaid it with bronze.

3 And he made all the vessels of the altar, the pots and the shovels and the basins and the meat hooks and the firepans. He made all its vessels of bronze.

4 And he made for the altar a brazen grate of network under its rim, midway from the bottom.

5 And he cast four rings for the four ends of the grate of bronze to be holders for the poles.

6 And he made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with bronze.

7 And he put the poles into the rings on the sides of the altar in order to carry it. He made the altar hollow with boards.

The Laver

8 ¶ And he made the laver of bronze and its foot of bronze, from the mirrors of the serving women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

The Courtyard

9 ¶ Then he made the court. On the south side southward the curtains of the court were of fine twined linen, one hundred cubits.

10 Their twenty pillars and their twenty sockets were made of bronze. The hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

11 And on the north side the curtains were one hundred cubits. Their twenty pillars and their twenty sockets were of bronze. The hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

12 And for the west side were curtains of fifty cubits, with their ten pillars and their ten sockets. The hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

13 And for the east side eastward fifty cubits.

14 The curtains of the one side of the gate were fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and their three sockets.

15 And for the other side of the court gate, on this hand and that hand, were curtains of fifteen cubits with their three pillars and their three sockets.

16 All the curtains of the court all around were of fine twined linen.

17 And the sockets for the pillars were of bronze. The hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver and the overlying of their tops of silver. And all the pillars of the court had bands of silver.

18 And the curtain for the gate of the court was needlework of blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twined linen. And its length was twenty cubits and the height was five cubits, corresponding to the curtains of the court.

19 And their four pillars and their four sockets were of bronze. Their hooks were of silver and the overlying of their tops and their fillets were of silver.

20 And all the pegs of the tabernacle and of the court all around were of bronze.

Materials of the Tabernacle

21 ¶ This is the inventory of the tabernacle, even of the tabernacle of testimony, as it was counted according to the commandment of Moses, for the service of the Levites by the hand of Ithamar, son to Aaron the priest.

22 And Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the
LORD commanded Moses.

23 And with him was Aholaib, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver and a skillful craftsman, and an embroiderer in blue and in purple and in scarlet material and fine linen.

24 All the gold that was used for the work in all the work of the holy place, even the gold of the offering, was twenty-nine talents and 730 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary.

25 And the silver of those who were numbered of the assembly was one hundred talents and 1,775 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary; and a bekah for everyone, that is, half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary for everyone who went to be numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for 603,550 men.

27 And from the hundred talents of silver were cast the sockets of the sanctuary and the sockets of the veil: one hundred sockets for the hundred talents, a talent for a socket.

28 And of the 1,775 shekels he made hooks for the pillars and overlaid their tops and made bands for them.

29 And the bronze of the offering was seventy talents and 2,400 shekels.

30 And with it he made the sockets of the sanctuary and the sockets of the veil; one hundred sockets for the hundred talents, a talent for a socket.

31 And the bronze of the offering was seventy talents and 2,400 shekels.

Chapter 39

Garments for the Priests

1 And of the blue and purple and scarlet material, they made garments of service to do service in the holy place. And they made the holy garments for Aaron as the LORD commanded Moses.

The Ephod

2 And he made the ephod of gold, blue and purple material and scarlet and fine twined linen.

3 And they hammered the gold into thin plates and cut it into wires in order to work it into the blue and into the purple and into the scarlet material and into the fine linen of a skillful craftsman.

4 They made shoulder straps for it to couple it together. It was coupled together at its two edges.

5 And the skillfully woven band that was on it was like its workmanship, of the same material: of gold and of blue and purple and scarlet material, and fine twined linen, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

6 ¶ And they made onyx stones enclosed in settings of gold, graven as signets are graven, with the names of the children of Israel.

7 And he put them on the shoulders of the ephod so that they should be stones for a memorial to the children of Israel, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

The Breastplate

8 ¶ And he made the breastplate of a skillful craftsman, like the workmanship of the ephod: of gold, blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twined linen.

9 It was square. They made the breastplate double, a span long and a span wide when folded double.

10 Then they set in it four rows of stones. The first row was a sardius, a topaz and an emerald. This was the first row.

11 And the second row was made of an emerald, a sapphire and a diamond.

12 And the third row was made of a ligure, an agate and an amethyst.

13 And the fourth row was made of a beryl, an onyx and a jasper. They were enclosed in settings of gold in their mountings.

14 And the stones were according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each one with its name according to the twelve tribes.

15 Then they made chains on the breastplate at the ends, of braided work of pure gold.
Then they made two settings of gold and two gold rings. And they put the two rings in the two ends of the breastplate.

And the two ends of the two braided chains they fastened in the two settings. And they put them on the shoulder straps of the ephod in front of it.

Then they made two rings of gold and put them on the two ends of the breastplate, on the border of it, that was on the inward side of the ephod.

Then they made two other golden rings and put them on the two sides of the ephod, underneath, toward the front of it, right at the seam above the skillfully woven band of the ephod.

Then they bound the breastplate by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue so that it might be above the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate might not be loosed from the ephod, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Various Priestly Garments

Then he made the robe of the ephod of woven work, all of blue.

And there was a hole in the center of the robe, as the hole of a coat of mail, with a band all around the hole so that it would not tear.

Then they made on the hems of the robe pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet material and twined linen.

Then they made bells of pure gold and put the bells between the pomegranates on the hem of the robe, all around between the pomegranates;

a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate, all around the hem of the robe, to serve in, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Then they made coats of fine linen of woven work for Aaron and for his sons,

and a turban of fine linen and decorated caps of fine linen, and linen trousers of fine twined linen,

and a sash of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet material of needlework, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Then they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold and wrote on it a writing, like the engravings of a signet, “Holy to the LORD.”

And they tied to it a lace of blue in order to fasten it on the turban above, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses Inspects the Tabernacle

Thus was finished all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of the assembly. And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses; so they did.

And they brought the tabernacle to Moses, the tent and all its furniture, its clasps, its boards, its bars and its pillars and its sockets, and the covering of rams’ skins dyed red, and the covering of badger skins, and the veil of the covering,

the ark of the testimony and its poles, and the mercy seat,

the table and all its vessels, and the showbread,

the pure lampstand with its lamps, even with the lamps to be set in order, and all its vessels, and the oil for light,

and the golden altar, and the anointing oil, and the fragrant incense, and the curtains for the tabernacle door,

the brazen altar, and its grate of bronze, its poles, and all its vessels, the laver and its stand,

the curtains of the court, its pillars and its sockets, and the curtains for the court gate, its cords and its pegs, and all the vessels of the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of the assembly,

the garments of service to do service in the holy place, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and his sons’ garments, to minister in the priest’s office.

According to all that the LORD had commanded Moses, so the children of Israel made all the work.

And Moses examined all the work, and
behold, they had done it as the LORD had commanded, even so they did it. And Moses blessed them.

Chapter 40
Setting up of the Tabernacle

1 ¶ Then the LORD aspoke to Moses, saying,
2 “On the first day of the first month you will set up the tabernacle of the tent of the assembly.
3 And you will put in it the ark of the testimony and cover the ark with the veil.
4 Then you will bring in the table and set in order the things that are to be set in order on it. And you will bring in the lampstand and light its lamps.
5 Then you will set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the testimony and put on the curtain of the door to the tabernacle.
6 Then you will set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.
7 Then you will set the laver between the tent of the assembly and the altar, and put water in it.
8 Then you will set up the court all around and hang up the curtain at the court gate.
9 Then you will take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it. And you will consecrate it and all its vessels. And it will be holy.
10 Then you will anoint the altar of the burnt offering and all its vessels, and sanctify the altar. And it will be an altar most holy.
11 Then you will anoint the laver and its stand and sanctify it.
12 Then you will bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly and wash them with water.
13 And you will put on Aaron the holy garments and anoint him and sanctify him so that he may minister to Me in the priest’s office.
14 Then you will bring his sons and clothe them with coats.
15 And you will anoint them as you anointed their father so that they may minister to Me in the priest’s office. For their anointing will surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.”

16 Thus did Moses, according to all that the LORD commanded him, so he did.

17 ¶ Now it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was erected.
18 So Moses erected the tabernacle and fastened its sockets and set up its boards and put in its bars and erected its pillars.
19 Then he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent on top of it, as the LORD commanded Moses.
20 Then he took the testimony and put it in the ark and attached the poles to the ark. And he put the mercy seat on top of the ark.
21 Then he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the covering and covered the ark of the testimony, as the LORD commanded Moses.
22 Then he put the table in the tent of the assembly on the side of the tabernacle northward, outside the veil.
23 Then he set the bread in order on it before the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.
24 Then he put the lampstand in the tent of the assembly, opposite the table, on the south side of the tabernacle.
25 Then he lit the lamps before the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.
26 Then he put the golden altar in the tent of the assembly before the veil.
27 And he burned fragrant incense on it, as the LORD commanded Moses.
28 Then he set up the curtain at the door of the tabernacle.
29 And he put the altar of burnt offering by the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the assembly and offered on it the burnt offering and the meat offering, as the LORD commanded Moses.
30 Then he set the laver between the tent of the assembly and the altar, and put water there for washing.
31 And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet.
32 When they went into the tent of the assembly and when they came near to the altar, they washed, as the LORD commanded Moses.
33 Then he erected the court all around the tabernacle and the altar. And he set up the curtains of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.

The Glory of the Lord
34 ¶ Then a cloud covered the tent of the assembly and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.
35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the assembly because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.
36 Now when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel set out on all their journeys.
37 But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey until the day that it was taken up.
38 For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day and fire was on it by night in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

LEVITICUS

Chapter 1
The Burnt Offering
1 ¶ And the LORD called to Moses and spoke to him about of the tabernacle of the assembly, saying,
2 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, If any man of you brings an offering to the LORD, you will bring your offering of the livestock, even of the herd and of the flock.
3 If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish. He will offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly before the LORD.
4 And he will lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted for him to make atonement for him.
5 Then he will kill the bull before the LORD. And the priests, Aaron’s sons, will bring the blood and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.
6 And he will skin the burnt offering and cut it into pieces.
7 And the sons of Aaron the priest will put fire on the altar and lay the wood in order on the fire.
8 Then the priests, Aaron’s sons, will lay the parts, the head and the fat, in order on the wood that is on the fire that is on the altar.
9 But its entrails and its legs he will wash in water. And the priest will burn all on the altar, to be a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD.
10 ¶ And if his offering for a burnt sacrifice is of the flocks, namely, of the sheep or of the goats, he will offer a male without blemish.
11 ¶ And he will kill it on the side of the altar northward before the LORD. And the priests, Aaron’s sons, will sprinkle its blood all around on the altar.
12 Then he will cut it into pieces, with its head and its fat. And the priest will lay them in order on the wood that is on the fire that is on the altar.
13 But he will wash the entrails and the legs with water. And the priest will bring it all and burn it on the altar. It is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD.
14 ¶ And if the burnt sacrifice for his offering to the LORD is of birds, then he will bring his offering of turtledoves or of young pigeons.
15 ¶ And the priest will bring it to the altar and wring off its head and burn it on the altar. And its blood will be drained out at the side of the altar.
16 Then he will pluck away its crop with its
feathers and cast it beside the altar on the east side, by the place of the ashes.

17 ‘Then he will tear it by its wings, but will not divide it apart. And the priest will burn it on the altar, on the wood that is on the fire. It is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD.

Chapter 2
The Grain Offering

1 ¶ ‘Now when anyone offers a grain offering to the LORD, his offering will be of fine flour. And he will pour oil on it and put frankincense on it.

2 ‘Then he will bring it to Aaron’s sons the priests. And he will take out of it his handful as its memorial portion on the altar, an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD. And when a priest offers up a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD, his offering will be of fine flour mingled with oil, or unleavened wafers anointed with oil.

3 ‘And the remainder of the grain offering will be Aaron’s and his sons. It is a most holy thing of the offerings to the LORD made by fire.

4 ¶ ‘And if you bring a gift of a grain offering baked in the oven, it will be unleavened cakes of fine flour mingled with oil, or unleavened wafers anointed with oil.

5 ‘And if your gift is a grain offering baked in a pan, it will be of fine flour unleavened, mingled with oil.

6 You will divide it in pieces and pour oil on it. It is a grain offering.

7 ¶ ‘And if your gift is a grain offering baked in the fying pan, it will be made of fine flour with oil.

8 ‘And you will bring the grain offering that is made of these things to the LORD. And when it is presented to the priest, he will bring it to the altar.

9 ‘Then the priest will take from the grain offering a memorial portion and will burn it on the altar. It is an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD.

10 ¶ ‘And what is left of the grain offering will be Aaron’s and his sons. It is a thing most holy of the offerings of the LORD made by fire.

11 ‘No grain offering that you will bring to the LORD will be made with leaven. For you will burn no leaven, nor any honey in any offering of the LORD made by fire.

12 ¶ ‘As for the gift of the firstfruits, you will offer them to the LORD. But they will not be burned on the altar for a fragrant aroma.

13 ‘And you will season with salt every gift of your grain offering. You will not allow the salt of the covenant of your God to be lacking from your grain offering. You will offer salt with all your offerings.

14 ¶ ‘And if you offer a grain offering of your firstfruits to the LORD, you will offer for the grain offering of your firstfruits green ears of corn dried by the fire, even corn beaten out of full ears.

15 ‘And you will put oil on it, and lay frankincense on it. It is a grain offering.

16 ‘And the priest will burn the memorial of it, part of the beaten corn of it, and part of the oil of it, with all the frankincense of it. It is an offering made by fire to the LORD.

Chapter 3
The Peace Offering

1 ¶ ‘And if his gift is a sacrifice of peace offering, if he offers it from the herd, whether it is a male or female, he will offer it without blemish before the LORD.

2 ‘And he will lay his hand on the head of his offering and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. And Aaron’s sons the priests will sprinkle the blood on the altar all around.

3 ‘And he will offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire to the LORD, the fat that covers the entrails, and all the fat that is on the entrails,

4 ‘and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, that is by the loins. And the lobe above the liver, he will remove with the kidneys.

5 ‘And Aaron’s sons will burn it on the altar in the burnt sacrifice, which is on the wood that is on the fire. It is an offering made by fire of a fragrant aroma to the LORD.

6 ¶ ‘And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace
offering to the LORD is of the flock, male or female, he will offer it without blemish. 7 ‘If he offers a lamb for his offering, then he will offer it before the LORD. 8 ‘And he will lay his hand on the head of his offering and kill it before the tabernacle of the assembly. And Aaron’s sons will sprinkle its blood all around on the altar. 9 ‘And he will offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire to the LORD. Its fat and the entire fat tail that he will remove close to the backbone, and the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails,
 10 ‘and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, that is by the flanks, and the lobe above the liver, he will remove with the kidneys. 11 ‘And the priest will burn it on the altar. It is the food of the offering made by fire to the LORD. 12 ‘And if his offering is a goat, then he will offer it before the LORD. 13 ‘And he will lay his hand on its head and kill it before the tabernacle of the assembly. And the sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood on the altar all around. 14 ‘And he will offer of his offering, even an offering made by fire to the LORD, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails,
 15 ‘and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, that is by the flanks, and the lobe above the liver, he will remove with the kidneys. 16 ‘And the priest will burn them on the altar. It is the food of the offering made by fire for a fragrant aroma. All the fat is the LORD’S. 17 ‘It will be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that you eat neither fat nor blood.’”

Chapter 4
The Sin Offering

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, “If a soul unintentionally sins against any of the commandments of the LORD in anything that should not to be done, and does any of them, 3 “if the priest who anointed sins, bringing guilt on the people, then let him bring to the LORD for a sin offering for his sin that he has sinned, a young bull without blemish. 4 ‘And he will bring the bull to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly before the LORD. And he will lay his hand on the bull’s head and kill the bull before the LORD. 5 ‘And the priest who is anointed will take of the bull’s blood and bring it to the tabernacle of the assembly. 6 ‘And the priest will dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle from the blood seven times before the LORD, before the veil of the sanctuary. 7 ‘And the priest will put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense before the LORD that is in the tabernacle of the assembly. And he will pour all the blood of the bull at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering that is at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. 8 ‘And he will take off from it all the fat of the bull for the sin offering, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails,
 9 ‘and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, that is by the flanks, and the lobe above the liver, that he will remove with the kidneys 10 ‘(just as it is removed from the bull of the sacrifice of peace offerings), and the priest will burn them on the altar of the burnt offering. 11 ‘And the skin of the bull and all its meat, with its head, and with its legs and its entrails and its offal,
 12 ‘even the whole bull he will carry forth outside the camp to a clean place where the ashes are poured out, and burn it on the wood with fire. It will be burned where the ashes are poured out. 13 ¶ ‘And if the whole assembly of Israel sin through ignorance, and the thing is hidden from the eyes of the assembly, and they have committed things against any of the commandments of the LORD about things that should not be done, and are guilty; 14 ‘when the sin that they have sinned is known, then the assembly will offer a young
bull for the sin and bring it before the tabernacle of the assembly.
15 ¶ And the elders of the assembly will lay their hands on the head of the bull before the LORD. And the bull will be killed before the LORD.
16 ¶ And the priest who is anointed will bring some of the bull’s blood to the tabernacle of the assembly.

17 ¶ Then the priest will dip his finger in some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is before the LORD, that is in the tabernacle of the assembly. And he will pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt offering, that is at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

18 ¶ Then he will put some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is before the LORD, even before the veil.

19 ¶ Then he will remove all its fat from it and burn it on the altar.

20 ¶ And he will do with the bull as he did with the bull for a sin offering, so he will do with it. And the priest will make atonement for them and they will be forgiven.

21 ¶ Then he will carry forth the bull outside the camp and burn it as he burnt the first bull. It is a sin offering for the assembly.

22 ¶ ¶ When a ruler has sinned and does anything through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD his God about things that should not be done, and is guilty,

23 ¶ ¶ And if his sin, wherein he has sinned come to his knowledge, he will bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish.

24 ¶ And he will lay his hand on the head of the goat and kill it in the place where they killed the burnt offering before the LORD. It is a sin offering.

25 ¶ ¶ And the priest will take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering. And he will pour out its blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt offering.

26 ¶ And he will burn all its fat on the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings. And the priest will make atonement for him concerning his sin, and he will be forgiven.

27 ¶ ¶ And if anyone of the common people sin through ignorance, in doing any of the things that the LORD has commanded not to be done, and he is guilty,

28 ¶ ¶ or if his sin that he has sinned come to his knowledge, then he will bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin that he has sinned.

29 ¶ And he will lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and slay the sin offering in the place of the burnt offering.

30 ¶ And the priest will take of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering. And he will pour out all its blood at the bottom of the altar.

31 ¶ ¶ And he will take away all its fat, as the fat is taken away from off the sacrifice of peace offerings. And the priest will burn it on the altar for a fragrant aroma to the LORD. And the priest will make atonement for him, and it will be forgiven him.

32 ¶ ¶ And if he brings a lamb for a sin offering, he will bring a female without blemish.

33 ¶ And he will lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and slay it for a sin offering in the place where they killed the burnt offering.

34 ¶ And the priest will take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and will pour out all its blood at the bottom of the altar.

35 ¶ And he will take away all its fat, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings. And the priest will burn them on the altar according to the offerings made by fire to the LORD. And the priest will make atonement for his sin that he has committed, and it will be forgiven him.

Chapter 5

1 ¶ ¶ Now if a soul sins because he does not speak up when he hears a public charge to testify regarding something he has seen or learned, he will be held responsible.

2 ¶ ¶ Or if a soul touches any unclean thing, whether it is a carcass of an unclean animal or the carcass of unclean livestock, or the carcass of unclean creeping things, and if it is hidden...
from him, he also will be unclean and guilty.

3 ‘Or if he touches the uncleanness of a man, whatever sort his uncleanness may be with what he becomes unclean, when he knows of it, then he will be guilty.

4 ‘Or if a soul swears, pronouncing with his lips to do evil or to do good, whatever it is that a man will pronounce with an oath, even though he is unaware of it, when he knows of it, then he will be guilty in one of these.

5 ‘So it will be when he becomes guilty in one of these, that he will confess that in what he has sinned.

6 ‘And he will bring his trespass offering to the LORD for his sin that he has sinned, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats, for a sin offering. And the priest will make atonement for him concerning his sin.

7 ¶ ‘And if he is not able to bring a lamb, then he will bring to the LORD for his trespass that he has committed, two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering.

8 ‘And he will bring them to the priest who will offer that which is for the sin offering first. And he will wring off its head from its neck, but will not divide it apart.

9 ‘And he will sprinkle of the blood of the sin offering on the side of the altar. And the rest of the blood will be wrung out at the bottom of the altar. It is a sin offering.

10 ‘Then he will offer the second for a burnt offering according to the ordinance. And the priest will make atonement for him for his sin that he has sinned, and it will be forgiven him.

11 ¶ ‘But if he is not able to bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons, then he who sinned will bring for his offering one-tenth of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering. He will put no oil on it, nor will he put any frankincense on it, for it is a sin offering.

12 ‘Then he will bring it to the priest and the priest will take his handful of it, even a memorial of it, and burn it on the altar, according to the offerings made by fire to the LORD. It is a sin offering.

13 ¶ Then the priest will make atonement for him for his sin that he has sinned in one of these, and it will be forgiven him. ‘And the remainder will be the priest’s as a grain offering.’”

### The Guilt Offering

14 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

15 “If a soul commits a trespass and sins unintentionally in the holy things of the LORD, then he will bring for his trespass to the LORD a ram without blemish out of the flocks, according to your valuation in silver by shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for a trespass offering.

16 “And he will make restitution for the harm that he has done in the holy thing, and will add to it one-fifth of it and give it to the priest. And the priest will make atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering. And it will be forgiven him.

17 ¶ “And if a soul sins and commits any of these things that are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD, though he was unaware, yet he is guilty and will bear his iniquity.

18 ¶ “And he will bring to the priest a ram without blemish out of the flock according to your valuation for a trespass offering. And the priest will make atonement for him concerning his ignorance wherein he erred and did not know it. And it will be forgiven him.

19 “It is a trespass offering. ‘He has certainly trespassed against the LORD.’”

### Chapter 6

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “If a soul sins and commits a trespass against the LORD, and lies to his neighbor in what was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or has received his neighbor,

3 “or has found what was lost, and lies concerning it, and swears falsely in any of all these that a man does, sinning in it,

4 “then it will be, because he has sinned and is guilty, that he will restore what he took violently away, or the thing that he has deceitfully

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extorted, or what was delivered him to keep, 
5 “or all that about which he has sworn falsely, 
he will even restore it in the principal and will 
add one-fifth more to it. He will give it to him 
to whom it belongs in the day of his trespass 
offering.

6 “And he will bring his trespass offering to 
the LORD, ‘a ram without blemish out of the 
flock, according to your valuation, for a tres-
pass offering to the priest.

7 “Then the priest will make atonement for 
him before the LORD. And it will be forgiven 
him for any one of these things that he may 
have done in which he trespasses.”

The Burnt Offering

8 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 
9 “Command Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘This 
is the law of the burnt offering. It is the burnt 
offering because of the burning on the altar all 
night until the morning, and the fire of the al-
tar will be kept burning on it.

10 ‘And the priest will put on his linen gar-
ment, and his linen trousers he will put on his 
body. And he will take up the ashes that the fire 
has consumed with the burnt offering on the al-
tar and put them beside the altar.

11 ‘And he will take off his garments and put 
on other garments and carry forth the ashes 
outside the camp to a clean place.

12 ‘And the fire on the altar will be burning 
on it. It will not be put out. And the priest will 
burn wood on it every morning and lay the 
burnt offering in order on it. And he will burn 
on it the fat of the peace offerings.

13 ‘The fire will be burning continually on 
the altar. It will never go out.

The Grain Offering

14 ¶ ‘And this is the law of the grain offering. 
The sons of Aaron will offer it before the 
LORD, before the altar.

15 ‘And he will take from it his handful of the 
flour of the grain offering and of the oil of it, 
and all the frankincense that is on the grain 
offering. And he will burn it on the altar for a 
fragrant aroma, even the memorial of it to the 
LORD.

16 ‘And the remainder of it Aaron and his 
sons will eat, with unleavened bread it will be 
eaten in the holy place. They will eat it in the 
court of the tabernacle of the assembly.

17 ‘It will not be baked with leaven. I have 
given it to them for their portion of my offer-
ings made by fire. It is most holy, as is the sin 
offering and as the ‘trespass offering.

18 “All the males among the children of Aaron 
will eat of it. ‘It will be a statute forever in your 
generations concerning the offerings of the 
LORD made by fire. ‘Everyone who touches 
them will be holy.’”

19 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 
20 ¶ “This is the offering of Aaron and of his 
sons that they will offer to the LORD in the 
day when he is anointed, one-tenth of an ‘ephah 
of fine flour for a perpetual grain offering, half 
of it in the morning and half of it at night.

21 “It will be made with oil in a ‘pan. When it 
is baked, you will bring it in. And the baked 
pieces of the grain offering you will offer for a 
fragrant aroma to the LORD.

22 ‘And the priest of his sons who is anointed 
in his place will offer it. ‘It is a statute forever 
to the LORD. It will be entirely burned.

23 ‘For every grain offering for the priest will 
be entirely burned. It will not be eaten.”

The Sin Offering

24 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 
25 ¶ “Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, ‘This 
is the law of the sin offering. ‘In the place 
where the burnt offering is killed will the sin 
offering be killed before the LORD. It is most 
 holy.

26 ¶ ‘The priest who offers it for sin will eat it. 
It will be eaten in the holy place, in the court 
of the tabernacle of the assembly.

27 ¶ ‘Whatever touches its flesh will be holy. 
And when any of its blood is sprinkled on a 
garment, in a holy place you will wash what 
was sprinkled on it.

28 ¶ But the earthen vessel in which it is boiled 
will be broken. And if it is boiled in a bronze
pot, it will be both scoured and rinsed in water. 
29 ‘All the males among the priests will eat of it. It is most holy.
30 ‘And no sin offering of which any of the blood is brought into the tabernacle of the assembly to make reconciliation in the holy place, will be eaten. It will be burned in the fire.

Chapter 7
The Guilt Offering
1 ¶ ‘Now this is the law of the trespass offering. It is most holy.
2 In the place where they killed the burnt offering they will kill the trespass offering. And its blood he will sprinkle all around on the altar.
3 ‘And he will offer from it all its fat, the rump and the fat that covers the entrails,
4 ‘and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them that is by the flanks. And the lobe that is above the liver, he will remove with the kidneys.
5 ‘And the priest will burn them on the altar for an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a trespass offering.
6 b‘Every male among the priests will eat of it. It will be eaten in the holy place. c It is most holy.
7 d‘As the sin offering, so also is the trespass offering. There is one law for them. The priest who makes atonement with it will have it.
8 ‘And the priest who offers any man’s burnt offering, even the priest will have for himself the skin of the burnt offering that he has offered.
9 ‘And all the grain offering that is baked in the oven, and all that is dressed in the frying pan, and in the pan, will be the priest’s who offers it.
10 ‘And every grain offering mingled with oil and dry, will all the sons of Aaron have, one as much as another.

The Peace Offering
11 ¶ ‘And this is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings that he will offer to the LORD.
12 ‘If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he will offer it with the sacrifice of thanksgiving unleavened cakes mingled with oil and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and cakes of well stirred fine flour mixed with oil.
13 ‘Besides the cakes he will offer for his offering leavened bread with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings.
14 ‘And from it he will offer one cake out of the whole gift for a heave offering to the LORD. It will belong to the priest who sprinkles the blood of the peace offerings.
15 ¶ ‘And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving will be eaten the same day that it is offered. He will not leave any of it until the morning.
16 ‘But if the sacrifice of his offering is a vow or a voluntary offering, it will be eaten the same day that he offers his sacrifice. And the remainder of it will be eaten on the next day.
17 ‘But on the third day the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice will be burned with fire.
18 ‘And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings is eaten at all on the third day, it will not be accepted, nor will it be accounted for his benefit. It will be an abomination. And the soul that eats of it will bear his iniquity.
19 ¶ ‘And the flesh that touches any unclean thing will not be eaten. It will be burned with fire. And as for the flesh, anyone who is clean will eat of it.
20 ‘But the soul who eats of the meat of the sacrifice of peace offerings that pertains to the LORD, having his uncleanness in him, that soul will be cut off from his people.
21 ‘Moreover, the soul who touches any unclean thing as the uncleanness of man, or any unclean animal, or any abominable unclean thing, and eats of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings that pertains to the LORD, that soul will be cut off from his people.”

Forbidding Eating of Fat & Blood
22 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
23 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 
24 ‘You will eat no manner of fat of an ox or of a 
  sheep or of a goat.
25 ‘For whoever eats the fat of the animal of 
  which men offer an offering made by fire to 
  the LORD, the soul who eats it will be cut off 
  from his people.
26 ‘Moreover, in any of your dwellings, you 
  will eat no manner of blood, whether it is 
  of bird or of animal.
27 ‘Whoever eats any manner of blood, that 
  soul will be cut off from his people.’"

Portion for Priests

28 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
29 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying,
30 ‘He who offers the sacrifice of his peace of- 
  fering to the LORD will bring his gift to the 
  LORD of the sacrifice of his peace offerings.
31 And the priest will burn the fat on the 
  altar. But the breast will belong to Aaron and 
  his sons.
32 ‘And you will give the right shoulder to 
  the priest for a heave offering of the sacrifices 
  of your peace offerings.
33 ‘He among the sons of Aaron who offers 
  the blood of the peace offerings and the fat 
  will have the right shoulder for his part.
34 ‘For the wave breast and the heave shoul-
  der I have taken from the children of Israel 
  from the sacrifices of their peace offerings. And 
  I have given them to Aaron the priest and to 
  his sons by a statute forever from among the 
  children of Israel.
35 ¶ ‘This is the portion of the anointing of 
  Aaron and of the anointing of his sons, out of 
  the offerings of the LORD made by fire, in the 
  day when he presented them to minister to the 
  LORD in the priest’s office.
36 ‘These the LORD commanded to be given 
  them from the children of Israel in the day 
  that he anointed them, by a statute forever 
  throughout their generations.’"
37 ¶ This is the law of the burnt offering, of 
  the grain offering, and of the sin offering, and 
  of the trespass offering, and of the 
  consecrations, and of the sacrifice of the peace 
  offerings,
38 that the LORD commanded Moses in 
  Mount Sinai in the day that he commanded 
  the children of Israel to offer their gifts to the 
  LORD in the wilderness of Sinai.

Chapter 8

Consecration of Aaron & His Sons

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 a“Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the 
  bgarments and the canointing oil, and 
  dbull for the sin offering and two erams and a basket 
  of unleavened bread.
3 “Then gather all the assembly together to 
  the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.”
4 So Moses did as the LORD commanded 
  him. And the assembly was gathered together 
  to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. 
5 And Moses said to the assembly, “This is 
  the thing that the LORD commanded to be 
  done.”
6 ¶ Then Moses brought Aaron and his sons 
  and 
  washed them with water.
7 Then he put on him the coat and girded him 
  with the sash. And he clothed him with the robe 
  and put the ephod on him. And he girded him 
  with the artistic band of the ephod and bound 
  it to him with it.
8 And he put the breastplate on him. He also 
  put in the breastplate the Urim and the 
  Thummim.
9 iThen he put the turban on his head. Also on 
  the turban, even on its front, he put the golden 
  plate, the holy crown, as the LORD com-
  manded Moses.
10 ¶ jAnd Moses took the anointing oil and 
  anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it. 
  And he sanctified them.
11 Then he sprinkled some of it on the altar
seven times, and anointed the altar and all its vessels, both the laver and its stand, to sanctify them.

12 And he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron’s head and anointed him, to sanctify him.

13 Then Moses brought Aaron’s sons and put coats on them. And he girded them with sashes and put caps on them as the LORD commanded Moses.

14 ¶ Then he brought the bull for the sin offering. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the bull for the sin offering.

15 Then he killed it. And Moses took the blood and put it on the horns of the altar all around with his finger. And he purified the altar and poured the blood at the bottom of the altar and sanctified it, to make reconciliation on it.

16 ¶ Then he took all the fat that was on the entrails and the lobe above the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat, and Moses burned it on the altar.

17 But the bull and its hide, its flesh and its dung, he burned with fire outside the camp, as the LORD commanded Moses.

18 ¶ Then he brought the ram for the burnt offering. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.

19 And he killed it. And Moses sprinkled the blood on the altar all around.

20 Then he cut the ram into pieces. And Moses burned the head and the pieces and the fat.

21 And he washed the entrails and the legs in water. And Moses burned the whole ram on the altar. It was a burnt sacrifice for a fragrant aroma and an offering made by fire to the LORD as the LORD commanded Moses.

22 ¶ Then he brought the other ram, the ram of consecration. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.

23 And he killed it. And Moses took of its blood and put it on the tip of Aaron’s right ear and on the thumb of his right hand and on the great toe of his right foot.

24 Then he brought Aaron’s sons and Moses put some of the blood on the tip of their right ear and on the thumbs of their right hands and on the great toes of their right feet. And Moses sprinkled the blood on the altar all around.

25 ¶ Then he took the fat and the rump and all the fat that was on the entrails, and the lobe above the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat, and the right shoulder.

26 ¶ And out of the basket of unleavened bread that was before the LORD, he took one unleavened cake and a cake of oiled bread and one wafer. And he put them on the fat and on the right shoulder.

27 Then he put all these in Aaron’s hands and in his sons’ hands. And he waved them for a wave offering before the LORD.

28 ¶ Then Moses took them from off their hands and burned them on the altar on the burnt offering. They were consecrations for a fragrant aroma. It is an offering made by fire to the LORD.

29 And Moses took the ‘breast and waved it for a wave offering before the LORD. It was Moses’ part of the ram of consecration as the LORD commanded Moses.

30 ¶ And ‘Moses took of the anointing oil and of the blood that was on the altar and sprinkled it on Aaron and on his garments and on his sons and on his sons’ garments with him. And he sanctified Aaron and his garments and his sons and his sons’ garments with him.

31 ¶ Then Moses said to Aaron and to his sons, ¶ ‘Boil the flesh at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. And eat it there with the bread that is in the basket of consecrations as I commanded, saying, ‘Aaron and his sons will eat it.’

32 ¶ And that which remains of the meat and of the bread, you will burn with fire.

33 ¶ And you will not go out of the door of the tabernacle of the assembly for seven days, until the days of your consecration are at an end. For he will consecrate you for seven days.

34 ¶ As he has done this day, so the LORD has commanded to do to make atonement for you.

35 ¶ Therefore, you will remain at the door of
the tabernacle of the assembly day and night for seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD so that you not die. For so I am commanded.”

36 So Aaron and his sons did all things that the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 9
Priests Begin Their Ministry

¶ Now it came to pass on the eighth day that Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel.

2 And he said to Aaron, “Take a young calf for a sin offering and a ram without blemish for a burnt offering, and offer them before the LORD.

3 “And you will speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘Take a kid of the goats for a sin offering and a calf and a lamb, both of the first year, without blemish, for a burnt offering.

4 ‘Also take a bull and a ram for peace offerings, to sacrifice before the LORD, and a grain offering mingled with oil. For today the LORD will appear to you.”

5 ¶ So they brought what Moses commanded before the tabernacle of the assembly. And all the assembly drew near and stood before the LORD.

6 Then Moses said, “This is the thing that the LORD commanded that you should do. And the glory of the LORD will appear to you.”

7 And Moses said to Aaron, “Go to the altar and offer your sin offering and your burnt offering, and make atonement for yourself and for the people. And offer the offerings of the people and make atonement for them as the LORD commanded.”

8 ¶ Aaron therefore went to the altar and slew the calf of the sin offering that was for himself.

9 And the sons of Aaron brought the blood to him. And he dipped his finger in the blood and put it on the horns of the altar and poured out the blood at the bottom of the altar.

10 But the fat and the kidneys and the lobe above the liver of the sin offering, he burnt on the altar as the LORD commanded Moses.

11 ¶ And the meat and the hide he burned with fire outside the camp.

12 ¶ Then he slew the burnt offering. And Aaron’s sons presented to him the blood and he sprinkled it all around on the altar.

13 ¶ And they presented the burnt offering to him with its pieces and the head. And he burned them on the altar.

14 ¶ And he washed the entrails and the legs and burned them on the burnt offering on the altar.

15 ¶ Then he brought the people’s offering and took the goat that was the sin offering for the people, and slew it. And he offered it for sin as the first.

16 Then he brought the burnt offering and offered it according to the ordinance.

17 Then he brought the grain offering and took a handful of it and burned it on the altar beside the burnt sacrifice of the morning.

18 ¶ He slew also the bull and the ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings that was for the people. And Aaron’s sons presented to him the blood and he sprinkled it all around on the altar.

19 But the fat of the bull and of the ram—the rump and what covers the entrails, and the kidneys and the lobe above the liver—these they placed on the breasts, and then he offered them up in smoke on the altar.

20 And the breasts and the right shoulder Aaron waved for a wave offering before the LORD as Moses commanded.

21 Then Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the assembly and came out. And they blessed the people. And the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people.

22 ¶ Then a fire out from before the LORD and consumed on the altar, the burnt offering and the fat.

23 Then Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the assembly and came out. And they blessed the people. And the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people.

24 And there came a fire out from before the LORD and consumed on the altar, the burnt offering and the fat. So when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

Chapter 10
Death of Nadab and Abihu
Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective censers and put fire in them. And they put incense on it and offered strange fire before the LORD which He had not commanded them.

Then there went out fire from the LORD and devoured them. And they died before the LORD.

Then Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the LORD spoke, saying, ‘I will be sanctified by those who come near Me. And before all the people I will be glorified.’” So Aaron held his peace.

¶ Then Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said to them, “Come near. Carry your brothers from before the sanctuary out of the camp.”

So they went near and carried them in their coats out of the camp, as Moses had said.

Then Moses said to Aaron and to Eleazar and to Ithamar, his sons, “Do not uncover your heads, nor tear your clothes, lest you die, and wrath come on all the people. But let your brothers, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning that the LORD has kindled.

And you will not go out from the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, lest you die. For the anointing oil of the LORD is on you.” And they did according to the word of Moses.

¶ Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, saying, “Do not drink wine nor strong drink, you nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of the assembly, lest you die. It will be a statute forever throughout your generations,

so that you may distinguish between the holy and unholy, and between the unclean and clean,

and that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes that the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses.”

¶ Then Moses spoke to Aaron and to Eleazar and to Ithamar, his sons that were left, saying, “Take the grain offering that remains of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and eat it without leaven beside the altar. For it is most holy.

And you will eat it in the holy place because it is your share and your sons’ share, of the sacrifices of the LORD made by fire, for thus I have been commanded.

¶“And the wave breast and heave shoulder you will eat in a clean place, you and your sons and your daughters with you, for they have been given as your share and your sons’ share out of the sacrifices of the peace offerings of the sons of Israel.

The heave shoulder and the wave breast, they will bring with the offerings made by fire of the fat in order to wave it for a wave offering before the LORD. And it will be yours and your sons’ with you by a statute forever as the LORD has commanded.”

¶ Then Moses searched carefully for the goat of the sin offering. And behold, it was burned up. And he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the sons of Aaron who were left alive, saying,

Why have you not eaten the sin offering in the holy place, seeing it is most holy, and God has given it to you to bear the iniquity of the assembly, to make atonement for them before the LORD?

Behold, the blood of it was not brought inside the holy place. You should indeed have eaten it in the holy place as I commanded.”

But Aaron said to Moses, “Behold, this day they have offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD. When things like these happened to me, if I had eaten a sin offering today, a would it have been good in the sight of the LORD?”

And when Moses heard this, he was satisfied.

Chapter 11

Clean & Unclean Foods

¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, “These are the animals which you will eat among all the animals that are on the earth.

Whatever divides the hoof and thus splits the hoofs, and chews the cud, among the animals that are on the earth.

And you will eat it in the holy place because it is your share and your sons’ share, of the sacrifices of the LORD made by fire, for thus I have been commanded.

And the wave breast and heave shoulder you will eat in a clean place, you and your sons and your daughters with you, for they have been given as your share and your sons’ share out of the sacrifices of the peace offerings of the sons of Israel.

The heave shoulder and the wave breast, they will bring with the offerings made by fire of the fat in order to wave it for a wave offering before the LORD. And it will be yours and your sons’ with you by a statute forever as the LORD has commanded.”

¶ Then Moses searched carefully for the goat of the sin offering. And behold, it was burned up. And he was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, the sons of Aaron who were left alive, saying,

Why have you not eaten the sin offering in the holy place, seeing it is most holy, and God has given it to you to bear the iniquity of the assembly, to make atonement for them before the LORD?

Behold, the blood of it was not brought inside the holy place. You should indeed have eaten it in the holy place as I commanded.”

But Aaron said to Moses, “Behold, this day they have offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the LORD. When things like these happened to me, if I had eaten a sin offering today, a would it have been good in the sight of the LORD?”

And when Moses heard this, he was satisfied.

Chapter 11

Clean & Unclean Foods

¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, “These are the animals which you will eat among all the animals that are on the earth.

Whatever divides the hoof and thus splits the hoofs, and chews the cud, among the ani-
mals, that you will eat.
4 ‘However, you will not eat of those that chew the cud or of those that divide the hoof: the camel, though it chews the cud, it does not divide the hoof. He is unclean to you.
5 ‘Also the coney, because it chews the cud, but does not divide the hoof. It is unclean to you.
6 ‘And the rabbit, because it chews the cud, but does not divide the hoof. It is unclean to you.
7 ‘And the swine, though it divides the hoof, thus making a split hoof, yet it does not chew the cud. It is unclean to you.
8 ‘You will not eat of their flesh and you will not touch their carcass. They are unclean to you.
9 ¶ ‘These you will eat of all that are in the waters. Whatever has fins and scales in the waters in the seas, and in the rivers, them you will eat.
10 ‘And all that do not have fins and scales in the seas and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and any living thing that is in the waters, they will be detestable to you.
11 ‘They will be detestable to you. You will not eat of their meat, but their carcasses you will detest.
12 ‘Whatever does not have fins or scales in the waters, that will be detestable to you.
13 ¶ ‘And these are they that you will have in abomination among the birds. They will not be eaten. They are detestable: the eagle and the vulture and the buzzard,
14 ‘and the red kite and the falcon in its kind,
15 ‘every raven after its kind,
16 ‘and the horned owl and the screech owl, and the gull, and any kind of hawk,
17 ‘and the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl,
18 ‘and the white owl, and the pelican, and the osprey,
19 ‘and the stork, and any kind of heron, and the hoopoe, and the bat.
20 ¶ ‘All flying insects that walk on all fours will be detestable to you.
21 ‘Yet these you may eat of every flying insect that creeps on all fours: those which have above their feet jointed legs with which to jump on the earth.
22 ‘These you may eat: the locust after its kind, and the bald locust after its kind, and the cricket after its kind, and the grasshopper after its kind.
23 ‘But all other winged insects that have four feet, will be detestable to you.
24 ¶ ‘And for these you will be unclean: whoever touches their carcass will be unclean until the evening.
25 ‘And whoever picks up any of their carcass will wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.
26 ‘The carcasses of every animal that divides the hoof but does not make a split hoof, nor chews the cud, are unclean to you. Everyone who touches them will be unclean.
27 ‘And whatever goes on its paws among all manner of animals that go on all four, those are unclean to you. Whoever touches their carcass will be unclean until the evening.
28 ‘And he who bears their carcass will wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening. They are unclean to you.
29 ¶ ‘These also will be unclean to you among the creeping things that creep on the earth: the weasel and the rat and any kind of lizard,
30 ‘and the gecko and the monitor lizard and the wall lizard and the sand reptile and the chameleon.
31 ‘These are unclean to you among all that creep. Whoever touches them when they are dead will be unclean until the evening.
32 ‘And anything on which one of them may fall when they are dead becomes unclean, whether it is any vessel of wood or clothing or skin or sack. Whatever vessel it is with which any work is done, it must be put in water and be unclean until the evening, then it will be cleansed.
33 ‘And every earthen vessel into which any of them falls, whatever is in it will be unclean, and you will break it.
34 ‘Of all food that may be eaten, that on which water falls will be unclean. And all drink that may be drunk in every such vessel will be unclean.
35 ‘And every thing on which any part of their carcass falls will be unclean, whether it is oven or cooking pots. They will be broken down, for they are unclean and will be unclean to you.

36 ‘Nevertheless a spring or pit in which there is plenty of water, will be clean. But the one who touches their carcass will be unclean.

37 ‘And if any part of their carcass falls on any sowing seed that is to be sown, it will be clean.

38 ‘But if any water is put on the seed and any part of their carcass falls on it, it will be unclean to you.

39 ‘And if any animal dies that you may eat, he who touches its carcass will be unclean until the evening.

40 ‘And he who eats of its carcass will wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening. He also who bears its carcass will wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.

41 ‘And every creeping thing that creeps on the earth will be detestable. It will not be eaten.

42 ‘Whatever goes on the belly and whatever goes on all four, or whatever has more feet among all creeping things that creep on the earth, them you will not eat, for they are detestable.

43 ‘You will not make yourselves detestable with any creeping thing that creeps, nor will you make yourselves unclean with them so that you should be defiled by them.

44 ‘For I am the LORD your God. You will therefore sanctify yourselves and you will be holy, for I am holy. Neither will you defile yourselves with any kind of creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

45 ‘For I am the LORD who brings you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You will therefore be holy, for I am holy.

46 ‘This is the law of the animals, and of the birds, and of every living creature that moves in the waters, and of every creature that creeps on the earth,

47 ‘to make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the animal that may not be eaten.

Chapter 12
Cleansing After Childbirth

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘If a woman has conceived and gives birth to a male child, then she will be unclean seven days. She will be unclean according to the days of the separation for her menstruation.

3 ‘Then on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin will be circumcised.

4 ‘And she will then continue in the blood of her purification for thirty-three days. She will touch no consecrated thing, nor enter into the sanctuary until the days of her purification are fulfilled.

5 ‘But if she bears a female child, then she will be unclean two weeks, as in her menstruation. And she will continue in the blood of her purification for sixty-six days.

6 ¶ “And when the days of her purification are fulfilled, for a son or for a daughter, she will bring to the priest to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly a lamb of the first year for a burnt offering and a young pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering.

7 ‘He will offer it before the LORD and make atonement for her. And she will be cleansed from the flow of her blood. This is the law for her who bears a male or a female.

8 ‘And if she is not able to bring a lamb, then she will bring two turtle doves or two young pigeons, the one for the burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. And the priest will make atonement for her and she will be clean.’”

Chapter 13
Laws Concerning Skin Infections & Diseases

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,
2 “When a man has on the skin of his body a swelling or a scab or a bright spot, and it is on the skin of his body like the infection of leprosy, then he will be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests.

3 ‘And the priest will look at the infection.
on the skin of the body. And when the hair in the infection has turned white, and the infection appears to be deeper than the skin of his flesh, it is an infection of leprosy. And when the priest has looked at him, he will pronounce him unclean.

4 “If the bright spot is white on the skin of his body and in sight is not deeper than the skin, and its hair has not turned white, then the priest will isolate him who has the infection for seven days.

5 “And the priest will look at him on the seventh day. And behold, if the infection in his eyes has not changed, and the infection has not spread on the skin, then the priest will isolate him seven more days.

6 “And the priest will look at him again the seventh day. And behold, if the infection is somewhat dark, and the infection has not spread on the skin, then the priest will isolate him seven more days.

7 “But if the scab spreads farther on the skin after he has shown himself to the priest for his cleansing, he will be seen by the priest again.

8 “And if the priest sees that the scab spreads on the skin, then the priest will pronounce him unclean. It is a leprosy.

9 ¶ “When the infection of leprosy is on a man, then he will be brought to the priest.

10 ¶ “And the priest will look at him. And behold, if the swelling is white on the skin and it has turned the hair white, and there is raw flesh in the swelling,

11 “it is an old leprosy on the skin of his body, and the priest will pronounce him unclean. And he will not isolate him, for he is unclean.

12 ¶ “And if a leprosy breaks out farther on the skin, and the leprosy covers all the skin of him who has the infection from his head even to his foot, as far as the priest sees,

13 “then the priest will look, and behold, if the leprosy has covered all his body, he will pronounce him clean who has the infection. It has all turned white. He is clean.

14 “But when raw flesh appears on him, he will be unclean.

15 “And the priest will see the raw flesh and pronounce him to be unclean, for the raw flesh is unclean. It is a leprosy.

16 “Or if the raw flesh turns again and is changed to white, he will come to the priest.

17 “And the priest will see him. And behold, if the infection has turned white, then the priest will pronounce him clean who has the infection. He is clean.

18 ¶ “When the body has a boil on its skin and it is healed,

19 “and in the place of the boil there is a white swelling, or a bright spot, white and somewhat reddish, and it is shown to the priest;

20 “and if, when the priest sees it, behold, it is in sight lower than the skin, and the hair of it has turned white, the priest will pronounce him unclean. It is an infection of leprosy broken out of the boil.

21 “But if the priest looks at it, and behold, there are no white hairs in it, and if it is not lower than the skin, but is somewhat dark, then the priest will isolate him seven days.

22 “And if it spreads farther on the skin, then the priest will pronounce him unclean. It is an infection.

23 “But if the bright spot stays in its place, and does not spread, it is the scar of a boil. And the priest will pronounce him clean.

24 ¶ “Or if the body sustains on its skin a burn by fire, and the quick flesh that burns has a white bright spot, somewhat reddish, or white,

25 “then the priest will look at it. And behold, if the hair in the bright spot has turned white, and it is in sight deeper than the skin, it is a leprosy broken out of the burn. Therefore, the priest will pronounce him unclean. It is the infection of leprosy.

26 “But if the priest looks at it, and behold, there is no white hair in the bright spot, and it is no lower than the other skin, but is somewhat dark, then the priest will isolate him seven days.

27 “And the priest will look at him on the seventh day, and if it has spread farther on the skin, then the priest will pronounce him unclean. It is the infection of leprosy.

28 “And if the bright spot remains in its place, and does not spread on the skin, but it is somewhat dark, it is a swelling from the burn. And
the priest will pronounce him clean, for it is a swelling of the burn.

29 ¶ “If a man or woman has an infection on the head or the beard,
30 then the priest will look at the infection, and behold, if it appears deeper than the skin, and there is in it a yellowish thin hair, then the priest will pronounce him unclean. It is a dry sore. It is a leprosy on the head or beard.

31 “And if the priest looks at the infection of the sore, and behold, it does not appear deeper than the skin, and there is no black hair in it, then the priest will isolate him who has the infection of the sore seven days.

32 “And on the seventh day the priest will look at the sore. And behold, if the sore has not spread, and there is in it no yellowish hair, and the sore does not appear deeper than the skin,
33 “he will be shaved, but he will not shave the sore. And the priest will isolate him who has the sore seven more days.

34 “And in the seventh day the priest will look at the sore. And behold, if the sore has not spread on the skin, nor appears deeper than the skin, then the priest will pronounce him clean. And he will wash his clothes and be clean.

35 “But if the sore spreads farther in the skin after his cleansing,
36 then the priest will look at him, and behold, if the sore has spread on the skin, the priest need not seek for yellow hair. He is unclean.

37 “But if in his sight the sore has remained, and there is black hair grown up in it, the sore is healed. He is clean. And the priest will pronounce him clean.

38 ¶ “If a man or a woman has on the skin of their body bright spots, even white bright spots,
39 then the priest will look, and behold, if the bright spots on the skin of their body are darkish white, it is a freckled spot that grows on the skin. He is clean.

40 “And the man whose hair is fallen off his head, he is bald. He is clean.

41 “And he who has hair fallen off from the part of his head toward his face, he is bald on his forehead. He is clean.

42 “And if there is on the bald head, or bald forehead, a white reddish sore, it is a leprosy sprung up on his bald head or his bald forehead.

43 “Then the priest will look at it. And behold, if the rising of the sore is white reddish on his bald head or on his bald forehead, as the leprosy appears on the skin of the body,
44 “he is a leprous man. He is unclean. The priest will pronounce him utterly unclean. His infection is on his head.

45 “And as for the leper who has the infection, his clothes will be torn and the hair of his head will be uncovered. And he will cover his mustache and cry, "Unclean! Unclean!"

46 “All the days in which the infection is on him he will be defiled. He is unclean. He will live alone, dwelling outside the camp.

Laws Concerning Mildew

47 ¶ “When a garment has a mark of mildew in it, whether it is a wool garment or a linen garment,
48 whether it is in the warp or woof of linen or of wool, whether in leather or in anything made of leather,
49 “and if the mark is greenish or reddish in the garment, or in the leather, either in the warp or in the woof, or in anything of leather, it is a mildew mark and will be shown to the priest.

50 “And the priest will look at the mark and isolate the article with the mark for seven days.

51 “And he will look at the mark on the seventh day. If the mark is spread in the garment, either in the warp or in the woof, or in the leather, or in anything of leather, the mark is a mildew malignancy. It is unclean.

52 “He will therefore burn that garment, whether warp or woof, in wool or in linen, or anything of leather, wherein the mark occurs, for it is a mildew malignancy. It will be burned in the fire.

53 ¶ “And if the priest looks, and behold, the mark is not spread in the garment, either in the warp or in the woof, or in the leather, or in any work that is made of leather, the mark is a mildew malignancy. It is unclean.

54 “He will therefore burn that garment, whether warp or woof, in wool or in linen, or anything of leather, wherein the mark occurs, for it is a mildew malignancy. It will be burned in the fire.

55 “And the priest will look at the mark after
it has been washed. And behold, if the mark has not changed its color, and the mark has not spread, it is unclean. You will burn it in the fire, whether the mark has affected one side or the other.

56 “And if the priest looks, and behold, the mark is somewhat dark after its washing, then he will tear it out of the garment, or out of the skin, or out of the warp, or out of the woof.

57 “And if it still appears in the garment, either in the warp, or in the woof, or in anything of leather, it is a spreading mark. The article with the mark will be burned in the fire.

58 “And the garment, either warp or woof, or whatever thing of leather that you will wash, if the mark has disappeared from them, then it will be washed the second time and will be clean.”

59 This is the law of the mark of mildew in a garment of wool or linen, either in the warp or woof, or anything of leather, to pronounce it clean or to pronounce it unclean.

Chapter 14
Cleansing From Skin Infections & Diseases

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “This will be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing. He will be brought to the priest.

3 “And the priest will go outside of the camp. And the priest will look, and behold, if the infection of leprosy is healed in the leper,

4 “then the priest will command to take two live clean birds and a cedarn wood and a scarlet string and a hyssop for the one who is to be cleansed.

5 “And the priest will command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water.

6 “As for the living bird, he will take it and the cedar wood and the scarlet and the hyssop, and will dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water.

7 “And he will sprinkle on him who is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and will pronounce him clean. And he will let the living bird loose into the open field.

8 “Then he who is to be cleansed will wash his clothes and shave off all his hair. And he will wash himself in water so that he may be clean. And after this, he will come into the camp and will stay outside his tent seven days.

9 “But it will be on the seventh day that he will shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he will shave off. And he will wash his clothes. He will also wash his flesh in water and he will be clean.

10 ¶ “And on the eighth day he will bring two male lambs without blemish, and three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering, and one log of oil.

11 “And the priest who pronounces him clean will present before the LORD at the doorway of the tent of meeting both the man to be cleansed and his offerings.

12 “And the priest will take one male lamb and offer him for a trespass offering, and the log of oil, and wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.

13 “And he will kill the lamb in the place where he will kill the sin offering and the burnt offering, for as the sin offering is the priest’s, so is the trespass offering. It is most holy.

14 “And the priest will take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest will put it on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the great toe of his right foot.

15 “And the priest will take some of the log of oil, and pour it into the palm of his own left hand.

16 “Then the priest will dip his right finger in the oil that is in his left hand, and will sprinkle of the oil with his finger seven times before the LORD.

17 “And of the rest of the oil that is in his hand the priest will put on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the great toe of his right foot, on the blood of the trespass offering.

18 “Then the remainder of the oil that is in the priest’s hand he will pour on the head of him
who is to be cleansed. "And the priest will make atonement for him before the LORD.

19 "And the priest will offer the sin offering, and make atonement for him who is to be cleansed from his uncleanness. And afterward he will kill the burnt offering.

20 "Then the priest will offer the burnt offering and the grain offering on the altar. And the priest will make atonement for him, and he will be clean.

21 ¶ "And if he is poor and his means are insufficient, then he will take one lamb for a trespass offering to be waved, to make atonement for him, and one-tenth of an ephah of fine flour mingled with oil for a grain offering, and a log of oil,

22 \text{and two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, such as he is able to get, and the one will be a sin offering and the other a burnt offering.}

23 ¶ And he will bring them on the eighth day for his cleansing to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, before the LORD.

24 ¶ And the priest will take the lamb of the trespass offering, and the log of oil, and the priest will wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.

25 ¶ And he will kill the lamb of the trespass offering, and the log of oil, and the priest will wave them for a wave offering before the LORD.

26 ¶ And the priest will pour of the oil into the palm of his own left hand.

27 ¶ And the priest will sprinkle with his right finger some of the oil that is in his left hand seven times before the LORD.

28 ¶ And the priest will put some of the oil that is in his hand on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the great toe of his right foot.

29 ¶ Then the rest of the oil that is in the priest’s hand he will put on the head of the one who is to be cleansed, to make atonement for him before the LORD.

30 ¶ Then he will offer one of the turtledoves or young pigeons that the person can afford.

31 ¶ Together with the grain offering, he will offer what he can afford, the one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering. And the priest will make atonement for the one who is to be cleansed before the LORD.

32 ¶ "This is the law for the one in whom is the infection of leprosy, whose means are limited for his cleansing."

Cleansing From Mildew

33 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

34 ¶ "When you have come into the land of Canaan that I give to you for a possession, and I put the mark of mildew on a house of the land of your possession,

35 ¶ “then he who owns the house will come and tell the priest, saying, ‘It seems to me there is as it were a mark of mildew on the house.’

36 ¶ “Then the priest will command that they empty the house before the priest goes in to see the mark, so that all who are in the house not become unclean. And afterward the priest will go in to see the house.

37 ¶ “And he will look at the mark, and behold, if the mark on the walls of the house is spread on the walls,

38 ¶ “then the priest will command that they take away the stones where the mark is, and they will cast them into an unclean place outside the city.

39 ¶ “Then he will have the house scraped all around inside. And they will pour out the dust that they scrape off outside the city into an unclean place.

40 ¶ “And they will take other stones and put them in the place of those stones. And he will take other mortar and will plaster the house.
And if the mark comes again and breaks out in the house after he has taken away the stones, and after he has scraped the house and after it is plastered,

then the priest will come and look, and behold, if the mark is spread in the house, it is a malignant mildew in the house. It is unclean.

Then he will break down the house and its stones, and its timber, and all the mortar of the house. And he will carry them out of the city into an unclean place.

Moreover, whoever goes into the house during the time it is shut up will be unclean until the evening.

And whoever lies in the house will wash his clothes. And whoever eats in the house will wash his clothes.

And if the priest comes in and looks at it, and behold, the mark has not spread in the house after the house was plastered, then the priest will pronounce the house clean because the mark is healed.

And to cleanse the house, he will take two birds and cedar wood and scarlet and hyssop.

Then he will kill one of the birds in an earthen vessel over running water.

Then he will take the cedar wood and the hyssop and the scarlet and the living bird, and dip them in the blood of the slain bird, and in the running water, and sprinkle the house seven times.

Then he will cleanse the house with the blood of the bird and with the running water and with the living bird and with the cedar wood and with the hyssop and with the scarlet.

But he will let go the living bird out of the city into the open fields and make atonement for the house. And it will be clean.”

This is the law for any mark of mildew and sores,

and for the mildew of a garment, and of a house,

and for a rising, and for a scab, and for a bright spot,

to determine when it is unclean and when it is clean. This is the law of mildew.
water. And he will be clean. 14 ‘And on the eighth day he will take for himself two turtledoves or two young pigeons, and come before the LORD to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. And he will give them to the priest.

15 ‘And the priest will offer them, the one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering. And the priest will make atonement for him before the LORD for his discharge.

16 ¶ And if any man’s seminal emission go out from him, then he will wash all his body in water. And he is unclean until the evening. 17 ‘And every garment and every skin on which is the seminal emission will be washed with water. And he is unclean until the evening. 18 ‘If a man lies with a woman so that there is a seminal emission, they will both bathe in water. And they will be unclean until evening. 19 ¶ ‘And if a woman has a discharge and her discharge in her body is blood, she will be set apart seven days. And whoever touches her will be unclean until the evening.

20 ‘And everything that she sits on in her separation will be unclean. Everything also that she sits on will be unclean.

21 ‘And whoever touches her bed will wash his clothes and bathe in water. And he is unclean until the evening. 22 ‘And whoever touches anything that she sat on will wash his clothes and bathe himself in water. And he is unclean until the evening. 23 ‘And if it is on her bed or on anything on which she sits, when he touches it he will be unclean until the evening. 24 ‘And if any man lies with her at all and her menstrual impurity is on him, he will be unclean seven days. And all the bed on which he lies will be unclean.

25 ¶ ‘And if a woman has a discharge of her blood many days, not at the time of her menstrual impurity, or if she has a discharge beyond that time, all the days of the discharge of her uncleanness will be as the days of her menstrual impurity. She is unclean.

26 ‘Every bed on which she lies all the days of her discharge will be to her as the bed of her menstruation. And whatever she sits on will be unclean, as her uncleanness at that time. 27 ‘And whoever touches those things will be unclean. And he will wash his clothes and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the evening.

28 ¶ ‘But if she is cleansed of her discharge, then she will count off for herself seven days, and after that she will be clean. 29 ‘And on the eighth day she will take for herself two turtledoves or two young pigeons, and bring them to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

30 ‘And the priest will offer one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering. And the priest will make atonement for her before the LORD for the discharge of her uncleanness.

31 ¶ ‘Thus will you separate the children of Israel from their uncleanness, so that they not die in their uncleanness when they defile My tabernacle that is among them. 32 “This is the law of the one who has a discharge, and for the man who has a seminal emission so that he is unclean by it,

33 “and of the woman who is sick because of menstrual impurity, and for the one who has a discharge, whether a male or a female, or a man who lies with an unclean woman.”’

Chapter 16
The Day of Atonement

1 ¶ Now the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered before the LORD, and died. 2 And the LORD said to Moses, “Speak to Aaron your brother so that he does not come at any time he chooses into the holy place within the veil before the mercy seat that is on the ark, so that he not die. For I will appear in the cloud on the mercy seat.

3 “Thus will Aaron come into the holy place: with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.

4 “He will put on the holy linen coat, and he will have the linen undergarments on his body, and will be girded with a linen sash and with
the linen turban. These are holy garments, therefore he will wash his body in water and then put them on.

5 “And he will take from the assembly of the children of Israel two male goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering.

6 ¶ “And Aaron will offer his bull of the sin offering for himself so that he may make atonement for himself and for his household.

7 “And he will take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

8 “And Aaron will cast lots for the two goats, one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat.

9 “And Aaron will bring the goat on which the lot for the LORD fell and offer him for a sin offering.

10 “But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell, it will be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement with him and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

11 ¶ “And Aaron will bring the bull of the sin offering that is for himself and will make atonement for himself and for his house. And he will kill the bull of the sin offering that is for himself.

12 “And he will take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of fragrant incense beaten small, and bring it inside the veil.

13 “Then he will put the incense on the fire before the LORD so that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is on the testimony, so that he not die.

14 ¶ “And he will take of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat eastward. And before the mercy seat, he will sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.

15 ¶ “Then he will kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people, and bring its blood inside the veil, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat.

16 “And he will make atonement for the holy place because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins. And so he will do for the tabernacle of the assembly that abides among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

17 “And there will be no man in the tabernacle of the assembly when he goes in to make atonement in the holy place until he comes out, and has made atonement for himself and for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel.

18 “And he will go out to the altar that is before the LORD and make atonement for it. And he will take of the blood of the bull and of the blood of the goat, and put it on the horns of the altar all around.

19 “And he will sprinkle of the blood on it with his finger seven times and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

20 ¶ “Now when he has finished atoning for the holy place and the tabernacle of the assembly and the altar, he will bring the live goat.

21 “Then Aaron will lay both his hands on the head of the live goat and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat. And he will then send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man appointed for the task.

22 “And the goat will bear on him all their iniquities to a land not inhabited. And he will let the goat go into the wilderness.

23 ¶ “Then Aaron will come into the tabernacle of the assembly. And he will take off the linen garments that he put on when he went into the holy place. And he will leave them there.

24 “Then he will wash his body with water in the holy place and put on his garments and come forth and offer his burnt offering, and the burnt offering of the people, and make atonement for himself and for the people.

25 ¶ “And the fat of the sin offering will he burn on the altar.

26 “Now he who lets the goat go for the scapegoat will wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward come into the camp.
27 "And the bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, will be taken forth outside the camp. And they will burn their hides, their flesh and their offal in the fire.

28 "And he who burns them will wash his clothes and bathe his body in water. And afterward he will come into the camp.

29 ¶ "And this will be a statute forever to you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you will afflict your souls and do no work at all, whether it is one of your own country or an alien who sojourns among you.

30 "For on that day the priest will make atonement for you, to cleanse you so that you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD.

31 "It is to be a Sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you will afflict your souls by a statute forever.

32 "Now the priest whom he will anoint, and whom he will consecrate to minister in the priest’s office in his father’s stead, will make the atonement. And he will put on the linen clothes, even the holy garments.

33 "And he will make atonement for the holy sanctuary. And he will make atonement for the tabernacle of the assembly and for the altar.

34 "And this will be an everlasting statute to you, to make atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year." And he did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Chapter 17

Forbidding the Eating of Blood

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 "Speak to Aaron and to his sons and to all the children of Israel and say to them, ‘This is the thing that the LORD has commanded, saying,

3 ‘Any man from the house of Israel who kills an ox or lamb or goat in the camp, or who kills it outside the camp,

4 ‘and has not brought it to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly to offer an offering to the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD, that man will be considered guilty of bloodshed. He has shed blood and that man will be cut off from among his people.

5 ‘The reason is that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices that they offer in the open field, that they may bring them to the LORD, to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, to the priest, and offer them for peace offerings to the LORD.

6 ‘And the priest will sprinkle the blood on the altar of the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly and burn the fat for a fragrant aroma to the LORD.

7 ‘And they will no longer offer their sacrifices to devils after whom they have gone to play the harlot. This will be a statute forever to them throughout their generations.’

8 ‘And you will say to them, ‘Any man there is of the house of Israel or of the aliens who sojourn among you, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice,

9 ‘and does not bring it to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, to offer it to the LORD, even that man will be cut off from among his people.

10 ¶ ‘And any man there is of the house of Israel or of the aliens who sojourn among you, who eats any manner of blood, I will set My face against that soul who eats blood and will cut him off from among his people.

11 ‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood. And I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls. For it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.’

12 ‘Therefore I said to the children of Israel, ‘No soul of you will eat blood, nor will any alien who sojourns among you eat blood.’

13 ‘And any man there is of the children of Israel or of the aliens who sojourn among you, who hunts and catches any animal or bird that may be eaten, he will pour out its blood and cover it with earth.

14 ‘For it is the life of all flesh. The blood of it is for its life. Therefore I said to the children of Israel, ‘You will eat the blood of no manner of flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood.”
Whoever eats it will be cut off.’

15 ¶ “And every soul who eats what dies of itself or what was torn by animals, whether it is one of your own country or an alien, he will both wash his clothes and bathe himself in water. And he is unclean until the evening; then he will be clean.

16 “But if he does not wash or bathe his flesh, then he will bear his guilt.”

Chapter 18
Unlawful Sexual Relationships

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, “I am the LORD your God.

3 ¶ You will not do what is done in the land of Egypt where you lived, and after what is done in the land of Canaan where I am bringing you. You will not walk in their ordinances.

4 ¶ You will do My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them. I am the LORD your God.

5 ¶ You will therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, by which a man may live if he does them. I am the LORD.

6 ¶ None of you will approach to any who is near of kin to him, to uncover his nakedness. I am the LORD.

7 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your father or the nakedness of your mother. You will not uncover her nakedness as long as she is alive; to uncover her nakedness is defiling yourself with her.

8 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your father’s wife. It is your father’s nakedness.

9 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your daughter’s daughter or of your daughter’s daughter, nor will you take her son’s daughter or her daughter’s daughter, to uncover her nakedness, for they are blood relatives. It is wickedness.

10 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your brother’s wife. It is your brother’s nakedness.

11 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your brother’s wife’s daughter, born to your father. She is your sister.

12 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your father’s sister. She is your father’s blood relative.

13 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your mother’s sister, for she is your mother’s blood relative.

14 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your father’s brother. You will not approach to his wife. She is your aunt.

15 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your daughter-in-law. She is your son’s wife. You will not uncover her nakedness.

16 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of your brother’s wife. It is your brother’s nakedness.

17 ¶ You will not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, nor will you take her son’s daughter or her daughter’s daughter, to uncover her nakedness, for they are blood relatives. It is wickedness.

18 ¶ Neither will you marry a woman in addition to her sister as a rival while she is alive, to uncover her nakedness.

19 ¶ Also you will not approach a woman to uncover her nakedness as long as she is in her menstrual impurity.

20 ¶ Moreover you will not lie carnally with your neighbor’s wife, to defile yourself with her.

21 ¶ And you will not let any of your offspring be given to Molech. Neither will you profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.

22 ¶ You will not lie with a male as with a female. It is an abomination.

23 ¶ Neither will you lie with any female to defile yourself with it. Neither will any woman stand before an animal to lie down with it. It is a perversion.

24 ¶ Do not defile yourselves in any of these things, for in all these the nations are defiled whom I cast out before you.

25 ¶ For the land is defiled. Therefore I have brought its punishment on it, and the land itself spews out her inhabitants.

26 ¶ You will therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and will not commit any of these abominations, nor any of your own nation, nor any alien who sojourns among you,

27 ¶ (for all these abominations have the men
of the land done, who were before you, and the land is defiled;
28 so that the land not spew you out also, when you defile it, as it spewed out the nations that were before you.
29 For whoever will commit any of these abominations, even the souls who commit them will be cut off from among their people.
30 Therefore you will keep My ordinance so that you not commit any of these abominable customs that were committed before you, and that you not defile yourselves with them. I am the LORD your God.’”

Chapter 19
Community Laws

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to all the assembly of the children of Israel and say to them, a’You will be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.
3 b’Every one of you will reverence his mother and his father, and ckeep My Sabbaths. I am the LORD your God.
4 d’Do not turn to idols enor make for yourselves molten gods. I am the LORD your God.
5 e’And if you offer a sacrifice of peace offerings to the LORD, you will offer it so that it will be accepted on your behalf.
6 ‘It will be eaten the same day you offer it and on the next day. And what remains until the third day will be burned with fire.
7 ‘And if it is eaten at all on the third day, it is abominable. It will not be accepted.
8 ‘Therefore, everyone who eats it will bear his iniquity because he has profaned the holy thing of the LORD. And that soul will be cut off from among his people.
9 ¶ g’And when you reap the harvest of your land you will not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor will you gather the gleanings of your harvest.
10 h’And you will not glean your vineyard, nor will you gather every grape of your vineyard. You will leave them for the poor and aliens. I am the LORD your God.
11 ¶ i’You will not steal, nor deal falsely, inor lie one to another.
12 j’And you will not k’swear falsely by My name, nor will you profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.
13 ¶ l’You will not defraud your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired will not remain with you all night until the morning.
14 m’You will not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but will fear your God. I am the LORD.
15 ¶ n’You will do no unrighteousness in judgment. You will not o’be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. But in righteousness you will judge your neighbor.
16 ¶ p’You will not go up and down q’talebearer among your people. Neither will you r’stand against the blood of your neighbor.
17 ¶ s’t’You will not hate your brother in your heart. t’You may surely reprove your neighbor, but will not incur sin because of him.
18 w’You will not avenge nor bear any grudge against the children of your people. But you will love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.
19 ¶ x’You will keep My statutes. You will not y’mate two different kinds of animals. You will not z’sow your field with mingled seed. Neither wear a garment on you of two kinds of material mixed together.
20 ¶ a’And whoever lies carnally with a woman who is b’a bondmaid who is c’promised to a man, and who has in no way been redeemed nor given her freedom, she will be scourged. They will not be put to death because she was not free.
21 ¶ d’And he will bring his trespass offering to the LORD, to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, even e’a ram for a trespass offering.
22 ‘Then the priest will make atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering before the LORD for his sin that he has done. And the sin that he has done will be forgiven him.
23 ¶ f’And when you come into the land and have planted all kinds of trees for food, then you will count the fruit of it as forbidden. Three years it will be forbidden to you. It will not be eaten.

24 ‘But in the fourth year all its fruit will be holy, an offering of praise to the LORD.
25 ‘And in the fifth year you will eat of its fruit so that it may yield to you its increase. I am the LORD your God.
26 ¶ ‘You will not eat anything with the blood. Neither will you practice divination or soothsaying.
27 ‘You will not round the corners of your heads. Neither will you harm the corners of your beard.
28 ‘You will not make any cuttings in your body for the dead nor print any tattoo on yourself. I am the LORD.
29 ¶ ‘Do not prostitute your daughter to cause her to be a harlot, lest the land fall to harlotry and the land become full of wickedness.
30 ‘You will keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary. I am the LORD.
31 ¶ ‘Do not turn to mediums or spiritists. Do not seek them out to be defiled by them. I am the LORD.
32 ¶ b‘You will rise up before the grayheaded and honor the face of the old man and c fearful your God. I am the LORD.
33 ¶ ‘And d if an alien sojourns with you in your land, you will not do him wrong.
34 ‘But the alien who dwells with you will be to you as one born among you, and e you will love him as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.
35 ¶ ‘You will do no unrighteousness in judgment, in measurement, in weight, or in capacity.
36 ‘You will have just balances, fjust weights, a just ephah, and a just hin. I am the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt.
37 ¶ b Thereupon, you will observe all My statutes and all My judgments, and do them. I am the LORD.’”

Chapter 20
Punishment for Sin
1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 a‘Again you will say to the children of Israel, b ‘Whoever he is of the children of Israel or of the aliens who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his offspring to Molech, he will surely be put to death. The people of the land will c stone him with stones.
3 d ‘And I will set My face against that man and will cut him off from among his people because he has given of his seed to Molech, to defile My sanctuary and to profane My holy name.
4 ‘And if the people of the land should ever ignore the ways of that man when he gives any of his offspring to Molech, so as not to put him to death,
5 ‘then I will set My face against that man and against his family. And I will cut off from among their people both him and all those who play the harlot after him, by playing the harlot after Molech.
6 ¶ ‘And the e soul who turns to mediums and to spiritists, or plays the harlot after them, I will even set My face against that soul and will cut him off from among his people.
7 b ‘Sanctify yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God.
8 ¶ ‘And you will keep b My statutes and do them. b I am the LORD who sanctifies you.
9 ‘For c everyone who curses his father or his mother will surely be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother. d His blood will be upon him.
10 k ‘And the man who commits adultery with another man’s wife, even he who commits adultery with his neighbor’s wife, the adulterer and the adulteress will surely be put to death.
11 ‘And the man who lies with his father’s wife has uncovered his father’s nakedness. Both of them will surely be put to death. Their blood will be upon them.
12 ‘And if a man lies with his mechanics in law, both of them will surely be put to death. They have committed incest. Their blood will be upon them.
13 a ‘If a man also lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They will surely be put to death. Their blood will be upon them.
14 ‘And if a man marries a woman and her 

mother, it is wickedness. Both he and they will be burned with fire so that there be no wickedness among you.

15 ‘And if a man lies with an animal, he will surely be put to death, and you will kill the animal.

16 ‘And if a woman approaches any animal, and lies down with it, you will kill the woman and the animal. They will surely be put to death. Their blood will be upon them.

17 ‘And if a man takes his sister, his father’s daughter, or his mother’s daughter, and sees her nakedness, and she sees his nakedness, it is a wicked thing. And they will be cut off in the sight of their people. He has uncovered his sister’s nakedness. He will bear his iniquity.

18 r’And if a man lies with a menstruous woman and uncovers her nakedness, he has discovered her flow, and she has uncovered the flow of her blood. And both of them will be cut off from among their people.

19 ‘And you will not uncover the nakedness of your sister’s sister, nor of your father’s sister, for he uncovers his close relative. They will bear their iniquity.

20 ‘And if a man lies with his uncle’s wife, he has uncovered his uncle’s nakedness. They will bear his sin. They will die childless.

21 ‘And if a man takes his brother’s wife, it is an unclean thing. He has uncovered his brother’s nakedness. They will be childless.

22 ¶ ‘Therefore, you will keep all “My statutes and all My judgments, and do them, so that the land to which I am bringing you to live will not spew you out.

23 ¶ ‘And you will not walk in the customs of the nations that I cast out before you, for they committed all these things, and therefore I have abhorred them.

24 ‘But I have said to you, “You will inherit their land and I will give it to you to possess it, a land that flows with milk and honey.” I am the LORD your God who has separated you from other people.

25 ‘You will therefore make a distinction between clean animals and unclean, and between unclean birds and clean. And you will not make your souls abominable by animals or by birds or by any manner of living thing that creeps on the ground, that I have separated for you as unclean.

26 ‘And you will be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy. And I have set you apart from other people so that you should be Mine.

27 ¶ ‘A man also or a woman who is a medium or a spiritist will surely be put to death. They will stone them with stones. Their blood will be on them.”

Chapter 21

Regulations for Priests

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them, “No one will defile himself for the dead among his people,

2 ‘but for his relatives who are near to him, that is, for his mother and for his father and for his son and for his daughter and for his brother,

3 ‘and for his sister a virgin who is near to him who has had no husband, for her he may defile himself.

4 ‘But he will not defile himself as a relative by marriage among his people, to profane himself.

5 ¶ ‘They will not make baldness on their head, nor will they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cuttings in their flesh.

6 ¶ ‘They will be holy to their God and not profane the name of their God, for they offer the bread of your God. Therefore, they will be holy.

7 ‘They will not take a wife who is profaned by harlotry, nor will they take a woman divorced from her husband, for he is holy to his God.

8 ‘You will sanctify him, therefore, for he offers the bread of your God. He will be holy to you, for I the LORD, who sanctify you, am holy.

9 ‘And the daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by playing the harlot, she will be burned with fire.

he who is the high priest among his brethren, on whose head the anointing oil was poured, and who is consecrated to put on the garments, will not uncover his head nor tear his clothes.

Neither will he go in to any dead body, nor defile himself for his father or for his mother.

Neither will he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God, for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is on him. I am the LORD.

And he will take a wife in her virginity.

A widow, or a divorced woman, or one who is profaned by harlotry, these he will not take. But he will take to wife a virgin of his own people.

Neither will he profane his seed among his people, for I the LORD sanctify him.’”

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to Aaron, saying, ‘Whoever he is of your seed in their generations who has any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God, until he is clean. And whoever touches anything that is unclean by the dead, or a man whose seed goes from him,

or whoever touches any creeping thing whereby he may be made unclean, or a man of whom he may take uncleanness, whatever uncleanness he has,

the soul who has touched any such thing will be unclean until evening. And he will not eat of the holy things unless he washes his body with water.

And when the sun is down, he will be clean. And he will afterward eat of the holy things because it is his food.

He will not eat an animal that dies or is torn by animals. He will not eat to defile himself by it. I am the LORD.

They will therefore keep My charge so that they will not bear sin because of it and die thereby because they profane it. I am the LORD who sanctifies them.

No alien will eat of the holy thing. A sojourner of the priest or a hired servant will not eat of the holy thing.

If the priest’s daughter also is married to an alien, she may not eat of an offering of the holy things.

But if the priest buys any person with his money, he will eat of it and he who is born in his house. They will eat of his food.

If the priest’s daughter also is married to an alien, she may not eat of an offering of the holy things.

But if the priest’s daughter is a widow or...
divorced, and has no child, and has returned to her father’s house as in her youth, she will eat of her father’s food. But no alien will eat of it.

14 ¶ ‘And if a man eats of the holy thing unintentionally, then he will add one-fifth of it and will give it to the priest with the holy thing.

15 ‘And they will not profane the holy things of the children of Israel that they offer to the LORD, nor cause them to bear punishment for guilt by eating their holy things, for I the LORD sanctify them.’”

Rejected Sacrifices

17 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

18 “Speak to Aaron and to his sons and to all the children of Israel, and say to them, ‘Whoevers he is of the house of Israel or of the aliens in Israel who offers his gift for all his vows and for all his freewill offerings that they offer to the LORD for a burnt offering, you will offer of your own free will a male without blemish from the cattle, from the sheep, or from the goats.

20 ¶ But whatever has a blemish, that you will not offer, for it will not be acceptable for you.

21 ¶ ‘And whoever offers a sacrifice of peace offerings to the LORD to accomplish his vow, or a freewill offering in cattle or sheep, it will be perfect in order to be accepted. There will be no blemish in it.

22 ¶ ‘You will not offer to the LORD the blind or broken or maimed or anything having a running sore, or eczema or scabs, nor make of them an offering by fire on the altar to the LORD.

23 ¶ ‘You may, however, offer as a freewill offering an ox or a sheep that is deformed or stunted. But for a vow, it will not be accepted.

24 ¶ ‘You will not offer to the LORD that which is bruised or crushed or broken or cut. Neither will you make any offering of it in your land.

25 ¶ ‘Neither from a stranger’s hand will you offer the bread of your God of any of these, because their corruption is in them, and blemishes are in them. They will not be accepted for you.”

26 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

27 ¶ “When a bull or a sheep or a goat is brought forth, then it will be seven days under its mother, and from the eighth day and thereafter it will be accepted for an offering made by fire to the LORD.

28 ¶ “And whether it is a cow or a sheep, you will not kill both it and her young in one day.

29 ¶ “And when you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the LORD, offer it at your own will.

30 ¶ “On the same day it will be eaten. You will leave none of it until the next day. I am the LORD.

31 ¶ “Therefore, you will keep My commandments and do them. I am the LORD.

32 ¶ “Neither will you profane My holy name. But I will be sanctified among the children of Israel. I am the LORD who sanctifies you,

33 ¶ “who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. I am the LORD.”

Chapter 23

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 ¶ “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘Concerning the feasts of the LORD that you will proclaim as holy convocations, even these are My feasts:

The Sabbath

3 ¶ ¶ “Six days will work be done. But the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, a holy convocation. You will do no work on it. It is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

The Passover & Unleavened Bread

4 ¶ ¶ “These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations that you will proclaim in their appointed times.

5 ¶ “In the fourteenth day of the first month at evening is the Lord’s Passover.

6 ¶ “And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread to the LORD. Seven days you must eat unleavened bread.

7 ¶ “In the first day you will have a holy convocation. You will do no laborious work on it.

8 ¶ “But you will offer an offering made by fire
to the LORD seven days. On the seventh day is a holy convocation. You will do no laborious work on it.”’

Firstfruits
9 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
10 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘When you have come into the land that I give to you and will reap its harvest, then you will bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest.
11 And he will wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you. On the day after the Sabbath the priest will wave it.
12 And you will offer that day when you wave the sheaf a male lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering to the LORD.
13 And the grain offering of it will be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the LORD for a fragrant aroma. And the drink offering of it will be of wine, one-fourth of a hin.
14 And you will eat neither bread nor parched corn nor green ears, until the very day that you have brought an offering to your God. It will be a statute forever in all your dwellings.

Feast of Weeks
15 ¶ ‘And you will count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths will be completed.
16 Even to the day after the seventh Sabbath you will number fifty days. And you will offer a new grain offering to the LORD.
17 You will bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They will be of fine flour; they will be baked with leaven; they are the firstfruits to the LORD.
18 And you will offer with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year, and one young bull, and two rams. They will be for a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire of fragrant aroma to the LORD.
19 Then you will sacrifice one kid of the goats for a sin offering and two lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace offerings.
20 ‘And the priest will wave them with the bread of the firstfruits for a wave offering before the LORD with the two lambs. They will be holy to the LORD for the priest.
21 ‘And you will make a proclamation on the very day that it may be a holy convocation to you. You will do no laborious work on it. It will be a statute forever in all your dwellings through your generations.

Feast of Trumpets
23 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
24 “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, you will have a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation.
25 ‘You will do no laborious work on it. But you will offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.”’

Day of Atonement
26 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
27 “Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there will be a day of atonement. It will be a holy convocation to you. And you will afflict your souls and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.
28 ‘And you will do no work in that same day, for it is a day of atonement to make atonement for you before the LORD your God.
29 ‘For whatever soul it is who will not be afflicted in that same day, he will be cut off from among his people.
30 ‘And whatever soul it is who does any work in that same day, the same soul I will destroy from among his people.
31 ‘You will do no manner of work. It will be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.
32 ‘It will be to you a Sabbath of rest, and you will afflict your souls. In the ninth day of the

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f Ex 23:19; 34:26 g Rm 11:16 h Ex 29:24 i At 2:1 j Nm 28:26 k Nm 15:17-21 l Nm 28:30 m Lv 3:1 n Dt 18:4 o Lv 19:9,10 p Nm 29:1 q Lv 25:9 r Nm 29:7 s Lv 16:34 t Jr 31:9 u Nm 5:2 v Lv 20:3-6
month at evening, from evening to evening, you will celebrate your Sabbath.”

**Feast of Tabernacles**

33 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
34 “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘The fifteenth day of this seventh month will be the feast of tabernacles for seven days to the LORD.
35 On the first day will be a holy convocation. You will do no laborious work on it.
36 Seven days you will offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On the eighth day you will have a holy convocation to you, and will offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a solemn assembly and you will do no laborious work on it.
37 These are the feasts of the LORD that you will proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, everything on his day—
38 besides the Sabbaths of the LORD, and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings that you give to the LORD.
39 ¶ Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you will keep a feast to the LORD seven days, with a rest on the first day and a rest on the eighth day.
40 Then you will take for yourselves on the first day the foliage of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, and the foliage of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and you will rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.
41 And you will keep it a feast to the LORD seven days in the year. It will be a statute forever in your generations. You will celebrate it in the seventh month.
42 You will dwell in booths seven days. All who are born Israelites will dwell in booths,
43 so that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.”
44 ¶ So Moses declared to the children of Israel the feasts of the LORD.

**Chapter 24**

**Continual Lights**

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Command the children of Israel that they bring to you pure oil from beaten olives for the light, to make the lamps to burn continually.
3 Outside the veil of the testimony, in the tabernacle of the assembly, Aaron will order it from the evening to the morning before the LORD continually. It will be a statute forever in your generations.
4 He will keep the lamps in order on the pure gold candlestick before the LORD continually.

**Showbread for the Levites**

5 ¶ “And you will take fine flour and bake twelve cakes with it. Two-tenths of an ephah will be in one cake.
6 And you will set them in two rows, six to a row, on the pure gold table before the LORD.
7 And you will put pure frankincense on each row so that it may be on the bread for a memorial, even an offering made by fire to the LORD.
8 Every Sabbath he will set it in order before the LORD continually. It is an everlasting covenant for the sons of Israel.
9 And it will be Aaron’s and his sons. And they will eat it in the holy place. For it is most holy to him from the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute.”

**Stoning of a Blasphemer**

10 ¶ Now the son of an Israelite woman, whose father was an Egyptian, went out among the children of Israel. And this son of the Israelite woman and a man of Israel strove together in the camp.
11 “And the Israelite woman’s son blasphemed the name of the LORD, and cursed. And they brought him to Moses. (And his mother’s name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.)
12 So they put him in custody so that the
mind of the LORD might be made clear to them.

13 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
14 “Bring forth outside the camp the one who has cursed, and let all who heard him lay their hands on his head. And let all the assembly stone him.

15 “And you will speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘Whoever curses his God will bear his sin.

16 ‘And he who blasphemes the name of the LORD, he will surely be put to death. And all the assembly will surely stone him.

17 ¶ And he who kills any man will surely be put to death.

18 ‘And he who kills an animal will make it good, animal for animal.

19 ‘And if a man causes a blemish in his neighbor, as he has done, so will it be done to him;

20 ‘fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. As he has caused a blemish in a man, so will it be done to him.

21 ‘And he who kills an animal, he will restore it. And he who kills a man, he will be put to death.

22 ‘You will have one manner of law for the alien, as well as for one of your own country. For I am the LORD your God.”

23 ¶ Then Moses spoke to the children of Israel so that they should bring forth the one who had cursed outside the camp. And they stoned him with stones. And the children of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Chapter 25

The Sabbath Year

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying,

2 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘When you come into the land that I give you, then will the land keep a Sabbath to the LORD.

3 ‘Six years you will sow your field and six years you will prune your vineyard and gather in its fruit,

4 ‘but during the seventh year the land will have a Sabbath rest, a Sabbath to the LORD. You will neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard.

5 “That which grows of its own accord of your harvest you will not reap, nor gather the grapes of your untrimmed vines. It is a year of rest for the land.

6 ‘And the Sabbath of the land will be food for you, for you and for your servant and for your maid and for your hired servant and for your alien who sojourns with you.

7 ‘And your cattle and the animals that are in your land will have all its crops for food.

The Year of Jubilee

8 ¶ And you will number seven Sabbaths of years to you, seven times seven years. And the space of the seven Sabbaths of years will be to you forty-nine years.

9 ‘Then you will cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement you will make the trumpet sound throughout all your land.

10 ‘And you will hallow the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants. It will be a jubilee to you and you will return every man to his possession. And you will return every man to his family.

11 ‘You will have the fiftieth year as a jubilee. You will not sow, nor reap that which grows of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of your untrimmed vines.

12 ‘For it is the jubilee. It will be holy to you.

13 ¶ In the year of this jubilee you will return every man to his possession.

14 ‘And if you sell anything to your neighbor or buy anything from your neighbor’s hand, you will not wrong one another.

15 ‘According to the number of years after the jubilee you will buy from your neighbor, and according to the number of years of the fruits he will sell to you.

16 ‘According to the extent of years you will increase its price, and according to the few-
ness of years you will diminish its price, for according to the number of the years of the fruits he is selling to you.

17 "You will not therefore wrong one another, but you will fear your God, for I am the LORD your God.

18 ¶ "Therefore you will do My statutes and keep My judgments, and do them so that you will dwell in the land in safety.

19 'And the land will yield her fruit. 'And you will eat your fill and dwell therein in safety.

20 'And if you will say, "What will we eat the seventh year if we do not sow or gather in our increase?",

21 then I will command My blessing on you in the sixth year and it will bring forth fruit for three years.

22 'And you will sow the eighth year, and eating of the old fruit until the ninth year, until her fruits come in, you will eat of the old store.

23 ¶ 'The land will not be sold forever, for the land is Mine; for you are aliens and sojourners with Me.

24 'And in all the land of your possession you will grant a redemption for the land.

25 ¶ 'If your brother has become poor and has sold away some of his possession, and if any of his kin come to redeem it, then he will redeem that which his brother sold.

26 'And if the man has no one to redeem it, but he himself is able to redeem it,

27 then let him count the years of its sale and restore the refund to the man to whom he sold it, so that he may return to his possession.

28 'But if he is not able to restore it to him, then that which is sold will remain in the hand of him who has bought it until the year of jubilee. And in the jubilee it will revert, and he will return to his possession.

29 ¶ 'And if a man sells a dwelling house in a walled city, then he may redeem it within a whole year after it is sold; within a full year he may redeem it.

30 'And if it is not redeemed within the space of a full year, then the house that is in the walled city will be established forever to him who bought it throughout his generations. It will not revert in the jubilee.

31 'But the houses of the villages that have no wall around them will be counted as the fields of the country. They may be redeemed, and they will revert in the jubilee.

32 'As for the cities of the Levites and the houses of the cities of their possession, the Levites may redeem at any time.

33 'And if a man purchases from the Levites, then the house that was sold and the city of his possession, will revert in the year of jubilee.

34 'But the field of the pasture land of their cities may not be sold, for it is their perpetual possession.

35 ¶ 'And if your brother has become poor and is unable to support himself among you, then you will sustain him like an alien or a sojourner so that he may live with you.

36 'Take no interest from him or increase. But you will fear your God so that your brother may live with you.

37 'You will not give him your money for interest, nor lend him your food for gain.

38 k 'I am the LORD your God who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.

39 ¶ 'And if your brother who dwells by you has become poor and is sold to you, you will not compel him to serve as a bondservant.

40 'But as a hired servant and as a sojourner, he will be with you. And he will serve you to the year of jubilee.

41 'And then he will depart from you, both he and his children with him. And he will return to his own family and to the possession of his fathers.

42 'For they are My servants whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt. They will not be sold as bondmen.

43 'You will not rule over him ruthlessly, but will fear your God.

44 'Both your bondmen and your bondmaids whom you will have, will be of the pagan nations who are all around you. You will buy bondmen and bondmaids of them.
45 ‘Also of the children of the aliens who sojourn among you, of them you will buy, and of their families who are with you, whom they produce in your land. And they will be your possession.

46 ‘And you will take them as an inheritance for your children after you, to inherit them for a possession. They will be your bondmen forever. But over your brethren the children of Israel, you will not rule ruthlessly over one another.

47 ¶ ‘And if a sojourner or alien becomes rich by you, and your brother who dwells by him becomes poor and sells himself to the alien or sojourner by you, or to the stock of the stranger’s family,

48 ‘after he is sold he may be redeemed again. One of his brethren may redeem him.

49 ‘Either his uncle or his uncle’s son may redeem him, or anyone who is a close relative of his family may redeem him. Or if he is able, he may redeem himself.

50 ‘And he will calculate with him who bought him from the year that he was sold to him to the year of jubilee. And the price of his sale will be according to the number of years, according to the time of a hired servant it will be with him.

51 ‘If there are still many years, he will refund part of his purchase price in proportion to them for his own redemption.

52 ‘And if there remains but a few years to the year of jubilee, then he will count with him, and according to his years he will give him again the price of his redemption.

53 ‘And as a yearly hired servant he will be with him. And the other will not rule ruthlessly over him in your sight.

54 ‘And if he is not redeemed in these years, then he will go out in the year of jubilee, both he and his children with him.

55 ‘For to Me the children of Israel are servants. They are My servants whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.

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Chapter 26
Obedience Rewarded

1 ¶ ‘You will make no idols nor graven image. Neither will you raise up a standing image, nor set up an image of stone in your land in order to bow down to it. For I am the LORD your God.

2 b‘You will keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary. I am the LORD.

3 ¶ ‘If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments and do them,

4 d‘then I will give you rain in its season and the land will yield its increase, and the trees of the field will yield their fruit.

5 c‘And your threshing will last for you until grape gathering and grape gathering will last until sowing time. And you will eat your bread to the full and swell safely in your land.

6 b‘And I will give peace in the land and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid. And I will eliminate harmful animals out of the land, and the sword will not pass through your land.

7 ‘And you will chase your enemies and they will fall before you by the sword.

8 l‘And five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will put ten thousand to flight. And your enemies will fall before you by the sword.

9 m‘For I will have respect toward you and make you fruitful and multiply you and establish My covenant with you.

10 ‘And you will eat old supply and bring forth the old because of the new.

11 n‘And I will set My tabernacle among you. And My soul will not reject you.

12 o‘And I will walk among you and be your God. And you will be My people.

13 ‘I am the LORD your God who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt so that you should not be their bondmen. And I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk proudly.

Disobedience Punished

14 ¶ ‘But if you will not hearken to Me and will not do all these commandments,

15 ‘and if you will despise My statutes, or if your soul rejects My judgments so that you
will not do all My commandments, but you break My covenant,

16 ‘I also will do this to you: I will appoint over you terror, consumption and fever that will consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you will sow your seed in vain, for your enemies will eat it.

17 ‘And I will set My face against you and you will be slain before your enemies. They who hate you will reign over you, and you will flee when no one pursues you.

18 ¶ ‘And if you still will not hearken to Me because of all this, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

19 ‘And I will break the pride of your power. And I will make your sky as iron and your earth as bronze.

20 ‘And your strength will be spent in vain, for your land will not yield her increase, nor will the trees of the land yield their fruits.

21 ¶ ‘And if you walk contrary to Me and will not hearken to Me, I will bring seven times more plagues on you according to your sins.

22 ¶ ‘I will also send wild animals among you that will rob you of your children and destroy your cattle and make you few in number. And your roads will be desolate.

23 ¶ ‘And if you will not be corrected by Me by these things, but will walk contrary to Me, then I will also walk contrary to you and will punish you seven times more for your sins.

24 ¶ ‘And I will bring a sword on you that will avenge the breaking of My covenant. And when you are gathered together within your cities, I will send pestilence among you. And you will be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

25 ¶ ‘When I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women will bake your bread in one oven and they will deliver your bread to you again by weight. And you will eat and not be satisfied.

Redeeming the Lord’s Possession

27 ¶ ‘And if you will not for all this hearken to Me, but walk contrary to Me,

28 ‘then I will walk contrary to you also in fury. And I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

29 ¶ ‘And you will eat the flesh of your sons and you will eat the flesh of your daughters.

30 ¶ ‘And I will destroy your high places and cut down your images, and cast your carcasses on the carcasses of your lifeless idols. And My soul will abhor you.

31 ‘And I will make your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation. And I will not smell the aroma of your fragrant aromas.

32 ¶ ‘And I will bring the land into desolation. And your enemies who dwell in it will be astonished at it.

33 ¶ ‘And I will scatter you among the nations and will draw out a sword after you. And your land will be desolate and your cities waste.

34 ¶ ‘Then will the land enjoy its Sabbaths, as long as it lies desolate and you are in your enemies’ land. Even then the land will rest and enjoy its Sabbaths.

35 ‘As long as it lies desolate it will rest, because it did not rest in your Sabbaths when you dwelt in it.

36 ¶ ‘And for those who are left of you, I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies. And the sound of a shaken leaf will chase them, and they will flee as fleeing from a sword. And they will fall when no one pursues.

37 ¶ ‘And they will fall on one another as if fleeing before a sword, though no one pursues. And you will have no power to stand before your enemies.

38 ‘And you will perish among the nations and the land of your enemies will eat you up.

39 ‘And they who are left of you will pine away in their iniquity in your enemies’ lands. And also in the iniquities of their fathers, they will pine away with them.

40 ¶ ‘If they will confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass that they trespassed against Me, and that they have also walked contrary to Me,

41 ‘and that I have also walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies, if then their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they then accept of
the punishment of their iniquity,
42 ‘then I will remember My covenant with Jacob and also My covenant with Isaac, and I will also remember My covenant with Abraham. And I will remember the land.
43 ‘The land also will be left by them, and will enjoy its Sabbaths while it lies desolate without them. And they will accept the punishment for their iniquity because they despised My judgments and because their soul abhorred My statutes.
44 ‘And in spite of all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, nor will I abhor them in order to destroy them utterly, and to break My covenant with them. For I am the LORD their God.
45 ‘But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nation so that I might be their God. I am the LORD.’”
46 ¶ These are the statutes and judgments and laws that the LORD made between Himself and the children of Israel on Mount Sinai by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 27
1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, a“When a man makes a special vow to consecrate persons to the Lord, he will be valued according to your valuation.
3 ‘And your valuation will be of the male from twenty years old even to sixty years old, your valuation will be fifty shekels of silver after the shekel of the sanctuary.
4 ‘And if it is a female, then your valuation will be thirty shekels.
5 ‘And if it is from five years old even to twenty years old, then your valuation will be of the male twenty shekels, and for the female ten shekels.
6 ‘And if it is from a month old even to five years old, then your valuation will be of the male five shekels of silver and for the female your valuation will be three shekels of silver.
7 ‘And if it is from sixty years old and above, if it is a male, then your valuation will be fifteen shekels, and for the female ten shekels.
8 ‘But if he is poorer than your valuation, then he will present himself before the priest and the priest will value him. According to the ability of the one who vowed, the priest will value him.
9 ¶ ‘And if it is an animal of the type men bring as an offering to the LORD, all that one gives to the LORD will be holy.
10 ‘He will not alter it nor change it, a good for a bad or a bad for a good. And if he will at all change animal for animal, then it and its substitute will be holy.
11 ‘And if it is any unclean animal of the type they do not offer as a sacrifice to the LORD, then he will present the animal before the priest.
12 ‘And the priest will value it, whether it is good or bad. As you, the priest, value it, so it will be.
13 ‘But if he will at all redeem it, then he will add one-fifth of it to your valuation.
14 ¶ ‘And when a man will sanctify his house to be holy to the LORD, then the priest will value it, whether it is good or bad. As the priest will value it, so will it stand.
15 ‘And if he who sanctified it will redeem his house, then he will add one-fifth of the money of your valuation to it, and it will be his.
16 ¶ ‘And if a man sanctifies to the LORD some part of a field of his possession, then your valuation will be according to its seed. A homer of barley seed will be valued at fifty shekels of silver.
17 ‘If he sanctifies his field from the year of jubilee, it will stand according to your valuation.
18 ‘But if he sanctifies his field after the jubilee, then the priest will calculate to him the money according to the years that remain, even to the year of the jubilee. And it will be deducted from your valuation.
19 ‘And if he who sanctified the field will in any way redeem it, then he will add one-fifth of the money of your valuation to it, and it will be passed to him.
20 ‘And if he will not redeem the field, or if he has sold the field to another man, it will not...
be redeemed anymore.
21 ‘But the field, \( ^a \) when it goes out in the jubilee, will be holy to the LORD, as a \( ^b \) devoted field. \( ^c \) The possession will be the priest’s.
22 ‘And if a man sanctifies to the LORD a field that he has bought, which is not of the field of his possession,
23 ‘then the priest will calculate to him the worth of your valuation, \( ^d \) even to the year of the jubilee. And he will give your valuation in that day as a holy thing to the LORD.
24 ‘And if a man sanctifies to the LORD a field that he has bought, which is not of the field of his possession,
25 ‘then the priest will calculate to him the worth of your valuation, \( ^e \) even to the year of the jubilee. And he will give your valuation in that day as a holy thing to the LORD.
26 ‘In the year of the jubilee the field will return to him from whom it was bought, \( ^f \) even to him to whom the possession of the land belongs.
27 ‘And all your valuations will be according to the shekel of the sanctuary. \( ^g \) Twenty gerahs will be the shekel.
28 ¶ ‘But the firstborn of the animals, that should be the LORD’S firstborn, no man will sanctify it, whether it is ox or sheep. It is the LORD’S.
29 ¶ ‘And if it is among the unclean animals, then he will redeem it according to your valuation and will add one-fifth to it. Or if it is not redeemed, then it will be sold according to your valuation.
30 ‘And all the tithe of the land, \( ^h \) whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD’S. It is holy to the LORD.
31 ‘And if a man will at all redeem a part of his tithes, he will add to it one-fifth.
32 ¶ ‘Nevertheless, no devoted thing that a man will devote to the LORD of all that he has, both of man and animal, and of the field of his possession, will be sold or redeemed.
33 ‘He will not search whether it is good or bad, \( ^i \) nor will he substitute it. And if he substitutes it at all, then both it and its substitute will be holy. It will not be redeemed.’”
34 ¶ These are the commandments that the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel on Mount Sinai.

NUMBERS

Chapter 1
Census of Israel

1 ¶ Now the LORD spoke to Moses \( ^* \) in the wilderness of Sinai, \( ^b \) in the tabernacle of the assembly, on the \( ^c \) first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,
2 “Take a census of all the assembly of the children of Israel after their families by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male \( ^e \) one by one,
3 from twenty years old and upward, all who are able to go forth to war in Israel. You and Aaron will number them by their armies.
4 “And with you there will be a man from every tribe, each one head of his father’s household.
5 ¶ “And these are the names of the men who will stand with you: of the tribe of Reuben, Elizur the son of Shedeur;
6 of Simeon, Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai;
7 of Judah, Nahshon the son of Amminadab;
8 of Issachar, Nethaneel the son of Zuar;
9 of Zebulun, Eliab the son of Helon;
10 of the children of Joseph: of Ephraim, Elishama the son of Ammihud, of Manasseh, Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur;
11 of Benjamin, Abidan the son of Gideoni;
12 of Dan, Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai;
13 of Asher, Pagiel the son of Ocran;
14 of Gad, Eliasaph the son of Deuel;
15 of Naphtali, Ahira the son of Enan.”
16 ¶ These are the renowned of the assembly, princes of the tribes of their fathers, \( ^\text{heads of thousands in Israel.} \)
17 ¶ So Moses and Aaron took these men who were identified \( ^b \) by their names,
18 and they gathered all the assembly together on the first day of the second month. And they
declared their ancestry after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, one by one.

19 As the LORD commanded Moses, so he numbered them in the wilderness of Sinai.

20 And the children of Reuben, Israel’s eldest son, by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, one by one, every male from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

21 those who were numbered of the tribe of Reuben were 46,500.

22 Of the children of Simeon by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

23 those who were numbered of the tribe of Simeon were 59,300.

24 Of the children of Gad by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

25 those who were numbered of the tribe of Gad were 45,650.

26 Of the children of Judah by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

27 those who were numbered of the tribe of Judah were 74,600.

28 Of the children of Issachar by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

29 those who were numbered of the tribe of Issachar were 54,400.

30 Of the children of Zebulun by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

31 those who were numbered of the tribe of Zebulun were 57,400.

32 Of the children of Joseph, namely, of the children of Ephraim by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

33 those who were numbered of the tribe of Ephraim were 40,500.

34 Of the children of Manasseh by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

35 those who were numbered of the tribe of Manasseh were 32,200.

36 Of the children of Benjamin by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

37 those who were numbered of the tribe of Benjamin were 35,400.

38 Of the children of Dan by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

39 those who were numbered of the tribe of Dan were 62,700.

40 Of the children of Asher by their generations after their families, by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

41 those who were numbered of the tribe of Asher were 41,500.

42 Of the children of Naphtali throughout their generations, after their families by the house of their fathers according to the number of the names, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war,

43 those who were numbered of the tribe of Naphtali were 53,400.

44 These are those who were numbered, whom Moses and Aaron numbered, and the princes of Israel, being twelve men, each of
whom was of his father’s household.

45 So were all those who were numbered of the children of Israel by the house of their fathers, from twenty years old and upward, all who were able to go forth to war in Israel,

46 even all those who were numbered were 2603,550.

47 ¶ But the Levites after the tribe of their fathers were not numbered among them.

48 For the LORD had spoken to Moses, saying,

49 “Only you will not number the tribe of Levi, nor take the sum of them among the children of Israel.

50 But you will appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of testimony and over all its vessels, and over all things that belong to it. They will bear the tabernacle and all its vessels. And they will minister to it and will camp around the tabernacle.

51 And when the tabernacle is to set out, the Levites will take it down. And when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites will set it up. And the alien who comes near will be put to death.

52 “And the children of Israel will pitch their tents, every man by his own camp, and every man by his own standard, throughout their armies.

53 ¶ But the Levites will camp around the tabernacle of testimony so that there is no wrath on the assembly of the children of Israel. And the Levites will keep the duty of the tabernacle of testimony.”

54 And the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so they did.

Chapter 2
Settlement of Tribal Camps

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

2 “Every man of the children of Israel will camp by his own standard with the banner of their father’s house. They will camp at a distance around the tent of meeting.

3 And on the east side toward the rising of the sun they will be of the standard of the camp of Judah by their armies. And Nahshon the son of Amminadab will be captain of the children of Judah.

4 “And his army and those who were numbered of them were 74,600.

5 “And those who camp next to him will be the tribe of Issachar. And Nethaneel the son of Zuar will be captain of the children of Issachar.

6 “And his army and those who were numbered of them were 54,400.

7 “Then comes the tribe of Zebulun. And Eliab the son of Helon will be captain of the children of Zebulun.

8 “And his army and those who were numbered of them were 57,400.

9 “All who were numbered in the camp of Judah were 186,400 by their armies. These will set out first.

10 ¶ “On the south side will be the standard of the camp of Reuben according to their armies. And the captain of the children of Reuben will be Elizur the son of Shedeur.

11 “And his army and those who were numbered of them were 46,500.

12 “And those who camp by him will be the tribe of Simeon. And the captain of the children of Simeon will be Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

13 “And his army and those who were numbered of them were 59,300.

14 “Then comes the tribe of Gad. And the captain of the sons of Gad will be Eliasaph the son of Reuel.

15 “And his army and those who were numbered of them were 45,650.

16 “All who were numbered in the camp of Reuben were 151,450 by their armies. And they will set out second.

17 ¶ Then the tabernacle of the assembly will set out with the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camp; just as they camp, so they will set out, every man in his place by their standards.

18 ¶ “On the west side will be the standard of the camp of Ephraim according to their armies. And the captain of the sons of Ephraim will be Elishama the son of Ammihud.

z Ex 12:37; 38:26 a Nm 2:3; 3:14-22; 26:57-62 b Nm 2:33; 26:62 c Ex 38:21 d Nm 3:23,29,35,38 e Nm 4:5-15; 10:17,21 f Nm 10:21 g Nm 3:10,38; 4:15,19,20; 18:22 h Nm 2:2,34; 24:2 i Nm 1:50 j Lv 10:6 k 1 Ch 23:32 Chapter 2: a Nm 1:52; 24:2 b Ja 3:4 c Nm 10:5 d 1 Ch 2:10 e Nm 10:14 f Nm 10:6 g Nm 10:18 h Nm 10:17,21 i Nm 1:53
“And his army and those who were numbered of them were 40,500.

“And by him will be the tribe of Manasseh. And the captain of the children of Manasseh will be Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

“And his army and those who were numbered of them were 32,200.

“Then comes the tribe of Benjamin. And the captain of the children of Benjamin will be Abidan the son of Gideoni.

“And his army and those who were numbered of them were 35,400.

“Then comes the tribe of Ephraim. And they will set out third.

¶ “The standard of the camp of Dan will be on the north side by their armies. And the captain of the children of Dan will be Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

“And his army and those who were numbered of them were 62,700.

“And those who camp by him will be the tribe of Asher. And the captain of the children of Asher will be Pagiel the son of Ocran.

“And his army and those who were numbered of them were 41,500.

“Then comes the tribe of Naphtali. And the captain of the children of Naphtali will be Ahira the son of Enan.

“And his army and those who were numbered of them were 53,400.

“All those who were numbered in the camp of Dan were 157,600. kThey will set out last by their standards.”

¶ These also are the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day when the LORD spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai.

¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Bring the tribe of Levi near and present them before Aaron the priest so that they may minister to him.

“And they will keep the duty and the duty of the whole assembly before the tabernacle of the assembly, to do the service of the tabernacle.

“And they will keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the assembly and the duty of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle.

“And hyou will give the Levites to Aaron and to his sons. They are wholly given to him out of the children of Israel.

“And you will appoint Aaron and his sons, and they will wait on their priest’s office. And the alien who comes near will be put to death.”

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore, the Levites will be Mine,

“because all the firstborn are Mine, on the day that I smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and animal. They will be Mine. I am the LORD.”

1 ¶ These also are the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day when the LORD spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai.

2 And these are the names of the sons of Aaron: Nadab the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

3 These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the priests who were anointed, whom he consecrated to minister in the priest’s office.

4 Now Nadab and Abihu died before the LORD when they offered strange fire before the LORD in the wilderness of Sinai. And they had no children. And Eleazar and Ithamar ministered in the priest’s office in the sight of Aaron their father.

5 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Bring the tribe of Levi near and present them before Aaron the priest so that they may minister to him.

6 “And they will keep his duty and the duty of the whole assembly before the tabernacle of the assembly, to do the service of the tabernacle.

7 “And they will keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the assembly and the duty of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle.

8 “And hyou will give the Levites to Aaron and to his sons. They are wholly given to him out of the children of Israel.

9 “And you will appoint Aaron and his sons, and they will wait on their priest’s office. And the alien who comes near will be put to death.”

10 “And you will appoint Aaron and his sons, and they will wait on their priest’s office. And the alien who comes near will be put to death.”

11 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore, the Levites will be Mine,

13 “because all the firstborn are Mine, on the day that I smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and animal. They will be Mine. I am the LORD.”
¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying,

14 "Number the children of Levi after the house of their fathers, by their families. You will number every male from a month old and upward."

15 So Moses numbered them according to the word of the LORD, as he was commanded.

16 And these were the sons of Levi by their names: Gershon and Kohath and Merari.

17 Gershon by their families: Libni and Shimei.

18 Kohath by their families: Amram and Izehar, Hebron and Uzziel.

19 Merari by their families: Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to the house of their fathers.

20 Of Gershon was the family of the Libnites and the family of the Shimites. These were the families of the Gershonites.

21 Those who were numbered of them according to the number of all the males from a month old and upward, even those who were numbered of them were 7,500.

22 The families of the Gershonites will camp behind the tabernacle westward.

23 And the chief of the house of the father of the Gershonites will be Eliasaph the son of Lael.

24 The duty of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the assembly will be the tabernacle and the tent, its covering and the curtain for the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, and the curtain of the court and the curtain for the door of the court that is around the tabernacle.

25 And the curtain of the court and the curtain for the door of the court that is around the tabernacle and the altar, and its cords, according to all the service concerning them.

26 And of Kohath was the family of the Amramites and the family of the Izharites and the family of the Hebronites and the family of the Uzzielites. These are the families of the Kohathites.

27 In the number of all the males, from a month old and upward were 8,600, keeping the duty of the sanctuary.

28 The families of the sons of Kohath will camp on the side of the tabernacle southward.

29 And the chief of the house of the father of the families of the Kohathites will be Elizaphan the son of Uzziel.

30 And their duty will be the ark and the table and the candlestick and the altars and the vessels of the sanctuary with which they minister, and the curtain and all its service.

31 And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest will be chief over the chief of the Levites and have the oversight of those who keep the duty of the sanctuary.

32 Of Merari was the family of the Mahlites and the family of the Mushites. These are the families of Merari.

33 And those who were numbered of them according to the number of all the males, from a month old and upward were 6,200.

34 And the chief of the house of the father of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail. These will camp on the side of the tabernacle northward.

35 And under the custody and duty of the sons of Merari will be the boards of the tabernacle and its bars, and its pillars, and its sockets, and all its vessels, and the service concerning them,

36 And the pillars of the court around it, and their sockets and their pegs and their cords.

37 But those who camp before the tabernacle toward the east, even before the tabernacle of the assembly eastward, will be Moses, and Aaron and his sons, keeping the duty of the sanctuary for the duty of the children of Israel. And the alien who comes near will be put to death.

38 All who were numbered of the Levites that Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD throughout their families, all the males from a month old and upward were 22,000.

39 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Number all the firstborn of the males of the children of Israel from a month old and upward, and make a list of their names.

40 And you will take the Levites for Me, I
am the LORD, instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the livestock of the children of Israel.”

42 So Moses numbered all the firstborn among the children of Israel as the LORD commanded him.

43 And all the firstborn males by the number of names, from a month old and upward, of those who were numbered of them were 22,273.

44 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

45 “Take the Levites instead of all the first-born among the children of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of all the livestock of the children of Israel. And the Levites will be Mine. I am the LORD.

46 “And for those who are to be redeemed of the 273 of the firstborn of the children of Israel who are more than the Levites,

47 “you will take five shekels apiece as per head. You will take them after the shekel of the sanctuary. (The shekel is twenty gerahs.)

48 “And you will give the money, the redeemed of those who are in excess among them, to Aaron and to his sons.”

49 So Moses took the redemption money from those who were over and above those who were redeemed by the Levites.

50 From the firstborn of the children of Israel, he took the money, 1,365 shekels after the shekel of the sanctuary.

51 And Moses gave the money of those who were redeemed to Aaron and to his sons according to the word of the LORD as the LORD commanded Moses.

Chapter 4
The Kohathites

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

2 “Take a census of the sons of Kohath from among the sons of Levi, after their families by the house of their fathers,

3 “from thirty years old and upward even until fifty years old, all who enter into the service to do the work in the tabernacle of the assembly.

4 ¶ “This will be the service of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the assembly, about the most holy things.

5 “And when the camp sets out, Aaron will come and his sons and they will take down the covering veil and cover the ark of testimony with it.

6 “Then they will put on it the covering of badger skins and will spread over it a cloth of pure blue. And they will put it in its poles.

7 “And on the table of showbread they will spread a cloth of blue and place the dishes on it and the pans and the bowls and covers to cover it. And the continual bread will be on it.

8 “Then they will spread on them a cloth of scarlet, and cover the same with a covering of badger skins. And they will put it in its poles.

9 “And they will take a cloth of blue and cover the candlestick of the light and its lamps and its tongs and its snuffdishes and all its oil vessels, by which they serve it.

10 “And they will put it and all its vessels within a covering of badger skins and will put it on a bar.

11 “And on the golden altar they will spread a cloth of blue and cover it with a covering of badger skins. And they will put it in its poles.

12 “And they will take all the instruments of ministry with which they serve in the sanctuary and put them in a cloth of blue and cover them with a covering of badger skins. And they will put them on a beam.

13 “And they will take away the ashes from the altar and spread a purple cloth over it.

14 “And they will put on it all its vessels with which they serve with it, even the censers, the fleshhooks and the shovels and the basins and all the vessels of the altar. And they will spread on it a covering of badger skins and put the poles in it.

15 “And when Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the vessels of the sanctuary, as the camp is to set out, after that the sons of Kohath will come to bear it. But they will not touch any holy thing, lest they die. These things are the burden of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the assembly.
16 “And to the office of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest pertains the 'oil for the light and the 'sweet incense and the 'daily grain offering and the 'anointing oil and the oversight of all the tabernacle and of all that is in it, in the sanctuary and in its vessels.”

17 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,
18 “Do not let the tribe of the families of the Kohathites be cut off from among the Levites.
19 “But thus do to them so that they may live and not die when they approach to the most holy things: Aaron and his sons will go in and appoint each one of them to his service and to his burden.
20 “But they will not go in to see when the holy things are covered, lest they die.”

The Gershonites

21 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
22 “Take also a census of the sons of Gershon, throughout the houses of their fathers by their families,
23 “from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old will you number them, all who enter in to perform the service to do the work in the tabernacle of the assembly.
24 “This is the service of the families of the Gershonites, to serve and for burdens:
25 “they will bear the curtains of the tabernacle and the tabernacle of the assembly, its covering and the covering of the badger skins that is on it and the curtain for the door of the tabernacle of the assembly,
26 “and the curtains of the court and the curtain for the door of the gate of the court that is by the tabernacle and by the altar around it, and their cords and all the instruments of their service and all that is made for them; so they will serve.
27 “At the appointment of Aaron and his sons will be all the service of the sons of the Gershonites, in all their burdens and in all their service. And you will assign to them as a duty all their loads.
28 “This is the service of the families of the sons of Gershon in the tabernacle of the assembly. And their duties will be under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

The Merarites

29 ¶ “As for the sons of Merari, you will number them after their families by the house of their fathers,
30 “from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old you will number them, everyone who enters into the service to do the work of the tabernacle of the assembly.
31 “And this is the duty of their burden according to all their service in the tabernacle of the assembly: the boards of the tabernacle and its bars and duty pillars and duty sockets,
32 “and the pillars around the court and their sockets and their pegs and their cords, with all their instruments and with all their service. And by name you will assign the instruments that each man is to carry.
33 “This is the service of the families of the sons of Merari according to all their service in the tabernacle of the assembly under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.”

Census of the Levite Families

34 ¶ So Moses and Aaron and the chief of the assembly numbered the sons of the Kohathites after their families and after the house of their fathers,
35 from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who enters into the service for the work in the tabernacle of the assembly.
36 And those who were numbered of them by their families were 2,750.
37 These were those who were numbered of the families of the Kohathites after their families and after the house of their fathers.
38 And those who were numbered of the sons of Gershon throughout their families and by the house of their fathers,
39 from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who enters into the service for the work in the tabernacle of the assembly.
Those who were numbered of them throughout their families by the house of their fathers were 2,630.

These are those who were numbered of the families of the sons of Gershon of all who might do service in the tabernacle of the assembly whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the commandment of the LORD.

And those who were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari throughout their families by the house of their fathers,

from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who enters into the service for the work in the tabernacle of the assembly,

even those who were numbered of them after their families were 3,200.

These are those who were numbered of the families of the sons of Merari whom Moses and Aaron numbered according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

All those who were numbered of the Levites whom Moses and Aaron and the chief of Israel numbered after their families and after the house of their fathers,

from thirty years old and upward even to fifty years old, everyone who came to do the service of the ministry and the service of the burden in the tabernacle of the assembly,

even those who were numbered of them after their families were 8,580.

According to the commandment of the LORD they were numbered by the hand of Moses, everyone according to his service and according to his burden. Thus they were numbered by him as the LORD commanded Moses.

Chapter 5

Purification of the Camp

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Command the children of Israel that they put out of the camp every leper and everyone who has a discharge and whoever is defiled by the dead.

You will put out both male and female outside the camp. You will put them out so that they not defile their camps where I dwell in their midst.

And the children of Israel did so. And they put them outside the camp as the LORD spoke to Moses, so did the children of Israel.

Restitutions

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

When a man or woman commits any sin that men commit, to do a trespass against the LORD, and that person is guilty,

then they will confess their sin that they have done. And he will make restitution in full for his wrong and add to it one-fifth of it. And he will give it to him whom he has wronged.

But if the man has no relative to whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution that is made for the wrong must go to the LORD for the priest, in addition to the ram of the atonement by which atonement will be made for him.

And every offering of all the holy things of the children of Israel that they bring to the priest will be his.

And every man’s hallowed things will be his. Whatever any man gives the priest, it will be his.”

Test of Unfaithful Wives

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Speak to the children of Israel, “When a man’s wife goes aside and commits a trespass against him,

and a man lies with her carnally and it is hid from the eyes of her husband, and it is concealed, and she is defiled, and there is no witness against her and she has not been caught in the act,

and the spirit of jealousy comes on him and he is jealous of his wife and she is defiled; or if the spirit of jealousy comes on him and he is jealous of his wife and she is not defiled;

then the man will bring his wife to the priest and he will bring her offering for her, the tenth part of an ephah of barley meal. He
will pour no oil on it, nor put frankincense on it, for it is an offering of jealousy, an offering of memorial, bringing iniquity to remembrance.

16 ¶ ‘And the priest will bring her near and set her before the LORD.

17 ¶ ‘And the priest will take holy water in an earthen vessel, and some of the dust that is on the floor of the tabernacle the priest will take and put it into the water.

18 ¶ ‘Then the priest will set the woman before the LORD and uncover the woman’s head. And he will put the offering of memorial in her hands, which is the jealousy offering. And the priest will have in his hand the bitter water that causes the curse.

19 ¶ ‘Then the priest will charge her by an oath and say to the woman, “If no man has lain with you, and if you have not gone aside to uncleanness with another instead of your husband, you are free from this bitter water that causes the curse.

20 ¶ ‘But if you have gone aside to another instead of your husband, and if you are defiled and some man has lain with you besides your husband”—

21 ¶ ‘here the priest will charge the woman with an oath of cursing. And the priest will say to the woman— “The LORD make you a curse and an oath among your people when the LORD makes your thigh waste away and your abdomen swell.

22 ¶ ‘And this water that causes the curse will go into your bowels, to make your abdomen swell and your thigh waste away.” And the woman will say, “Amen. Amen.”

23 ¶ ‘And the priest will write these curses in a book. And he will blot them out with the bitter water.

24 ¶ ‘And he will cause the woman to drink the bitter water that causes the curse. And the water that causes the curse will enter into her and cause bitterness.

25 ¶ ‘Then the priest will take the jealousy offering out of the woman’s hand and will wave the offering before the LORD, and offer it on the altar.

26 ¶ ‘Then the priest will take a handful of the offering, even its memorial, and burn it on the altar. And afterward he will make the woman drink the water.

27 ¶ ‘And when he has made her drink the water, then it will come to pass that if she is defiled and has trespassed against her husband that the water that causes the curse will enter into her and become bitter. And her abdomen will swell and her thigh will waste away. And the woman will be a curse among her people.

28 ¶ ‘And if the woman is not defiled, but is clean, then she will be free and will conceive seed.

29 ¶ ‘This is the law of jealousies when a wife goes aside to another instead of her husband, and is defiled,

30 ¶ ‘or when the spirit of jealousy comes on him and he is jealous over his wife and will set the woman before the LORD, and the priest will execute on her all this law.

31 ¶ ‘Then will the man be guiltless from iniquity and this woman will bear her iniquity.”’

Chapter 6
Nazarite Laws

1 ¶ ‘Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 ¶ ‘Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, “When either man or woman will separate themselves to make the vow of a Nazarite, to separate themselves to the LORD,

3 ¶ ‘he will separate himself from wine and strong drink. And he will drink no vinegar of wine or vinegar of strong drink, nor will he drink any grape juice nor eat meat or dried grapes.

4 ¶ ‘All the days of his separation he will eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from the seeds even to the skin.

5 ¶ ‘All the days of the vow of his separation there will no razor come on his head until the days are fulfilled in which he separates himself to the LORD. He will be holy and will let the locks of the hair of his head grow.

6 ¶ ‘All the days that he separates himself to the LORD he will not come near a dead body.

7 ¶ ‘He will not make himself unclean for his father or for his mother, for his brother or for
his sister, when they die, because the consecration of his God is on his head.

8 ¶ All the days of his separation he is holy to the LORD.

9 ¶ And if any man suddenly dies beside him, and he has defiled the head of his consecration, then he will shave his head in the day of his cleansing, on the seventh day he will shave it.

10 ¶ And on the eighth day he will bring two turtle doves or two young pigeons to the priest, to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

11 ¶ And the priest will offer the one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering, and make atonement for him, for he sinned because of the dead. And he will hallow his head that same day.

12 ¶ And he will consecrate to the LORD the days of his separation and will bring a lamb of the first year for a trespass offering. But the days that were before will be lost because his separation was defiled.

13 ¶ Now this is the law of the Nazarite when the days of his separation are fulfilled: he will be brought to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

14 ¶ And he will offer his offering to the LORD, one male lamb of the first year without blemish for a burnt offering and one female lamb of the first year without blemish for a sin offering, and one ram without blemish for a peace offerings,

15 ¶ and a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour mixed with oil, and wafers of unleavened bread anointed with oil, and their grain offering and their drink offering.

16 ¶ And the priest will bring them before the LORD and will offer his sin offering and his burnt offering.

17 ¶ And he will offer the ram for a sacrifice of peace offerings to the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread. The priest will offer also his grain offering, and his drink offering.

18 ¶ And the Nazarite will shave the head for his separation at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. And he will take the hair of the head of his separation and put it in the fire that is under the sacrifice of the peace offerings.

19 ¶ And the priest will take the boiled shoulder of the ram, and one unleavened cake out of the basket, and one unleavened wafer, and will put them on the hands of the Nazarite, after the hair of his separation is shaven.

20 ¶ And the priest will wave them for a wave offering before the LORD. This is holy for the priest, together with the wave breast and heave shoulder. And after this the Nazarite may drink wine.’

21 ¶ “This is the law of the Nazarite who has vowed, and of his offering to the LORD for his separation, beside that which his hand can provide. According to the vow that he vowed, so he must do after the law of his separation.”

22 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

23 ¶ “Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying,

24 ¶ ‘The LORD u bless you and v keep you.

25 ¶ ‘The LORD w make His face shine on you and x be gracious to you.

26 ¶ ‘The LORD x lift up His countenance on you and y give you peace.’

27 a ¶ ‘And they will put My name on the children of Israel, and b I will bless them.’

Chapter 7

Dedication of the Tabernacle

1 ¶ Then it came to pass on the day when Moses had fully set up the tabernacle and had anointed it and sanctified it and all its instruments, both the altar and all its vessels, and had anointed them and sanctified them,

2 that the princes of Israel, heads of the house of their fathers, who were the princes of the tribes, and were over them who were numbered, made an offering.

3 And they brought their offering before the LORD, six covered wagons and twelve oxen, a wagon for two of the princes and for each one an ox. And they brought them before the tabernacle.

4 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

5 ¶ ‘Take these from them so that they may be used to do the service of the tabernacle of the
assembly. And you will give them to the Levites, to every man according to his service.”

6 So Moses took the wagons and the oxen and gave them to the Levites.

7 He gave two wagons and four oxen to the sons of Gershon, according to their service.

8 And he gave four wagons and eight oxen to the sons of Merari, according to their service, under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

9 But to the sons of Kohath he gave none because the service of the sanctuary belonging to them was what they should carry on their shoulders.

10 ¶ Now the princes offered the dedication offering for the altar when it was anointed. Even so the princes offered their offering before the altar.

11 Then the LORD said to Moses, “They will offer their offering, each prince on his day, for the dedication of the altar.”

12 ¶ Now the one who offered his offering the first day was Nahshon the son of Amminadab, of the tribe of Judah.

13 And his offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

14 one pan of ten shekels of gold, full of incense;

15 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

16 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

17 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

18 ¶ On the second day Nethaneel the son of Zuar, prince of Issachar, presented an offering.

19 He offered for his offering one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

20 one pan of gold of ten shekels, full of incense;

21 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

22 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

23 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

24 ¶ On the third day Eliab the son of Helon, prince of the children of Zebulun, presented an offering.

25 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

26 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

27 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

28 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

29 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Eliab the son of Helon.

30 ¶ On the fourth day Elizur the son of Shedeur, prince of the children of Reuben, presented an offering.

31 His offering was one silver dish of the weight of one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

32 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

33 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

34 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

35 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Elizur the son of Shedeur.

36 ¶ On the fifth day Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai, prince of the children of Simeon, presented an offering.

37 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;
of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

38 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

39 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

40 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

41 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

42 ¶ On the sixth day Eliasaph the son of Deuel, prince of the children of Gad, presented an offering.

43 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of one hundred and thirty shekels, a silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

44 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

45 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

46 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

47 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

48 ¶ On the seventh day Elishama the son of Ammihud, prince of the children of Ephraim, presented an offering.

49 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

50 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

51 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

52 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

53 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Elishama the son of Ammihud.

54 ¶ On the eighth day Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, prince of the children of Manasseh, presented an offering.

55 His offering was one silver charger of the weight of one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

56 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

57 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

58 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

59 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

60 ¶ On the ninth day Abidan the son of Gideoni, prince of the children of Benjamin, presented an offering.

61 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

62 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

63 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

64 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

65 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Abidan the son of Gideoni.

66 ¶ On the tenth day Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai, prince of the children of Dan, presented an offering.

67 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;

68 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;

69 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;

70 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;

71 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

72 ¶ On the eleventh day Pagiel the son of Ocran, prince of the children of Asher, pre-
sented an offering.  

73 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;  

74 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;  

75 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;  

76 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Pagiel the son of Ocran.  

78 ¶ On the twelfth day Ahira the son of Enan, prince of the children of Naphtali, presented an offering.  

79 His offering was one silver charger. Its weight was one hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;  

80 one golden pan of ten shekels, full of incense;  

81 one young bull, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering;  

82 one kid of the goats for a sin offering;  

83 and for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, five lambs of the first year. This was the offering of Ahira the son of Enan.  

84 ¶ This was the dedication of the altar in the day when it was anointed by the princes of Israel; twelve dishes of silver, twelve silver bowls, twelve pans of gold,  

85 each dish of silver weighing one hundred and thirty shekels, each bowl seventy. All the silver vessels weighed two thousand and four hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary.  

86 The golden pans were twelve, full of incense, weighing ten shekels apiece, after the shekel of the sanctuary. All the gold of the pans was one hundred and twenty shekels.  

87 All the oxen for the burnt offering were twelve bulls, twelve rams, twelve lambs of the first year, with their grain offering, and twelve kids of the goats for a sin offering.  

88 And all the oxen for the sacrifice of the peace offerings were twenty-four bulls, sixty rams, sixty male goats, and sixty lambs of the first year. This was the dedication of the altar after it was anointed.  

89 ¶ Now when Moses went into the tabernacle of the assembly to speak with Him, then he heard the voice of one speaking to him from above the mercy seat that was on the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubim. And He spoke to him.

Chapter 8  

Setting of the Lamps  

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,  

2 “Speak to Aaron and say to him, ‘When you light the lamps, the seven lamps will give light in front of the candlestick.’”  

3 Then Aaron did so. He mounted its lamps at the front of the candlestick as the LORD commanded Moses.  

4 ¶ And this work of the candlestick was of hammered gold from its shaft to its flowers. It was hammered work. According to the pattern that the LORD had shown Moses, so he made the candlestick.

Cleansing of the Levites  

5 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,  

6 “Take the Levites from among the children of Israel and cleanse them.  

7 Thus you will do to them, to cleanse them: sprinkle purifying water on them and let them shave all their body. And let them wash their clothes and thus make themselves clean.  

8 Then let them take a young bull with its grain offering, even fine flour mixed with oil; and you will take another young bull for a sin offering.  

9 ¶ Then you will bring the Levites before the tabernacle of the assembly. And you will gather the whole assembly of the children of Israel together.  

10 ¶ And you will bring the Levites before the LORD. And the children of Israel will put their hands on the Levites.  

11 ¶ Then Aaron will offer the Levites before...
the LORD for an offering of the children of Israel so that they may execute the service of the LORD.

12 "And the Levites will lay their hands on the heads of the bulls. And you will offer the one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering to the LORD to make an atonement for the Levites.

13 "Then you will set the Levites before Aaron and before his sons, and offer them for an offering to the LORD.

14 "Thus you will separate the Levites from among the children of Israel. And the Levites will be Mine.

15 "Then after that the Levites will go in to do the service of the tabernacle of the assembly. And you will cleanse them and offer them for an offering.

16 "For they are wholly given to Me from among the children of Israel. I have taken them for Myself instead of all who open every womb, even the firstborn of all the children of Israel.

17 "For all the firstborn of the children of Israel are Mine, both man and animal. On the day that I smote every firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified them for Myself.

18 "And I have taken the Levites for all the firstborn of the children of Israel.

19 "And I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and to his sons from among the children of Israel, to do the service of the children of Israel in the tabernacle of the assembly, and to make an atonement for the children of Israel, so that there be no plague among the children of Israel when the children of Israel come near to the sanctuary."

20 ¶ Then Moses and Aaron and all the assembly of the children of Israel did to the Levites according to all that the LORD commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so did the children of Israel to them.

21 "So the Levites were purified. And they washed their clothes, and Aaron offered them as an offering before the LORD. And Aaron made atonement for them to cleanse them.

22 ¶ Then after that the Levites went in to do their service in the tabernacle of the assembly before Aaron and before his sons. "As the LORD had commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so did they to them.

23 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

24 "This is what belongs to the Levites: from twenty-five years old and upward they will go in to wait on the service of the tabernacle of the assembly.

25 "And from the age of fifty years they will cease waiting on the service, and will serve no more.

26 "But they will minister with their brethren in the tabernacle of the assembly, to attend to needs, and they will do no work. Thus you will do to the Levites concerning their duty."

Chapter 9

The Passover

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

2 "Let the children of Israel also keep the Passover at its appointed time.

3 "In the fourteenth day of this month, at evening, you will keep it in its appointed time. You will keep it according to all its rites and according to all its ceremonies."

4 So Moses spoke to the children of Israel so that they should keep the Passover.

5 Then they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at evening in the wilderness of Sinai. According to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel.

6 ¶ Now there were certain men who were defiled by the dead body of a man, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day. And they came before Moses and before Aaron on that day.

7 And those men said to him, "We are defiled by the dead body of a man. Why are we kept back so that we may not offer an offering of the LORD at its appointed season among the children of Israel?"

8 Then Moses said to them, "Wait and I will..."
hearing what the LORD will command concerning you.”

¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘If anyone of you or of your generations is unclean by reason of a dead body, or is on a journey afar off, yet he will keep the Passover to the LORD.

¶ The fourteenth day of the second month at evening they will keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. They will leave none of it until the morning, nor break any bone of it. They will keep it according to all the ordinances of the Passover.

But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and neglects to keep the Passover, even the same soul will be cut off from among his people. Because he did not bring an offering of the LORD in its appointed time, that man will bear his sin.

And if an alien sojourns among you, and will keep the Passover to the LORD according to the ordinance of the Passover, and according to its ceremony, you will have one ordinance, both for the alien and for him who was born in the land.”

Movements of the Cloud & Tabernacle

Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony. And at evening it was like the appearance of fire over the tabernacle, until the morning.

So it was continually. The cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night.

And when the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, then after that the children of Israel journeyed. And in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel pitched their tents.

At the commandment of the LORD the children of Israel journeyed, and at the commandment of the LORD they camped. As long as the cloud remained on the tabernacle they rested in their tents.

And when the cloud tarried long on the tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD, and did not journey.

And so it was, when the cloud was a few days on the tabernacle according to the commandment of the LORD, they remained in their tents. And according to the commandment of the LORD, they journeyed.

And so it was, when the cloud remained from evening to the morning, and when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they journeyed. Whether it was by day or by night. Whenever the cloud was taken up, they journeyed.

Or whether it was two days, or a month, or a year, that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel remained in their tents, and they did not journey. But when it was taken up, they journeyed.

At the commandment of the LORD they rested in the tents, and at the commandment of the LORD they journeyed. They kept the charge of the LORD at the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

The Silver Trumpets

¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Make for yourself two trumpets of silver. From a whole piece you will make them so that you may use them for the calling of the assembly and for the journeying of the camps.

And when they blow with them, all the assembly will assemble themselves to you at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

And if they blow with one trumpet, then the princes who are heads of the thousands of Israel will gather themselves to you.

When you blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the east side will go forward.

But when the assembly is to be gathered together, you will blow, but you will not sound an alarm.
8 i“And the sons of Aaron, the priests, will blow with the trumpets. And they will be to you for an ordinance forever throughout your generations.

9 i“And if you go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresses you, then you will blow an alarm with the trumpets. And you will be remembered before the LORD your God and you will be saved from your enemies.

10 “Also in the day of your gladness and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, you will blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings, so that they may be to you for a memorial before your God. I am the LORD your God.”

Israel Leaves Mt. Sinai

11 ¶ Now it came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from off the tabernacle of the testimony.

12 And the children of Israel set out from the wilderness of Sinai on their journeys. And the cloud rested in the wilderness of Paran.

13 So they first took their journey according to the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

14 ¶ In the first place went the standard of the camp of the children of Judah according to their armies. And over his army was Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

15 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Issachar was Nethaneel the son of Zuar.

16 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Zebulun was Eliab the son of Helon.

17 And the tabernacle was taken down, and the sons of Gershon and the sons of Merari set forward, bearing the tabernacle.

18 ¶ And the standard of the camp of Reuben set forward according to their armies. And over his army was Elizur the son of Shedeur.

19 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Simeon was Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

20 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Gad was Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

21 And the Kohathites set forward, bearing the sanctuary. And the tabernacle was set up before their arrival.

22 ¶ And the standard of the camp of the children of Ephraim set forward according to their armies. And over his army was Elishama the son of Ammihud.

23 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Manasseh was Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

24 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Benjamin was Abidan the son of Gideoni.

25 ¶ And the standard of the camp of the children of Dan set forward, which was the rear guard of all the camps throughout their armies. And over his army was Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

26 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Asher was Pagiel the son of Ocran.

27 And over the army of the tribe of the children of Naphtali was Ahira the son of Enan.

28 bThus were the journeys of the children of Israel according to their armies when they set forward.

29 ¶ And Moses said to ‘Hobab, the son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses’ father-in-law, “We are journeying to the place of which the LORD said, ‘I will give it to you.’ Come with us and we will do good to you. For the LORD has spoken good concerning Israel.”

30 Then he said to him, “I will not go, but I will depart to my own land and to my relatives.”

31 And he said, “Please do not leave us, inasmuch as you know how we are to camp in the wilderness, and you will be as eyes for us.

32 “And it will be, if you go with us, yes, it will be that what goodness the LORD will do to us, the same we will do to you.”

33 ¶ So they departed from the mountain of the LORD three days’ journey. And the ark of the covenant of the LORD went before them in the three days’ journey, to search out a resting place for them.

34 And the cloud of the LORD was above them by day when they went out of the camp.
Now it came to pass when the ark set out that Moses said, “Rise up, O LORD, and let Your enemies be scattered. And let them who hate You flee before You.”

And when it rested, he said, “Return, O LORD, to the many thousands of Israel.”

Chapter 11
Fire From the Lord

¶ Now when the people complained it displeased the LORD. And the LORD heard it, and His anger was kindled. And the fire of the LORD burned among them and consumed those who were on the outskirts of the camp.

Then the people cried out to Moses. And when Moses prayed to the LORD, the fire was quenched.

So he called the name of the place Taberah, because the fire of the LORD burned among them.

Quail From the Lord

¶ And the mixed multitude who were among them began to crave other food. And the children of Israel also wept again and said, “Who will give us meat to eat? We remember the fish that we freely ate in Egypt, the cucumbers and the melons and the leeks and the onions and the garlic.

“Our soul is dried away. There is nothing at all before our eyes except this manna.”

And the manna was as coriander seed, and its color as the color of bdellium.

The people went about and gathered it and ground it in mills or beat it in a mortar. And they baked it in pans and made cakes of it. And the taste of it was as the taste of fresh oil.

And when the dew fell on the camp in the night, the manna would fall with it.

Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly. Moses also was displeased.

“Why have you afflicted your servant? And why have I not found favor in Your sight, that You laid the burden of all this people on me?

“Have I conceived all this people? Have I begotten them so that You should say to me, “Carry them in your bosom as a nursing father bears the sucking child, to the land that You swore to their fathers?

“Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me, saying, ‘Give us meat so that we may eat.’

“I am not able to bear all this people alone because it is too heavy for me.

“And if You deal thus with me, kill me right now, I beg You, if I have found favor in Your sight. And do not let me see my wretchedness.”

¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them. And bring them to the tabernacle of the assembly so that they may stand there with you.

Then I will come down and talk with you there. And I will take of the Spirit who is on you and will put it on them. And they will bear the burden of the people with you so that you do not bear it alone.

“Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, and you will eat meat. For you have wept in the years of the LORD, saying, “Who will give us meat so that they may eat a whole month.”

You will not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days, but even a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and it becomes loathsome to you; because you have despised the LORD who is among you and have wept before Him, saying, “Why did we ever leave Egypt?”

Then Moses said, “The people among whom I am are 600,000 footmen. And You have said, ‘I will give them meat so that they may eat a whole month.’

“Will the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to be sufficient for them? Or will all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to be sufficient for them?”
23 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Is the LORD’s hand too short? You will see now whether My word will come to pass for you or not.”

24 ¶ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people and set them all around the tabernacle.

25 Then the LORD came down in a cloud and spoke to him. And He took of the Spirit who was on him and gave it to the seventy elders. And it came to pass when the Spirit rested on them that they prophesied. But they never did so again.

26 ¶ But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested on them, and they were among those who had been registered, but had not gone out to the tabernacle. And they prophesied in the camp.

27 So a young man ran and told Moses. And he said, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”

28 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, “My lord Moses, forbid them.”

29 Then Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put His Spirit on them!”

30 Then Moses returned to the camp, both he and the elders of Israel.

31 ¶ And there went forth a wind from the LORD and brought quail from the sea. And He let them fall by the camp about a day’s journey on this side and a day’s journey on the other side, all around the camp and about two cubits deep on the surface of the ground.

32 And the people stood up all that day and all that night and all the next day. And they gathered the quail. He who gathered least gathered ten homers. And they spread them out for themselves all around the camp.

33 Now while the flesh was yet between their teeth, before it was chewed, the anger of the LORD was kindled against the people. And the LORD smote the people with a very great plague.

34 So he called the name of that place Kibroth Hattaavah, because there they buried the people who had been greedy.

35 ¶ Then the people journeyed from Kibroth Hattaavah to Hazeroth. And they remained at Hazeroth.

Chapter 12

Opposition From Aaron & Miriam

1 ¶ Now Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married, for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

2 And they said, “Has the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? Has He not spoken also by us?” And the LORD heard it.

3 (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men who were on the face of the earth.)

4 So the LORD spoke suddenly to Moses and to Aaron and to Miriam, “You three come out to the tabernacle of the assembly.” And the three came out.

5 ¶ Then the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle. And He called Aaron and Miriam. And both of them came forth.

6 And He said, “Hear now My words. If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD will make Myself known to him in a vision. And I will speak to him in a dream.

7 “Not so with My servant Moses, who is faithful in all that the LORD says.

8 “With him I will speak mouth to mouth, even openly, and not in dark speeches. And he beholds the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?”

9 ¶ So the anger of the LORD was kindled against them and He departed.

10 Then the cloud departed from off the tabernacle, and behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow. And Aaron looked on Miriam, and behold, she was leprous.

11 Then Aaron said to Moses, “Alas, my lord, I beseech you, do not lay the sin on us wherein we have done foolishly and wherein we have sinned.
12 “Do not let her be as one dead, whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother’s womb.”
13 Then Moses cried to the LORD, saying, “Heal her now, O God, I beseech you.”
14 ¶ And the LORD said to Moses, “If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? Let her be shut out from the camp seven days and after that let her be received in again.”
15 ¶ And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days. And the people did not journey until Miriam was brought in again.
16 Then afterward the people moved from Hazeroth and camped in the wilderness of Paran.

Chapter 13
Spreading Out the Land
1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 “Send men so that they may search the land of Canaan that I am giving to the children of Israel. Of every tribe of their fathers you will send a man, every one a ruler among them.”
3 So by the commandment of the LORD Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran. All those men were heads of the children of Israel.
4 Now these were their names: of the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son of Zaccur;
5 of the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son of Hori;
6 of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh;
7 of the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph;
8 of the tribe of Ephraim, Oshea the son of Nun;
9 of the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu;
10 of the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi;
11 of the tribe of Joseph, namely, of the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi;
12 of the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli;
13 of the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael;
14 of the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi;
15 of the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi.
16 These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua.
17 ¶ So Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan. And he said to them, “Go up there into the Negev, and go up into the hill country.
18 “And see the land, what it is; and the people who dwell in it, whether they are strong or weak, few or many;
19 “and what the land is that they dwell in, whether it is good or bad; and what cities that they dwell in, whether in tents or in strongholds;
20 “and what the land is, whether it is fat or lean, whether there is wood in it or not. And be of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land.” Now the time was the time of the first ripe grapes.
21 ¶ So they went up and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin to Hamath, as men come to Hamath.
22 And they went up by the Negev. And they came to Hebron where Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmai, the children of Anak, were. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)
23 ¶ Then they came to the brook of Eshcol and cut down from there a cluster of grapes. And they carried it between two men on a staff. And they brought some of the pomegranates and the figs.
24 The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes that the children of Israel cut down from there.
25 And they returned from searching the land after forty days.

Report From the Spies
26 ¶ Now they went and came to Moses and to Aaron, and to all the assembly of the children of Israel, to the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh. And they brought back word to them
and to all the assembly. And they showed them the fruit of the land.

27 Then they told him, and said, “We came to the land where you sent us. And surely it flows with milk and honey. p And this is the fruit of it.

28 “Nevertheless, the rpeople are strong who dwell in the land. And the cities are walled and very great. And furthermore, we saw the children of qAnak there.

29 “The Amalekites dwell in the land of the Negeb. And the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains. And the Canaanites dwell by the sea and by the banks of the Jordan.”

30 ¶ Then tCaleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it.”

31 “But the men who went up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.”

32 So they v gave to the children of Israel a bad report about the land that they had searched, saying, “The land through which we have gone to search out is a land that eats up its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature.

33 “And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak who come from the giants. And we were in our own sight as ygrasshoppers, and so we were zin their sight.”

Chapter 14
Rebellion of the People

1 ¶ And all the assembly lifted up their voice and cried. And the people wwept that night.

2 ¶ And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron. And the whole assembly said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!

3 “Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword so that our wives and our children should be a prey? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?”

4 And they said one to another, w“Let us make a leader and let us rreturn to Egypt.”

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the multitude of the assembly of the children of Israel.

6 ¶ And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were of those who spied out the land, tore their clothes.

7 Then they spoke to all the assembly of the children of Israel, saying, “The land that we passed through to search is an exceeding good land.

8 “If the LORD is ppleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that pflows with milk and honey.

9 “Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are kbread for us. Their defense has been removed from them, and the lLORD is with us. Do not fear them.”

10 mBut all the assembly said to stone them with stones. Then the nglory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the assembly before all the children of Israel.

11 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long will this people provoke Me? And how long will they not pbelieve in Me, regardless of all the signs that I have shown among them?

12 “I will smite them with pestilence and disinherit them. And I will qmake of you a greater nation and mightier than they.”

13 ¶ And mMoses said to the LORD, “s“Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for You brought up this people in Your might from among them.

14 “And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land. For they have heard that You LORD are among this people, that You LORD are seen face to face, and that Your cloud stands over them, and that You go before them by day in a pillar of cloud and in a pillar of fire by night. Wherefore now let their present sin be forgiven, and bring them into the land which You have prepared for them.”

15 “Now if you will kill all this people as one man, then the nations that have heard Your fame will speak, saying,

16 ‘Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land that He promised to them, therefore He has slain them in the wilderness.’

17 “And now, I beseech You, let the power of my LORD be great according as You have
spoken, saying,

18 

v "The LORD is longsuffering and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation.'

19 x"Pardon, I beseech You, the iniquity of this people according to the greatness of Your mercy, and 'as You have forgiven this people from Egypt even until now.'

20 ¶ Then the LORD said, "I have pardoned according to your word.

21 "But as truly as I live, b all the earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD.

22 c "Because all those men who have seen My glory and My miracles that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted Me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to My voice,

23 surely they will not see the land that I promised to their fathers, nor will any of them who provoked Me see it.

24 "But My servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him and g has followed Me fully, him I will bring into the land where he went. And his seed will possess it.

25 "Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valley. Turn tomorrow and h set out to the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea."

26 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

27 i "How long will I bear with this evil assembly who murmur against Me? jI have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel that they murmur against Me.

28 "Say to them, k 'As truly as I live,' says the LORD, 'as you have spoken in My ears, so will I do to you.

29 'Your carcasses will fall in this wilderness. And l all who were numbered of you according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, who have murmured against Me, m surely you will not come into the land that I swore to settle you, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

30 n 'But your little ones whom you said should become a prey, them I will bring in and they will know the land that you have despised.

32 o 'But as for you, p your carcasses will fall in this wilderness.

33 "And your children q will wander in the wilderness forty years and r bear your unfaithfulness until your carcasses are wasted in the wilderness.

34 s 'After the number of the days in which you searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year you will bear your iniquities, even forty years. And t you will know My opposition.

35 u "I the LORD have said this. I will surely do it to all u this evil assembly who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they will be consumed and there they will die."

36 Then the men whom Moses sent to search the land, who returned and made all the assembly to murmur against him by bringing up a bad report on the land,

37 even those men who brought up the bad report on the land v died by a plague before the LORD.

38 w 'But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, remained alive of the men who went to search the land.

39 ¶ And Moses told these sayings to all the children of Israel. x 'And the people mourned greatly.

40 Then they rose up early in the morning and went up into the top of the mountain, saying, y 'Lo, we are here and will go up to the place that the LORD has promised, for we have sinned.'

41 Then Moses said, "Why do you now transgress the commandment of the LORD? This will not succeed.

42 z 'Do not go up, for the LORD is not among you so that you not be smitten before your enemies.

43 "For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you and you will fall by the sword. a 'Because you have turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.'

44 b 'But they presumptuously went up to the hill top. However, the ark of the covenant of

v Ex 34:6,7 w Ex 20:5 x Ex 32:32; 34:9 y Ps 51:1; 106:45 z Ps 78:38 a Mc 7:18-20 b Ps 72:19 c Dt 1:35 d Gn 31:7 e Nm 26:65; 32:11 f Ja 4:16,8,9 g Nm 32:12 h Dt 1:40 i Ex 16:28 j Ex 16:12 k Hb 3:16-19 l Nm 1:45,46; 26:64 m Dt 1:36-38 n Dt 1:39 o Ps 106:24 p Nm 26:64,65; 32:13 q Ps 107:40 r Dt 2:14 s Ez 23:35 t Nm 13:25 u Ez 4:6 v Hb 4:11 w Nm 23:19 x 1 Co 10:5 y 1 Co 10:10 z Ja 4:16,10 a Ex 33:4 b Dt 1:41-44 c Dt 1:42; 31:17 d Z Ch 15:2 e Dt 1:43
the LORD and Moses did not depart out of the camp.

45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites who dwelt in that mountain, and smote them and beat them down even to Hormah.

Chapter 15

Offerings for Sin

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘When you have come into the land of your habitations that I am giving to you,

3 then you will make an offering by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering or a sacrifice in performing a vow, or in a free will offering, or in your solemn feasts, to make a sweet savor to the LORD, of the herd or of the flock.

4 Then the one who offers his offering to the LORD will bring a grain offering of one-tenth of an ephah of flour mixed with the fourth part of a hin of oil.

5 And you will prepare the fourth part of a hin of wine for a drink offering with the burnt offering or sacrifice for one lamb.

6 Or for a ram, you will prepare for a grain offering two-tenths of an ephah of flour mixed with the third part of a hin of oil.

7 And for a drink offering you will offer the third part of a hin of wine for a sweet savor to the LORD.

8 And when you prepare a bull for a burnt offering or for a sacrifice in performing a vow or peace offerings to the LORD,

9 then he will bring with a bull a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of flour mixed with half a hin of oil.

10 And you will bring for a drink offering half a hin of wine, for an offering made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD.

11 "Thus will it be done for one bull or for one ram or for a lamb or a kid.

12 According to the number that you will prepare, so you will do to everyone according to their number.

13 ‘All who are born of the country will do these things after this manner in offering an offering made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD.

14 ‘And if an alien sojourns with you, or whoever is among you in your generations, and will offer an offering made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD, as you do, so he will do.

15 ‘One ordinance will be both for you of the assembly and also for the alien who sojourns with you, an ordinance forever in your generations. As you are, so will the alien be before the LORD.

16 ‘One law and one ordinance will be for you and for the alien who sojourns with you.’”

17 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

18 "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘When you come into the land where I bring you,

19 then it will be that when you eat of the bread of the land you will offer up a heave offering to the LORD.

20 You will offer up a cake of the first of your dough for a heave offering, As you do the heave offering of the threshing floor, so you will heave it.

21 ‘Of the first of your dough you will give to the LORD a heave offering in your generations.

Offerings for Unintentional Sins

22 ¶ ‘And if you have erred and not observed all these commandments that the LORD has spoken to Moses,

23 even all that the LORD has commanded you by the hand of Moses, from the day that the LORD commanded Moses, and onward among your generations,

24 then it will be if it is done unintentionally without the knowledge of the assembly, that all the assembly will offer one young bull for a burnt offering, for a sweet savor to the LORD, with its grain offering and its drink offering, according to the ordinance, and one kid of the goats for a sin offering.

25 And the priest will make atonement for all the assembly of the children of Israel. And it will be forgiven them, for it was unintentional. And they will bring their offering, a sac-
rifice made by fire to the LORD, and their sin offering before the LORD, for their unintentional sin.
26 ‘And it will be forgiven all the assembly of the children of Israel, and the alien who sojourns among them, seeing all the people did it unintentionally.
27 ‘And if any soul sins unintentionally, then he will bring a female goat of the first year for a sin offering.
28 ‘And the priest will make atonement for the soul who sins unintentionally, when he sins unintentionally before the LORD, to make atonement for him. And it will be forgiven him.
29 a‘You will have one law for him who sins unintentionally, both for him who is born among the children of Israel and for the alien who sojourns among them.
30 b‘But the soul who does anything presumptuously, whether he is born in the land or an alien, the same is blaspheming the LORD, and that soul will be cut off from among his people.
31 cBecause he has despised the word of the LORD and has broken his commandment, that soul will utterly be cut off. His iniquity will be on him.’”

Violation of the Sabbath
32 ¶ Now while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, dthey found a man who gathered sticks on the Sabbath day.
33 And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron and to all the assembly.
34 And they put him in ecustody because it was not declared what should be done to him.
35 Then the LORD said to Moses, f“The man will surely be put to death. All the assembly will stone him with stones outside the camp.”
36 So all the assembly brought him outside the camp and stoned him with stones as the LORD commanded Moses. And he died.

Borders of the Priests’ Garments
37 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
38 “Speak to the children of Israel and btell them that they make for themselves tassels in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put on the tassel of the borders a cord of blue.
39 “And it will be to you for a tassel so that you may look on it and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them, and that you do not seek after your own heart and your own eyes after which you played the harlot,
40 “so that you may remember and do all My commandments and be holy to your God.
41 “I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God. I am the LORD your God.”

Chapter 16
Rebellion of Kohath, Dathan & Abiram
1 ¶ Now aKorah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and bDathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, became insolent.
2 And they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the assembly, men of renown.
3 dAnd they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said to them, “You take too much on you, seeing eall the assembly is holy, everyone of them, and fthe LORD is among them. Why then do you lift up yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?”
4 ¶ Then when Moses heard this, he fell on his face.
5 And he spoke to Korah and to all his company, saying, “Even tomorrow the LORD will show who are his and who is holy. And He will cause him to come near to Him. Even him whom He has chosen He will cause to come near to Him.
6 “This do: take censers for yourselves, Korah and all your company,
7 and put fire in them and put incense in them before the LORD tomorrow. And it will be that the man whom the LORD does choose, he will be holy. You assume too much, you sons of Levi.”
8 Then Moses said to Korah, “Hear, I pray you, sons of Levi.
9 “Is it a small thing for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the assembly of Israel in order to bring you near to Himself to do the service of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the assembly to minister to them;
10 “and that He has brought you near to Him, and all your brethren the sons of Levi with you? And you seek the priesthood also?
11 “For which cause are you and all your company gathered together against the LORD? And who is Aaron that you murmur against him?”

12 ¶ And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab. But they said, “We will not come up.”
13 “Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land that flows with milk and honey in order to kill us in the wilderness, but you make yourself a prince over us?
14 “Moreover, you have not brought us into a land that flows with milk and honey or given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards. Will you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up.”

15 ¶ So Moses was very angry and said to the LORD, “Do not respect their offering. I have not taken one donkey from them, nor have I hurt one of them.”
16 Then Moses said to Korah, “You and all your company be present before the LORD tomorrow, both you and they along with Aaron.
17 “And take every man his censer and put incense in them. And bring before the LORD every man his censer, two hundred and fifty censers, you also and Aaron, each of you his censer.”

18 So they took every man his censer and put fire in them. And they laid incense on it and stood in the door of the tabernacle of the assembly with Moses and Aaron.

19 Then Korah gathered all the assembly against them at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. And the glory of the LORD appeared to all the assembly.

20 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

21 “‘Separate yourselves from among this assembly so that I may consume them in a moment.”
22 And they fell on their faces, and said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, will one man sin and will You be angry with all the assembly?”

23 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
24 “Speak to the assembly, saying, ‘Get back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.’”

25 So Moses rose up and went to Dathan and Abiram. And the elders of Israel followed him.

26 Then he spoke to the assembly, saying, “Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men and touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins.”

27 So they got back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. And Dathan and Abiram came out and stood in the door of their tents with their wives and their sons and their little children.

28 Then Moses said, “By this you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own mind.

29 “If these men die the common death of all men, or if they are visited after the visitation of all men,
30 “But if the LORD brings about a new thing and the earth opens her mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them and they go down quick into the pit, then you will understand that these men have provoked the LORD.”

31 ¶ Now it came to pass when he had made an end of speaking all these words, the ground that was under them split open.

32 And the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them up, and their houses and all the goods.

33 They and all that belonged to them went down alive into the pit, and they perished from among the assembly.

34 And all Israel who were around them fled at their cry. For they said, “Lest the earth swal-
low us up also!"

35 And there came out a fire from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who offered incense.

36 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

37 “Speak to Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, that he take up the censers out of the burning and scatter the coals abroad, for they are hallowed.

38 “The censers of these who sinned against their own souls, let them be made into broad plates for a covering of the altar. For they offered them before the LORD, therefore they are hallowed. And they will be a sign to the children of Israel.”

39 So Eleazar the priest took the brazen censers that the men who were burned up had offered. And they were made into broad plates for a covering of the altar,

40 as a memorial to the children of Israel so that no alien who is not of the seed of Aaron, come near to offer incense before the LORD, that he be not as Korah and as his company, as the LORD said to him by the hand of Moses.

41 ¶ But on the next day all the assembly of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, “You have killed the people of the LORD.”

42 Now it came to pass when the assembly was gathered against Moses and against Aaron, that they looked toward the tabernacle of the assembly, and behold, the cloud covered it and the glory of the LORD appeared.

43 And Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of assembly.

44 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

45 “Get up from among this assembly so that I may consume them in a moment.” And they fell on their faces.

46 ¶ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Take a censer and put fire in it from off the altar and put on incense, and go quickly to the assembly and make atonement for them. For there is wrath gone out from the LORD. The plague has begun!”

47 So Aaron took as Moses commanded and ran into the midst of the assembly. And behold, the plague had begun among the people.

And he put on incense and made atonement for the people.

48 Then he stood between the dead and the living, and the plague was stopped.

49 Now they who died in the plague were 14,700, beside those who died on account of Korah.

50 Then Aaron returned to Moses to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. And the plague was stopped.

Chapter 17

Budding of Aaron’s Staff

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “Speak to the children of Israel, and get from them a staff according to the house of their fathers, of all their princes according to the house of their fathers twelve staffs. Write every man’s name on his staff.

3 “And you will write Aaron’s name on the staff of Levi, for one staff will be for the head of the house of their fathers.

4 “And you will lay them up in the tabernacle of the assembly before the testimony where I will meet with you.

5 “Now it will come to pass that the man’s staff whom I will choose will blossom. And I will cause to cease from Myself the murmurings of the children of Israel with which they murmur against you.”

6 ¶ So Moses spoke to the children of Israel. And each one of their princes gave him a staff apiece, for each prince one, according to their fathers’ houses, even twelve staffs. And the staff of Aaron was among their staffs.

7 Then Moses laid up the staffs before the LORD in the tabernacle of the testimony.

8 ¶ Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness. And behold, the staff of Aaron for the house of Levi had budded. And it brought forth buds and bloomed blossoms. And it yielded almonds.

9 So Moses brought out all the staffs from before the LORD to all the children of Israel. And they looked, and each man took his staff.

10 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Bring Aaron’s staff again before the testimony to be kept for a sign against the rebels. And you
will put an end to their murmurings from Me so that they not die.”
11 So Moses did as the LORD commanded him, so he did.
12 ¶ Then the children of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, “Behold, we die. We perish. We all perish!
13 ¶ “Whoever comes near to the tabernacle of the LORD will die. Are we all going to perish?”

Chapter 18
Duties of Priests & Levites
1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Aaron, a““You and your sons and your father’s house with you will bear the iniquity of the sanctuary. And you and your sons with you will bear the iniquity of your priesthood.
2 ¶ “But bring with you your brethren also of the tribe of Levi, the tribe of your father, so that they may be joined to you and minister to you. But you and your sons with you will minister before the tabernacle of witness.
3 ¶ “And they will keep your duty and the duty of all the tabernacle. Only they will not come near the vessels of the sanctuary and the altar that they not die.
4 ¶ “And they will be joined to you and keep the duty of the tabernacle of the assembly, for all the service of the tabernacle. And an alien will not come near to you.
5 ¶ “And you will keep the duty of the sanctuary and the duty of the altar so that there be no more wrath on the children of Israel.
6 ¶ “And behold, I have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel. To you they are given as a gift for the LORD to do the service of the tabernacle of the assembly.
7 ¶ “Therefore, you and your sons with you will keep your priest’s office for everything of the altar and within the veil, and you will serve. I have given your priest’s office to you as a gift for service. And the alien who comes near will be put to death.”

Food for the Priests & Levites
8 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, “Behold, I also have given you the duty of My heave offerings of all the hallowed things of the children of Israel. I have given them to you as a portion and to your sons as a perpetual allotment.
9 ¶ “This will be yours of the most holy things, reserved from the fire. Every oblation of theirs, every grain offering of theirs and every sin offering of theirs and every trespass offering of theirs, which they will render to Me, will be most holy for you and for your sons.
10 ¶ “In the most holy place you will eat it. Every male will eat it. It will be holy to you.
11 ¶ “And this is yours, the heave offering of their gift with all the wave offerings of the children of Israel. I have given them to you and to your sons and to your daughters with you, by a statute forever. ¶ Everyone who is clean in your house will eat of it.
12 ¶ “All the best of the oil and all the best of the wine and of the wheat, the firstfruits of those which they will offer to the LORD, those I have given you.
13 ¶ “Whatever is first ripe in the land that they will bring to the LORD will be yours. Everyone who is clean in your house will eat of it.
14 ¶ “Everything devoted in Israel will be yours.
15 ¶ “Everything that opens the womb in all flesh that they bring to the LORD, whether it is of men or animals, will be yours. Nevertheless, the firstborn of man you will surely redeem and the firstborn of unclean animals you will redeem.
16 ¶ “And those who are to be redeemed from a month old you will redeem according to your valuation, for the money of five shekels after the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs.
17 ¶ “But the firstborn of a cow or the firstborn of a sheep or the firstborn of a goat, you will not redeem. They are holy. ¶ You will sprinkle their blood on the altar and will burn their fat for an offering made by fire, for a sweet savor to the LORD.
18 ¶ “And their flesh will be yours, as the wave breast and as the right shoulder are yours.
19 ¶ “All the heave offerings of the holy things...
that the children of Israel offer to the LORD, I have given you, and your sons and your daughters with you, by a statute forever. It is a covenant of salt forever before the LORD to you and to your seed with you.”

20 Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, “You will have no inheritance in their land, nor will you have any part among them. I am your part and your inheritance among the children of Israel.

21 ¶ “And behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service that they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the assembly.

22 ¶ “Neither must the children of Israel from now on come near the tabernacle of the assembly, lest they bear sin and die.

23 “But the Levites will do the service of the tabernacle of the assembly and they will bear their iniquity. It will be a statute forever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance.

24 “But the tithes of the children of Israel that they offer as a heave offering to the LORD, I have given to the Levites to inherit. Therefore, I have said to them, ‘Among the children of Israel they have no inheritance.’

25 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

26 “Thus speak to the Levites and say to them, ‘When you take of the children of Israel the tithes that I have given you from them for your inheritance, then you will offer up a heave offering from it for the LORD, even a tenth part of the tithe.

27 ¶ And your heave offering will be reckoned to you as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor and as the fulness of the winepress.

28 ¶ Thus you also will offer a heave offering to the LORD from all your tithes that you receive from the children of Israel. And from it you will give the LORD’S heave offering to Aaron the priest.

29 ¶ Out of all your gifts you will offer every heave offering of the LORD, from all the best of them, even the hallowed part from them.’

30 ¶ Therefore, you will say to them, ‘When you have heaved the best from it, then it will be counted to the Levites as the increase of the threshingfloor and as the increase of the winepress.

31 ¶ And you will eat it in every place, you and your households. For it is your reward for your service in the tabernacle of the assembly.

32 ¶ And you will bear no sin by reason of it when you have heaved from it the best of it. Neither will you profane the holy things of the children of Israel, lest you die.’”

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Chapter 19

Water for Cleansing

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

2 “This is the ordinance of the law that the LORD has commanded, saying, ‘Speak to the children of Israel that they bring you a red heifer without spot, in which is no blemish and on which a yoke has never been placed.

3 ¶ And you will give it to Eleazar the priest so that he may bring it outside the camp. And one will slay it before his face.

4 ¶ And Eleazar the priest will take of its blood with his finger and sprinkle its blood directly before the tabernacle of the assembly seven times.

5 ¶ And the priest will take cedar wood and hyssop and scarlet and cast it into the midst of the burning of the heifer.

6 ¶ Then the priest will wash his clothes and bathe his body in water. And afterward he will come into the camp and the priest will be unclean until the evening.

7 ¶ And he who burns it will wash his clothes in water and bathe his body in water. And he will be unclean until the evening.

8 ¶ And he who burns it will wash his clothes in water and bathe his body in water. And he will be unclean until the evening.

9 ¶ And a man who is clean will gather up the ashes of the heifer and lay them up outside the camp in a clean place. And it will be kept for the assembly of the children of Israel for a water of separation. It is a purification for sin.

10 ¶ And he who gathers the ashes of the heifer will wash his clothes and be unclean until the
evening. And it will be to the children of Israel and to the alien who sojourns among them for a statute forever.

11 ¶ k’He who touches the dead body of any man will be unclean seven days.

12 l’He will purify himself with water on the third day, and on the seventh day he will be clean. But if he does not purify himself the third day, then he will not be clean the seventh day.

13 ‘Whoever touches the dead body of any man that is dead, and 

14 mdoes not purify himself, 

15 ndefiles the tabernacle of the LORD, and that soul will be cut off from Israel. Because the 

16 owater of separation was not sprinkled on him, he will be unclean; 

17 phis uncleanness is still on him.

14 ¶ ‘This is the law when a man dies in a tent: all who come into the tent and all who are in the tent will be unclean seven days.

15 ‘And every open vessel that has no covering bound on it is unclean.

16 ‘And whoever touches one who is slain with a sword in the open fields or a dead body or a bone of a man or a grave, will be unclean seven days.

17 ‘And for an unclean person they will take of the ashes of the burned heifer of purification for sin, and running water will be added to them in a vessel.

18 ‘And a clean person will take thyssop and dip it in the water and sprinkle it on the tent and on all the vessels and on the persons who were there, and on him who touched a bone or one slain or one dead or a grave.

19 ‘And the clean person will sprinkle on the unclean on the third day and on the seventh day. And on the seventh day he will purify himself and wash his clothes and bathe himself in water. And he will be clean at evening.

20 ¶ ‘But the man who will be unclean and will not purify himself, that soul will be cut off from among the assembly because he has defiled the sanctuary of the LORD. The water of separation has not been sprinkled on him. He is unclean.

21 ‘And it will be a perpetual statute to them, that he who sprinkles the water of separation will wash his clothes. And he who touches the water of separation will be unclean until evening.

22 ‘And whatever the unclean person touches will be unclean. And the “soul who touches it will be unclean until evening.”’

Chapter 20
Water From the Rock

1 ¶ aThen the children of Israel, even the whole assembly, came into the desert of Zin in the first month. And the people stayed in bKadesh. And cMiriam died there and was buried there.

2 dNow there was no water for the assembly. eAnd they gathered themselves against Moses and against Aaron.

3 And the people fcontended with Moses, and spoke, saying, “If only we had died when our brothers died before the LORD!

4 “So why have you brought up the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness so that we and our livestock should die there?

5 “And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us into this bad place? It is no place of seed or of figs or of vines or of pomegranates. Neither is there any water to drink.”

6 Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, and they ifell on their faces. And the jglory of the LORD appeared to them.

7 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, k“Take the staff and gather the assembly together, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes. And it will give forth its water and you will bring forth to them water out of the rock. So you will give the assembly and their animals drink.”

8 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, l“Take the staff and gather the assembly together, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes. And it will give forth its water and you will bring forth to them water out of the rock. So you will give the assembly and their animals drink.”

9 Then Moses took the staff mfrom before the LORD as He had commanded him.

10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, “Now you rebels. Must we bring forth water for you out of this rock?”

11 Then Moses lifted up his hand, and with his staff he smote the rock twice. And the “water came out abundantly and the assembly and...
their animals drank.
12 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe Me, to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore, you will not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them.”
13 This is the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel strove with the LORD and He was sanctified among them.

Edom Denies Passage
14 ¶ Then Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom, w“Thus says your brother Israel, ‘You know all the travail that has befallen us; how our fathers went down into Egypt and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time, and the Egyptians mistreated us and our fathers.
15 ¶ And when we cried to the LORD, He heard our voice and sent an angel. And He has brought us forth out of Egypt. And behold, we are in Kadesh, a city at the edge of your territory:
16 ¶ Please let us pass through your country. We will not pass through the fields or through the vineyards, nor will we drink of the water of the wells. We will go by the king’s highway. We will not turn to the right hand nor to the left until we have passed your borders.’”
17 And Edom said to him, “You will not go through, lest I come out against you with the sword.”
18 Then the children of Israel said to him, “We will go by the highway. And if I and my livestock drink of your water, then I will pay for it. I will only, without doing anything else, go through on my feet.”
19 And he said, “You will not go through.” And Edom came out against him with many people and with a strong hand.
20 Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory. Therefore Israel turned away from him.

Death of Aaron
21 ¶ Now the children of Israel, even the whole assembly, journeyed from Kadesh and came to Mount Hor.
22 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor, by the border of the land of Edom, saying,
23 “Aaron will be gathered to his people. For he will not enter into the land which I have given to the children of Israel because you rebelled against My word at the water of Meribah.
24 ¶ Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up to Mount Hor.
25 ¶ And strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron will be gathered to his people and will die there.”
26 ¶ So Moses did as the LORD commanded. And they went up into Mount Hor in the sight of all the assembly.
27 ¶ And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. And Moses and Eleazar came down from the mount.
28 ¶ And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. And Moses and Eleazar came down from the mount.
29 ¶ Now when all the assembly saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel.

Chapter 21

Destruction of Arad
1 ¶ When King Arad the Canaanite who dwelt in the south heard that Israel came by the way of the spies, he then fought against Israel and took some of them prisoners.
2 ¶ Then Israel made a vow to the LORD, and said, “If you will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities.”
3 ¶ And the LORD listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites. And they utterly destroyed them and their cities. And he called the name of the place Hormah.

The Bronze Snake
4 ¶ Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the way of the Red Sea to go around the land of Edom. And the soul of the people was very discouraged because of the way.
5 ¶ So the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of...
Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, nor is there any water; and our soul loathes this miserable bread.”

6 Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people and they bit the people. And many people of Israel died.

7 ¶ Then the people came to Moses, and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD so that He takes away the serpents from us.” And Moses prayed for the people.

8 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole. And it will come to pass that everyone who is bitten, when he looks on it, he will live.”

9 So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it on a pole. And it came to pass that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he looked on the serpent of bronze, he lived.

Journey to Moab

10 ¶ Then the children of Israel set out and camped in Oboth.

11 And they journeyed from Oboth and camped at Ijea Barim, in the wilderness which is before Moab, toward the sunrising.

12 From there they moved and camped in the valley of Zared.

13 From there they moved and camped on the other side of the Arnon, which is in the wilderness that comes out of the territory of the Amorites, for Amon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.

14 Therefore it is said in the book of the wars of the LORD, “... what he did in the Red Sea and in the brooks of the Arnon,

15 “and at the stream of the brooks that goes down to the dwelling of Ar and lies on the border of Moab.”

16 ¶ And from there they went to Beer. This is the well where the LORD spoke to Moses, “Gather the people together and I will give them water.”

17 Then Israel sang this song, “Spring up, O well. Sing to it.

18 “The princes dug the well. The nobles of the people dug it with their staves by the direc-
tion of the lawgiver.” And from the wilderness they went to Mattanah,

19 and from Mattanah to Nahaliel, and from Nahaliel to Bamoth,

20 and from Bamoth in the valley that is in the country of Moab to the top of Pisgah that overlooks Jeshimon.

Defeat of Sihon & Og

21 ¶ Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying,

22 “Let me pass through your land. We will not turn into the fields or into the vineyards. We will not drink of the waters of the well. But we will go along by the king’s highway until we are past your borders.”

23 And Sihon would not permit Israel to pass through his border. But Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel into the wilderness. And he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel.

24 Then Israel smote him with the edge of the sword and possessed his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, even to the children of Ammon, for the border of the children of Ammon was strong.

25 So Israel took all these cities. And Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon, and in all her villages.

26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites who had fought against the former king of Moab and taken all his land out of his hand, even to the Arnon.

27 Therefore they who speak in proverbs say, “Come into Heshbon. Let the city of Sihon be built and prepared.

28 “For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon. It has consumed Ar of Moab and the lords of the high places of the Amon.

29 “Woe to you, Moab! You are ruined, O people of Chemosh. He has given his sons who escaped and his daughters into captivity to Sihon king of the Amorites.

30 “We have shot at them. Heshbon is perished even to Dibon and we have laid them waste even to Nophah, which reaches to Medeba.”
31 Thus Israel dwelt in the land of the Amorites.
32 Then Moses sent to spy out kJaazer. And they took its villages and drove out the Amorites who were there.
33 ¶ And they turned and went up by the way of mBashan. And Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he and all his people, to the battle at nEdrei.
34 Then the LORD said to Moses, o“Do not fear him for I have delivered him into your hand, and all his people, and his land. And pyou will do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon.”
35 qSo they smote him and his sons and all his people, until there was no one left alive. And they possessed his land.

Chapter 22
Balak Calls for Balaam

1 ¶ Then the achildren of Israel journeyed and camped in the plains of Moab on this side of the Jordan by Jericho.
2 ¶  And bBalak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites.
3 So cMoab was very afraid of the people, because they were many. And Moab was dis-

tressed because of the children of Israel.
4 Then Moab said to the delders of Midian, “Now will this company lick up all that are around us, as the ox licks up the grass of the field.” And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time.
5 eHe sent messengers, therefore, to Balaam, the son of Beor to fPethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, “Behold, there is a people come out of Egypt who covers the face of the earth. Come now, curse them for me. Perhaps I may be able to overcome them and drive them out.”
6 g“Come now, therefore, I beg you, hcurse this people for me, for they are too mighty for me, and perhaps I may be able to prevail and drive them out of the land. For I know that he whom you bless is blessed and he whom you curse is cursed.”
7 ¶ Then the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the irewards of divination in their hand. And they came to Balaam and spoke to him the words of Balak.
8 Then he said to them, “Lodge here this night and I will bring you word again as the LORD will speak to me.” And the princes of Moab stayed with Balaam.
9 kAnd God came to Balaam, and said, “What men are these with you?”
10 And Balaam said to God, “Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, has sent to me, saying,
11 ‘Behold, there is a people come out of Egypt who covers the face of the earth. Come now, curse them for me. Perhaps I will be able to overcome them and drive them out.’”
12 Then God said to Balaam, “You will not go with them. You will not curse the people, for they are blessed.”
13 So Balaam rose up in the morning and said to the princes of Balak, “Go back to your land, for the LORD refuses to give me permission to go with you.”
14 Then the princes of Moab rose up and they went to Balak. And they said, “Balaam refuses to come with us.”
15 ¶ So Balak sent princes again, more numerous and more distinguished than the former.
16 And they came to Balaam and said to him, “Thus says Balak the son of Zippor, ‘Let nothing, I beg you, hinder you from coming to me.
17 For I will promote you to very great honor and I will do whatever you say to me. Come, therefore, I beg you, curse this people for me.’”
18 Then Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, “Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, pI cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more.
19 “Now therefore, I beg you, qstay also here this night so that I may know more what the LORD will say to me.”
20 Then God came to Balaam at night and spoke to him, saying, “If the men come to call you, rise up and go with them. But only the word that I will say to you, that you will do.”

Balaam’s Talking Donkey

21 ¶ So Balaam rose up in the morning and saddled his donkey. And he went with the princes of Moab.

22 Now God’s anger was kindled because he went. And the angel of the LORD stood in the way as an adversary against him. So he was riding on his donkey and his two servants were with him.

23 Now the donkey saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand. And the donkey turned aside off from the way and went into the field. And Balaam smote the donkey to turn her back into the way.

24 But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side and a wall on that side.

25 And when the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, she pressed herself to the wall and crushed Balaam’s foot against the wall. And he smote her again.

26 Then the angel of the LORD went further and stood in a narrow place where there was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left.

27 And when the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam. And Balaam’s anger was kindled and he smote the donkey with a staff.

28 Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey and she said to Balaam, “What have I done to you that you have smitten me these three times?”

29 Then Balaam said to the donkey, “Because you have mocked me. If I had a sword in my hand, wI would have killed you by now.”

30 And the donkey said to Balaam, “Am I not your donkey on which you have ridden ever since I was yours to this day? Have I ever done this to you?” And he said, “No.”

31 ¶ Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand. And he bowed down his head and fell flat on his face.

32 And the angel of the Lord said to him, “Why have you smitten your donkey three times? Behold, I went out to stand against you because your way is perverse before me.

33 “But the donkey saw me and turned from me these three times. If she had not turned from me, I would surely have killed you just now, and let her live.”

34 Then Balaam said to the angel of the Lord, “I have sinned, for I did not know that you stood in the way against me. Now, therefore, if it displeases you, I will go back.”

35 Then the angel of the Lord said to Balaam, “Go with the men. But only the word that I will speak to you, that you will speak.” So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

36 ¶ Now when Balak heard that Balaam was coming, he went out to meet him at a city of Moab that is in the border of the Arnon, which is in the extreme end of the border.

37 Then Balak said to Balaam, “Did I not urgently send to you to call you? Why did you not come to me? Am I not able indeed to promote you to honor?”

38 And Balaam said to Balak, “Behold, I have come to you. Have I now any power at all to say anything? The word that God puts in my mouth, that I will speak.”

39 So Balaam went with Balak and they came to Kirjath Huzoth.

40 And Balak offered oxen and sheep, and sent some to Balaam and to the princes who were with him.

41 ¶ Then it came to pass in the morning that Balak took Balaam and brought him up into the high places of Baal so that there he might see a portion of the people.

Chapter 23

Balaam’s First Discourse

1 ¶ Then Balaam said to Balak, “Build me here seven altars and prepare for me seven oxen and seven rams.”

2 And Balak did as Balaam had spoken. And Balak and Balaam offered on every altar a bull and a ram.

3 Then Balaam said to Balak, “Stand by your burnt offering, and I will go. Perhaps the Lord will come to meet me. And whatever He shows me I will tell you.” And he went to a high place.
4 So God met Balaam, and he said to Him, “I have prepared seven altars and I have offered on every altar a bull and a ram.”

5 Then the LORD put a word in Balaam’s mouth and said, “Return to Balak and this you will speak.”

6 So he returned to him, and behold, he stood by his burnt sacrifice, he and all the princes of Moab.

7 So he took up his discourse and said, “Balak the king of Moab has brought me from Aram, out of the mountains of the east, saying,

8 ‘Come, curse Jacob for me and come denounce Israel.’

9 “How will I curse whom God has not cursed? Or how will I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?

10 For from the top of the rocks I see him and from the hills I behold him. Behold, the people will dwell alone and will not be reckoned among the nations.

11 ¶ Then Balak said to Balaam, “What have you done to me? I took you to curse my enemies, and behold, you have actually blessed them.”

12 And he answered and said, “Must I not take heed to speak what the LORD has put in my mouth?”

Balaam’s Second Discourse

13 ¶ Then Balak said to him, “I beg you, come with me to another place from where you may see them. You will see the outer part of them and will not see them all. And from there curse them for me.”

14 So he brought him into the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah. And he built seven altars and offered a bull and a ram on every altar.

15 Then he said to Balak, “Stand here by your burnt offering while I meet the LORD over there.”

16 And the LORD met Balaam and put a word in his mouth and said, “Go again to Balak and thus you will say.”

17 And when he came to him, behold, he stood by his burnt offering and the princes of Moab with him. And Balak said to him, “What has the LORD spoken?”

18 Then he took up his discourse, and said, “Rise up, Balak, and hear. Hearken to me, you son of Zippor.

19 ¶ ‘God is not a man that He should lie, nor the son of man that He should repent. Has He said and will He not do it? Or has He spoken and will He not make it good?

20 ¶ ‘Behold, I have received a command to bless. And He has blessed, then I cannot reverse it.

21 ¶ ‘He has not observed iniquity in Jacob, nor has He seen perverseness in Israel. The LORD his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them.

22 ¶ ‘God brought them out of Egypt. He is for them like the strength of the wild ox.

23 ¶ ‘Surely there is no omen against Jacob, nor is there any divination against Israel. According to this time it will be said of Jacob and of Israel, ‘What God has done!’

24 ¶ ‘Behold, a people will rise up as a great lion and lift up themselves as a young lion that will not lie down until he eats of the prey and drinks the blood of the slain.”

25 ¶ Then Balak said to Balaam, “Do not curse them at all nor bless them at all.”

26 But Balaam answered and said to Balak, “Did I not tell you, ‘All that the LORD speaks, that I must do’?”

Balaam’s Third Discourse

27 ¶ Then Balak said to Balaam, “I beg you, I will take you to another place. Perhaps it will please God that you may curse them for me there.”

28 So Balak brought Balaam to the top of Peor that looks toward Jeshimon.

29 Then Balaam said to Balak, “Build for me here seven altars and prepare for me here seven bulls and seven rams.”

30 So Balak did as Balaam had said, and offered a bull and a ram on every altar.
Chapter 24

1 ¶ Then when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he did not go as at other times to seek omens. But he set his face toward the wilderness.

2 And Balaam lifted up his eyes and he saw Israel dwelling in tents according to their tribes. And the Spirit of God came on him.

3 So he took up his discourse and said, “Balaam the son of Beor has said, and the man whose eyes are open has said.

4 “He has said who heard the words of God, who saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance but having his eyes open.

5 “How lovely are your tents, O Jacob, and your tabernacles, O Israel!

6 “As the valleys are spread forth, as gardens by the river’s side, as the trees of aloes that the LORD has planted, and as cedar trees beside the waters,

7 “he will pour the water out of his buckets and his seed will be in many waters. And his king will be higher than Agag and his kingdom will be exalted.

8 “God brought him forth out of Egypt. He has strength like the wild ox. He will eat up the nations who are his enemies. And he will break their bones and pierce them through with his arrows.

9 “He couches; he lies down as a lion. And as a great lion, who will stir him up? Blessed is he who blesses you, and cursed is he who curses you.”

10 ¶ Then Balak’s anger was kindled against Balaam, and he struck his hands together. And Balak said to Balaam, “I called you to curse my enemies, and behold, you have blessed them these three times.

11 “Therefore, flee now to your place. I thought to promote you to great honor, but behold, the LORD has kept you back from honor.”

12 Then Balaam said to Balak, “Did I not speak also to your messengers whom you sent to me, saying,

13 ‘If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do either good or bad of my own will. But what the LORD says, that I will speak’?

14 “And now, behold, I go to my people. Come and I will advise you what this people will do to your people in the days to come.”

Balaam’s Fourth Discourse

15 ¶ So he took up his discourse and said, “Balaam the son of Beor has said, and the man whose eyes are open has said.

16 “he has said who heard the words of God, and knows the knowledge of the most High, who saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open.

17 “I will see him, but not now. I will behold him, but not near. There will come a Star out of Jacob and a Sceptre will rise out of Israel. And He will smite the corners of Moab and destroy all the children of Sheth.

18 “And Edom will be a possession. Seir also will be a possession for his enemies. And Israel will do valiantly.

19 “Out of Jacob will come the One who will have dominion and will destroy the remnant from the city.”

Balaam’s Fifth Discourse

20 ¶ Now when he looked on Amalek, he took up his discourse and said, “Amalek was the first of the nations, but his latter end will be that he perish forever.”

21 ¶ And he looked on the Kenites, and took up his discourse and said, “Strong is your dwelling place, and your nest is set in a rock.

22 Nevertheless, the Kenite will be consumed. How long until Asshur carries you away captive?”

23 ¶ And he took up his discourse and said, “Alas, who will live when God does this!”

24 And ships will come from the coasts of Kittim. And they will afflict Asshur and will afflict Eber. And they also will perish forever.

25 Then Balaam rose up and went and returned to his place. And Balak also went his way.
Chapter 25

Moab Deceives Israel

1 ¶ Now Israel remained in Shittim and the people began to play the harlot with the daughters of Moab.

2 ¶ And they called the people to the sacrifices of their gods. And the people ate and bowed down to their gods.

3 So Israel joined in worshiping the Baal of Peor. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Take all the leaders of the people and slay them in broad daylight before the LORD so that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel.”

5 So Moses said to the judges of Israel, “Each one of you slay his men who were joined to Baal of Peor.”

6 ¶ And behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought to his brethren a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the assembly of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

7 And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the assembly and took a javelin in his hand.

8 And he went after the man of Israel into the tent and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stopped from the children of Israel.

9 And those who died in the plague were 24,000.

10 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

11 “Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned My wrath away from the children of Israel in My jealousy. Therefore say, ‘Behold, I give to him My covenant of peace, and he will have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood, because he was zealous for his God and made atonement for the children of Israel.’”

14 ¶ Now the name of the Israelite who was slain, even who was slain with the Midianite woman, was Zimri, the son of Salu, a prince of a chief house among the Simeonites.

15 And the name of the Midianite woman who was slain was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur. He was head over a people and of a chief house in Midian.

16 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

17 “Be hostile to the Midianites and smite them.

18 “For they have been hostile to you with their tricks with which they have deceived you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister who was slain in the day of the plague for Peor’s sake.”

Chapter 26

The Second Census

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after the “plague that the LORD spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying,

2 “Take a census of all the assembly of the children of Israel, from twenty years old and upward, throughout their fathers’ house, all who are able to go to war in Israel.”

3 So Moses and Eleazar the priest spoke with them in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho, saying,

4 “Take a census of the people from twenty years old and upward as the LORD commanded Moses.” And the children of Israel who went forth out of the land of Egypt were:

5 Reuben, the eldest son of Israel, the children of Reuben: Hanoch, of whom comes the family of the Hanochites; of Pallu, the family of the Palluites;

6 of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites; of Carmi, the family of the Carmites.

7 These are the families of the Reubenites. And those who were numbered of them were 43,730.

8 And the sons of Pallu: Eliab.

9 And the sons of Eloab: Nemuil and Dathan
and Abiram. This is that Dathan and Abiram who were famous in the assembly, who contended against Moses and against Aaron in the company of Korah when they contended against the LORD.

10 And the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them up together with Korah, when that company died, when the fire devoured 250 men. And they became a sign.

11 However, the children of Korah did not die.

12 The sons of Simeon after their families: of Nemuel, the family of the Nemuelites; of Jamin, the family of the Jaminites; of Jachin, the family of the Jachinites;

13 of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites; of Shaul, the family of the Shaulites.

14 These, the families of the Simeonites, were 22,200.

15 The children of Gad after their families: of Zephon, the family of the Zephonites; of Haggi, the family of the Haggites; of Shuni, the family of the Shunites;

16 of Ozni, the family of the Oznites; of Eri, the family of the Erites;

17 of Arod, the family of the Arodites; of Areli, the family of the Arleites.

18 These, the families of the children of Gad according to those who were numbered of them, were 40,500.

19 The sons of Judah were Er and Onan. And Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan.

20 And the sons of Judah after their families were: of Shelah, the family of the Shelanites; of Pharez, the family of the Pharzites; of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites.

21 And the sons of Pharez were, of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites; of Hamul, the family of the Hamulites.

22 These, the families of Judah according to those who were numbered of them, were 76,500.

23 Of the sons of Issachar after their families: of Tola, the family of the Tolaites; of Puah, the family of the Punites;

24 of Jashub, the family of the Jashubites; of Shimron, the family of the Shimronites.

25 These, the families of Issachar according to those who were numbered of them, were 64,300.

26 Of the sons of Zebulun after their families: of Sered, the family of the Sardites; of Elon, the family of the Elonites; of Jahleel, the family of the Jahleelites.

27 These, the families of the Zebulunites according to those who were numbered of them, were 60,500.

28 The sons of Joseph after their families were Manasseh and Ephraim.

29 Of the sons of Manasseh: of Machir, the family of the Machirites; and Machir begat Gilead; of Gilead came the family of the Gileadites.

30 These are the sons of Gilead: of Jeezer, the family of the Jeezerites; of Helek, the family of the Helekites;

31 and of Asriel, the family of the Asrielites; and Shechem, the family of the Shechemites;

32 and of Shamir, the family of the Shemirites; and of Hepher, the family of the Hepherites.

33 And Zelophehad the son of Hepher had no sons, but only daughters; and the names of the daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah.

34 These are the families of Manasseh, and those who were numbered of them, were 52,700.

35 The sons of Ephraim after their families: of Shuthelah, the family of the Shuthalhites; of Becher, the family of the Bachrites; of Tahan, the family of the Tahanites.

36 And these are the sons of Shuthelah: of Eran, the family of the Eranites.

37 These, the families of the sons of Ephraim according to those who were numbered of them, were 32,500. These are the sons of Joseph after their families.

38 The sons of Benjamin after their families: of Bela, the family of the Belaites; of Ashbel, the family of the Ashbelites; of Ahiram, the family of the Ahiramites;

39 of Shupham, the family of the

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\( g \) Nm 1:16; 16:1,2

\( h \) Nm 16:32-35

\( i \) Nm 16:38-40

\( j \) Ex 6:24

\( k \) Gn 38:2; 46:12

\( l \) I Ch 2:3

\( m \) Gn 46:14

\( n \) Gn 46:20

\( o \) Ja 17:1

\( p \) 1 Ch 7:14,15

\( q \) Nm 27:1; 36:11

\( r \) Gn 46:21

\( s \) 1 Ch 8:1,2

\( t \) 1 Ch 7:12
Shuphamites; of Hupham, the family of the Huphamites.

40 And the sons of Bela were Ard and Naaman: of Ard, the family of the Ardites; and of Naaman, the family of the Naamites.

41 These are the sons of Benjamin after their families. And those who were numbered of them were 45,600.

42 These are the sons of Dan after their families: of Shuham, the family of the Shuhamites. These are the families of Dan after their families.

43 All the families of the Shuhamites, according to those who were numbered of them, were 64,400.

44 Of the children of Asher after their families: of Jimna, the family of the Jimnites; of Jesui, the family of the Jesuites; of Beriah, the family of the Beriites.

45 Of the sons of Beriah: of Heber, the family of the Heberites; of Malchiel, the family of the Malchielites.

46 And the name of the daughter of Asher was Sarah.

47 These are the families of the sons of Asher according to those who were numbered of them, who were 53,400.

48 Of the sons of Naphtali after their families: of Jahzeel, the family of the Jahzeelites; of Guni, the family of the Gunites; of Jezer, the family of the Jezerites; of Shillem, the family of the Shillemites.

49 These are the families of Naphtali according to their families. And those who were numbered of them were 45,400.

50 Those numbered of the children of Israel, were 601,730.

51 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

52 To these the land will be divided for an inheritance according to the number of names.

53 To the larger group you will give more inheritance, and to the smaller group you will give less inheritance; to every one will their inheritance be given according to those who were numbered of them.

54 “Be sure the land will be divided by lot. They will inherit it according to the names of the tribes of their fathers.

56 “According to the lot will their possession be divided between many and few.”

57 ¶ And these are those who were numbered of the Levites after their families: of Gershon, the family of the Gershonites; of Kohath, the family of the Kohathites; of Merari, the family of the Merarites.

58 These are the families of the Levites: the family of the Libnites, the family of the Hebronites, the family of the Mahlites, the family of the Mushites, the family of the Korathites. And Kohath begat Amram.

59 And the name of Amram’s wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bore to Levi in Egypt. And she bore to Amram, Aaron and Moses and Miriam their sister.

60 Then to Aaron was born Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

61 Then Nadab and Abihu died when they offered strange fire before the LORD.

62 And those who were numbered of them were 23,000, all males from a month old and upward, for they were not numbered among the children of Israel because there was no inheritance given them among the children of Israel.

63 These are those who were numbered by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who numbered the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho.

64 But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

65 For the LORD had said of them, “They will surely die in the wilderness.” And there was not left a man of them, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

Chapter 27

Zelophehad’s Daughters

1 ¶ Then came the daughters of Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of Manasseh the son of Joseph. And these

u 1 Ch 8:3 v Gn 46:17 w 1 ch 7:13 x 1 Ch 7:13 y Nm 1:46; 11:21 z Ja 11:23; 14:1 a Nm 33:54 b Nm 33:54 c Nm 33:54; 34:13 d Gn 48:11 e Ex 2:1,2; 6:20 f Nm 3:2 g Lv 10:1,2 h Nm 3:39 i Nm 1:49 j Nm 18:20,23,24 k Nm 26:3 l Nm 14:29-35 m Nm 1:1-46 n Nm 14:26-35 o Nm 14:30 Chapter 27: a Nm 26:33; 36:1,11
are the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah and Hoglah and Milcah and Tirzah.
2 And they stood before Moses and before Eleazar the priest and before the princes and all the assembly, by the door of the tabernacle of the assembly, saying,
3 "Our father died in the wilderness and he was not in the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah. But he died in his own sin and had no sons.
4 "Why should the name of our father be done away from among his family because he has no son? Give to us a possession among the brethren of our father."
5 Then Moses brought their cause before the LORD.
6 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
7 "The daughters of Zelophehad speak right. You will surely give them a possession of an inheritance among their father's brethren. And you will cause the inheritance of their father to pass to them.
8 "And you will speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'If a man dies and has no son, then you will cause his inheritance to pass to his daughter.
9 'And if he has no daughter, then you will give his inheritance to his brothers.
10 'And if he has no brothers, then you will give his inheritance to his father's brothers.
11 'And if his father has no brothers, then you will give his inheritance to his kinsman who is next to him of his family, and he will possess it. And it will be to the children of Israel a statute of judgment as the LORD commanded Moses.'"

Joshua's Succession to Moses

12 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go up to this Mount Abarim and see the land that I have given to the children of Israel.
13 "And when you have seen it, you also will be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother was gathered.
14 "For you rebelled against My commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the assembly, to sanctify Me at the water before their eyes." (This is the water of Meribah in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.)
15 ¶ Then Moses spoke to the LORD, saying,
16 "Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the assembly
17 who may go out before them, and who may go in before them, and who may lead them out, and who may bring them in, so that the assembly of the LORD not be as sheep who have no shepherd."
18 ¶ So the LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him,
19 "and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the assembly. And give him a charge in their sight.
20 "And you will put some of your honor on him so that all the assembly of the children of Israel may be obedient.
21 "And he will stand before Eleazar the priest, who will ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD. At his word they will go out, and at his word they will come in, both he and all the children of Israel with him, even all the assembly."
22 So Moses did as the LORD commanded him. And he took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the assembly.
23 And he laid his hands on him and gave him a charge as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 28

Daily Offerings

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
2 "Command the children of Israel and say to them, 'My offering and My bread for My sacrifices made by fire for a sweet savor to Me, you will observe to offer to Me in their appointed time.'
3 "And you will say to them, "This is the offering made by fire that you will offer to the LORD: two lambs of the first year without spot day by day for a continual burnt offering.
4 "You will offer the one lamb in the morning and the other lamb you will offer at evening;
5 ‘and a “tenth part” of an ephah of flour for a grain offering, mixed with the fourth part of a hin of beaten oil.

6 ‘It is a “continual burnt offering” that was ordained at Mount Sinai for a sweet savor, a sacrifice made by fire to the LORD.

7 ‘And the drink offering with it will be a fourth part of a hin for the one lamb. ‘In the holy place you will cause the strong wine to be poured to the LORD for a drink offering.

8 ‘And the other lamb you will offer at evening. As the grain offering of the morning and as its drink offering, you will offer it a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savor to the LORD.

Sabbath Offerings

9 ¶ ‘And on the Sabbath day two lambs of the first year without spot and two-tenth of an ephah of flour for a grain offering, mixed with oil, and its drink offering.

10 ‘This is the “burnt offering” of every Sabbath, in addition to the continual burnt offering and its drink offering.

Monthly Offerings

11 ¶ h ‘And in the beginning of your months you will offer a burnt offering to the LORD, two young bulls and one ram, seven lambs of the first year without spot;

12 i ‘and three-tenths of an ephah of flour for a grain offering, mixed with oil, for one bull; and two-tenths of an ephah of flour for a grain offering, mixed with oil, for one ram;

13 ‘and one-tenth of an ephah of flour mixed with oil for a grain offering to one lamb, a sacrifice made by fire to the LORD.

14 ‘And their drink offerings will be half a hin of wine for a bull, and the third part of a hin for a ram, and a fourth part of a hin for a lamb. This is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year.

15 ‘And one kid of the goats for a sin offering to the LORD will be offered, in addition to the continual burnt offering and its drink offering.

The Passover

16 ¶ k ‘And in the fourteenth day of the first month is the Passover of the LORD.

17 l ‘And in the fifteenth day of this month is the feast. Seven days unleavened bread will be eaten.

18 ‘In the “first day” will be a holy convocation. You will do no manner of laborious work in it.

19 ‘But you will offer a sacrifice made by fire for a burnt offering to the LORD: two young bulls and one ram and seven lambs of the first year. They will be without blemish.

20 ‘And their grain offering will be of flour mixed with oil. You will offer three-tenths of an ephah for a bull and two-tenths of an ephah for a ram.

21 ‘You will offer one-tenth of an ephah for every lamb throughout the seven lambs;

22 ‘and one goat for a sin offering to make atonement for you.

23 ‘You will offer these in addition to the burnt offering in the morning, which is for a continual burnt offering.

24 ‘After this manner you will offer daily throughout the seven days, the grain of the sacrifice made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD. It will be offered in addition to the continual burnt offering and its drink offering.

25 ‘And on the seventh day you will have holy convocation. You will do no laborious work.

Feast of Weeks

26 ¶ ‘Also in the day of the firstfruits, when you present a new grain offering to the LORD in your feast of weeks, you will have a holy convocation. You will do no laborious work.

27 ‘But you will offer the burnt offering for a sweet savor to the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, seven lambs of the first year;

28 ‘and their grain offering of flour mixed with oil, three-tenths of an ephah for one bull, two-tenths of an ephah for one ram,

29 ‘one-tenth of an ephah for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs;

30 ‘also one kid of the goats to make an atonement for you.

31 ‘You will offer them in addition to the continual burnt offering, and its grain offer-
ing. You will present them with their drink offerings. They will be without blemish.

Chapter 29
Feast of Trumpets
1 ¶ ‘Now in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you will have a holy convocation. You will do no laborious work. It is to you a day of blowing the trumpets.

2 ‘And you will offer a burnt offering for a sweet savor to the LORD: one young bull, one ram and seven lambs of the first year without blemish.

3 ‘And their grain offering will be of flour mixed with oil, three-tenths of an ephah for a bull and two-tenths of an ephah for a ram,

4 ‘and one-tenth of an ephah for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs.

5 ‘Offer one kid of the goats for a sin offering to make atonement for you,

6 ‘in addition to the burnt offering of the month and its grain offering, and the daily burnt offering and its grain offering, and their drink offerings according to their manner, for a sweet savor, a sacrifice made by fire to the LORD.

Day of Atonement
7 ¶ “Then you will have on the tenth day of this seventh month a holy convocation. And you will afflict your souls. You will not do any work in it.

8 ‘But you will offer a burnt offering to the LORD for a sweet savor: one young bull, one ram and seven lambs of the first year. They will be without blemish.

9 ‘And their grain offering will be of flour mixed with oil, three-tenths of an ephah for a bull, and two-tenths of an ephah for a ram,

10 ‘and one-tenth of an ephah for each of the seven lambs.

11 ‘Offer one kid of the goats for a sin offering, in addition to the sin offering of atonement and the continual burnt offering and the grain offering of it, and their drink offerings.

Feast of Tabernacles
12 ¶ ‘And on the fifteenth day of the seventh month you will have a holy convocation. You will do no laborious work, and you will keep a feast to the LORD seven days.

13 ¶ And you will offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD: thirteen young bulls, two rams and fourteen lambs of the first year. They will be without blemish.

14 ‘And their grain offering will be of flour mixed with oil, three-tenths of an ephah for every bull of the thirteen bulls, two-tenths of an ephah for each ram of the two rams,

15 ‘and one-tenth of an ephah for each lamb of the fourteen lambs;

16 ‘and one kid of the goats for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering, its grain offering and its drink offering.

17 ¶ ‘Then on the second day you will offer twelve young bulls, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without spot.

18 ‘And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

19 ‘and one kid of the goats for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering, and its grain offering, and their drink offerings.

20 ¶ ‘Then on the third day eleven bulls, two rams and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish.

21 ‘And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

22 ‘and one goat for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering and its grain offering and its drink offering.

23 ¶ ‘Then on the fourth day ten bulls, two rams and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish.

24 ‘Their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

25 ‘and one kid of the goats for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering, its grain offering and its drink offering.

26 ¶ ‘Then on the fifth day nine bulls, two
rams and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish.

27 ‘And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

28 ‘and one goat for a sin offering in addition to the continual burnt offering and its grain offering and its drink offering.

29 ¶ ‘Then on the sixth day eight bulls, two rams and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish.

30 ‘And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

31 ‘and one goat for a sin offering in addition to the continual burnt offering, its grain offering and its drink offering.

32 ¶ ‘Then on the seventh day seven bulls, two rams and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish.

33 ‘And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

34 ‘and one goat for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering, its grain offering and its drink offering.

35 ¶ ‘Then on the eighth day you will have a solemn assembly. You will do no laborious work on it.

36 ‘But you will offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire of a sweet savor to the LORD: one bull, one ram, seven lambs of the first year without blemish.

37 ‘Their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bull, for the ram and for the lambs, will be according to their number according to the ordinance;

38 ‘and one goat for a sin offering, in addition to the continual burnt offering and its grain offering and its drink offering.

39 ¶ ‘These things you will do to the LORD at your set feasts, in addition to your vows and your freewill offerings, for your burnt offerings and for your grain offerings and for your drink offerings and for your peace offerings.’”

40 ¶ So Moses told the children of Israel according to all that the LORD commanded Moses.

Chapter 30

The Vows of Women

1 ¶ And Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes concerning the children of Israel, saying, “This is the thing that the LORD has commanded.

2 ¶ If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind his soul with a bond, he will not break his word. He will do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.

3 ¶ If a woman also makes a vow to the LORD and binds herself by an agreement while living in her father’s house in her youth, “and her father hears her vow and her agreement with which she has bound her soul, and her father holds his peace, then all her vows will stand and every agreement with which she has bound her soul will stand.

5 “But if her father forbids her in the day that he hears of it, none of her vows nor her agreements with which she has bound her soul will stand. And the LORD will forgive her because her father forbid her.

6 ¶ “And if she should marry while under her vows or the rash statement of her lips by which she has bound herself, “and her husband hears it, and holds his peace to her in the day that he hears it, then her vows will stand and her agreements with which she bound her soul will stand.

8 “But if her husband forbids her on the day that he hears it, then he will annul her vow that she is under and the rash statement of her lips by which she has bound herself. And the LORD will forgive her.

9 ¶ “But every vow of a widow and a divorced woman, by which they have bound their souls, “and if she vowed in her husband’s house or bound her soul by an agreement with an oath,

11 “and her husband heard it and held his peace to her, and did not forbid her, then all her vows will stand and every agreement with which she has bound her soul will stand.

12 “But if her husband has utterly made them
void on the day he heard them, then whatever proceeded out of her lips concerning her vows, or concerning the agreement of her soul, will not stand. Her husband has made them void, and the LORD will forgive her.

13 “Every vow and every binding oath to afflict the soul, her husband may annul it or her husband may make it void.

14 “But if her husband indeed holds his peace to her from day to day, then he confirms all her vows or all her bonds that are on her. He confirms them because he held his peace to her in the day when he heard them.

15 “But if he will in any way make them void after he has heard them, then he will bear her guilt.”

16 ¶ These are the statutes that the LORD commanded Moses, between a man and his wife, between the father and his daughter, while she is in her youth in her father’s house.

Chapter 31
Vengeance on the Midianites

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “Take vengeance on the Midianites for the children of Israel. Afterward you will be gathered to your people.”

3 So Moses spoke to the people, saying, “Arm some of yourselves for the war, and let them go against the Midianites and avenge the LORD of Midian.

4 “You will send to the war of every tribe a thousand, throughout all the tribes of Israel.”

5 So there were delivered out of the thousands of Israel a thousand from every tribe, twelve thousand armed for war.

6 Then Moses sent them to the war, a thousand from every tribe, them and Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, to the war, with the holy instruments and the trumpets to blow in his hand.

7 So they warred against the Midianites as the LORD commanded Moses. And they slew all the males.

8 Then they slew the kings of Midian, in addition to the rest of those who were slain: Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba, five kings of Midian. Balaam the son of Beor they also slew with the sword.

9 And the children of Israel took all the women of Midian captive and their little ones. And they took the spoil of all their livestock and all their flocks and all their goods.

10 Then they burned with fire all their cities wherein they dwelt and all their camps.

11 And they took all the spoil and all the prey, both of men and of animals.

12 ¶ And they brought the captives and the prey and the spoil to Moses and Eleazar the priest and to the assembly of the children of Israel, to the camp at the plains of Moab that are by the Jordan near Jericho.

13 Then Moses and Eleazar the priest, and all the princes of the assembly, went out to meet them outside the camp.

14 And Moses was angry with the officers of the army, with the captains over thousands and captains over hundreds, who came from the battle.

15 And Moses said to them, “Have you saved all the women alive?

16 “Behold, these women caused the children of Israel through the counsel of Balaam to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the assembly of the LORD.

17 “Now therefore kill every male among the little ones and kill every woman who has known man by lying with him.

18 “But all the girls who have not known a man by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves.

19 “Whoever has killed any person and whoever has touched any slain person must remain outside the camp seven days. On the third and seventh days, you must purify yourselves and your captives.

20 “And purify all your garments and all that is made of skins, and all work of goat hair and all things made of wood.”

21 ¶ And Eleazar the priest said to the men of war who went to the battle, “This is the ordinance of the law that the LORD commanded Moses:

22 “only the gold and the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin and the lead,
23 “everything that may withstand the fire, you will make it go through the fire and it will be clean. Nevertheless, it will be purified with the ‘water of separation. And all that does not withstand the fire you will make go through the water.

24 “Then you will wash your clothes on the seventh day and you will be clean. And afterward you will come into the camp.”

Dividing the Spoils

25 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

26 “Take the total of the spoils that was taken, both of man and of animal, you and Eleazar the priest and the chief fathers of the assembly,

27 and divide the spoils into two parts between those who went out to war and all the assembly.

28 “Then levy a tribute to the LORD on the men of war who went out to battle: one soul of five hundred, both of the persons and of the cattle and of the donkeys and of the sheep.

29 “Take it from their half and give it to Eleazar the priest for a heave offering of the LORD.

30 “And from the children of Israel’s half, you will take one portion of fifty of the persons, of the cattle, of the donkeys, and of the flocks, of all manner of animals, and give them to the Levites who keep the duty of the tabernacle of the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.

32 ¶ And the officers who were over thousands of the army, the captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds, approached Moses.

33 They said to Moses, “Your servants have taken the total of the men of war who are under our charge, and no man of us is missing.

34 “We have therefore brought an oblation for the LORD, what every man has found of jewels of gold, chains and bracelets, rings, ear-rings and tablets, to make an atonement for our souls before the LORD.”

35 So Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from them, all kinds of fashioned jewels.

36 And all the gold of the offering that they offered up to the LORD, of the captains of thousands and of hundreds, was 16,750 shekels.

37 The men of war had taken spoil, every man for himself.

38 So Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold of the captains of thousands and of hundreds and brought it into the tabernacle of the assembly as a memorial for the children of Israel before the LORD.

Chapter 32

Tribal Settlements East of the Jordan

1 ¶ Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had an exceedingly large number
of livestock. And when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that the place was a place for livestock,

2 the children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the priest and to the princes of the assembly, saying,

3 “Ataroth and Dibon and Jazer and Nimrah and Heshbon and Elealeh and Shebam and Nebo and Beon,

4 “even the country that the LORD smote before the assembly of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock.”

5 Therefore they said, “If we have found grace in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession and do not bring us over the Jordan.”

6 ¶ Then Moses said to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben, “Will your brethren go to war and will you sit here?

7 “And why discourage the heart of the children of Israel from going over into the land that the LORD has given them?

8 “Thus did your fathers when I sent them from Kadesh Barnea to see the land.

9 “For when they went up to the valley of Eschol and saw the land, they discouraged the heart of the children of Israel so that they should not go into the land that the LORD had given them.

10 “And the LORD’S anger was kindled in that day, and He swore and oath, saying,

11 “Surely none of the men who came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, will see the land that I swore to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, because they have not wholly followed Me;

12 “except Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenzite and Joshua the son of Nun. For they have wholly followed the LORD.’

13 “So the LORD’S anger was kindled against Israel. And He made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until all the generation who had done evil in the sight of the LORD, was consumed.

14 “Now behold, you have risen up in your fathers’ place, an increase of sinful men, to add still more to the fierce anger of the LORD against Israel.

15 “For if you turn away from after Him, He will yet again leave them in the wilderness. And you will destroy all this people.”

16 ¶ Then they came near to him and said, “We will build kraals here for our livestock and cities for our little ones.

17 “But we ourselves will go ready armed before the children of Israel, until we have brought them to their place. And our little ones will dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land.

18 “We will not return to our houses until the children of Israel have inherited every man his inheritance.

19 “For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan or beyond, because our inheritance has fallen to us on this side of the Jordan eastward.”

20 ¶ Then Moses said to them, “If you will do this thing, if you will go armed before the LORD to war,

21 “and all of you will go armed over the Jordan before the LORD, until He has driven out His enemies from before Him,

22 “and the land is subdued before the LORD, then afterward you will return and be guiltless before the LORD and before Israel. And this land will be your possession before the LORD.

23 “But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against the LORD. And be sure your sin will find you out.

24 “Build cities for your little ones and kraals for your sheep, and do that which has proceeded out of your mouth.”

25 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben spoke to Moses, saying, “Your servants will do as my lord commands.

26 “Our little ones, our wives, our flocks and all our livestock will be there in the cities of Gilead.

27 “But your servants will pass over, every man armed for war before the LORD to battle,
as my lord says.”

28 ¶ So concerning them Moses commanded Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the chief fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel.

29 And Moses said to them, “If the children of Gad and the children of Reuben will pass with you over the Jordan, every man armed to battle before the LORD, and the land will be subdued before you, then you will give them the land of Gilead for a possession.

30 “But if they will not pass over with you armed, they will have possessions among you in the land of Canaan.”

31 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben answered, saying, “As the LORD has said to your servants, so we will do.

32 ¶ Then Moses gave to them, even to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben, and to half the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og, king of Bashan, the whole land with its cities, even the cities of the surrounding country.

34 And the children of Gad built Dibon and Ataroth and Aroer,

35 and Atroth, Shophan and Jaazer and Jogbeah

36 and Bethnimrah and Beth Haran, walled cities, and kraals for sheep.

37 And the children of Reuben built Heshbon and Elealeh and Kirjathaim

38 and Nebo and Baal Meon— their names being changed—and Shibmah. And they gave other names to the cities that they built.

39 And the children of Machir the son of Manasseh went to Gilead and took it. And they dispossessed the Amorites who were in it.

40 And Moses gave Gilead to Machir the son of Manasseh, and he dwelt in it.

41 And Jair the son of Manasseh went and took its small towns. And he called them Havoth Jair.

42 And Nobah went and took Kenath and its villages. And he called it Nobah after his own name.

Chapter 33

Log of Israel’s Journeys

1 ¶ These are the journeys of the children of Israel who went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron.

2 And Moses wrote their starting places according to their journeys by the commandment of the LORD. And these are their journeys according to their starting places.

3 And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month. On the next day after the Passover the children of Israel went out boldly in the sight of all the Egyptians.

4 For the Egyptians buried all their firstborn whom the LORD had smitten among them.

5 On their gods also the LORD executed judgments.

6 And the children of Israel moved from Rameses and camped in Succoth.

7 Then they moved from Succoth and camped in Etham that is on the edge of the wilderness.

8 Then they moved from Etham and turned again to Pi Hahiroth that is before Baal Zephon. And they camped before Migdol.

9 Then they moved from Pi Hahiroth and passed through the midst of the sea into the wilderness. And they went three days’ journey into the wilderness of Etham and camped in Marah.

10 And they moved from Marah and came to Elim. And in Elim were twelve fountains of water and seventy trees. And they camped there.

11 And they moved from Elim and camped by the Red Sea.

12 And they moved from the Red Sea and camped in the wilderness of Sin.

13 And they took their journey out of the wilderness of Sin and camped in Dophkah.

14 And they departed from Dophkah and
camped in Alush.
14 And they moved from Alush and camped at Rephidim where there was no water for the people to drink.
15 And they departed from Rephidim and camped in the wilderness of Sinai.
16 And they moved from the desert of Sinai and camped at Kibroth Hattaavah.
17 And they departed from Kibroth Hattaavah and camped at Hazeroth.
18 And they departed from Hazeroth and camped at Rithmah.
19 And they departed from Rithmah and camped at Rimmon Perez.
20 And they departed from Rimmon Perez and camped in Libnah.
21 And they moved from Libnah and camped at Rissah.
22 And they journeyed from Rissah and camped in Kehelathah.
23 And they went from Kehelathah and camped in Mount Shapher.
24 And they moved from Mount Shapher and camped in Haradah.
25 And they moved from Haradah and camped in Makheloth.
26 And they moved from Makheloth and camped at Tahath.
27 And they departed from Tahath and camped at Tarah.
28 And they moved from Tarah and camped in Mithcah.
29 And they went from Mithcah and camped in Hashmonah.
30 And they departed from Hashmonah and camped at Moseroth.
31 And they departed from Moseroth and camped in Bene Jaakan.
32 And they moved from Bene Jaakan and camped at Hor Hagidgad.
33 And they went from Horhagidgad and camped in Jotbathah.
34 And they moved from Jotbathah and camped at Ebronah.
35 And they departed from Ebronah and camped at Ezion Geber.
36 And they moved from Ezion Geber and camped in the wilderness of Zin which is Kadesh.
37 And they moved from Kadesh and camped in Mount Hor in the edge of the land of Edom.
38 ¶ And Aaron the priest went up into Mount Hor at the commandment of the LORD and died there in the fortieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the first day of the fifth month.
39 And Aaron was one hundred and twenty-three years old when he died in Mount Hor.
40 ¶ And King Arad the Canaanite who dwelt in the south in the land of Canaan, heard of the coming of the children of Israel.
41 ¶ Then they departed from Mount Hor and camped in Zalmonah.
42 And they departed from Zalmonah and camped in Punon.
43 And they departed from Punon and camped in Oboth.
44 And they departed from Oboth and camped in Ijeabarim, in the border of Moab.
45 And they departed from Iim and camped in Dibon Gad.
46 And they moved from Dibon Gad and camped in Almon Diblathaim.
47 And they moved from Almon Diblathaim and camped in the mountains of Abarim.
48 And they departed from the mountains of Abarim and camped in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho.
49 And they camped by the Jordan, from Beth Jesimoth even to Abel Shittim in the plains of Moab.
50 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho, saying,
51 "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "When you have passed over the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
52 then you will drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you and destroy all their pictures and destroy all their molten images, and demolish all their high places.
53 "Then you will dispossess the inhabitants of the land and dwell in it. For I have given

m Ex 17:1; 19:2 n Ex 16:1; 19:1,2 o Nm 11:34 p Nm 11:35 q Nm 12:16 r Dt 10:6 s Dt 10:6 t Dt 10:7 u Dt 2:8 v Nm 20:1; 27:14 w Nm 20:22,23; 21:4 x Nm 20:25,28 y Nm 21:1 z Nm 21:10 a Nm 21:11 b Nm 32:34 c Jr 48:22 d Dt 32:49 e Nm 22:1; 31:12; 35:1 f Nm 25:1 g Ja 3:17 h Dt 7:2,5; 12:3
you the land to possess it.

54 'Then you will divide the land by lot for an inheritance among your families. To the larger you will give more inheritance and to the smaller you will give the less inheritance. Every man's inheritance will be in the place where his lot falls. You will inherit according to the tribes of your fathers.

55 'But if you will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it will come to pass that those whom you allow to remain of them will be pricks in your eyes and thorns in your sides. And they will vex you in the land in which you dwell.

56 'Moreover it will come to pass that I will do to you as I planned to do to them.'"

Chapter 34

Borders of Canaan

1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 "Command the children of Israel and say to them, 'When you come into the land of Canaan, this is the land that will fall to you as an inheritance, even the land of Canaan according to its borders.

3 b'Your southern side will be from the wilderness of Zin along by the border of Edom, and your southern border will extend from the end of the Salt Sea eastward.

4 'And your border will turn from the south to the ascent of Akrabbim and pass on to Zin. And its termination will be to the south of Kadesh Barnea, and will go on to Hazar Addar and pass on to Azmon.

5 'And the border will turn in direction from Azmon to the river of Egypt, and its termination will be at the sea.

6 ¶ 'And as for the western border, you will even have the Great Sea for a border. This will be your western border.

7 'And this will be your northern border. You will draw your border line from the Great Sea to Mount Hor.

8 'From Mount Hor you will mark out your border to the entrance of Hamath, and the termination of the border will be at Zedad.

9 'And the border will go on to Ziphron, and its termination will be at Hazar Enan. This will be your northern border.

10 ¶ 'And you will mark out your eastern border from Hazar Enan to Shepham.

11 'And the border will go down from Shepham to Riblah, on the east side of Ain. And the border will descend and will reach to the side of the sea of Chinnereth eastward.

12 'And the border will go down to the Jordan, and its termination will be at the Salt Sea. This will be your land according to its borders all around.'"

13 ¶ So Moses commanded the children of Israel, saying, "This is the land that you will inherit by lot which the LORD commanded to give to the nine tribes and to the half tribe;

14 "for the tribe of the children of Reuben according to the house of their fathers, and the tribe of the children of Gad according to the house of their fathers, have received their inheritance, and half the tribe of Manasseh has received their inheritance.

15 "The two tribes and the half tribe have received their inheritance on this side of the Jordan near Jericho, eastward toward the sunrising."

16 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

17 "These are the names of the men who will divide the land for you: Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun.

18 "And you will take one prince of every tribe to divide the land by inheritance.

19 "And the names of the men are these: of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

20 "And of the tribe of the children of Simon, Shemuel the son of Ammihud.

21 "Of the tribe of Benjamin, Elidad the son of Chislon.

22 "And the prince of the tribe of the children of Dan, Bukki the son of Jogli.

23 "The prince of the children of Joseph, for the tribe of the children of Manasseh, Hanniel the son of Ephod.

24 "And the prince of the tribe of the children of Ephraim, Kemuel the son of Shiphtan.

25 "And the prince of the tribe of the children of Zebulun, Elizaphan the son of Parnach.
26 “And the prince of the tribe of the children of Issachar, Paltiel the son of Azzan.
27 “And the prince of the tribe of the children of Asher, Ahihud the son of Shelomi.
28 “And the prince of the tribe of the children of Naphtali, Pedahel the son of Ammihud.”
29 These are they whom the LORD commanded to divide the inheritance to the children of Israel in the land of Canaan.

Chapter 35
Cities for the Levites
1 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho, saying,
2 "Command the children of Israel so that they give to the Levites of the inheritance of their possession cities in which to dwell. And you will give also to the Levites pasture lands for the cities around about them.
3 “And the cities will be theirs to live in. And their pasture lands will be for their cattle and for their goods and for all their livestock.
4 “And the pasture lands of the cities that you will give to the Levites will reach from the wall of the city and outward a thousand cubits around.
5 “And you will measure from outside the city on the east side two thousand cubits, and on the south side two thousand cubits, and on the west side two thousand cubits, and on the north side two thousand cubits. And the city will be in the center. This will be to them as pasture lands for the cities.

Cities of Refuge
6 ¶ "And among the cities that you will give to the Levites there will be six cities for refuge that you will appoint for the manslayer, to which he may flee. And to them you will add forty-two cities.
7 “So all the cities that you will give to the Levites will be forty-eight cities. You will give them with their pasture lands.
8 “And the cities that you will give will be of the possession of the children of Israel. From those who have many you will give many, but from those who have few you will give few.

Everyone will give of his cities to the Levites according to his inheritance that he inherits.”

9 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
10 “Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "When you have come over the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
11 ‘then you will appoint for yourselves cities to be cities of refuge for you, so that the manslayer may flee there who unintentionally kills any person.
12 And they will be to you cities for refuge from the avenger, so that the manslayer not die until he stands before the assembly in judgment.
13 ‘And of these cities that you will give will be your six cities of refuge.
14 ¶ You will give three cities on this side of the Jordan and three cities you will give in the land of Canaan. They will be cities of refuge.
15 ‘These six cities will be a refuge both for the children of Israel and for the alien, and for the sojourner among them, so that everyone who kills any person unintentionally may flee there.
16 ¶ "And if he smites him with an instrument of iron, so that he dies, he is a murderer. The murderer will surely be put to death.
17 ‘And if he smites him with throwing a stone, by which he may die, and he dies, he is a murderer. The murderer will surely be put to death.
18 ‘Or if he smites him with a hand weapon of wood by which he may die, and he dies, he is a murderer. The murderer will surely be put to death.
19 o‘The revenger of blood himself will slay the murderer. He will put him to death when he meets him.
20 ¶ ‘But if he thrusts him because of hatred, or throws at him by lying in wait so that he dies,
21 ‘or in enmity smites him with his hand so that he dies, he who smote him will surely be put to death, for he is a murderer. The avenger of blood will slay the murderer when he meets him.
22 ¶ ‘But if he thrusts him suddenly without enmity, or has cast on him anything without lying in wait,
23 ‘or with any stone, and without seeing it dropped on him so that he dies, while he was not his enemy nor seeking his injury,
24 ‘then the assembly will judge between the slayer and the avenger of blood according to these judgments.
25 ‘And the assembly will deliver the slayer out of the hand of the avenger of blood. And the assembly will restore him to the city of his refuge to which he had fled. And he will live in it to the death of the high priest who was anointed with the holy oil.
26 ‘But if the slayer will at any time come outside the border of the city of his refuge to which he had fled,
27 ‘and the avenger of blood finds him outside the borders of the city of his refuge, and the avenger of blood kills the slayer, he will not be guilty of blood,
28 ‘because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest. But after the death of the high priest the slayer will return into the land of his possession.
29 ¶ ‘So these things will be for a statute of judgment to you throughout your generations in all your dwellings.
30 ‘Whoever kills any person, the murderer will be put to death by the mouth of witnesses. But one witness will not testify against any person to cause him to die.
31 ‘Moreover, you will take no ransom for the life of a murderer who is guilty of death. But he will surely be put to death.
32 ‘And you will take no ransom for him who has fled to the city of his refuge, that he may come again to dwell in the land before the death of the priest.
33 ‘So you will not pollute the land wherein you are; for blood pollutes the land. And the land cannot be cleansed by the blood that is shed in it, except by the blood of him who shed it.
34 ‘Therefore, do not defile the land that you will inhabit, wherein I dwell. For I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.’”

Chapter 36

Inheritance of Zelophehad

1 ¶ Then the chief fathers of the families of the children of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of the sons of Joseph, came near and spoke before Moses and before the princes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel.
2 And they said, “The LORD commanded my lord to give the land for an inheritance by lot to the children of Israel. And my lord was commanded by the LORD to give the inheritance of Zelophehad our brother to his daughters.
3 “And if they are married to any of the sons of the other tribes of the children of Israel, then their inheritance will be taken from the inheritance of our fathers, and will be put to the inheritance of the tribe to which they belong. Thus will it be taken from the lot of our inheritance.
4 “And when the jubilee of the children of Israel comes, then their inheritance will be added to the inheritance of the tribe to which they belong. Thus their inheritance will be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.”
5 ¶ So Moses commanded the children of Israel according to the word of the LORD, saying, “The tribe of the sons of Joseph have said well.
6 “This is the thing that the LORD commands concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, ‘Let them marry to whom they think best, only to the family of the tribe of their father will they marry.’
7 “So no inheritance of the children of Israel will be transferred from tribe to tribe, for everyone of the children of Israel will hold to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.
8 “And every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel, will be wife to one of the family of the tribe of her father, so that the children of Israel may enjoy every man the inheritance of his fathers.
9 “Neither will the inheritance be transferred from one tribe to another tribe, but everyone of the tribes of the children of Israel will keep himself to his own inheritance.”
10 ¶ Even as the LORD commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad;
11 for kMahlah, Tirzah and Hoglah and Milcah and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, were married to their father’s brothers’ sons.
12 They were married into the families of the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of the family of their father.
13 ¶ These are the commandments and the judgments that the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses to the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan near Jericho.

DEUTERONOMY

Chapter 1
Leaving Mount Sinai

1 ¶ These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel on this side of the Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain over against the Red Sea, between Paran and Tophel and Laban and Hazeroth and Dizahab.
2 There are eleven days’ journey from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir bto Kadesh Barnea.
3 Now it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, that Moses spoke to the children of Israel according to all that the LORD had given him in commandment to them,
4 aafter he had slain Sihon the king of the Amorites who dwelt in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan who dwelt at Astaroth in Edrei.
5 On this side of the Jordan in the land of Moab, Moses began to declare this law, saying,
6 “The LORD our God spoke to us in fHoreb, saying, ‘You have dwelt long enough at this mountain.
7 ‘Turn and take your journey, and go to the mountain of the Amorites, and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, in the hills and in the lowland and in the Negev, and by the sea coast, to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon to the great river, the River Euphrates.
8 ‘Behold, I have set the land before you. Go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give to them and to their seed after them.’

Appointment of Leaders

9 ¶ “And I spoke to you at that time, saying, ‘I am not able to bear the burden of you alone.
10 ‘The LORD your God has multiplied you, and behold, you are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude.
11 k ‘The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times more than you are, and bless you as He has promised you!
12 l ‘How can I myself alone bear your problems and your burden and your strife?
13 ‘Choose wise men with understanding and knowledgeable men among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you.’
14 “And you answered me and said, ‘The thing that you have spoken is good for us to do.’
15 “So I took the chief of your tribes, wise and experienced men, and made them heads over you,
such as captains over thousands and captains over hundreds and captains over fifties and captains over tens and officers among your tribes.
16 “And I charged your judges at that time, saying, ‘Hear the cases between your brethren and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the alien who is with him.’
17 p ‘You will not respect persons in judgment. But you will hear the small as well as the great.
18 ‘You will not be afraid of any man, for the judgment is God’s. And the case that is too hard for you, ‘bring it to me and I will hear it.’
19 “And I commanded you at that time all the things that you should do.

Spies Sent Out

19 ¶ “And when we departed from Horeb,
swe went through all that great and terrible wilderness that you saw by the way of the mountain of the Amorites, as the LORD our God commanded us. And we came to Kadesh Barnea.

20 “And I said to you, ‘You have come to the mountain of the Amorites that the LORD our God is giving to us.

21 ‘Behold, the LORD your God has set the land before you. Go up and possess it as the LORD God of your fathers has said to you. Do not fear or be discouraged.’

22 “Then you came near to me every one of you, and said, ‘We will send men before us and they will search out the land for us and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what cities we will come.’

23 “And the saying pleased me well. And I took twelve men from you, one from each tribe.

24 “And they turned and went up into the mountain and came to the valley of Eshcol and searched it out.

25 “And they took of the fruit of the land in their hands and brought it down to us. And they brought us word again and said, ‘It is a good land that the LORD our God is giving us.’

Rebellion Against God

26 ¶ “Yet you would not go up, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God.

27 “And you murmured in your tents and said, ‘Because the LORD hates us, He has brought us out of the land of Egypt in order to destroy us.

28 ‘Where will we go up? Our brethren have discouraged our hearts, saying, “The people are greater and taller than we. The cities are great and walled up to heaven. And besides, we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.”’

29 “Then I said to you, ‘Do not be shocked, nor be afraid of them.

30 ¶ “The LORD your God who goes before you, He will fight for you according to all that He did for you in Egypt before your eyes,

31 ‘and in the wilderness where you saw how the LORD your God carried you, as a man carried his son, in all the way that you went, until you came into this place.’

32 “Yet in this thing you did not believe the LORD your God,

33 ¶ “who went in the way before you, to search out a place for you to pitch your tents, in fire by night to show you by what way you should go and in a cloud by day.

34 ¶ “Then the LORD heard the voice of your words. And He was angry and swore an oath, saying,

35 ¶ Surely there will not one of these men of this evil generation see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers,

36 ¶ except Caleb the son of Jephunneh. He will see it, and to him I will give the land that he has trodden upon, and to his children, because he has wholly followed the LORD.’

37 ¶ Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, ‘You also will not enter there.

38 ¶ ‘But Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you, he will enter in. Encourage him, for he will cause Israel to inherit it.

39 ¶ Moreover, your little ones who you said should be prey, and your children who in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they will enter in, and to them I will give it. And they will possess it.

40 ¶ ‘But as for you, turn and take your journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea.’

41 ¶ “Then you answered and said to me, ‘We have sinned against the LORD. We will go up and fight according to all that the LORD our God commanded us.’ And when every man had put on his weapons of war, you were ready to go up into the hill country.

42 “And the LORD said to me, ‘Do not go up, nor fight, for I am not among you, lest you be smitten before your enemies.’

43 ¶ “Then you answered and said to me, ‘We have sinned against the LORD. We will go up and fight according to all that the LORD our God commanded us.’ And when every man had put on his weapons of war, you were ready to go up into the hill country.

44 ¶ “And the Amorites who dwelt in that mountain came out against you. And they chased you.”
you as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, even to Hormah.

45 "And you returned and wept before the LORD. But the LORD would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear to you.

46 "So you remained in Kadesh many days according to the days that you abode there.

Chapter 2
Wilderness Wonderings

1 ¶ "Then we turned and set out for the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea, as the LORD spoke to me. And we circled around Mount Seir many days.

2 Then the LORD spoke to me, saying,

3 ...You have circled around this mountain long enough. Turn northward.

4 ...Command the people, saying, "You are to pass through the territory of your brethren, the children of Esau, who dwell in Seir. And they will be afraid of you. Therefore, take heed to yourselves.

5 ...Do not meddle with them, for I will not give you any of their land, not so much as a footstep because I have given Mount Seir to Esau for a possession.

6 ...You will buy food from them for money so that you may eat. And you will also buy water from them for money so that you may drink.

7 ...For the LORD your God has blessed you in all the works of your hand. He knows your wanderings through this great wilderness.

8 These forty years the LORD your God has been with you. You have lacked nothing."

9 ...Then the LORD said to me, 'Do not distress the Moabites, nor contend with them in battle, for I will not give you any of their land for a possession because I have given Ar to the children of Lot for a possession.

10 ...' (The Emims dwelt in it in the past, a great and numerous people, and tall as the Anakims. They also were considered giants, as the Anakims, but the Moabites call them Emims.

12 ...The Horites also formerly dwelt in Seir, but the children of Esau dispossessed them when they had destroyed them from before them. And they dwelt in their place, as Israel did to the land of his possession that the LORD gave to them.)

13 ‘Now rise up, I said, and cross over the Brook Zered.' And we went over the Brook Zered.

14 "Now the time that it took for us to come from Kadesh Barnea, until we had crossed over the Brook Zered, was thirty-eight years; until all the generation of the men of war had perished from among the army, as the LORD swore to them.

15 "For indeed the hand of the LORD was against them, to destroy them from among the army, until they all perished.

16 ¶ “So it came to pass when all the men of war were consumed and dead from among the people,

17 ...that the LORD spoke to me, saying,

18 ...You are to pass over through Ar, the territory of Moab, this day.

19 ...And when you come opposite the children of Ammon, do not distress them, nor meddle with them. For I will not give you of the land of the children of Ammon any possession because I have given it to the children of Lot for a possession.’

20 ...That also was regarded a land of the Rephaim. The Rephaim formerly lived in it, and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims.

21 ...They were a great and numerous people, and tall as the Anakims. But the LORD destroyed them before them, and they dispossessed them and dwelt in their place,

22 ...as He did to the children of Esau who dwelt in Seir, when He destroyed the Horites from before them. And they dispossessed them and dwelt in their place even to this day.

23 And the Avims who dwelt in Hazerim, even to Azzah, the Caphtorims who came forth out of Caphtor destroyed them and dwelt in their place.)
Defeat of King Sihon

24 ¶ ‘Rise up. Take your journey and pass over the River Arnon. Behold, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land. Begin to possess it, and contend with him in battle.

25 ¶ This day I will begin to put the dread of you and the fear of you upon the nations that are under the whole heaven, who will hear the report of you and will tremble and be in anguish because of you.’

26 “So I sent messengers out of the wilderness of Kedemoth to Sihon king of Heshbon with words of peace, saying,

27 ¶ ‘Let me pass through your land. I will go along by the highway. I will neither turn to the right hand nor to the left.

28 ¶ ‘You will sell me food for money so that I may eat. And you give me water for money so that I may drink. Only let me pass through on foot

29 ¶ as the children of Esau who dwell in Seir and the Moabites who dwell in Ar did for me, until I will pass over the Jordan into the land that the LORD our God gives us.’

30 ¶ But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him, for the LORD your God hardened his spirit and made his heart obstinate so that He might deliver him into your hand, as he is this day.

31 ¶ “And the LORD said to me, ‘Behold, I have begun to give Sihon and his land over to you. Begin to possess it so that you may inherit his land.’

32 ¶ Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz.

33 ¶ “And the LORD our God delivered him before us, and we smote him until no one was left.

34 ¶ “And we took all his cities at that time. There was not a city that we did not take from them, sixty cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

35 ¶ All these cities were fortified with high walls, gates and bars, besides a great many unwalled towns.

36 ¶ “From Aroer, that is by the brink of the river of Arnon, and from the city that is by the river, even to Gilead, there was not one city too strong for us. The LORD our God delivered all to us.

37 ¶ “Only you did not go near to the land of the sons of Ammon, nor to any place of the River Jabbok, nor to the cities in the mountains, nor to whatever the LORD our God forbade us.

Chapter 3

Defeat of King Og

1 ¶ “Then we turned and went up by the way to Bashan. And Og, the king of Bashan, came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.

2 ¶ “Then the LORD said to me, ‘Do not fear him, for I will deliver him and all his people and his land, into your hand. And you will do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites who dwelt at Heshbon.’

3 ¶ “So the LORD our God delivered into our hands Og also, the king of Bashan, and all his people. And we smote him until no one was left.

4 ¶ “And we took all his cities at that time. There was not a city that we did not take from them, sixty cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

5 ¶ “All these cities were fortified with high walls, gates and bars, besides a great many unwalled towns.

6 ¶ “And we utterly destroyed them as we did to Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying the men, women and children of every city.

7 ¶ “But all the livestock and the spoil of the cities, we took for a booty for ourselves.

8 ¶ “And we took at that time the land out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites who were on this side of the Jordan, from the river of Arnon to Mount Hermon,

9 (Mount Hermon is called Sirion by the Sidonians. The Amorites call it Shenir),

10 ¶ all the cities of the plain and all Gilead and all Bashan, to Salchah and Edrei, cities of
the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

11 (For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of ‘giants. Behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron. It is in Rabbah of the sons of Ammon. Its length was nine cubits and its width four cubits after the cubit of a man.)

12 ¶ “So this land we possessed at that time, from Aroer, that is by the River Arnon, and half the hill country of Gilead and its cities, I gave to the Reubenites and to the Gadites.

13 And the rest of Gilead and all Bashan, being the kingdom of Og, I gave to half the tribe of Manasseh, all the region of Argob, with all Bashan that was called the land of Rephaim.

14 Jair the son of Manasseh took all the country of Argob to the territory of Geshuri and Maachathi. And he called Bashan after his own name, Havoth Jair, to this day.

15 And I gave Gilead to Machir.

16 And to the Reubenites and to the Gadites I gave from Gilead even to the River Arnon half the valley, and the border even to the River Jabbok, that is the border of the children of Ammon;

17 the plain also, and the Jordan as its border, from Chinnereth even to the ‘sea of the plain, even the ‘Salt Sea, below the slopes of Pisgah eastward.

18 ¶ “Then I commanded you at that time, saying, ‘The LORD your God has given you this land to possess it. You will pass over armed before your brethren the children of Israel, all who are ready for the war.

19 ‘But your wives and your little ones and your livestock, (I know that you have much livestock), will abide in your cities that I have given you,

20 ‘until the LORD has given rest to your brethren, as well as to you, and until they also possess the land that the LORD your God has given them beyond the Jordan. Then you will return every man to his possession that I have given you.’

Moses Forbidden to Cross the Jordon

21 ¶ “And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, ‘Your eyes have seen all that the LORD your God has done to these two kings. Even so the LORD will do to all the kingdoms into which you are about to cross.

22 ‘You will not fear them, for the LORD your God will fight for you.’

23 ¶ “And I pleaded with the LORD at that time, saying,

24 ‘O Lord GOD, you have begun to show your servant Your greatness and Your mighty hand. For what god is there in heaven or in earth who can do according to Your works and according to Your might?

25 ‘I beg you, let me go over and see the good land that is beyond the Jordan, that good hill country and Lebanon.’

26 ‘But the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and would not hear me. And the LORD said to me, ‘That is enough. Speak no more to Me of this matter.

27 ¶ ‘Get up into the top of Pisgah and lift up your eyes westward and northward and southward and eastward, and behold it with your eyes, for you will not go over this Jordan.

28 ‘But charge Joshua and encourage him and strengthen him. For he will go over before this people and he will cause them to inherit the land that you will see.’

29 ‘So we remained in the valley over against Beth Peor.

Chapter 4

Exhortation to Obey

1 ¶ “Now therefore hearken, 0 Israel, to the statutes and to the judgments that I teach you, in order to do them so that you may live and go in and possess the land that the LORD God of your fathers is giving you.

2 You will not add to the word that I command you, nor will you diminish from it, so that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you.

3 ¶ “Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baal Peor, for all the men who followed Baal Peor, the LORD your God has destroyed them from among you.

4 ¶ “But you who held fast to the LORD your God are alive, every one of you this day.
5 “Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you should do so in the land where you are going to possess it.

6 “Therefore, keep and do them, for this is your wisdom and understanding in the sight of the nations who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’

7 “For what nation is there so great, who has a god so near to it as is the LORD our God whenever we call on Him?

8 “And what nation is there so great that has statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law that I set before you this day?

9 ¶ “Only take heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. But teach them to your sons and your sons’ sons.

10 “Remember the day that you stood before the LORD your God in Horeb, when the LORD said to me, ‘Assemble the people to Me and I will make them hear My words so that they may learn to fear Me all the days that they will live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.

11 “And you came near and stood under the mountain. And the mountain burned with fire to the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds and thick darkness.

12 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the voice of the words, but saw no form. You heard only a voice.

13 ¶ And He declared to you His covenant that He commanded you to perform, even ten commandments. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

14 “Then the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments so that you might do them in the land to which you are going over to possess.

Idolatry Forbidden

15 ¶ “Therefore, take careful heed to yourselves, since you did not see any form on the day that the LORD spoke to you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire,

16 “lest you ‘corrupt and’ make for yourselves a graven image, an image of any shape, the likeness of male or female,

17 “the likeness of any animal that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air,

18 “the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground and the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth.

19 “And when you ‘lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, even all the army of heaven, do not be drawn away to worship them and serve them, things that the LORD your God has allotted to all nations under the whole heaven.

20 ¶ “But the LORD has taken you and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be to Him a people of inheritance as you are this day.

21 “Furthermore, the LORD was angry with me for your sakes and swore that I should not go over the Jordan and that I should not go into that good land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.

22 ¶ “But I must die in this land. I must not go over the Jordan. But you will go over and possess that good land.

23 “Take heed to yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God that He made with you, and you make a graven image or the likeness of any thing that the LORD your God has forbidden you.

24 “For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

25 ¶ “When you will have had children and grandchildren, and will have remained long in the land, and will corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image or the likeness of any thing, and will do evil in the sight of the LORD your God, to provoke Him to anger,

26 ¶ “I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that you will surely utterly perish from off the land to which you go over the Jordan to possess. You will not live long in it, but will utterly be destroyed.
27 “And the LORD will scatter you among the nations. And you will be left few in number among the heathen, to which the LORD will lead you.

28 “And there you will serve gods, the work of men’s hands, wood and stone, that neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell.

29 “But if from there you will seek the LORD your God, you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

30 “When you are in tribulation and all these things have come upon you, in the latter day you will turn to the LORD your God and will be obedient to His voice.

31 “For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not forsake you, nor destroy you nor forget the covenant of your fathers that He swore to them.

32 “Indeed, ask now about the days that are past, that were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven to the other, whether there has been any such thing as this great thing, or has been heard like it?

33 “Did any people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and yet live?

34 “Or has God tried to go and take for Himself a nation from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs and by wonders and by war and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

35 “To you it was shown so that you might know that the LORD, He is God. There is no one else besides Him.

36 “Out of heaven He made you to hear His voice so that He might instruct you. And on earth He showed you His great fire, and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire.

37 “And because He loved your fathers, therefore, He chose their seed after them and brought you out of Egypt in His sight with His mighty power,

38 “to drive out nations from before you greater and mightier than you, to bring you in to give you their land for an inheritance as it is this day.

39 “Therefore, know this day and consider it in your heart that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and upon the earth beneath. There is no other.

40 “Therefore, you will keep His statutes and His commandments that I command you this day, so that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days on the earth that the LORD your God is giving you forever.”

Refuge Cities

41 ¶ Then Moses set apart three cities on this side of the Jordan toward the sun rising, to which the manslayer might flee who should kill his neighbor unintentionally, without having hatred toward him in the past, and that fleeing to one of these cities he might live:

42 Bezer in the wilderness, in the plain country of the Reubenites, and Ramoth in Gilead of the Gadites, and Golan in Bashan of the Manassites.

Introduction to the Law

44 ¶ Now this is the law that Moses set before the children of Israel.

45 These are the testimonies and the statutes and the judgments that Moses spoke to the children of Israel after they had come forth out of Egypt,

46 on this side of the Jordan, in the valley over against Beth Peor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites who dwelt at Heshbon, whom Moses and the children of Israel smote after they had come forth out of Egypt.

47 And they possessed his land and the land of Og king of Bashan, two kings of the Amorites who were on this side of the Jordan toward the sun rising,

48 from Arroer, that is by the bank of the River Armon, even to Mount Sion that is Hermon,

49 and all the plain on this side of the Jordan eastward, even to the sea of the plain, under...
the **springs** of Pisgah.

**Chapter 5**

*The Ten Commandments*

1 ¶ Then Moses called all Israel and said to them, “Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments that I speak in your ears this day, that you may learn them and keep and do them.

2 “The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

3 “The LORD did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us who are all of us here alive this day.

4 The LORD talked with you face to face in the mountain out of the midst of the fire,

5 while I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to show you the word of the LORD, for you were afraid by reason of the fire and did not go up into the mountain. And He said,

6 ¶ I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

7 ¶ You will have no other gods before Me.

8 ¶ You will not make for yourself any graven image or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath or that is in the waters beneath the earth.

9 ¶ You will not bow down yourself to them nor serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

10 and showing mercy to thousands of them those who love Me and keep My commandments.

11 ¶ You will not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

12 ¶ Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD your God has commanded you.

13 Six days you will labor and do all your work.

14 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you will not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your manservant or your maidservant or your ox or your donkey or any of your cattle or your alien who is within your gates, so that your manservant and your maidservant may rest as well as you.

15 ¶ And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD your God brought you out of there through a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm. Therefore, the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

16 ¶ Honor your father and your mother as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

17 ¶ You will not kill.

18 ¶ You will not commit adultery.

19 ¶ You will not steal.

20 ¶ You will not bear false witness against your neighbor.

21 ¶ You will not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor will you covet your neighbor’s house, his field or his manservant or his maidservant, his ox or his donkey or anything that is your neighbor’s.

22 ¶ These words the LORD spoke with a great voice to all your assembly in the mountain out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud and of the thick darkness. And He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and delivered them to me.

23 ¶ When you heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, for the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, even all the heads of your tribes and your elders.

24 ¶ Then it came to pass when you heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, for the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, even all the heads of your tribes and your elders.

25 ¶ And you said, ‘Behold, the LORD our God has showed us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice out of the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God does talk with man and He lives.

26 ¶ For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?
27 ‘Go near and hear all that the LORD our God will say. And speak to us all that the LORD our God will speak to you, and we will hear it and do it.’

28 ‘And the LORD heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me. And the LORD said to me, “I have heard the voice of the words of this people that they have spoken to you. They have said well all that they have spoken.

29 ‘Oh that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always so that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

30 ‘Go say to them, “Return to your tents again.”

31 ‘But as for you, you stand here by Me and I will speak to you all the commandments and the statutes and the judgments that you will teach them, so that they may do them in the land that I give them to possess.’

32 ‘You will observe to do as the LORD your God has commanded you. You will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

33 ‘You will walk in all the ways that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

Chapter 6
Love the Lord God

1 ¶ “Now these are the commandments, the statutes and the judgments that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, so that you might do them in the land to which you are going to possess,

2 that you might fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments that I command you, you and your son, and your son’s son, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.

3 Therefore, hear O Israel and observe to do it, so that it may be well with you and that you may increase mightily as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you, in the land that flows with milk and honey.

4 ¶ “Hear, O Israel. The LORD our God is one LORD.

5 ¶ “And you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

6 ¶ “And these words that I command you this day will be in your heart.

7 ¶ “And you will teach them diligently to your children and will talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

8 ¶ “And you will bind them for a sign on your hand, and they will be as frontlets between your eyes.

9 ¶ “And you will write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

10 ¶ “And it will be when the LORD your God brings you into the land that He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, to give you great and splendid cities, that you did not build,

11 “and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and wells you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant, which you will eat and be full,

12 “then beware lest you forget the LORD who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

13 “You will fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and will swear by His name.

14 “You will not go after other gods, of the gods of the people who are around you,

15 “for the LORD your God is a jealous God among you; lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you and destroy you from off the face of the earth.

16 ¶ “You will not tempt the LORD your God as you tempted Him at Massah.

17 “You will diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and His testimonies and His statutes that He has commanded you.

18 “And you will do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, so that it may be well with you and that you may go in and possess the good land that the LORD swore to your fathers,

19 to cast out all your enemies from before
you, as the LORD has spoken.

20 ¶ "And when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What do the testimonies and the statutes and the judgments mean that the LORD our God has commanded you?’,

21 then you will say to your son, ‘We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt. But the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

22 And the LORD showed before our eyes signs and wonders, great and terrible against Egypt, upon Pharaoh and upon all his household.

23 Then he brought us out from there so that He might bring us in, to give us the land that He swore to our fathers.

24 And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day.

25 And it will be our righteousness if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as He has commanded us.’

Chapter 7
Driving Out the Nations

1 ¶ “When the LORD your God brings you into the land where you go to possess it, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you,

2 and when the LORD your God delivers them over to you, you will smite them and utterly destroy them. You will make no covenant with them, nor show mercy to them.

3 "Neither will you intermarry with them. You will not give your daughters to their sons, nor will you take their daughters for your sons.

4 “For they will turn away your sons from following Me so that they may serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you and quickly destroy you.

5 “But thus you will deal with them. You will destroy their altars and break down their images and cut down their groves and burn their graven images with fire.

6 ¶ “For you are a holy people to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a special people to Himself, above all people who are on the face of the earth.

7 “The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than other people, for you were the fewest of all peoples.

8 “But because the LORD loved you and because He would keep the oath that He had sworn to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

9 “Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commandments.

10 “And He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not delay with him who hates Him. He will repay him to his face.

11 “You will therefore keep the commandments and the statutes and the judgments that I command you this day, to do them.

12 ¶ “Therefore it will come to pass if you hearken to these judgments and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy that He swore to your fathers.

13 “And He will love you and bless you and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your land, your corn and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the flocks of your sheep, in the land that He swore to your fathers to give you.

14 “You will be blessed above all people. There will not be a barren male or female among you, or among your livestock.

15 “And the LORD will take away from you all sickness and will not afflict you with any of the harmful diseases of Egypt that you know, but will lay them on all those who hate you.

16 “And you will consume all the people that
the LORD your God will deliver to you. Your eye will have no pity on them, nor will you serve their gods, for that would be a ‘snare to you. 17 ¶ “You may say in your heart, ‘These nations are greater than I, how can I dispossess them?’ 18 “You will not be afraid of them. But you will remember what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt. 19 “You saw the great trials and the signs and the wonders and the mighty hand and the outstretched arm by which the LORD your God brought you out. So will the LORD your God do to all the people of whom you are afraid. 20 Moreover, the LORD your God will send the hornet among them until those who are left and hide themselves from you are destroyed. 21 “You will not be terrified by them, for the LORD your God is among you, a mighty God and terrible. 22 “And the LORD your God will drive out little by little those nations before you. You will not eliminate them at one time, lest the wild beasts of the field increase upon you. 23 “But the LORD your God will deliver them to you and will destroy them with a mighty destruction, until they are destroyed. 24 And He will deliver their kings into your hand and you will destroy their name from under heaven. No man there will be able to stand before you until you have destroyed them. 25 “The graven images of their gods you will burn with fire. You will not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, lest you are snared by it, for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. 26 “Neither will you bring an abomination into your house, lest you are set apart for destruction like it. But you will utterly detest it and you will utterly abhor it, for it is set apart for destruction.

Chapter 8  Remember the Lord  1 ¶ “All the commandments that I command you this day you will observe to do so that you may live and multiply and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to your fathers. 2 “And you will remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and to prove you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. 3 “And He humbled you and allowed you to hunger. And He fed you with manna that you did not know, neither did your fathers know, so that He might make you know that man does not live by bread only, but man lives by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD. 4 “Your clothing did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years. 5 ¶ “You will also consider in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you. 6 “Therefore, you will keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him. 7 “For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs flowing out of valleys and hills, 8 a land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey, 9 a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity. You will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you may dig bronze. 10 “When you have eaten and are full, then you will bless the LORD your God for the good land that He has given you. 11 ¶ “Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His judgments and His statutes that I command you this day. 12 “Otherwise, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and dwelt in them, 13 “and when your herds and your flocks multiply and your silver and your gold are
multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, 
14 and your heart is lifted up and you forget the LORD your God who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

15 “He led you through that great and terrible wilderness in which there were fiery serpents and scorpions and drought, where there was no water. He brought you forth water out of the rock of flint.

16 “He fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know so that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end.

17 “And you may say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand has produced this wealth for me.’

18 “But you will remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to get wealth, so that He may establish His covenant that He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

19 “And it will be that if you ever forget the LORD your God and walk after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you will surely perish.

20 “As the nations that the LORD destroys before your face, so will you perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God.

Chapter 9
Chosen by Grace

1 ¶ “Hear, O Israel! You are to pass over the Jordan this day, to go in to possess nations greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and fortified to heaven,

2 “a people great and tall, the children of the Anakims, whom you know and of whom you have heard say: ‘Who can stand before the children of Anak?’

3 “Understand therefore this day, that the LORD your God is He who goes over before you. As a consuming fire He will destroy them and He will bring them down before your face. So you will drive them out and destroy them quickly as the LORD has said to you.

4 ¶ “Do not say in your heart after the LORD your God has cast them out from before you, saying, ‘Because of my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,’

5 ¶ “Not for your righteousness or for the uprightness of your heart, do you go to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God drives them out from before you, in order that He might accomplish the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

6 ¶ “Understand therefore that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stiffnecked people.

A stiffnecked People

7 ¶ “Remember and do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day that you departed out of the land of Egypt, until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the LORD.

8 ¶ “Also in Horeb you provoked the LORD to wrath, so that the LORD was angry with you that He would have destroyed you.

9 ¶ “When I went up into the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, even the tablets of the covenant that the LORD made with you, then I remained in the mountain forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water.

10 ¶ “And the LORD delivered to me two tablets of stone written with the finger of God. And on them were all the words that the LORD spoke with you in the mountain out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly.

11 ¶ “And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, I neither ate bread nor drank water.

12 ¶ “And the LORD said to me, ‘Arise, go down quickly from here, for your people whom
you have brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted themselves. They are quickly turned aside out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a molten image.’

13 ¶ “Furthermore, the LORD spoke to me, saying, ‘I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiffnecked people.

14 ¶ ‘Let me alone so that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven. And I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they.’

15 ¶ So I turned and came down from the mountain while the mountain was burning with fire. And the two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands.

16 ¶ ‘And I looked, and behold, you had sinned against the LORD your God and had made for yourselves a molten calf. You had turned aside quickly out of the way that the LORD had commanded you.

17 ¶ ‘And I took the two tablets and cast them out of my two hands and broke them before your eyes.

18 ¶ ‘And I fell down before the LORD as at the first, forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water because of all your sins that you sinned in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.

19 ¶ ‘For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure with which the LORD was wrathful against you to destroy you. But the LORD hearkened to me at that time also.

20 ¶ ‘And the LORD was angry enough with Aaron to destroy him. But I prayed for Aaron at the same time.

21 ¶ ‘And I took your sin, the calf that you had made, and burned it with fire. And I crushed it and ground it very small, even until it was as small as dust. And I cast the dust of it into the brook that descended out of the mountain.

22 ¶ ‘And at Taberah and at Massah and at Kibroth Hattaavah, you provoked the LORD to wrath.

23 ¶ ‘Likewise when the LORD sent you from Kadesh Barnea, saying, ‘Go up and possess the land that I have given you,’ then you rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God and you did not believe Him nor hearken to His voice.

24 ¶ ‘You have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you.

25 ¶ ¶ ‘Thus I fell down before the LORD forty days and forty nights, as I fell down at the first, because the LORD had said He would destroy you.

26 ¶ ‘I prayed therefore to the LORD, and said, ‘O Lord GOD, do not destroy Your people and Your inheritance that You have redeemed through Your greatness, that You have brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

27 ¶ ‘Remember your servants, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Do no look to the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin.

28 ¶ ‘Otherwise the land from which You brought us may say, “Because the LORD was not able to bring them into the land that He promised them, and because He hated them, He has brought them out to kill them in the wilderness.”

29 ¶ ‘Yet they are Your people and Your inheritance that You brought out by Your mighty power and by Your outstretched arm.’

Chapter 10

The Second Tablets of Stone

1 ¶ ‘At that time the LORD said to me, ‘Cut out for yourself two tablets of stone like the first and come up to Me into the mountain and make for yourself an ark of wood.

2 ¶ ‘And I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets that you broke, and you will put them in the ark.’

3 ¶ ‘And I made an ark of acacia wood, and cut out two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then I went up into the mountian, having the two tablets in My hand.

4 ¶ ‘And He wrote on the tablets according to the first writing, the ten commandments that the LORD spoke to you in the mountain out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly. And the LORD gave them to me.

5 ¶ ‘Then I turned and came down from the
mountain and put the tablets in the ark that I had made. And there they are as the LORD commanded me."

6 ¶ (Now the children of Israel set out from the wells Beeroth Jaakan to Mosera. Aaron died there and there he was buried. And Eleazar his son ministered in the priest’s office in his place.

7 From there they journeyed to Gudgodah, and from Gudgodah to Jotbath, a land of rivers of waters.

8 At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to Him and to bless in His name to this day. 9 "Therefore, Levi has no part nor inheritance with his brethren. The LORD is his inheritance according as the LORD your God promised him.)

10 "And I stayed in the mountain according to the first time, forty days and forty nights. And the LORD hearkened to me at that time also. The LORD was not willing to destroy you.

11 "And the LORD said to me, ‘Arise, take your journey before the people so that they may go in and possess the land that I swore to their fathers to give to them.’

Fear the Lord

12 ¶ “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

13 “to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes that I command you this day for your good?

14 “Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD’S your God, the earth also, with all that is in it.

15 “Only the LORD set His affection on your fathers to love them. And He chose their seed after them, even you above all people, as it is this day.

16 “Circumcise, therefore, the foreskin of your heart and be no longer stiffnecked.

17 “For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, a great God, the mighty and awesome who does not show partiality, nor takes a bribe.

18 "He executes the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loves the alien by giving him food and clothing.

19 "Therefore, you love the alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

20 "You will fear the LORD your God. Him you will serve, and to Him you will cleave and swear by His name.

21 "He is your praise and He is your God who has done for you these great and awesome things that your eyes have seen.

22 “Your fathers went down into Egypt with seventy persons. And now the LORD your God has made you as the stars of heaven for multitude.

Chapter 11

Love and Obey God

1 ¶ “Therefore you will love the LORD your God and always keep His charge and His statutes and His judgments and His commandments.

2 “And know this day that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the LORD your God, His greatness, His mighty hand and His outstretched arm, 3 “and His miracles and His acts that He did in the midst of Egypt to Pharaoh the king of Egypt and to all his land;

4 “and what He did to the army of Egypt, to their horses and to their chariots, how He made the water of the Red Sea to overflow them as they pursued after you, and how the LORD destroyed them to this day;

5 “and what He did to you in the wilderness until you came into this place;

6 “and what He did to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of Reuben, when the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them up, and their households and their tents and all the substance that was in their possession, in the midst of all Israel.

7 “But your eyes have seen all the great acts
of the LORD that He did.
8 ¶ "Therefore, you will keep all the commandments that I command you this day so that you may be strong and go in and possess the land into which you go to possess it;
9 so that you may prolong your days in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give to them and to their seed, a land that flows with milk and honey.
10 "For the land to which you are going in to possess is not as the land of Egypt from where you came, where you used to sow your seed and water it with your foot as a garden of herbs. But the land to which you are going to possess is a land of hills and valleys that drinks water from heaven,
12 "a land for which the LORD your God cares. The eyes of the LORD your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even to the end of the year.
13 ¶ ‘And it will come to pass that if you will hearken diligently to My commandments that I command you this day, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul,
14 ‘then I will give you the rain for your land in its due season, the first rain and the latter rain so that you may gather in your corn and your livestock so that you may meat and be full.’
15 ‘And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock so that you may eat and be full.’
16 ‘Take heed to yourselves so that your heart not be deceived, and you turn aside out of the way that I command you this day, to serve other gods and worship them,
17 ‘and then the LORD’S wrath be kindled against you and He shut up the heaven so that there is no rain, and that the land does not yield her fruit, and lest you perish quickly from off the good land that the LORD is giving you.
18 ¶ ‘Therefore you will lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign on your hand so that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.
19 ‘And you will teach them to your children, speaking of them when you are sitting in your house and when you are walking by the way and when you are lying down and when you rise up.
20 ‘And you will write them on the doorposts of your house and upon your gates,
21 so that your days may be multiplied and the days of your children in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, as many as the days of heaven upon the earth.
22 ¶ ‘For if you will diligently keep all these commandments that I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to cleave to Him,
23 ‘then the LORD will drive out all these nations from before you and you will dispossess greater nations and mightier than you.
24 ‘Every place on which the soles of your feet will tread will be yours. Your border will be from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the River Euphrates, even to the utmost sea.
25 ‘There no man will be able to stand before you. For the LORD your God will lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that you will tread upon, as He has said to you.
26 ¶ ‘Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse:
27 ‘the blessing if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you this day;
28 ‘the curse if you will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way that I command you this day to go after other gods that you have not known.
29 ‘And it will come to pass when the LORD your God has brought you into the land to which you are going to possess, that you will put the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal.
30 ‘Are they not on the other side of the Jordan by the way where the sun goes down in the land of the Canaanites who dwell in the Arabah opposite Gilgal, beside the plains of Moreh?
31 ‘For you will pass over the Jordan to go in to possess the land that the LORD your God is
giving you. And you will possess it and dwell in it.

32 "And you will observe to do all the statutes and judgments that I set before you this day.

Chapter 12

Place for God’s Name

1 ¶ “These are the statutes and judgments that you will observe to do in the land that the LORD God of your fathers has given you to possess as long as you live in the land.

2 "You will utterly destroy all the places in which the nations that you will possess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree.

3 “And you will tear down their altars and break their pillars and burn their groves with fire. And you will cut down the graven images of their gods and destroy their names out of that place.

4 ¶ You will not act like this toward the LORD your God.

5 “But you will seek the place where the LORD your God chooses out of all your tribes, to put His name for His habitation. And there you will go.

6 ¶ And there you will bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, and your tithes and your heave offerings of your hand, your votive offerings and your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and of your flocks.

7 “And there you will eat before the LORD your God. And you and your households will rejoice in all that you put your hand to do, because the LORD your God has blessed you.

8 ¶ You will not do after all the things we do here this day, every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes.

9 “For you have not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance that the LORD your God is giving you.

10 “But when you go over the Jordan and dwell in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, and when He gives you rest from all your enemies around so that you dwell in safety,

11 “then there will be a place that the LORD your God will choose to cause His name to dwell there, to which you will bring all that I command you, your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the heave offering of your hand and all your choice votive offerings that you vow to the LORD.

12 ¶ “And you will rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your sons and your daughters and your manservants and your maidservants and the Levite who is within your gates, since he has no part nor inheritance with you.

13 “Take heed to yourself that you do not offer your burnt offerings in every place that you see.

14 “But in the place that the LORD will choose in one of your tribes, there you will offer your burnt offerings and there you will do all that I command you.

15 ¶ “However, you may kill and eat flesh in all your gates, whatever your soul desires, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that He has given you. The unclean and the clean person may eat of it, of the gazelle and the deer alike.

16 ¶ Only you will not eat the blood. You will pour it on the earth as water.

17 “You may not eat within your gates the tithe of your corn or of your wine, or of your oil, or the firstborn of your herds, or of your flock, or any of your votive offerings that you vow, or your freewill offerings, or heave offering of your hand.

18 “But you must eat them before the LORD your God in the place that the LORD your God will choose, you and your son and your daughter and your manservant and your maidservant and the Levite who is within your gates. And you will rejoice before the LORD your God in all that you put your hands to do.

19 “Take heed to yourself that you not forsake the Levite as long as you live in your land.

20 ¶ “When the LORD your God enlarges your border as He has promised you, and you will say, ‘I will eat meat’ because your soul longs to eat meat, then you may eat meat, whatever you desire.
21 “If the place that the LORD your God has chosen to put His name is too far from you, then you will kill of your herd and of your flock that the LORD has given you as I have commanded you, and you will eat in your gates whatever your soul desires.

22 “Even as a gazelle or a deer is eaten, so you will eat them. The unclean and the clean person will eat of them alike.

23 “Only be sure that you do not eat the ‘blood, for the blood is the life. And you may not eat the life with the flesh.

24 “You will not eat it. You will pour it on the earth as water.

25 “You will not eat it so that it may go well with you and with your children after you, when you will do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

26 “Only your ‘holy things that you have and your vows, you will take and go to the place that the LORD will choose.

27 “And ‘you will offer your burnt offerings, the meat and the blood, on the altar of the LORD your God. And the blood of your sacrifices will be poured out on the altar of the LORD your God and you will eat the meat.

28 “Observe and hear all these words that I command you so that it may go well with you and with your children after you, when you do that which is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.

29 ¶ “If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams and he gives you a sign or a wonder,

30 “and the sign or the wonder comes to pass that he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods that you have not known and let us serve them,’

31 “you will not hearken to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

32 “Observe and hear all these words that I command you so that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do that which is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.

Chapter 13
Worshiping Other Gods

1 ¶ “If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams and he gives you a sign or a wonder,

2 “and the sign or the wonder comes to pass that he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods that you have not known and let us serve them,’

3 “you will not hearken to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

4 “You will walk after the LORD your God and fear Him and keep His commandments and obey His voice. And you will serve Him and cleave to Him.

5 “And that prophet or that dreamer of dreams will be put to death, because he has spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to seduce you from the way that the LORD your God commanded you to walk in. So you will put the evil away from the midst of you.

6 ¶ “If your brother, the son of your mother or your son or your daughter or the wife of your bosom or your friend who is as your own soul,

7 “of the gods of the people who are around you, near to you or far off from you, from the one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth,

8 “you will not consent to him nor hearken to him. Neither will your eye pity him, nor will you spare or conceal him.

9 “But you will surely kill him. Your hand will be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

10 “And you will stone him with stones so that he dies, because he has sought to seduce...
you away from the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

11 "And all Israel will hear and afraid, and will do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.

12 ¶ "If you will hear in one of your cities that the LORD your God has given you to dwell there, anyone saying

13 "that wicked men have gone out from among you and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, ‘Let us go and serve other gods’ (whom you have not known),

14 "then you will inquire and search and ask diligently. And behold, if it is certain that such abomination is done among you,

15 "you will surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly with the edge of the sword and all that is in it and its cattle.

16 "And you will gather all the spoil of it into the midst of its street and will burn the city with fire as a whole burnt offering to the LORD your God. And it will be a heap forever. It will not be built again.

17 "And none of those condemned things will be found in your hands, so that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of His anger and show mercy, and have compassion on you and multiply you, as He has sworn to your fathers,

18 "when you will hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, to keep all His commandments that I command you this day, to do that which is right in the eyes of the LORD your God.

Chapter 14

Clean and Unclean Food

1 ¶ “You are the children of the LORD your God. You will not cut yourselves nor make any baldness between your eyes for the sake of the dead.

2 “For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the nations who are on the earth.

3 ¶ “You will not eat any abominable thing.

4 “These are the animals that you will eat: the ox, the sheep and the goat,

5 “the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the wild goat, the ibex, the antelope and the mountain sheep.

6 “And every animal that divides the hoof, and has the hoof split in two and chews the cud among the animals, that you will eat.

7 “Nevertheless, you will not eat of those that chew the cud, or of those that divide the hoof in two, as the camel and the rabbit and the coney, for they chew the cud, but do not divide the hoof. They are unclean to you.

8 “And the swine, because it divides the hoof, yet does not chew the cud, it is unclean to you. You will not eat of their flesh nor touch their dead carcass.

9 ¶ “These you will eat of all that are in the waters: you will eat all that has fins and scales.

10 “But you may not eat whatever does not have fins and scales. It is unclean to you.

11 ¶ “You will eat all clean birds.

12 But these are the ones that you will not eat: the eagle and the vulture and the buzzard,

13 “and the red kite and the falcon and kite in their kinds,

14 “and every creeping thing that flies is unclean to you. They will not be eaten.

15 “But of all clean birds you may eat.

16 ¶ “You will not eat of anything that dies by itself. You will give it to the alien who is in your gates so that he may eat it, or you may sell it to an alien. For you are a holy people to the LORD your God.

17 ¶ “You will surely tithe all the increase of your seed that the field brings forth year by year.
23 "And you will eat before the LORD your God in the place that He will choose to place His name there, the tithe of your corn, of your wine and of your oil and the firstborn of your herds and of your flocks, so that you may learn always to fear the LORD your God.

24 "And if the distance is too great for you so that you are not able to bring it, since the place is too far from you that the LORD your God will choose to set His name when the LORD your God has blessed you,

25 "then you will turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and will go to the place that the LORD your God will choose.

26 "And you will spend the money for whatever your heart desires, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatever your soul desires. And you will eat there before the LORD your God and you will rejoice, you and your household.

27 "And the Levite who is within your gates, you will not forsake him, for he has no part nor inheritance with you.

28 ¶ "At the end of three years you will bring forth all the tithe of your increase in that year, and will lay it up within your gates.

29 "And the Levite, because he has no part nor inheritance with you, and the alien and the fatherless and the widow who are within your gates, will come and will eat and be satisfied, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand that you do.

Chapter 15

Year of Debt Cancellation

1 ¶ "At the end of every seven years you will grant a remission of debts.

2 "And this is the manner of the remission: every creditor who lends anything to his neighbor will cancel it. He will not exact it from his neighbor, or from his brother, because it is called the LORD’S remission.

3 "From a foreigner you may exact it again. But your hand will release whatever of yours is with your brother.

4 "However, there will be no poor among you, for the LORD will greatly bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess,

5 "if only you carefully hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, to observe to do all these commandments that I command you this day.

6 "For the LORD your God blesses you, as He promised you. And you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow. And you will reign over many nations, but they will not reign over you.

7 ¶ "If there is among you a poor man of one of your brethren within any of your gates in your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you will not harden your heart, nor shut your hand from your poor brother.

8 "But you will open your hand wide to him, and will surely lend him sufficient for his need in that which he lacks.

9 "Beware that there is not a thought in your wicked heart, saying, ‘The seventh year, the year of remission is at hand,’ and your eye is evil against your poor brother and you give him nothing; and he cries to the LORD against you, and it is sin to you.

10 "You will surely give to him, and your heart will not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the LORD your God will bless you in all your works and in all that you put your hand to.

11 "For the poor will never cease out of the land. Therefore I command you, saying, ‘You will open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and to your needy in your land.’

Freedom for Slaves

12 ¶ "And if your brother, a Hebrew man or a Hebrew woman is sold to you, and serves you six years, then in the seventh year you will let him go free from you.

13 "And when you send him out free from you, you will not let him go away empty.

14 "You will furnish him liberally out of your flock and out of your threshing floor and out of your winepress. You will give to him as the LORD your God has blessed you.

15 ¶ "And you will remember that you were a
slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God redeemed you. Therefore, I command you this thing today.

16 “And if he says to you, ‘I will not go away from you,’ because he loves you and your house, because he prospers with you,

17 then you will take an awl and pierce it through his ear into the door, and he will be your servant forever. And also to your maid-servant you will do likewise.

18 It will not seem hard to you when you send him away free from you, for he has been worth a double hired servant to you in serving you six years. And the LORD your God will bless you in all that you do.

Firstborn Animals

19 ¶ r“All the firstborn males that come from your herd and from your flock you will sanctify to the LORD your God. You will do no work with the firstborn of your herd, nor shear the firstborn of your sheep.

20 s“You will eat it before the LORD your God year after year in the place that the LORD will choose, you and your household.

21 t“And if there is any blemish in it, as if it is lame or blind or has any ill blemish, you will not sacrifice it to the LORD your God.

22 u“You will eat it within your gates. The unclean and the clean person will eat it alike, as a gazelle or a deer.

23 Only you will not eat its blood. You will pour it on the ground as water.

Chapter 16

The Passover

1 ¶ “Observe the month of Abib and keep the Passover to the LORD your God, for b in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you forth out of Egypt by night.

2 “You will therefore sacrifice the Passover to the LORD your God, of the flock and of the herd, in the place that the LORD will choose to place His name.

3 “You will eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you will eat unleavened bread with it, even the bread of affliction (for you came forth out of the land of Egypt in haste), in order that you may remember all the days of your life the day when you came forth out of the land of Egypt.

4 ¶ “And there will be no leavened bread seen with you in all your territory for seven days. Neither will there be any of the meat that you sacrificed the first day at evening, remain all night until the morning.

5 ¶ “You may not sacrifice the Passover within any of your gates that the LORD your God is giving you;

6 “but at the place that the LORD your God will choose to place His name, there you will sacrifice the Passover at evening, at the going down of the sun, at the time that you came forth out of Egypt.

7 “And you will roast and eat it in the place that the LORD your God will choose. And in the morning you will return and go to your tents.

8 “Six days you will eat unleavened bread. And on the seventh day there will be a solemn assembly to the LORD your God. You will do no work in it.

Feast of Weeks

9 ¶ “You will number seven weeks for yourself. Begin to number the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the grain.

10 “And you will keep the feast of weeks to the LORD your God with a free-will offering of your hand, that you will give to the LORD your God according as the LORD your God has blessed you.

11 ¶ “And you will rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your son, and your daughter and your manservant and your maidservant and the Levite who is within your gates, and the alien and the fatherless and the widow who are among you, in the place that the LORD your God has chosen to place His name.

12 ¶ “And you will remember that you were a bondman in Egypt, and you will observe and do these statutes.

Feast of Tabernacles

13 ¶ “You will observe the feast of taber-
nacles seven days after you have gathered in your grain and from your winepress.

14 “And you will rejoice in your feast, you and your son, and your daughter and your manservant and your maidservant and the Levite, the alien and the fatherless and the widow who are within your gates.

15 “Seven days you will keep a solemn feast to the LORD your God in the place that the LORD will choose. Because the LORD your God will bless you in all your increase, and in all the works of your hands, therefore you will surely rejoice.

16 “Three times in a year will all your males appear before the LORD your God in the place that He will choose: at the feast of unleavened bread and at the feast of weeks and at the feast of tabernacles. And they will not appear before the LORD empty-handed.

17 “Every man will give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that He has given you.

Appointing Judges & Officers

18 ¶ “You will appoint judges and officers in all your gates that the LORD your God is giving you throughout your tribes. And they will judge the people with just judgment.

19 ¶ “You will not pervert judgment. You will not show partiality nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous.

20 “That which is just you will follow so that you may live and inherit the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

Worship of Other Gods

21 ¶ “You will not plant for yourself any tree as a wooden image near the altar that you build for yourself to the LORD your God.

22 ¶ “Neither will you set up for yourself any image that the LORD your God hates.

Chapter 17

1 ¶ “You will not sacrifice to the LORD your God any bull or sheep that has a blemish or any defect, for that is an abomination to the LORD your God.

2 ¶ “If there is found among you within any of your gates that the LORD your God is giving you, man or woman, anyone who does wickedness in the sight of the LORD your God in transgressing His covenant,

3 “and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, either the sun or moon or any of the host of heaven that I have not commanded,

4 ¶ “and it is told you and you have heard of it, and then inquired diligently, and behold, it is true and the thing is certain that such abomination is done in Israel,

5 “then you will bring forth to your gates that man or that woman who has committed that wicked thing, even that man or that woman, and you will stone them with stones until they die.

6 “At the mouth of two witnesses or three witnesses will he who is worthy of death be put to death. But at the mouth of one witness he will not be put to death.

7 “The hands of the witnesses will be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So you will put the evil away from among you.

Courts of Law

8 ¶ “If there arise a matter too hard for you in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within your gates, then you will arise and go up to the place that the LORD will choose.

9 ¶ “And you will come to the priests, the Levites, and to the judge who will be in those days, and inquire. And they will show you the sentence of judgment.

10 “And you will do according to the verdict of those of that place which the LORD will choose. And you will observe to do according to all that they inform you.

11 “You will do according to the sentence of the law that they will teach you and according to the judgment that they will tell you. You will not turn aside from the verdict that they will
show you, to the right hand nor to the left.

12 “And the man who will do presumptuously and will not hearken to the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or to the judge, even that man will die. And you will put away the evil from Israel.

13 ¶ “And all the people will hear and fear, and no longer act presumptuously.

Laws for a King

14 ¶ “When you have come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and will possess it, and will dwell in it, and will say, ‘I will set a king over me like all the nations that are around me,’

15 ¶ “you will surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God will choose. You will set as king over you one from among your brethren. You may not set an alien over you who is not your brother.

16 ¶ “But he will not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses, since the LORD has said to you, ‘You will never return that way.’

17 ¶ “Neither will he multiply wives to himself so that his heart not turn away. Neither will he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.

18 ¶ “And it will be when he sits upon the throne of his kingdom, he will write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests the Levites.

19 ¶ “And it will stay with him, and he will read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them,

20 so that his heart not be lifted up above his brethren and that he not turn aside from the commandment, to the right hand or to the left; in order that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children, in the midst of Israel.

Chapter 18

Offerings for Priests and Levites

1 ¶ “The Levitical priests and all the tribe of Levi will have no part nor inheritance with Israel. They will eat the offerings of the LORD made by fire and His inheritance.

2 ¶ “Therefore, they will have no inheritance among their brethren. The LORD is their inheritance as He has said to them.

3 ¶ “Now this will be the priest’s portion from the people, from those who offer a sacrifice, whether it is ox or sheep: they will give to the priest the shoulder and the cheeks and the inner parts.

4 ¶ “You will give also the firstfruit of your corn, of your new wine and of your oil and the first of the fleece of your sheep.

5 ¶ “For the LORD your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand to minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons forever.

6 ¶ “And if a Levite comes from any of your gates out of all Israel where he resides, and comes with all the desire of his mind to the place that the LORD will choose,

7 ¶ “then he will minister in the name of the LORD his God, as all his brethren the Levites do who stand there before the LORD.

8 ¶ “They will have equal portions to eat, besides that which comes from the sale of his family possessions.

Abominable Practices

9 ¶ “When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you will not learn to imitate the abominations of those nations.

10 ¶ “There will not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or who uses divination or an observer of times or an enchanter or a witch,

11 or one who casts a spell or a medium or a spiritist or one who consults the dead.

12 ¶ “For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God will drive them out from before you.

13 ¶ “You will be blameless before the LORD your God.

14 ¶ “For these nations that you will dispossess...
hearkened to those who practice witchcraft and to diviners. But as for you, the LORD your God has not allowed you to do so.

The Prophet

15 ¶ “The LORD your God will raise up to you a Prophet from the midst of you, from your brethren, like unto me. To Him you will hearken.

16 “For this is what you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, nor let me see this great fire anymore, so that I not die.’

17 “And the LORD said to me, ‘They have well spoken that which they have spoken.

18 “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren like you. And He will speak to them all that I will command Him.

19 And it will come to pass that whoever will not hearken to My words that He will speak in My name, I will require it of him.

20 ‘But the prophet who will presume to speak a word in My name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who will speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet will die.’

21 “And if you say in your heart, ‘How will we know the word that the LORD has not spoken?’

22 ¶ “When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not follow or come to pass, that is the thing that the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You will not be afraid of him.

Chapter 19

Cities of Refuge

1 ¶ “When the LORD your God has cut off the nations whose land the LORD your God is giving you, and you dispossess them and dwell in their cities and in their houses,

2 ¶ you will separate three cities for yourself in the midst of your land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.

3 ¶ you will prepare the roads for yourself and divide into three parts the land the LORD your God is giving you as a possession, so that any manslayer may flee there.

4 ¶ “And this is the case of the manslayer that will flee there so that he may live: whoever unintentionally kills his neighbor whom he has not hated in the past,

5 “as when a man goes into the woods with his neighbor to hew wood and his hand swings the axe to cut down the tree, and the head slips from the handle and strikes his friend so that he dies, he will flee to one of these cities and live;

6 ¶ lest the avenger of the blood pursue the manslayer while his heart is hot, and overtakes him because the way is long, and kills him, though he was not worthy of death, inasmuch as he did not hate him in time past.

7 ¶ “Therefore I command you, saying, ‘You will separate three cities for yourself.’

8 ¶ “And if the LORD your God enlarges your territory as He has sworn to your fathers, and gives you all the land that He promised to give to your fathers—

9 ¶ “if you will keep all these commandments to do them, that I command you this day, to love the LORD your God and to walk always in His ways— then you will add three cities more for yourselves, besides these three,

10 ¶ so that innocent blood not be shed in your land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance, and that you not be guilty of bloodshed.

11 ¶ “But if any man hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him, and rises up against him and smites him mortally so that he dies and flees into one of these cities,

12 ¶ then the elders of his city will send and fetch him from there and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood so that he may die.

13 ¶ “Your eye will not pity him, but you will put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel so that it may go well with you.

14 ¶ ¶ “You will not remove your neighbor’s landmark that they of old time have set, in your inheritance that you will inherit in the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.
Witnesses

15 ¶ **“One witness will not rise up against a man for any iniquity or for any sin, in any sin that he sins. At the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses will the matter be confirmed.**

16 ¶ **“If a false witness rises up against any man to testify against him what is wrong,**

17 ¶ **“then both the men between whom the controversy is will stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, who will be in office in those days.**

18 ¶ **“And the judges will make diligent investigation. And behold, if the witness is a false witness and has testified falsely against his brother,**

19 ¶ **“then you will do to him as he had thought to have done to his brother. Thus you will put the evil away from among you.**

20 ¶ **“And those who remain will hear and fear, and will never again commit such an evil thing among you.**

21 ¶ **“And your eye will not pity. But life will go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.**

Chapter 20

Going to War

1 ¶ **“When you go out to battle against your enemies and see horses and chariots and a people more than you, do not be afraid of them. For the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt is with you.**

2 ¶ **“And it will be when you have come near to the battle, the priest will approach and speak to the people.**

3 ¶ **“And he will say to them, ‘Hear, O Israel, you approach this day to battle against your enemies. Do not let your hearts faint. Do not fear and do not tremble, nor be terrified because of them.**

4 ¶ **“For the LORD your God is He who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.’**

5 ¶ **“And the officers will speak to the people, saying, ‘What man is there who has built a new house and has not dedicated it? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man dedicate it.**

6 ¶ **“And what man is he who has planted a vineyard and has not yet eaten of it? Let him also go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man eat of it.**

7 ¶ **“And what man is there who has engaged to a woman and has not married her? Let him go and return to his house, lest his brothers’ heart faint as well as his heart.’**

8 ¶ **“And the officers will speak further to the people and they will say, ‘What man is there fearful and fainthearted? Let him go and return to his house, lest his brothers’ heart faint as well as his heart.’**

9 ¶ **“And it will be when the officers have made an end of speaking to the people, that they will make captains of the armies to lead the people.**

10 ¶ **“When you come near to a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace to it.**

11 ¶ **“And it will come about if they agree to make peace with you and open their gates to you, then all the people who are found in it will be tributaries to you. And they will serve you.**

12 ¶ **“And if the city will not make peace with you, but will make war against you, then you will besiege it.**

13 ¶ **“And when the LORD your God has delivered it into your hands, you will strike every male in it with the edge of the sword.**

14 ¶ **“But the women and the little ones and the cattle, and all that is in the city, even all its spoil, you will take for yourself. And you will eat the spoil of your enemies that the LORD your God has given you.**

15 ¶ **“Thus you will do to all the cities that are very far off from you, that are not of the cities of these nations.**

16 ¶ **“But of the cities of these people that the LORD your God does give you for an inheritance you will save alive nothing that breathes.**

17 ¶ **“But you will utterly destroy them, that is the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, as the LORD your God has commanded you.**

18 ¶ **“so that they teach you not to do after all this evil thing which they do.**

**Ex 23:1** **Dt 17:4,13** **Ch 20:22** **Ps 20:7** **2 Sm 10:19** **Jb 8:2** **1 Sm 14:30** **Dt 7:1-5** **Nm 31:7** **Jb 8:2** **1 Sm 14:30** **Ps 20:7** **Dt 7:1-5** **Nm 31:7** **Sm 14:30**
their abominations that they have done for their gods, and in this you sin against the LORD your God.

¶ “When you besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, you will not destroy its trees by swinging an ax against them, for you may eat of them. And you will not cut them down. Are the trees of the field a person, that they should be besieged by you?

¶ “Only the trees that you know that are not trees for food, you will destroy and cut them down. And you will build siegeworks against the city that makes war with you, until it is subdued.

Chapter 21

Atonement for Unsolved Murder

¶ “If one is found slain lying in a field in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess, and it is not known who has slain him,

¶ “then your elders and your judges will go out and they will measure around the slain man the distance to the neighboring cities.

¶ “And it will be that the city that is next to the slain man, the elders of that city will take a heifer that has not been worked, and that has not pulled in the yoke;

¶ “and the elders of that city will bring down the heifer to a valley with running water that has not been plowed or sown. And in the valley they will break the heifer’s neck.

¶ “And the priests, the sons of Levi, will come near, for the LORD your God has chosen them to minister to him and to bless in the name of the LORD. And by their word will every controversy and every assault be tried.

¶ “And all the elders of that city who are next to the slain man will wash their hands over the heifer that is beheaded in the valley.

¶ “And they will answer and say, ‘Our hands have not shed this blood, nor have our eyes seen it.

¶ “Be merciful, O LORD, to your people Israel, whom You have redeemed, and do not lay innocent blood to the charge of Your people Israel.’ And the blood will be forgiven them.

¶ “So you will put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you, when you do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

Marriage to a Captive Woman

¶ “When you go forth to war against your enemies, and the LORD your God has delivered them into your hands, and you have taken them captive,

¶ “and you see among the captives a beautiful woman and have a desire for her that you would have her for your wife,

¶ “then you will bring her home to your house, and she will shave her head and trim her nails.

¶ “And she will remove the clothes of her captivity and will remain in your house. And she will mourn her father and her mother a full month. Then after that you will go in to her and be her husband and she will be your wife.

¶ “And it will be, if you have no delight in her, then you will let her go wherever she desires, but you will certainly not sell her for money. You will not make merchandise of her because you have humbled her.

Rights of the Firstborn

¶ “If a man has two wives, one beloved and another unloved, and the beloved and the unloved have borne him children, and if the firstborn son is hers who is unloved,

¶ “then it will be when he makes his sons to inherit that which he has, he may not put the son of the beloved firstborn before the son of the unloved, the true firstborn.

¶ “But he will acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the unloved, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the beginning of his strength; to him belongs the right of the firstborn.

The Rebellious Son

¶ “If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have disciplined him, will not hearken to them,

¶ “then his father and his mother will lay hold on him and bring him out to the elders of his city and to the gate of his city.
20 “And they will say to the elders of his city, ‘This our son is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey our voice. He is a glutton and a drunkard.’
21 “Then all the men of his city will stone him with stones so that he dies. So will you put evil away from among you, and all Israel will hear and fear.

Various Laws

22 ¶ “And if a man has committed a sin worthy of death, and he is to be put to death, and you hang him on a tree,
23 “his body will not remain all night on the tree. But you will surely bury him that day, for he who is hanged is accursed of God. You must not defile your land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.

Chapter 22

1 ¶ “You will not see your brother’s ox or his sheep go astray and ignore them. You will certainly bring them again to your brother.
2 “And if your brother is not near to you, or if you do not know him, then you will bring it to your own house. And it will be with you until your brother seeks after it, then you will restore it to him again.
3 “In like manner you will do with his donkey, and you will do with his garment, and you will likewise do with all lost things of your brother’s that he has lost and you have found. You are not allowed to ignore them.
4 ¶ “You will not see your brother’s donkey or his ox fall down by the way, and ignore them. You will surely help him to lift them up again.
5 ¶ “The woman will not wear that which pertains to a man, nor will a man put on a woman’s clothing; for all who do so are an abomination to the LORD your God.
6 ¶ “If you happen to come upon a bird’s nest along the way in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs, and the mother sitting on the young or on the eggs, you will not take the mother with the young.
7 “You will let the mother go and take the young for yourself, so that it may be well with you and that you may prolong your days.
8 ¶ “When you build a new house, then you will make a parapet for your roof so that you not bring bloodshed on your house if any man fall from it.
9 ¶ “You will not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest the fruit of your seed that you have sown, and the fruit of your vineyard become defiled.
10 ¶ “You will not plow with an ox and a donkey together.
11 ¶ “You will not wear a garment of wool and linen woven together.
12 ¶ “You will make yourself tassels on the four corners of your garment with which you cover yourself.

Violations in Marriage

13 ¶ “If any man takes a wife and goes in to her, and detests her,
14 “and slanders her and publicly defames her, and says, ‘I took this woman and when I came to her, I found she was not a virgin,’
15 “then the father of the girl and her mother will bring forth the evidence of the damsel’s virginity to the elders of the city in the gate.
16 “And the damsel’s father will say to the elders, ‘I gave my daughter to this man as a wife and he dislikes her.
17 ‘And lo, he has slandered her, saying, “I did not find your daughter a virgin,” and yet, this is the evidence of my daughter’s virginity.’ And they will spread the cloth before the elders of the city.
18 “And the elders of that city will take that man and punish him.
19 “And they will fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give it to the father of the girl, because he publicly defamed a virgin of Israel. And she will be his wife. He may not put her away all his days.
20 “But if this charge is true, and the evidence of virginity is not found for the girl,
21 “then they will bring out the girl to the door of her father’s house and the men of her city will stone her with stones that she die because she has worked folly in Israel, to play the harlot in her father’s house. So will you put evil away from among you.
22 ¶ “If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then both of them will die, both the man who lay with the woman and the woman. So will you put away evil from Israel.

23 ¶ “If a girl who is a virgin is engaged to a husband, and a man finds her in the city and lies with her,

24 “then you will bring them both out to the gate of that city and you will stone them with stones so that they die; the girl because she did not cry out in the city, and the man because he has humbled his neighbor’s wife. So you will put away evil from among you.

25 ¶ “But if a man finds an engaged girl in the field, and the man forces her and lies with her,

26 “then the man who lies with her will die. But you will do nothing to the girl. There is in the girl no sin worthy of death, for as when a man rises against his neighbor and slays him, even so is this matter.

27 “For he found her in the field, and the engaged girl cried out and there was no one to save her.

28 ¶ “If a man finds a girl who is a virgin, who is not engaged, and he seizes her and lies with her, and they are found,

29 “then the man who lay with her will give to the damsel’s father fifty shekels of silver. And she will be his wife because he has humbled her. He may not put her away all his days.

30 ¶ “A man will not take his father’s wife. He must not dishonor his father’s bed.

Chapter 23

Exclusion From the Assembly

1 ¶ “He who is emasculated, or has his male organ cut off, will not enter into the assembly of the LORD.

2 ¶ “One of illegitimate birth will not enter into the assembly of the LORD; none of his descendants, unto the tenth generation will enter into the assembly of the LORD.

3 ¶ “An Ammonite or Moabite will not enter into the assembly of the LORD; unto their third generation.

4 “because they did not meet you with bread and with water in the way when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia against you to curse you.

5 ¶ “Nevertheless, the LORD your God would not hearken to Balaam. But the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you because the LORD your God loved you.

6 ¶ “You will never seek their peace nor their prosperity all your days.

7 ¶ “You will not abhor an Edomite, for he is your brother. You will not abhor an Egyptian, because you were an alien in his land.

8 ¶ “The children who are born of them will enter into the assembly of the LORD in their third generation.

Uncleanness in the Camp

9 ¶ “When the army goes forth against your enemies, then you will keep yourself from every wicked thing.

10 ¶ “If there is among you any man who is unclean because of a nocturnal emission, then he will go outside the camp. He will not come within the camp.

11 “But it will be when evening approaches, he will wash himself with water. And when the sun is down he will come into the camp.

12 “You will have a place also outside the camp where you can go to relieve yourself.

13 “And you will have a spade among your equipment. And it will be when you sit down outside, you will dig with it and will turn back and cover that which comes from you.

14 ¶ “For the LORD your God walks in the midst of your camp to deliver you, and to defeat your enemies before you. Therefore, your camp will be holy so that He sees no unclean thing in you and turn away from you.

Various Laws

15 ¶ “You will not hand over to his master a slave who has escaped from his master to you.

16 “He will dwell with you, even among you, in that place that he will choose in one of your towns where it pleases him. You will not op
press him.
17 “There will be no prostitute of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel.
18 “You will not bring the hire of a harlot or the price of a dog into the house of the LORD your God for any votive offering, for even both of these are an abomination to the LORD your God.
19 ¶ “You will not charge interest to your brother: interest of money, interest of victuals, interest of anything that is loaned at interest.
20 ¶ “To an alien you may charge interest. But to your brother you will not charge interest so that the LORD your God may bless you in all that you set your hand to do in the land where you are going to possess.
21 ¶ “When you will make a vow to the LORD your God, you will not delay to pay it, for it would be sin in you, and the LORD your God will surely require it of you.
22 “But if you refrain from making a vow, it will not be sin in you.
23 “That which is gone out of your lips you will keep and perform, even a freewill offering, according as you have vowed to the LORD your God that you have promised with your mouth.
24 ¶ “When you come into your neighbor’s vineyard, then you may eat grapes until you are fully satisfied. But you will not put any in your vessel.
25 “When you come into the standing corn of your neighbor, then you may pluck the ears with your hand. But you will not wield a sickle to your neighbor’s standing corn.

Chapter 24
1 ¶ “When a man has taken a wife and married her, and it comes to pass that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, then let him write her a certificate of divorcement and put it in her hand and send her out of his house.
2 “And when she has departed out of his house, she may go and be another man’s wife.
3 “And if the latter husband dislikes her and writes her a certificate of divorcement and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her to be his wife,
4 ¶ “her former husband who sent her away may not take her again to be his wife, since she has been defiled; for that is an abomination before the LORD. And you will not cause the land to sin that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.
5 ¶ “When a man has taken a new wife, he will not go out to war, nor will he be charged with any business. But he will be free at home one year and will bring happiness to his wife whom he has taken.
6 ¶ “No man will take the handmill or the upper millstone as security, for he would be taking a man’s life for security.
7 ¶ “If a man is found kidnapping any of his brethren of the children of Israel and treats him as a slave or sells him, the kidnapper must die.
8 ¶ “Take heed in the infection of leprosy so that you observe diligently and do according to all that the priests the Levites will teach you. As I commanded them, so you will observe to do.
9 ¶ “Remember what the LORD your God did to Miriam on the way, after you had come forth out of Egypt.
10 ¶ “When you do lend your brother anything, you will not go into his house to take his pledge.
11 ¶ “You will stand outside and the man to whom you do lend will bring out the pledge to you.
12 ¶ “And if the man is poor, you will not sleep with his pledge.
13 ¶ “When the sun goes down you will surely return the pledge to him so that he may sleep in his own clothes and bless you. ¶ And it will be righteousness to you before the LORD your God.
14 ¶ “You will not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is of your brethren or of your aliens who are in your land within your gates.
15 ¶ You will give him his wages on his day before the sun sets, for he is poor and sets his heart on it; so that he not cry against you to the LORD and it becomes sin to you.

16 ¶ The fathers will not be put to death for the children, nor will the children be put to death for the fathers. Every man will be put to death for his own sin.

17 ¶ You will not pervert the judgment of the alien or of the fatherless, nor take a widow’s clothing in pledge.

18 ¶ But you will remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. Therefore, I command you to do this thing.

19 ¶ When you cut down your harvest in your field and have forgotten a sheaf in the field, you will not go again to fetch it. It will be for the alien, for the fatherless and for the widow, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

20 ¶ When you beat your olive trees, you will not go over the boughs again. It will be for the alien, for the fatherless and for the widow.

21 ¶ When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you will not glean it again. It will be for the alien, for the fatherless and for the widow.

22 ¶ And you will remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt. Therefore, I command you to do this thing.

Chapter 25

1 ¶ If there is a controversy between men, and they come to judgment in order that the judges may judge them, then they will justify the righteous and condemn the wicked.

2 ¶ And it will be if the wicked man is worthy to be beaten, the judge will cause him to lie down and be beaten in his presence with the number of stripes according to his guilt.

3 ¶ He may be given forty stripes and no more. If he is beaten with many more stripes than these, your brother will be degraded in your eyes.

4 ¶ You will not muzzle the ox when he treads out the corn.

5 ¶ If brethren dwell together and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead will not marry outside the family. Her husband’s brother will go in to her and take her to himself to wife and perform the duty of a husband’s brother to her.

6 ¶ And it will be that the firstborn whom she bears will succeed in the name of his brother who is dead, so that his name not be blotted out of Israel.

7 ¶ And if the man does not desire to take his brother’s wife, then let his brother’s wife go up to the gate to the elders, and say, ‘My husband’s brother refuses to raise up to his brother a name in Israel. He will not perform the duty of my husband’s brother.’

8 ¶ Then the elders of his city will call him and speak to him. And if he persists in saying, ‘I do not desire to take her,’

9 ¶ then his brother’s wife will come to him in the presence of the elders and remove his sandal from off his foot. And she will spit in his face and will answer and say, ‘So will it be done to that man who will not build up his brother’s house.’

10 ¶ And his name will be called in Israel, ‘The house of him who has his sandal removed.’

11 ¶ When men strive together one with another, and the wife of the one draws near in order to deliver her husband out of the hand of him who smites him, and puts forth her hand and takes him by his genitals,

12 ¶ then you will cut off her hand. You will not show pity.

13 ¶ You will not have in your bag differing weights, a great and a small.

14 ¶ You will not have in your house differing measures, a great and a small.

15 ¶ But you will have a perfect and just weight. You will have a perfect and just measure so that your days may be lengthened in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

16 ¶ For all who do such things, and all who do unrighteously, are an abomination to the LORD your God.

17 ¶ Remember what Amalek did to you by the way, when you came forth out of Egypt,
18 “how he met you by the way and smote your stragglers, even all who were feeble behind you, when you were faint and weary. And he did not fear God. 

19 “Therefore, it will be "when the LORD your God has given you rest from all your enemies around about in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess, that you will "blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. You will not forget this.

Chapter 26
Firstfruits and Tithes

1 ¶ “And it will be when you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance, and you possess it and dwell in it, 

2 “that you will take of the first of all the fruit of the earth that you will bring in from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and will put it in a basket and will go to the place that the LORD your God will choose to place His name there.

3 “Then you will go to the priest who is in office in those days and say to him, ‘I profess this day to the LORD your God that I have come to the country that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’

4 “Then the priest will take the basket out of your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. 

5 “And you will speak and say before the LORD your God, ‘My father was a wandering Aramean. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there with a few. And he became there a great, mighty and populous nation.

6 ‘And the Egyptians mistreated us and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage.

7 ‘Then when we cried out to the LORD God of our fathers, the LORD heard our voice and looked on our affliction and our labor and our oppression.

8 ‘So the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with great terror, and with signs and with wonders.

9 ‘Now He has brought us into this place and has given us this land, even a land that flows with milk and honey.

10 ‘And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land that you, O LORD, have given me.’ And you will set it before the LORD your God, and worship before the LORD your God. 

11 “Then "you and the Levite and the alien who is among you will rejoice in every good thing that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

12 ¶ “When you have made an end of "tithing all the tithes of your increase the third year, the ‘year of tithing, and have given it to the Levite, the alien, the fatherless and the widow, so that they may eat within your gates and be filled,

13 “then you will say before the LORD your God, ‘I have brought away the sacred things out of my house. And I have also given them to the Levite and to the alien, to the fatherless and to the widow, according to all Your commandments that You have commanded me. I have not transgressed Your commandments, nor have I forgotten them.

14 “I have not eaten of it in my mourning, nor have I taken away from it for any unclean use, nor given any of it for the dead. But I have hearkened to the voice of the LORD my God and have done according to all that You have commanded me.

15 “Look down from Your holy habitation, from heaven, and bless Your people Israel and the land that You have given us as You swore to our fathers, a land that flows with milk and honey.’

16 ¶ “This day the LORD your God has commanded you to do these statutes and judgments. You will therefore keep and do them with all your heart and with all your soul.

17 ‘You have ‘declared this day the LORD to be your God and to walk in His ways and to keep His statutes and His commandments and His judgments, and ‘to hearken to His voice.

18 ‘And the ‘LORD has this day declared you to be His people, a treasured possession, as He has promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments;
19 “and to make you \(^{a}\) high above all nations that He has made, in praise and in name and in honor, and that you may be a \(^{b}\) holy people to the LORD your God, as He has spoken.”

**Chapter 27**

_The Altar on Mount Ebal_

1 ¶ Then Moses with the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, “Keep all the commandments that I command you this day.

2 “And it will be on the day \(^{a}\) when you will pass over the Jordan to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, \(^{b}\) that you will set up for yourselves great stones and coat them with plaster.

3 “And when you have crossed over, you will write on them all the words of this law so that you may go into the land that the LORD your God has promised you.

4 “Therefore, it will be when you have crossed the Jordan \(^{a}\) that you will set up these stones that I command you this day on \(^{d}\) Mount Ebal, and you will coat them with plaster.

5 “And there you will build an altar to the LORD your God, an altar of stones. \(^{e}\) You will not lift up any iron tool upon them.

6 “You will build the altar of the LORD your God of whole stones. And you will offer on it burnt offerings to the LORD your God.

7 “And you will offer peace offerings, and will eat there and \(^{f}\) rejoice before the LORD your God.

8 “And you will \(^{g}\) write very plainly on the stones all the words of this law.”

_Curses from Mount Ebal_

9 ¶ And Moses and the Levitical priests spoke to all Israel, saying, “Take heed and hearken, O Israel. \(^{b}\) This day you have become the people of the LORD your God.

10 “You will therefore obey the voice of the LORD your God and do His commandments and His statutes that I command you this day.”

11 ¶ Then Moses charged the people the same day, saying,

12 “These will stand upon \(^{1}\) Mount Gerizim to bless the people when you have come over the Jordan: Simeon and Levi and Judah and Issachar and Joseph and Benjamin.

13 “And \(^{t}\) these will stand on Mount Ebal to curse: Reuben, Gad and Asher and Zebulun, Dan and Naphtali.

14 ¶ “And the \(^{k}\) Levites will speak and say to all the men of Israel with a loud voice,

15 \(^{l}\) Cursed is the man who makes any graven or molten image—an abomination to the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman—and puts it in a secret place.’ \(^{m}\) And all the people will answer and say, ‘Amen.’

16 \(^{n}\) Cursed is he who dishonors his father or mother.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

17 \(^{o}\) Cursed is he who removes his neighbor’s landmark.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

18 \(^{p}\) Cursed is he who makes the blind to wander out of the way.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

19 \(^{q}\) Cursed is he who perverts the judgment of the alien, fatherless and widow.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

20 \(^{r}\) Cursed is he who lies with his father’s wife, because he uncovers his father’s skirt.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

21 \(^{s}\) Cursed is he who lies with any manner of animal.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

22 \(^{t}\) Cursed is he who lies with his sister, the daughter of his father or the daughter of his mother.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

23 \(^{u}\) Cursed is he who lies with his mother-in-law.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

24 \(^{v}\) Cursed is he who smites his neighbor secretly.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

25 \(^{w}\) Cursed is he who takes reward to slay an innocent person.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

26 \(^{x}\) Cursed is he who does not confirm all the words of this law to do them.’ And all the people will say, ‘Amen.’

**Chapter 28**

_Rewards for Obedience_

1 ¶ “Now it will come to pass \(^{a}\) if you will hearken diligently to the voice of the LORD
your God, to observe and to do all His commandments that I command you this day, that the LORD your God will set you on high above all nations of the earth.

2 "And all these blessings will come on you and overtake you if you will hearken to the voice of the LORD your God.

3 de"Blessed will you be in the city and blessed will you be in the field.

4 "Blessed will be the fruit of your body and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herd, and the flocks of your sheep.

5 "Blessed will be your basket and your store.

6 e"Blessed will you be when you come in, and blessed will you be when you go out.

7 ¶ "The LORD will cause your enemies that rise up against you to be smitten before your face. They will come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

8 "The LORD will command the blessing upon you in your storehouses and in all that you set your hand to. And He will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

9 k"The LORD will establish you a holy people to Himself as He has sworn to you, if you will keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways.

10 "And all people of the earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD. And they will be afraid of you.

11 "And the LORD will make you plenteous in goods, in the fruit of your body and in the fruit of your cattle and in the fruit of your ground, in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.

12 "The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heaven to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. And you will lend to many nations and you will not borrow.

13 "And the LORD will make 'you the head and not the tail. And you will be above and you will not be beneath, if you hearken to the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you this day, to observe and to do

14 "And you will not turn aside from any of the words that I command you this day, to the right hand or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

Curses for Disobedience

15 ¶ "But it will come to pass if you will not hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes that I command you this day, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you.

16 "Cursed will you be in the city and cursed will you be in the field.

17 "Cursed will be your basket and your store.

18 "Cursed will be the fruit of your body and the fruit of your land, the increase of your herd and the flocks of your sheep.

19 "Cursed will you be when you come in and cursed will you be when you go out.

20 ¶ "The LORD will send on you cursing, confusion and rebuke, in all that you set your hand to, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings by which you have forsaken Him.

21 "The LORD will make the pestilence cleave to you until He has consumed you from off the land where you are going to possess it.

22 "The LORD will make you be smitten before your enemies. You will go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you will be horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.

23 "And your heaven that is over your head will be bronze. And the earth that is under you will be iron.

24 "The LORD will make the rain of your land powder and dust; from heaven it will come down on you until you are destroyed.

25 "The LORD will cause you to be smitten before your enemies. You will go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you will be horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.

26 b"And your carcasses will be food to all
birds of the air and to the animals of the earth, and no man will frighten them away.

27 “The LORD will smite you with the boils of Egypt and with the tumors, and with the scab and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed.

28 “The LORD will smite you with madness and blindness and bewilderment of heart.

29 “And you will grope at noon, as the blind grope in darkness. And you will not prosper in your ways. But you will be only oppressed and robbed continually, and no man will save you.

30 “You will pledge to marry a wife and another man will lie with her. You will build a house and you will not dwell in it. You will plant a vineyard and will not gather the grapes of it.

31 “Your ox will be slain before your eyes and you will not eat of it. Your donkey will be violently taken away from before your face and will not be restored to you. Your sheep will be given to your enemies and you will have no one to rescue them.

32 “Your sons and your daughters will be given to another people and your eyes will look and fail with longing for them all day long. And there will be no might in your hand.

33 “The fruit of your land and all your labors, a nation that you do not know will eat up, and you will be oppressed and crushed always.

34 “So you will be driven mad by the sight of what you see.

35 “The LORD will smite you in the knees and in the legs with sore boils that cannot be healed, from the sole of your foot to the top of your head.

36 “The LORD will bring you and your king whom you will set over you to a nation that neither you nor your fathers have known. And there you will serve other gods, wood and stone.

37 “And you will become an astonishment, a proverb and a taunt among all nations where the LORD will lead you.

38 “You will carry much seed out into the field and will gather in little, for the locust will consume it.

39 “You will plant vineyards and dress them, but will neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes, for the worms will eat them.

40 “You will have olive trees throughout all your territory but you will not anoint yourself with the oil, for your olives will drop off.

41 “You will beget sons and daughters, but you will not enjoy them, for they will go into captivity.

42 “The locust will consume all your trees and fruit of your land.

43 “The alien who is among you will rise up above you very high, and you will come down very low.

44 “He will lend to you and you will not lend to him. He will be the head and you will be the tail.

45 “Moreover all these curses will come on you and will pursue you and overtake you until you are destroyed, because you did not hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes that He commanded you.

46 “And they will become a sign and a wonder on you and your descendants forever.

47 ¶ “Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joyfulness and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things,

48 “therefore you will serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger and in thirst and in nakedness and in want of all things. And He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you.

49 “The LORD will bring a nation against you from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand,

50 “a nation of fierce countenance that will have no respect for the old, nor show favor to the young.

51 “And he will eat the fruit of your cattle and the fruit of your land until he has destroyed you, who also will not leave you either corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of your herd or flocks of your sheep, until he has destroyed you.

52 “And he will besiege you in all your gates
until your high and fortified walls in which you trusted come down throughout all your land. And he will besiege you in all your gates throughout all your land that the LORD your God has given you.

53 "And you will eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and of your daughters that the LORD your God has given you, during the siege and in the distress by which your enemies will distress you.

54 "The man who is refined among you and very delicate, his eye will be evil toward his brother and toward the wife of his bosom and toward the remnant of his children who remain, so that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left during the siege, and the distress by which your enemies will distress you in all your gates.

55 "If you will not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear the glorious and fearful name, THE LORD YOUR GOD,

56 "Then the LORD will bring you to Egypt again with ships by the way about which I spoke to you, 'You will see it no more again.' And there you will be sold to your enemies as male and female slaves, and no one will buy you.
you a heart to perceive, nor eyes to see, nor ears to hear.  
5 “And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes are not worn out on you and your sandal is not worn out on your foot.  
6 “You have not eaten bread, nor have you drunk wine or strong drink, so that you might know that I am the LORD your God.  
7 “And when you came to this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us to battle, and we defeated them.  
8 “And we took their land and gave it for an inheritance to the Reubenites and to the Gadites and to the half-tribe of Manasseh.  
9 “Therefore, keep the words of this covenant and do them, so that you may prosper in all that you do.  
10 ¶ “All of you stand this day before the LORD your God: your captains of your tribes, your elders and your officers, with all the men of Israel,  
11 “your little ones, your wives and your alien who is in your camp, from the hewer of your wood to the drawer of your water,  
12 “so that you should enter into a covenant with the LORD your God, and into His oath that the LORD your God is making with you this day,  
13 “in order that He may establish you today for a people to Himself, and that He may be to you a God as He has said to you and as He has sworn to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob.  
14 ¶ “Not only with you do I make this covenant and this oath,  
15 “but with those who stand here with us this day before the LORD our God, and also with those who are not here with us this day.  
16 “For you know how we have dwelt in the land of Egypt, and how we came through the nations that you passed.  
17 “And you have seen their abominations and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, that were among them.  
18 “Make sure there is no man or woman or family or tribe among you today whose heart turns away from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that produces such bitter poison,  
19 “and it come to pass when he hears the words of this curse, that he will boast, saying, ‘I have peace, though I walk in the imagination of my heart to destroy the watered land with the dry.’  
20 ¶ “The LORD will not spare him, but rather the anger of the LORD and His jealousy will strike against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book will lie upon him. And the LORD will blot out his name from under heaven.  
21 “And the LORD will separate him out for adversity from all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law.  
22 “So that the generation to come, your children who will rise up after you, and the alien who will come from a far land, will say when they see the plagues of that land and the sicknesses that the LORD has laid upon it,  
23 the whole land is brimstone and salt burning. It is not sown, nor does it bear, nor any grass grows in it, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboim, that the LORD overthrew in His anger and in His wrath.’  
24 “Even all nations will say, Why has the LORD done thus to this land? What caused the heat of this great anger?  
25 “Then men will say, ‘Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers that He made with them when He brought them forth out of the land of Egypt.  
26 ‘For they went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they did not know, and whom He had not given to them.  
27 ‘And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring on it all the curses that are written in this book.  
28 ‘And the LORD uprooted them out of their land in anger and in wrath and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.’
29 “The secret things belong to the LORD our God. But those things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, so that we may do all the words of this law.

Chapter 30

Blessing for Repentance

1 ¶ “Now it will come to pass when all these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse that I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations to which the LORD your God has driven you,

2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice according to all that I command you this day, you and your children with all your heart and with all your soul,

3 then the LORD your God will turn your captivity and have compassion on you. And He will gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you.

4 If any of you are driven out to the outmost parts of heaven, from there will the LORD your God gather you, and from there He will fetch you.

5 And the LORD your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed and you will possess it. And He will do good to you and multiply you above your fathers.

6 And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your seed, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live.

7 And the LORD your God will put all these curses on your enemies, and on those who hate you and who persecuted you.

8 Then you will return and obey the voice of the LORD and do all His commandments that I command you this day.

9 And the LORD your God will make you prosper in every work of your hand, in the fruit of your body and in the fruit of your cattle and in the fruit of your land. For the LORD will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers;

10 if you will hearken to the voice of the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, so that you may live.

11 ¶ “For this commandment that I command you this day, it is not hidden from you, nor is it beyond your reach.

12 “It is not in heaven so that you should say, ‘Who will go up for us to heaven and bring it to us so that we may hear it and do it?’

13 “Nor is it beyond the sea so that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us so that we may hear it and do it?’

14 “But the word is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart so that you may do it.

15 ¶ “See, I have set before you this day life and good and death and evil,

16 in that I command you this day to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, so that you may live and multiply. And the LORD your God will bless you in the land where you are going to possess it.

17 “But if your heart turns away so that you will not hear, but will be drawn away and worship other gods and serve them,

18 ¶ “I declare to you this day that you will surely perish and that you will not prolong your days in the land where you are passing over the Jordan to go to possess it.

19 “I call heaven and earth to witness this day against you that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life so that both you and your seed may live,

20 “that you may love the LORD your God and that you may obey His voice, and that you may cleave to Him. For He is your life and the length of your days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob.”

Chapter 31

Joshua to Succeed Moses

1 ¶ So Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel.

2 And he said to them, “I am one hundred
and twenty years old this day. I can no longer  
go out and come in. Also, the LORD has said  
to me, "You will not go over this the Jordan."
3 "The LORD your God, 4 He will go over  
before you and He will destroy these nations  
from before you. And you will possess them.  
Joshua will go over before you, 5 as the LORD  
has said.
4 "And the LORD will do to them 6 as He did  
to Sihon and to Og, kings of the Amorites, and  
to their land, when He destroyed them.
5 "And the LORD will give them up before  
your face so that you may do to them accord-  
ing to all the commandments that I have com-
manded you.
6 "Be strong and courageous. 7 Do not fear  
nor be afraid of them, for the LORD your God  
is the one who goes with you. 8 He will not fail  
you nor forsake you.
7 And Moses called to Joshua and said to him  
in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and  
courageous, for you must go with this people  
to the land that the LORD has sworn to their fa-
thers to give them. You must give it to them as  
their inheritance.
8 "And the LORD is the one who goes be-
fore you. 9 He will be with you. He will not fail  
you nor forsake you. Do not fear nor be dis-
mayed."

Reading of the Law
9 ¶ So Moses wrote this law and 10 delivered it  
to the priests the sons of Levi, 11 who carried the  
ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all  
the elders of Israel.
10 Then Moses commanded them, saying, "At  
the end of every seven years, at the time of the  
year of remission of debts, 12 at the feast of tab-
ernacles 11 "when all Israel comes to 12 appear before  
the LORD your God in the place that He will  
choose, 13 you will read this law before all Is-
rael in their hearing.
12 "Gather the people together, men and  
women and children and your alien who is  
within your gates, so that they may hear and  
that they may learn and fear the LORD your  
God and observe to do all the words of this  

law.
13 "And their children who have not known  
will hear and learn to fear the LORD your  
God, as long as you live in the land where you  
go over the Jordan to possess it."

Prophecy of Rebellion
14 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold,  
your days approach that you must die. Call  
Joshua and present yourselves in the tabernacle  
of the assembly so that 15 I may give him a  
charge." So Moses and Joshua went and pre-

tended themselves in the tabernacle of the as-
sembly.
15 And the LORD appeared in the tabernacle  
in a pillar of a cloud. And the pillar of the cloud  
stood over the door of the tabernacle.
16 ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold,  
you will sleep with your fathers and this people  
will rise up and play the harlot with the gods  
of the foreigners of the land where they go to  
be among them. And they will forsake Me and  
break My covenant that I have made with  
them.
17 "Then My anger will be kindled against  
them in that day and I will forsake them, and I  
will hide My face from them. And they will be  
devoured and many evils and troubles will  
befall them, so that they will say in that day,  
Have not these evils come upon us because  
our God is not among us?"
18 "But I will surely hide My face in that  
day because of all the evils that they will have  
done in that they have turned to other gods.
19 "Now therefore write this song for your-
selves and teach it to the children of Israel. Put  
it in their mouths so that this song may be a  

witness for Me against the children of Israel.
20 "For when I will have brought them into  
the land that I swore to their fathers, that flows  
with milk and honey, and they will have eaten  
and filled themselves and 21 become fat, then  
they will turn to other gods and serve them  
and provoke Me, and break My covenant.
21 "And it will come to pass when many evils  
and troubles have come upon them, that this  
song will testify against them as a witness. For
it will not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed; for ‘I know their imagination that they are developing today, even now before I have brought them into the land that I swore.’”

22 ¶ Moses therefore wrote this song the same day and taught it to the children of Israel.

23 ¶ And he gave Joshua the son of Nun a charge, and said, “Be strong and courageous, for you will bring the children of Israel into the land that I swore to them. And I will be with you.”

24 ¶ Now it came to pass when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished,

25 that Moses commanded the Levites who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying,

26 “Take this book of the law and place it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God so that it may be there for a witness against you.

27 “For I know your rebellion and your stubbornness. Behold, while I am still alive with you this day you have been rebellious against the LORD, and how much more after my death?

28 “Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes and your officers, so that I may speak these words in their ears and call heaven and earth to witness against them.

29 “For I know that after my death you will utterly corrupt yourselves and turn aside from the way that I have commanded you. And evil will befall you in the latter days because you will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger through the work of your hands.”

Song of Moses

30 ¶ So Moses spoke in the ears of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song, until they were ended.

Chapter 32

1 ¶ “Give ear, O you heavens, and I will speak. And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

2 ¶ My teaching will drop as the rain, as the small rain on the tender herb, and as the showers on the grass,

3 “because I will publish the name of the LORD, ascribe greatness to our God.

4 “He is the Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are justice; a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He.

5 ¶ They have corrupted themselves. To their shame they are no longer His children, but a warped and crooked generation.

6 “Do you thus repay the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? Is not He your father who has bought you? Has He not made you and established you?

7 ¶ “Remember the days of old. Consider the years of many generations. Ask your father and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you,

8 ¶ when the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam. He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

9 ¶ “For the LORD’S portion is His people. Jacob is the lot of His inheritance.

10 “He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness. He led him about. He instructed him. He kept him as the apple of His eye.

11 ¶ “As an eagle stirs up her nest, flutters over her young, spreads abroad her wings, takes them, bears them on her wings,

12 ¶ so the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

13 ¶ He made him ride on the high places of the earth, so that he might eat the increase of the fields. And He made him to suck honey out of the rock and oil out of the flinty rock,

14 ¶ “butter of cows and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat. And you drank the pure blood of the grape.

15 ¶ ¶ But Jeshurun became fat and kicked. You are grown fat. You are grown thick. You are covered with fatness. Then he forsook God who made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.
16 ¶ “They provoked Him to jealousy with strange gods, with abominations that provoked Him to anger.
17 ¶ “They sacrificed to devils, not to God; to gods whom they did not know, gods that recently appeared, whom your fathers did not fear.
18 ¶ You neglected the Rock who begot you, and forgot God who formed you.
19 ¶ ¶ And when the LORD saw it, He abhorred them because of the provocation of His sons and of His daughters.
20 ¶ “And He said, ‘I will hide My face from them. I will see what their end will be, for they are a very perverse generation, k children in whom is no faith.
21 ¶ ¶ They have moved Me to jealousy with that which is not God. They have provoked Me to anger with their vanities. ¶ And I will move them to jealousy with those who are not a people. I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.
22 ¶ ¶ For a fire is kindled in My anger, and it will burn to the lowest hell, and will consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains.
23 ¶ ¶ ¶ I will heap mischiefs upon them. ¶ I will spend My arrows upon them.
24 ¶ ¶ ‘They will be burned with hunger and devoured with burning heat, and with bitter destruction. I will also send the teeth of beasts upon them, with the poison of serpents of the dust.
25 ¶ ¶ ‘The sword will destroy outside. ¶ There will be terror within. The young man and young woman will perish, infants and gray-haired men.
26 ¶ ¶ ¶ I said I would scatter them into corners, I would make the remembrance of them to cease from among men.
27 ¶ ¶ ‘Had I not feared the provocation by the enemy, lest their adversaries should misunderstand, and lest they should say, “Our hand is triumphant, and the LORD has not done all this.”
28 ¶ ¶ ¶ For they are a nation void of counsel, nor is there any understanding in them.
29 ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!
30 ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?
31 ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘For their rock is not as our Rock. ¶ Even our enemies themselves judge this.
32 ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘For their vine is from the vine of Sodom and from the fields of Gomorrah. Their grapes are grapes of gall. Their clusters are bitter.
33 ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘Their wine is the vine of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps.
34 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ Is not this laid up in store with Me, and sealed up among My treasures?
35 ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘To Me belongs vengeance and retribution. Their foot will slide in due time. ¶ For the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that will come upon them make haste.’
36 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘For the LORD will judge His people, ¶ and have compassion on His servants, when He sees that their power is gone and no one is left, slave or free.
37 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘And He will say, Where are their gods, their rock in whom they trusted,
38 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ who ate the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their drink offerings? Let them rise up and help you, and be your protection.
39 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘See now that I, even I am He, and there is no god besides Me. ¶ I kill and I make alive. I wound and I heal; nor is there any who can deliver out of My hand.
40 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ‘For I lift up My hand to heaven, and say, “I live forever.”
41 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ If I sharpen My glittering sword, and my hand takes hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to My enemies and will reward those who hate Me.
42 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ I will make My arrows drunk with blood, and My sword will devour flesh, with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the long-haired leaders of the enemy.’
43 ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ Rejoice with His people, O nations, for He will avenge the blood of His servants and
will render vengeance to His adversaries, and "will be merciful to His land and to His people."

44 ¶ Then Moses came and spoke all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he and Joshua the son of Nun.

45 So Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel.

46 And he said to them, "Set your hearts to all the words that I testify among you this day, that you will command your children to observe to do all the words of this law.

47 "For it is not a vain thing for you, because it is your life. And through this thing you will prolong your days in the land where you go over the Jordan to possess it."

Moses to Die on Mount Nebo

48 ¶ And the LORD spoke to Moses that same day, saying,

49 "Get yourself up into this mountain Abarim, Mount Nebo, that is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho. And see the land of Canaan that I am giving to the children of Israel for a possession.

50 "Then die on the mountain where you ascend, and be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother died on Mount Hor and was gathered to his people.

51 "This is because you trespassed against Me among the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah-Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin, because you did not sanctify Me in the midst of the children of Israel.

52 "Yet you will see the land before you, but you will not enter the land that I am giving the children of Israel."

Chapter 33

Blessing of the Tribes

1 ¶ And this is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death.

2 And he said, "The LORD came from Sinai and rose up on them from Seir. He shone forth from Mount Paran and He came with ten thousand sand holy ones. From His right hand went a fiery law for them.

3 "Yes, He loved the people. All His holy ones are in Your hand. And they sat down at Your feet; everyone will receive of Your words.

4 Moses commanded us a law, even the inheritance of the assembly of Jacob.

5 "And He was king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people and the tribes of Israel were gathered together.

6 ¶ "Let Reuben live and not die; and let not his men be few."

7 And this is the blessing of Judah: and he said, "Hear, O LORD, the voice of Judah, and bring him to his people. Let his hands be sufficient for him, and be a help to him against his enemies."

8 ¶ And of Levi he said, "Let Your Thummim and Your Urim be with Your holy one whom you did prove at Massah, and with whom You did strive at the waters of Meribah;

9 "who said to his father and to his mother, 'I have not seen him,' nor did he acknowledge his brethren, nor knew his own children; for they have observed Your word and kept Your covenant.

10 "They will teach Jacob Your judgments and Israel Your law. They will put incense before You and a whole burnt sacrifice on Your altar.

11 "Bless, O LORD, his substance and accept the work of his hands. Smite through the loins of those who rise against him, and of those who hate him, so that they do not rise again."

12 ¶ And of Benjamin he said, "The beloved of the LORD will dwell in safety by him. And the LORD will cover him all the day long, and he will dwell between his shoulders."

13 ¶ And of Joseph he said, "Blessed of the LORD is his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew and for the deep lying beneath,

14 "and for the precious fruits brought forth by the sun, and for the precious things put forth by the moon,

15 "and for the chief things of the ancient
mountains, and for the precious things of the
lasting hills,
16 “and for the precious things of the earth
and its fulness, and for the good will of him
who dwells in the bush. Let the blessing come
upon the head of Joseph and upon the top of
17 the head of him who was separated from his
brethren.
17 “His glory is like the ‘firstborn of his bull,
and his horns are like the horns of unicorns.
With them he will push the people together to
the ends of the earth; and they are the ten thou-
sands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands
of Manasseh.”
18 ¶ And of Zebulun he said, “Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, and Issachar, in your
tents.
19 “They will call the people to the mountain.
There they will offer sacrifices of right-
ousness, for they will suck of the abundance
of the seas and of treasures hidden in the sand.”
20 ¶ And of Gad he said, “Blessed be he who
enlarges Gad. He dwells as a lion and tears
the arm with the crown of the head.
21 “And he provided the first part for himself
because there, in a portion of the lawgiver, he
was seated. And he came with the heads of the
people. He executed the justice of the LORD
and his judgments with Israel.”
22 ¶ And of Dan he said, “Dan is a lion’s whelp.
He will leap from Bashan.”
23 ¶ And of Naphtali he said, “O Naphtali,
satisfied with favor and full with the blessing
of the LORD, possess the west and the south.”
24 ¶ And of Asher he said, “Let Asher be
blessed with children. Let him be acceptable to his
brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil.
25 “Your locks will be ‘iron and bronze; and
as your days, so will your strength be.
26 “There is none like to the God of Jeshurun,
who rides upon the heaven in your help, and
in His majesty on the sky.
27 “The eternal God is your refuge, and un-
derneath are the everlasting arms. And ‘He will
thrust out the enemy from before you and will
say, ‘Destroy them!’
28 “So ‘Israel will dwell in safety alone. ‘The
fountain of Jacob will be upon a land of corn
and wine, also His heavens will drop down
dew.
29 “Happy are you, O Israel. ‘Who is like
you, O people saved by the LORD, the shield
of your help, and who is the sword of your
majesty! And your enemies will be found li-
ars to you, and ‘you will tread upon their high
places.”

Chapter 34
The Death of Moses

1 ¶ Then Moses went up from the plains of
Moab to the mountain of Nebo, to the top of
Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the
LORD showed him all the land of Gilead, to
Dan,
2 and all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim
and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, as far
as the western sea,
3 and the Negev and the plain of the valley of
Jericho, the city of palm trees, to Zoar.
4 Then the LORD said to him, “This is the
land that I swore to Abraham, to Isaac and to
Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your seed.’ ‘I
have caused you to see it with your eyes, but
you will not go over there.’
5 ¶ ‘So Moses the servant of the LORD died
there in the land of Moab, according to the word
of the LORD.
6 And He buried him in a valley in the land of
Moab, opposite Beth Peor. But ‘no man knows
of his burial place to this day.
7 ‘And Moses was one hundred and twenty
years old when he died. ‘His eye was not dim,
nor his natural vigor abated.
8 And the children of Israel wept for Moses
in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days
of weeping and mourning for Moses were
ended.
9 ¶ Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the
spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands
on him. And the children of Israel hearkened
to him and did as the LORD commanded
Moses.
10 Since then there has not risen a prophet in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, 11 in all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land, 12 and in all the mighty power and in all the great terror that Moses showed in the sight of all Israel.

JOSHUA

Chapter 1
Charge to Joshua

1 ¶ Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying, 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore arise. Go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land that I am giving to them, even to the children of Israel. 3 "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon, that I have given to you as I said to Moses. 4 "From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun, will be your territory. 5 "No man will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not fail you or forsake you. 6 "Be strong and courageous, for to this people you will divide the land for an inheritance, which I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 "Only be strong and very courageous so that you may observe to do according to all the law that Moses My servant commanded you. So do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 "This book of the law will not depart out of your mouth. But you will meditate on it day and night so that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it, for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. 9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

10 ¶ Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11 "Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, ‘Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will pass over this Jordan to go in to possess the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.’” 12 And to the Reubenites and to the Gadites and to half the tribe of Manasseh, Joshua spoke, saying, 13 "Remember the word that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, ‘The LORD your God has given you rest and has given you this land.’ 14 “Your wives, your little ones and your livestock will remain in the land that Moses gave you on this side of the Jordan. But you will pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty valiant men, and help them, 15 “until the LORD has given your brethren rest, as He has given you. And they also possess the land that the LORD your God is giving them. Then you will return to the land of your possession and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD’S servant gave you on this side of the Jordan toward the sunrise.” 16 ¶ And they answered Joshua, saying, “All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us, we will go. 17 “According as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you; only the LORD your God be with you as He was with Moses. 18 “Whoever rebels against your commandment, and will not obey your words in all that you command him, he will be put to death. Only be strong and courageous.”
Chapter 2
Rahab and the Spies

1 ¶ Then Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, “Go view the land, even Jericho.” And they went and came into a harlot’s house, named Rahab. And they lodged there.

2 Now it was told the king of Jericho, saying, “Behold, men from the children of Israel have come here tonight to search out the land.”

3 So the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, “Bring forth the men who have come to you, who have entered into your house, for they have come to search out all the country.”

4 And the woman took the two men and hid them. And she said thus, “There came men to me, but I did not know where they were from.

5 “And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate when it was dark that the men went out. I do not know where the men went. Pursue after them quickly, for you will overtake them.”

6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order on the roof.

7 And the men pursued after them on the way to the Jordan to the fords. And as soon as those who were pursuing after them had gone out, they shut the gate.

8 And before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof.

9 And she said to the men, “I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that your terror has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

10 “For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

11 “And as soon as we heard these things our hearts melted, nor did there remain any more courage in any man because of you. For the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.

12 “Now therefore, I beg you, since I have shown you kindness, swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father’s house. And give me a token of truth

13 “that you will save alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all whom they have, and deliver our lives from death.”

14 So the men answered her, “Our life for yours if you do not tell this our business. And it will be when the LORD has given us the land, we will deal kindly and faithfully with you.”

15 ¶ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the city wall, and she lived on the wall.

16 Then she said to them, “Go to the mountain lest the pursuers meet you. And hide yourselves there for three days until the pursuers have returned. And afterward you may go your way.”

17 Then the men said to her, “We will be blameless of this oath to you that you have made us swear,

18 “unless, when we come into the land, you will bind this cord of scarlet thread in the window by which you let us down, and unless you will bring into your house your father and your mother and your brothers and all your father’s household.

19 “And it will be that whoever will go out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood will be on his head, and we will be guiltless. And whoever will be with you in the house, his blood will be on our head if any hand is laid on him.

20 “And if you tell this our business, then we will be free from your oath that you have made us swear.”

21 And she said, “According to your words, so be it.” So she sent them away and they departed. And she bound the scarlet cord in the window.

22 ¶ So they went and came to the mountain. And they remained there three days until the pursuers returned. And the pursuers sought them throughout all the way, but did not find them.
23 So the two men returned and descended from the mountain. And they passed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun. And they told him all things that happened to them.

24 And they said to Joshua, “Truly, the LORD has delivered into our hands all the land, for even all the inhabitants of the country faint because of us.”

Chapter 3

Israel Crosses the Jordan

1 ¶ Then Joshua rose early in the morning and they moved from Shittim and came to the Jordan. He and all the children of Israel lodged there before they crossed over.

2 Now it came to pass after three days that the officers went throughout the camp.

3 And they commanded the people, saying, “When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests bearing it, then you will move from your place and follow it.

4 However, there will be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near to it so that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before.”

5 Then Joshua said to the people, “Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”

6 And Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, “Take up the ark of the covenant and pass over before the people.” And they took up the ark of the covenant and went before the people.

7 ¶ Then the LORD said to Joshua, “This day I will begin to magnify you in the sight of all Israel so that they may know that as I was with Moses, so I will be with you.

8 And you will command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, saying, ‘When you have come to the brink of the water of the Jordan, you will stand still in the Jordan.’”

9 ¶ So Joshua said to the children of Israel, “Come here and hear the words of the LORD your God.”

10 Then Joshua said, “By this you will know that the living God is among you and that He will certainly drive out from before you the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Hivites and the Perizzites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Jebusites.

11 “Behold, the ark of the covenant of the LORD of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan.

12 “Now therefore, take twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, a man out of every tribe.

13 “And it will come to pass as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the ark of the covenant, are dipped in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan will be cut off from the waters that come down from above. And they will stand up in a heap.”

14 ¶ So it came to pass when the people moved from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people,

15 when those who carried the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, (for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of the harvest,) the waters that came down from above stood and rose up in one heap a great distance from the city Adam that is beside Zaretan. And those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho.

17 And the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan. And all the Israelites passed over on dry ground until all the people had completely passed over the Jordan.

Chapter 4

1 ¶ Now when all the nation had finished passing over the Jordan, the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying,

2 “Take twelve men out of the people, one man from each tribe,

3 “and command them, saying, ‘Take twelve stones out of the middle of the Jordan, out of the place where the priests’ feet stood firm.

z Ex 23:31 Chapter 3: a Ja 2:1 b Ja 1:10,11 c Nm 10:33 d Dt 31:9,25 e Ex 19:12 f Ja 7:13 g Nm 4:15 h Ja 4:14 i Ja 1:5,9 j Ja 3:3 k Ja 3:17 l 1 Th 1:9 m Ex 33:2 n At 13:19 o Zc 4:14,16 p Ja 4:2,4 q Ja 3:15,16 r Ja 3:11 s Ps 78:13, 144:3 t At 7:44,45 u Ja 3:13 v 1 Ch 12:15 w Ja 4:18; 5:10-12 x 1 Kg 4:12; 7:46 y Dt 3:17 z Gn 14:3 a Ex 3:8; 6:1-8; 14:21,22,29; 33:1 Chapter 4: a Dt 27:2 b Ja 3:12 c Ja 3:13
And you will carry them over with you and leave them in the lodging place where you will lodge this night.”

4 Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the children of Israel, a man out of every tribe.

5 And Joshua said to them, “Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each one of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel.

6 “Let this be a sign among you so that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What do these stones mean?’

7 “then you will answer them, ‘Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.’ And these stones will be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.”

8 So the children of Israel did as Joshua commanded. And they took up twelve stones out of the middle of the Jordan as the LORD spoke to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel.

9 And Joshua set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan at the place where the feet of the priests stood who bore the ark of the covenant. And they are there to this day.

10 ¶ For the priests who bore the ark stood in the middle of the Jordan until everything was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua. And the people hurried and passed over.

11 Now it came to pass when all the people had finished passing over, the ark of the LORD and the priests passed over in the presence of the people.

12 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and half the tribe of Manasseh, passed over armed before the children of Israel as Moses had spoken to them.

13 About 40,000 prepared for war passed over before the LORD for battle, to the plains of Jericho.

14 On that day the LORD magnified Joshua in the sight of all Israel. And they feared him all the days of his life as they feared Moses.

15 ¶ And the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying,

16 “Command the priests who bore the ark of the testimony that they come up out of the Jordan.”

17 Joshua therefore, commanded the priests, saying, “Come up out of the Jordan.”

18 Now it came to pass when the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD came up out of the middle of the Jordan, when the soles of the priests’ feet were lifted up to the dry land, that the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and flowed over all its banks as they did before.

19 ¶ And the people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month and camped in Gilgal, on the eastern edge of Jericho.

20 And Joshua set up in Gilgal those twelve stones that they took out of the Jordan.

21 Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying, ¶“When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What mean these stones?’

22 ¶Then you will let your children know, saying, ¶“Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.’

23 ¶“For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan from before you until you had passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up from before us until we had gone over.

24 ¶ He did this in order that all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty, so that you might fear the LORD your God forever.”

Chapter 5

Circumcision at Gilgal

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when all the kings of the Amorites who were on the west side of the Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until we had passed over,
that their hearts melted. Neither was there any more spirit in them because of the children of Israel.

2 ¶ At that time the LORD said to Joshua, “Make for yourselves sharp knives and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time.”

3 So Joshua made for himself sharp knives and circumcised the children of Israel at Gibeath Haaraloth.

4 And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the people who came out of Egypt who were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way after they came out of Egypt.

5 Now all the people who came out were circumcised. But all the people who were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt had not been circumcised.

6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the people who were men of war who came out of Egypt, were consumed because they did not obey the voice of the LORD, to whom the LORD had sworn that He would not show them the land that the LORD had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, a land that flowed with milk and honey.

7 And their children whom He raised up in their place, them Joshua circumcised, for they were uncircumcised because they had not circumcised them along the way.

8 Now it came to pass when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed.

9 Then the LORD said to Joshua, “This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” Therefore, the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day.

10 ¶ So the children of Israel camped in Gilgal and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at evening in the plains of Jericho.

11 And they ate of the old grain of the land on the day after the Passover, unleavened cakes and parched grain on the same day.

12 And the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten of the old grain of the land. There was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

The Fall of Jericho

13 ¶ Now it came to pass when Joshua was by Jericho that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, there stood a man opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us or for our adversaries?”

14 And he said, “No, but as captain of the army of the LORD I have now come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped. And he said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?”

15 And the captain of the LORD’S army said to Joshua, “Loose your sandal from off your foot, for the place on which you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

Chapter 6

1 ¶ Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the children of Israel. No one went out and no one came in.

2 Then the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, and its king and the valiant warriors.

3 “And you will circle the city, all the men of war, go around the city once. Thus you will do so for six days.

4 “Also have seven priests carry trumpets of rams’ horns in front of the ark. And on the seventh day you will circle the city seven times, and the priests will blow with the trumpets.

5 “Then it will come to pass when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people will shout with a great shout. And the wall of the city will fall down flat and the people will ascend up every man straight ahead.”

6 ¶ So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets.

Ja 2:10,11; 9:9 d Ex 4:25 e Dt 2:14-16 f Nm 14:33 g Hb 3:11 h Ex 3:8 i Dt 1:39 j Gn 34:25 k Gn 34:14 l Ja 4:19 m Ex 12:6 n Ex 16:35 o Gn 18:1; 2:32; 24:30 p Nm 22:23 q Gn 17:3 r Ex 34:8 s Ex 3:5 Chapter 6: a Ja 2:1 b Ja 2:9,24; 8:1 c Dt 7:24 d Lv 25:9 e 1 Kg 18:43 f Nm 10:8
pet of rams’ horns before the ark of the LORD.”
7 And he said to the people, “Go forward and circle the city. And let the armed men go on before the ark of the LORD.”
8 ¶ Now it came to pass when Joshua had spoken to the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams’ horns passed on before the LORD and blew with the trumpets. And the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.
9 Then the armed men went before the priests who blew with the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while the priests went on blowing with the trumpets.
10 Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, “You will not shout nor make any noise with your voice. Neither will any word proceed out of your mouth until the day I tell you to shout. Then you will shout.”
11 So the ark of the LORD circled the city, going around it once. And they came into the camp and spent the night there.
12 ¶ Then Joshua rose early in the morning and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.
13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark of the LORD went forward. And they blew with the trumpets. And the armed men went before them, but the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while the priests continued to blow the trumpets.
14 Then the second day they circled the city once and returned into the camp. They did this for six days.
15 ¶ Then it came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early at the dawning of the day
and circled the city after the same manner seven times. Only on that day they circled the city seven times.
16 Now it came to pass at the seventh time when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city.
17 “And the city will be consecrated to the Lord, it and all who are in it. Only Rahab the harlot will live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers whom we sent.
18 “But keep yourselves from the consecrated things, lest you make yourselves accursed when you take of the consecrated things and make the camp of Israel a curse and trouble it.
19 “But all the silver and gold and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated to the LORD. They will come into the treasury of the LORD.”
20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets. And it came to pass when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight in. And they took the city.
21 Then they utterly destroyed with the edge of the sword all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox and sheep and donkey.
22 ¶ But Joshua had said to the two men who had spied out the country, “Go into the harlot’s house and bring out here the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her.”
23 And the young men who were spies went in and brought out Rahab and her father and her mother and her brothers and all that she had. And they brought out all her relatives and placed them outside the camp of Israel.
24 Then they burned the city with fire and all that was in it. Only the silver and the gold and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.
25 So Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive and her father’s household and all that she had. And she dwells in Israel even to this day because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.
26 ¶ Then Joshua pronounced an oath at that time, saying, “Cursed is the man before the LORD who rises up and builds this city Jericho. He will lay the foundation of it with the loss of his firstborn, and with the loss of his youngest he will set up its gates.”
27 So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame was spread throughout all the country.

Chapter 7
The Sin of Achan
1 ¶ But the Israelites acted unfaithfully in regard to the consecrated things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the consecrated things. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel.

2 Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Bethaven, on the east side of Bethel. And he said to them, saying, “Go up and view the country.” And the men went up and viewed Ai.

3 Then they returned to Joshua and said to him, “Let not all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and smite Ai. Do not make all the people toil up there, for they are few.”

4 So there went up from the people about three thousand men. And they fled before the men of Ai.

5 And the men of Ai smote about thirty-six of their men. They chased them from the gate even to Shebarim, and smote them down on the slopes. So the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

6 ¶ Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth before the ark of the LORD until the evening. He and the elders of Israel put dust on their heads.

7 Then Joshua said, “Alas, O Lord GOD, why did You even bring this people over the Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites in order to destroy us? If only we had been content to remain on the other side of the Jordan!

8 “O Lord, what will I say when Israel turns their backs before their enemies?

9 “For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will You do to Your great name?”

10 ¶ And the LORD said to Joshua, “Get up! Why are you lying on your face?

11 “Israel has sinned. And they have also transgressed My covenant that I commanded them, for they have taken of the consecrated things and have also stolen and deceived. And they have put it even among their own things.

12 ¶ Therefore, the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies because they were accursed. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy whatever among you is consecrated to destruction.

13 “Rise up! Sanctify the people and say, "Sanctify yourselves in preparation for tomorrow, for thus says the LORD God of Israel, “There is a consecrated thing in the midst of you, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the consecrated thing from among you.”

14 ¶ In the morning therefore you will be brought according to your tribes. And it will be that the tribe that the LORD takes will come forward family by family, and the family that the LORD takes will come forward by households. And the family that the LORD takes will come forward man by man.

15 ¶ And it will be that he who is taken with the consecrated things will be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has committed a disgraceful thing in Israel.”

16 ¶ So Joshua rose up early in the morning and brought Israel by their tribes. And the tribe of Judah was taken.

17 Then he brought the family of Judah, and he took the family of the Zarhites. And he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man. And Zabdi was taken.

18 Then he brought his household man by man. And Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

19 Then Joshua said to Achan, “My son, I beseech you, give glory to the LORD God of Israel and make confession to Him, and tell me now what you have done. Do not hide it from me.”

20 So Achan answered Joshua and said, “Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done:

21 “when I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment and two hundred shekels
of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels in weight, then I coveted them and took them. And behold, they are hid in the earth in the middle of my tent, and the silver under it.”

22 ¶ So Joshua sent messengers and they ran to the tent. And behold, it was hid in his tent and the silver under it.

23 Then they took them out of the middle of the tent and brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel. And they laid them out before the LORD.

24 Then Joshua and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons and his daughters, and his oxen and his donkeys and his sheep, and his tent and all that he had, and they brought them to the valley of Achor.

25 And Joshua said, Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble you this day.” And all Israel stoned him with stones. And they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones.

26 Then they raised over him a great heap of stones to this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore, the name of that place has been called to this day, The valley of Achor.

Chapter 8

Destruction of Ai

1 ¶ Now the LORD said to Joshua, Do not fear nor be dismayed. Take all the people of war with you and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai and his people and his land.

2 “And you will do to Ai and her king as you did to Jericho and her king. Only its spoil and its cattle you will take for a spoil for yourselves. Set an ambush for the city behind it.”

3 ¶ So Joshua arose and all the people of war to go up against Ai. And Joshua chose out 30,000 mighty men of valour and sent them away by night.

4 And he commanded them, saying, Behold, you will set an ambush behind the city. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you be ready.

5 “And I and all the people who are with me will approach the city. And it will come to pass when they come out against us as at the first, that we will flee before them.

6 “For they will come out after us until we have drawn them from the city, for they will say, They flee before us as at the first.’ So we will flee before them.

7 “Then you will rise up from the ambush and seize the city, for the LORD your God will deliver it into your hand.

8 “And it will be when you have taken the city that you will set the city on fire. You will do this according to the commandment of the LORD. See, I have commanded you.”

9 ¶ Joshua therefore sent them off. And they went to lie in ambush and remain between Bethel and Ai on the west side of Ai. But Joshua spent that night among the people.

10 Then Joshua rose up early in the morning and numbered the people. And he went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai.

11 ¶ Then all the people of war who were with him, went up and drew near. And they came before the city and pitched on the north side of Ai. Now there was a valley between them and Ai.

12 And he took about 5,000 men and set them to lie in ambush between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.

13 Now when they had set the people, even all the army that was on the north of the city, and the ambush in wait on the west of the city, Joshua went that night into the middle of the valley.

14 ¶ Now it came to pass when the king of Ai saw it, that they hurried and rose up early. And the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people at the appointed place before the Arabah. But the he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city.

15 So Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them. And they fled by the way of the wilderness.

16 Now all the people who were in Ai were called together to pursue after them. And they pursued after Joshua and were drawn away
from the city.

17 Now there was not a man left in Ai or Bethel that did not go out after Israel. And they left the city open and pursued after Israel.

18 ¶ Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Stretch out the spear that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand.” So Joshua stretched out the spear that he had in his hand toward the city.

19 And the ambush rose quickly out of their place and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand. And they entered into the city and took it. Then they quickly set the city on fire.

20 When the men of Ai looked behind them, behold, they saw the smoke of the city ascend up to heaven, and they had no place to flee this way or that way. Then the people who fled to the wilderness turned back against the pursuers.

21 Now when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, then they turned again and slew the men of Ai.

22 And the others came out of the city against them, so they were in the middle of Israel, some on this side and some on that side. And they smote them so that they let none of them remain or escape.

23 But the king of Ai they took alive and brought him to Joshua.

24 ¶ Now it came to pass when Israel had finished slaying all the inhabitants of Ai in the field in the wilderness where they chased them, and when they had all fallen on the edge of the sword until they were consumed, that all the Israelites returned to Ai. And they smote it with the edge of the sword.

25 And so it was that all who fell that day, both of men and women, were 12,000, even all the men of Ai.

26 For Joshua did not withdraw his hand with which he stretched out the spear until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.

27 mOnly the cattle and the spoil of that city Israel took for a plunder for themselves, according to the word of the LORD which He commanded Joshua.

28 And Joshua burned Ai and made it a “heap forever, even a desolation to this day.

29 ¶ And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree until evening. ¶ And as soon as the sun was down, Joshua commanded that they should take his carcass down from the tree and cast it at the entering of the gate of the city and raise on it a great heap of stones that remains to this day.

Renewal of the Covenant

30 ¶ Then Joshua built an altar to the LORD God of Israel on Mount Ebal,

31 as Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones on which no man has lifted an iron tool. And they offered on it burnt offerings to the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings.

32 Then he wrote there on the stones a copy of the law of Moses which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel.

33 And all Israel, and their elders and officers and their judges, stood on both sides of the ark of the LORD and the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, the “alien as well as he who was born among them. Half of them stood in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, so that they should bless the people of Israel.

34 Then afterward he read all the words of the law, the “blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the “book of the law.

35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, “with the women and the little ones and the “aliens who were living among them.

Chapter 9

The Gibeonite Deception

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when “all the kings who were on this side of the Jordan in the hills and in the valleys and on all the coasts of the
bGreat Sea over toward Lebanon, the ‘Hittite and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, heard of it, 2 that they gathered themselves together with one accord to fight with Joshua and with Israel. 3 ¶ And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, 4 they acted craftily and went and made as if they had been ambassadors. And they took old sacks on their donkeys, and wine bottles, old and torn and mended, 5 and wornout and patched sandals on their feet, and old garments on themselves. And all the bread of their provision was dry and moldy. 6 And they went to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have come from a far country. Now, therefore, make a covenant with us.” 7 And the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “Perhaps you are living near us. And how will we make a covenant with you?” 8 Then they said to Joshua, “We are your servants.” And Joshua said to them, “Who are you? And from where have you come?” 9 Then they said to him, “From a very far country your servants have come because of the name of the LORD your God. For we have heard the fame of Him and all that He did in Egypt, 10 and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon and to Og king of Bashan who was at Ashtaroth. 11 Therefore, our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take provisions with you for the journey and go to meet them and say to them, ‘We are your servants. Now therefore, make a covenant with us.’ ” 12 “This our bread we took hot for our provisions out of our houses on the day we left to come to you. But now behold, it is dry and it is moldy. 13 And these bottles of wine that we filled were new. And behold, they are torn. And these our garments and our shoes have become old because of the very long journey.” 14 And the men took of their provisions, and did not ask counsel at the mouth of the LORD. 15 So Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live. And the princes of the assembly swore to them. 16 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, that they heard that they were their neighbors and that they dwelt among them. 17 Then the children of Israel journeyed and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon and Chephirah and Beeroth and Kirjath Jearim. 18 And the children of Israel did not strike them because the princes of the assembly had sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the assembly murmured against the princes. 19 So all the princes said to all the assembly, “We have sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel. Now, therefore, we may not touch them. 20 “This we will do to them: we will let them live lest wrath be on us, because of the oath that we swore to them.” 21 And the princes said to them, “Let them live. But let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water for all the assembly, as the princes had promised them.” 22 ¶ Then Joshua called for them and he spoke to them, saying, “Why have you deceived us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’ when you dwell among us? 23 “Now therefore, you are cursed and none of you will be freed from being bondmen and hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.” 24 And they answered Joshua and said, “Because it was certainly told your servants that the LORD your God commanded His servant Moses to give you all the land and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you, therefore we were greatly afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this thing. 25 “And now, behold, we are in your hands. Do as it seems good and right for you to do to us.”
And so he did to them. And he delivered them out of the hands of the children of Israel, and they did not kill them. Then Joshua made them that day a hewers of wood and drawers of water for the assembly, and for the altar of the LORD, even to this day b in the place which He would choose.

Chapter 10
Cessation of the Earth's Rotation

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Adonizedek king of Jerusalem had a heard how Joshua had taken b Ai and had utterly destroyed it, c as he had done to Jericho and its king, so he had done to d Ai and its king, and e how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were among them, f that they feared greatly, because Gibeon was a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai and all its men were mighty.

2 Therefore, Adonizedek king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham king of Hebron and to Piram king of Jarmuth and to Japhia king of Lachish and to Debir king of Eglon, saying,

3 “Come up to me and help me so that we may smite Gibeon, for it has made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.”

4 Therefore, the five kings of the h Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together. And they went up, they and all their armies and camped before Gibeon and made war against it.

5 ¶ Then the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua to the camp to j Gilgal, saying, “Do not abandon your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the mountains have gathered together against us.”

6 So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and k all the people of war with him and all the valiant warriors.

7 And the LORD said to Joshua, l “Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand. m Not one of them will stand before you.”

9 Therefore, Joshua came to them suddenly by marching all night from Gilgal.

10 And the LORD n confused them before Israel. And they slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon and chased them along the way that goes up to Beth Horon and smote them as far as Azekah and Makkedah.

11 Now it came to pass as they fled from before Israel and were in the descent to Beth Horon that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them as far as Azekah. And they died. There were more who died with hailstones than those whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.

12 ¶ Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel. And he said in the sight of Israel, “O sun, stand still over Gibeon, and O moon, over the valley of T Aijalon.”

13 So the sun stood still and the moon stopped until the people had avenged themselves on their enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven and delayed going down about a whole day.

14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, when the LORD hearkened to the voice of a man. For the LORD fought for Israel.

15 And Joshua returned and all Israel with him to the camp to Gilgal.

Five Amorite Kings Killed

16 ¶ But these five kings fled and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.

17 And it was told Joshua, saying, “The five kings have been found hidden in a cave at Makkedah.”

18 Then Joshua said, “Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave and set men by it in order to keep them.

19 “And do not stay there yourselves, but pursue after your enemies and attack them in the rear. Do not allow them to enter into their cities, for the LORD your God has delivered them into your hand.”

20 Now it came to pass when Joshua and the
children of Israel had finished slaying them with a very great slaughter until they were consumed, that the rest who remained of them entered into fortified cities.  

21 And all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace. No one uttered a word against any of the children of Israel.  

22 Then Joshua said, “Open the mouth of the cave and bring out these five kings to me out of the cave.”  

23 And they did so. So they brought forth these five kings to him out of the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon.  

24 Now it came to pass when they brought out these kings to Joshua that Joshua called for all the men of Israel and said to the captains of the men of war who went with him, “Come near and put your feet on the necks of these kings.” And they came near and put their feet on their necks.  

25 And Joshua said to them, “Do not fear nor be dismayed. Be strong and of good courage, for thus the LORD will do to all your enemies against whom you fight.”  

26 And afterward Joshua smote them and slew them. And he hanged them on five trees. And they hung on the trees until evening.  

27 Now it came to pass at sunset that Joshua commanded and they took them down off the trees and cast them into the cave in which they had been hid. And they laid great stones in the cave’s mouth that remain unto this very day.  

28 ¶ And that day Joshua took Makkedah and smote it with the edge of the sword, and its king and all its cities and all the souls who were in it. He let none remain. And he did to the king of Makkedah as he did to the king of Jericho.  

Conquering of Southern Cities  

29 ¶ Then Joshua passed from Makkedah and all Israel with him, to Libnah. And he fought against Libnah.  

30 And the LORD delivered it also, and its king, into the hand of Israel. And he smote it with the edge of the sword and all the souls who were in it. He let no one remain in it, but did to its king as he did to the king of Jericho.  

31 ¶ Then Joshua passed from Libnah and all Israel with him, to Lachish. And he camped by it and fought against it.  

32 And the LORD delivered Lachish into the hand of Israel. And he took it on the second day and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls who were in it, according to all that he had done to Libnah.  

33 Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish. And Joshua smote him and his people until he had left him no survivor.  

34 ¶ And from Lachish Joshua passed to Eglon and all Israel with him. And they camped by it and fought against it.  

35 And they took it on that day and smote it with the edge of the sword. And all the souls who were in it utterly destroyed that day according to all that he had done to Lachish.  

36 ¶ Then Joshua went up from Eglon and all Israel with him, to Hebron. And they fought against it.  

37 And they took it and smote it with the edge of the sword. And its king and all its cities and all the souls who were in it. He left no one to remain according to all that he had done to Eglon. But he utterly destroyed it and all the souls who were in it.  

38 ¶ So Joshua returned to Debir and all Israel with him. And he fought against it.  

39 Now he took it and its king and all its cities. And they smote them with the edge of the sword and utterly destroyed all the souls who were in it. He left no one to remain. As he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir and to its king.  

40 ¶ So Joshua smote all the country of the hills and of the Negev and of the lowland and the springs and all their kings. He left no one remaining, but utterly destroyed all who breathed as the LORD God of Israel commanded.  

41 And Joshua smote them from Kadesh Barnea even to Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even to Gibeon.  

42 And all these kings and their land Joshua
took at one time because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

43 And Joshua returned and all Israel with him to the camp to Gilgal.

Chapter 11
Northern Kings Defeated

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Jabin king of Hazor had heard these things that he sent to Jobab king of Madon and to the king of Shimron and to the king of Achshaph

2 and to the kings who were on the north of the mountains and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth and in the valley and in the borders of Dor on the west

3 and to the Canaanites on the east and on the west and to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites on the mountains and to the Hivites at the foot of Hermon in the land of Mizpeh.

4 And they went out, they and all their armies with them, as many people in multitude as the sand that is on the seashore, with many horses and chariots.

5 And when all these kings met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom in order to fight against Israel.

6 ¶ Then the LORD said to Joshua, Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I will deliver them up all slain before Israel. You will hock their horses and burn their chariots with fire."

7 So Joshua came suddenly and all the people of war with him against them by the waters of Merom. And they fell on them.

8 And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them and chased them to Great Sidon and to Misrephoth Maim and to the valley of Mizpeh eastward. And they smote them until they left none of them remaining.

9 Then Joshua did to them as the LORD told him. He hocked their horses and burned their chariots with fire.

10 ¶ And Joshua at that time turned back and took Hazor. And he smote its king with the sword, for Hazor formerly was the head of all those kingdoms.

11 And they smote all the souls who were in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them. There was not any left to breathe. And he burned Hazor with fire.

12 And all the cities of these kings and all their kings Joshua took and smote them with the edge of the sword. So he utterly destroyed them as Moses the servant of the LORD commanded.

13 But Israel did not burn any of the cities built on their mounds, except Hazor, which Joshua burned.

14 And all the spoil of these cities and the livestock, the children of Israel took for their plunder. But every man they smote with the edge of the sword until they had destroyed them. They left no one who breathed.

15 ¶ As the LORD commanded Moses his servant, so did Moses command Joshua, and so did Joshua. He left nothing undone of all that the LORD commanded Moses.

16 ¶ So Joshua took all that land, the hills and all the south country and all the land of Goshen and the valley and the plain and the hill country of Israel and its valley,

17 even from Mount Halak that goes up to Seir even to Baal Gad in the valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He took all their kings and struck them down, putting them to death.

18 Joshua waged war a long time with all these kings.

19 There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, except the Hivites living in Gibeon. All others they took in battle.

20 For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle so that he might utterly destroy them and that they might receive no mercy, but that he might destroy them as the LORD commanded Moses.

21 ¶ And at that time Joshua came and cut off the Anakims from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua utterly destroyed them with their cities.

22 There was none of the Anakims left in the
land of the children of Israel. Only in 6Gaza in Gath and in 6Ashdod some remained.

23 So Joshua took the whole land 6according to all that the LORD said to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel 6according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land 6rested from war.

Chapter 12
Defeated Kings

1 ¶ Now these are the kings of the land whom the children of Israel defeated and whose land they possessed on the other side of the Jordan toward the rising of the sun, 6from the River Arnon to 6Mount Hermon, and all the Arabah on the east:

2 6Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon. He ruled from Aroer, which is on the edge of the River Arnon, and from the middle of the river, even to the brook Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon. This included half of Gilead.

3 He also ruled from the Arabah to the Sea of Chinneroth 6on the east, and to the sea of the Arabah, even the Salt Sea, eastward toward 6Beth Jeshimoth, and on the south, below the 6slopes of Pisgah;

4 and the territory of 6Og king of Bashan, who was of the 6remnant of the giants, who dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei.

5 And he reigned over 6Mount Hermon and in 6Salecah and in all Bashan, 6to the border of the Geshurites and the Maachasites, and half of Gilead, the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

6 6Moses the servant of the LORD and the children of Israel defeated them. And 6Moses the servant of the LORD gave it as a possession to the Reubenites and the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

7 And these are the kings of the country 6that Joshua and the children of Israel defeated on this side of the Jordan on the west, from Baal Gad in the valley of Lebanon even to Mount Halak that goes up to 6Seir, which Joshua 6gave to the tribes of Israel as a possession according to their divisions.

8 6in the hill country and in the valleys and in the plains and in the springs and in the wilderness and in the Negev; the 6Hittites, the Amorites and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites:

9 6the king of Jericho, one; the 6king of Ai, which is beside Bethel, one;

10 6the king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one;

11 the king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one;

12 the king of Eglon, one; the 6king of Gezer, one;

13 6the king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

14 the king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one;

15 6the king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one;

16 6the king of Makkedah, one; 6the king of Bethel, one;

17 the king of Tappuah, one; 6the king of Heber, one;

18 the king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

19 the king of Madon, one; 6the king of Hazor, one;

20 the king of 6Shimron Meron, one; the king of Achshaph, one;

21 the king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one;

22 6the king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam of Carmel, one;

23 the king of Dor in the 6heights of Dor, one; the king of the 6people of Gilgal, one;

24 the king of 6Tirzah, one; 6thirty-one kings in all.

Chapter 13
More Land to Conquer

1 ¶ Now Joshua 6was old and stricken in years. And the LORD said to him, “You are old and stricken in years and yet much land remains to be possessed.

2 6This is the land that yet remains: call the regions of the Philistines and all 6Geshuri,
3 "from Sihor, which is east of Egypt, even to the territory of Ekron northward that is counted as Canaanite territory: five lords of the Philistines; the Gazathites and the Ashdothites, the Eskalonites, the Gittites and the Ekronites, also the Avites
4 "from the south, all the land of the Canaanites and Mearah that is at the side of the Sidonians to Aphek, to the territory of the Amorites;
5 "and the land of the Giblites and all Lebanon, toward the sunrise, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo Hamath.
6 "All the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth Maim, and all the Sidonians, I will drive them out from before the children of Israel: only allot it to Israel for an inheritance as I have commanded you.
7 "Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance to the nine tribes, and the half-tribe of Manasseh."

Land Division East of the Jordan
8 ¶ With the other half-tribe of Manasseh, the Reubenites and the Gadites, they received their inheritance that Moses gave them beyond the Jordan eastward, even as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them;
9 from Aroer, that is on the bank of the Arnon valley, and the city that is in the middle of the valley, and all the plain of Medeba; Dibon and Bamoth Baal and Beth Baal Meon,
10 and all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites who reigned in Heshbon, to the border of the children of Ammon;
11 and Gilead, and the territory of the Geshurites and Maacathites, and all Mount Hermon and all Bashan to Salcah;
12 all the kingdom of Og in Bashan who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants; for Moses defeated these and cast them out.
13 Nevertheless, the children of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites.
14 "Only to the tribe of Levi he gave no inheritance. The sacrifices of the LORD God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance, as He said to them.
15 ¶ And Moses gave to the tribe of the children of Reuben an inheritance according to their families.
16 And their territory was from Aroer that is on the bank of the valley of Arnon, and the city that is in the middle of the valley and all the plain by Medeba;
17 Heshbon and all her cities that are in the plain; Dibon and Bamoth Baal and Beth Baal Meon,
18 and Jahaza and Kedemoth and Mephaath and Kirjathaim and Sibmah and Zareah Shahar in the hill of the valley,
19 and Beth Peor and the slopes of Pisgah and Beth Jeshimoth,
20 and all the cities of the plain and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses smote with the princes of Midian, Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba, who were princes of Sihon, dwelling in the country.
22 Also Balaam the son of Beor, the soothsayer, the children of Israel slew with the sword among those who were slain by them.
23 And the border of the children of Reuben was the Jordan. This was the inheritance of the children of Reuben after their families, the cities and their villages.
24 ¶ And Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of Gad, even to the children of Gad according to their families.
25 ¶ And their territory was Jazer and all the cities of Gilead and half the land of the children of Ammon, to Aroer that is before Rabbah;
26 and from Heshbon to Ramath Mizpeh and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the territory of Debir,
27 and in the valley, Bet Haram and Beth Nimrah and Succoth and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, the Jordan as a border, even to the edge of the Sea of Chinnereth on the other side of the Jordan eastward.
28 This is the inheritance of the children of God after their families, the cities and their villages.

29 ¶ And Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh: and this was the possession of the half-tribe of the children of Manasseh by their families.

30 And their territory was from Mahanaim, all of Bashan, the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jaïr, that are in Bashan, sixty cities;

31 also half of Gilead, and Ashtaroth and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were for the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, even to half of the children of Machir by their families.

32 These are the countries that Moses distributed for an inheritance in the plains of Moab, on the other side of the Jordan by Jericho, eastward.

33 But to the tribe of Levi Moses did not give any inheritance. The LORD God of Israel was their inheritance, as he said to them.

Chapter 14

Land Division West of the Jordan

1 ¶ And these are the countries that the children of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed for an inheritance to them.

2 By lot their inheritance was assigned, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses, for the nine tribes, and for the half-tribe.

3 For Moses had given the inheritance of two tribes and the half-tribe the other side of the Jordan. But to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them.

4 For the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. Therefore, they gave no part to the Levites in the land, except cities in which to dwell with their pastures lands for their cattle and for their property.

5 As the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did. And they divided the land.

Caleb Claims Hebron

6 ¶ Then the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said to him, “You know the word that the LORD said to Moses the man of God concerning me and you in Kadesh Barnea.

7 “I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land. And I brought him word again as it was in my heart.

8 Nevertheless, my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt. But I wholly followed the LORD my God.

9 “And Moses swore on that day, saying, “Surely the land on which your feet have trodden will be your inheritance, and your children’s forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.’

10 “And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, even since the LORD spoke this word to Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness. And now, behold, I am this day eighty-five years old.

11 ¶ I am still as strong this day as I was in the day when Moses sent me. As my strength was then, even so is my strength now for war, both to go out and to come in.

12 “Now therefore give me this mountain about which the LORD spoke in that day. For you heard in that day how the Anakims were there and that the cities were great and walled. If the LORD will be with me, then I will be able to drive them out as the LORD said.”

13 ¶ And Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance.

14 ¶ Hebron, therefore, became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

15 And the name of Hebron before was Kirjath Arba, which Arba was a great man among the Anakims. And the land had rest from war.
Chapter 15
Allotment for Judah

1 ¶ Now the allotment for the tribe of the children of Judah by their families extended to the border of Edom, southward to the wilderness of Zin at the extreme south.

2 And their south border was from the shore of the Salt Sea, from the bay that looks southward.

3 And it went out to the south side to the ascent of Acrabbim and passed along to Zin, and ascended on the south side to Kadesh Barnea and passed along to Hezron, and went up to Addar, and turned around to Karka.

4 From there it passed toward Azmon and went out to the river of Egypt, and the border ended at the sea. This will be your south border.

5 And the east border was the Salt Sea, even to the end of the Jordan. And their border in the north quarter was from the bay of the sea at the mouth of the Jordan.

6 And the border went up to Beth Hoglah and passed along by the north of Beth Arabah. And the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.

7 And the border went up toward Debir from the valley of Achor, and turned northward, looking toward Gilgal that is before the ascent to Adummim that is on the south side of the valley. And the border continued toward the waters of En Shemesh and came out at En Rogel.

8 Then the border went up by the valley of the Ben Hinnom to the south side of the Jebusite city that is Jerusalem. And the border went up to the top of the mountain that lies before the valley of Hinnom westward that is at the end of the valley of the giants northward.

9 And the border was drawn from the top of the hill to the fountain of the water of Nephtoah, and came out to the cities of Mount Ephron. Then the border was drawn to Baalah, which is Kirjath Jearim.

10 Then the border curved westward from Baalah to Mount Seir and passed along to the side of Mount Jearim, which is Chesalon, on the north side. And it went down to Beth Shemesh and passed on to Timnah.

11 Then the border went out to the side of Ekron northward. And the border was drawn to Shikkeron and passed along to Mount Baalah, and proceeded to Jabneel. The boundary ended at the sea.

12 And the west border was to the Great Sea and its coast. This is the border around the children of Judah according to their families.

13 ¶ And to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a part among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, even the city of Arba the father of Anak, that is Hebron.

14 And Caleb drove from there the three sons of Anak, Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai, the children of Anak.

15 And he went up from there to the inhabitants of Debir. And the name of Debir was formerly Kirjath Sepher.

16 ¶ And Caleb said, “He who smites Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give Achsah my daughter as a wife.”

17 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it. So he gave him Achsah his daughter as a wife.

18 ¶ Now it came to pass as she came to him that she moved him to ask of her father a field. And she dismounted from her donkey and Caleb said to her, “What do you want?”

19 She answered, “Give me a blessing. Since you have given me land in the Negev, give me also springs of water.” And he gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

20 ¶ This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families.

21 And the southern most cities of the tribe of the children of Judah toward the border of Edom southward were Kabzeel and Eder and Jagur

22 and Kinah and Dimonah and Adadah

23 and Kedesh and Hazor and Ithnan,

24 Ziph and Telem and Bealoth

25 and Hazor, Hadattah and Kerioth and Hezron, which is Hazor,
26 Amam and Shema and Moladah
27 and Hazar Gaddah and Heshmon and Beth Palet
28 and Hazar Shual and Beersheba and Bizjothjah,
29 Baalah and Iim and Azem
30 and Eltolad and Chesil and Hormah,
31 and Ziklag and Madmannah and Sansannah
32 and Lebaoth and Shilhim and Ain and Rimmon. All the cities are twenty-nine with their villages.
33 And in the valley are Eshtaol and Zoreah and Ashnah
34 and Zanoah and En Gannim, Tappuah and Enam,
35 Jarmuth and Adullam, Socoh and Azekah
36 and Sharaim and Adithaim and Gederah and Gederothaim; fourteen cities with their villages.
37 Zenan and Hadashah and Migdalgad
38 and Dilean and Mizpeh and Joktheel,
39 Lachish and Bozkath and Eglon
40 and Cabbon and Lahmam and Kithlish
41 and Gederoth, Beth Dagon and Naamah and Makkedah, sixteen cities with their villages.
42 Libnah and Ether and Ashan
43 and Jiphtah and Ashnah and Nezib
44 and Keilah and Achzib and Mareshah, nine cities with their villages.
45 Ekron, with its towns and its villages;
46 from Ekron even to the sea, all that lay near Ashdod, with their villages;
47 Ashdod with its towns and its villages, Gaza with its towns and its villages, to the river of Egypt and the Great Sea and its border.
48 And in the mountains, Shamir and Jattir and Socho
49 and Dannah and Kirjath Sannah, which is Debir,
50 and Anab and Eshtemoh and Anim
51 and Goshen and Holon and Giloh; eleven cities with their villages.
52 Arab and Dumah and Eshean
53 and Janum and Beth Tappuah and Aphekah
54 and Humtah and Kirjath Arba, which is Hebron and Zior, nine cities with their villages.
55 Maon, Carmel and Ziph and Juttah
56 and Jezeel and Jokdeam and Zanoah,
57 Cain, Gibeah and Timnah, ten cities with their villages.
58 Halhul, Beth Zur and Gedor
59 and Maarath and Beth Anoth and Eltekon, six cities with their villages.
60 Kirjath Baal, which is Kirjath Jearim, and Rabbah, two cities with their villages.
61 In the wilderness, Beth Arabah, Middin and Secakah
62 and Nibshan, and the city of Salt and Engedi, six cities with their villages.
63 As for the Jebusites the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah could not drive them out. But the Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah at Jerusalem to this day.

Chapter 16

Allotment for Ephraim and Manasseh

1 ¶ Now the allotment for the children of Joseph went from the Jordan by Jericho to the waters of Jericho on the east to the wilderness that goes up from Jericho throughout Mount Bethel.

2 It goes out from Bethel to Luz and passes along to the borders of Archi to Ataroth,

3 and goes down westward to the territory of Japhleti to the territory of lower Beth Horon and to Gezer, ending at the sea.

4 So the children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.

5 ¶ And the territory of the children of Ephraim according to their families was thus: even the border of their inheritance on the east side was Ataroth Addar to upper Beth Horon.

6 And the border went out toward the sea to Michmethah on the north side. And the border turned about eastward to Taanath Shiloh and passed by it on the east to Janohah.

7 And it went down from Janohah to Ataroth and to Naarath, and came to Jericho and came out at the Jordan.

8 The border went out from Tappuah westward to the River Kanah, and it ended at the sea. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the

j Gn 21:31 k Ja 19:4 l 1 Sm 27:6; 30:1 m Jg 20:45, 47 n Jg 13:25; 16:31 o 1 Sm 22:1 p 2 Kg 14:7 q 2 Kg 14:19 r Ja 10:3 s Ja 21:13 t Ja 11:22 u Ja 15:4 v Nm 34:6 w Ja 10:41; 11:16 x Ja 14:15 y 1 Sm 23:24, 25 z Ja 18:14 a 1 Sm 23:29 b 2 Sm 5:6 c Jg 1:21 Chapter 16: a Ja 8:15; 18:12 b Ja 18:13 c 2 Ch 8:5 d 1 Kg 9:15 e Ja 17:14 f Jg 1:29 g Ja 18:13 h 2 Ch 8:5 i Ja 17:7 j Ja 17:8 k Ja 17:9
children of Ephraim by their families.

9 And the separate cities for the children of Ephraim were among the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages.

10 And they did not drive out the Canaanites who dwelt in Gezer. But the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites to this day and serve under tribute.

Chapter 17

1 ¶ There was also an allotment for the tribe of Manasseh, for he was the firstborn of Joseph, that is, for Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead. He had received Gilead and Bashan because the Makirites were great soldiers.

2 There was also an allotment for the rest of the children of Manasseh by their families, for the children of Abiezer, and for the children of Helek, and for the children of Asriel, and for the children of Shechem, and for the children of Ephhem, and for the children of Shemida. These were the male children of Manasseh the son of Joseph by their families.

3 ¶ But Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, had no sons, but only daughters. And these are the names of his daughters, Mahlah and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah.

4 And they went before Eleazar the priest and before Joshua the son of Nun and before the princes, saying, “The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brethren.” Therefore, according to the commandment of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among the brethren of their father.

5 And there fell ten portions to Manasseh, besides the land of Gilead and Bashan that were on the other side of the Jordan,

6 because the daughters of Manasseh had an inheritance among his sons. And the rest of Manasseh’s sons had the land of Gilead.

7 ¶ And the territory of Manasseh was from Asher to Michmethath that lies before Shechem. And the border went along on the right hand to the inhabitants of En Tappuah.

8 Now Manasseh had the land of Tappuah, but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh belonged to the children of Ephraim.

9 And the border went down to the River Kanah, southward of the river. These cities of Ephraim are among the cities of Manasseh. The territory of Manasseh was also on the north side of the river and ended at the sea.

10 On the south the land belonged to Ephraim and on the north to Manasseh. And the territory of Manasseh reached the sea and bordered Asher on the north and Issachar on the east.

11 And in Issachar and in Asher, Manasseh had Beth Shean and its towns and Ibleam and its towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and its towns, and the inhabitants of Endor and its towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and its towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its towns, even three countries.

12 Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out the inhabitants of those cities, but the Canaanites persisted in dwelling in that land.

13 Yet it came to pass when the children of Israel became strong that they put the Canaanites to forced labor. But they did not utterly drive them out.

14 ¶ And the children of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, “Why have you given me but one allotment and one portion for an inheritance, seeing I am a numerous people, whom the LORD has thus far blessed?”

15 And Joshua answered them, “If you are a numerous people, then go up to the wood country and clear land for yourselves there in the land of the Perizzites and Rephaites.”

16 And the children of Joseph said, “The hill country is not enough for us. And all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both those who are of Beth Shean and its towns and those who are of the valley of Jezreel.”

17 Then Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, “You are a numerous people and have great power. You will not have only one lot.

18 “But the mountain will be yours because it
is a forest, and you will cut it down. And to its farthest borders it will be yours, for you will drive out the Canaanites, ‘though they have iron chariots and though they are strong.’

Chapter 18

Dividing the Remainder of the Land

1 ¶ Then the whole assembly of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh and set up the tabernacle of the assembly there. And the land was subdued before them.

2 And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes who had not yet received their inheritance.

3 So Joshua said to the children of Israel, “How long will you wait to go to possess the land that the LORD God of your fathers has given you?

4 ¶ Appoint from among you three men for each tribe. And I will send them, and they will rise and go through the land and describe it according to their inheritance. And they will come again to me.

5 ¶ And they will divide it into seven parts. dJudah will remain in his territory on the south and the ehouse of Joseph will remain in his territory on the north.

6 ¶ You will therefore describe the land in seven parts, and bring the description here to me so that I may cast lots for you before the LORD our God.

7 ¶ But the Levites have no part among you, for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance. And hGad and Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance beyond the Jordan on the east, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them.”

8 ¶ So the men arose and went away. And Joshua charged them who went to describe the land, saying, “Go and walk throughout the land and describe it. And come again to me so that I may here cast lots for you before the LORD in Shiloh.”

9 So the men went and passed through the land and described it by cities in seven parts on a scroll. And they came again to Joshua to the camp at Shiloh.

10 Then Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD. And there Joshua divided the land to the children of Israel according to their divisions.

Allotment for Benjamin

11 ¶ And the allotment for the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families. Their allotted territory lay between the tribes of Judah and Joseph.

12 ¶ And their border on the north side was from the Jordan. And the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north side and went up through the mountains westward, and it ended at the wilderness of Beth Aven.

13 And the border went over from there toward Luz southward, to the side of Luz, “that is Bethel. And the border went down to Ataroth Addar, near the hill that lies on the south side of lower Beth Horon.

14 ¶ And the border was drawn from there, and turned round the corner of the sea southward, from the hill that lies before Beth Horon southward. And it ended at Kirjath Baal, which is Kirjath Jearim, a city of the children of Judah. This was the west side.

15 And the south side was from the end of Kirjath Jearim. And the border went out on the west and went out to the well of waters of Nephtoah.

16 Then the border came down to the end of the mountain that lies before the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is in the valley of the giants on the north. And it went down to the valley of Hinnom, to the side of Jebusite on the south, and went down to En Rogel.

17 ¶ And it was drawn from the north and went forth to En Shemesh. And it went forth toward Geliloth that is opposite the ascent of Adummim. And it descended to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.

18 Then it passed along toward the side in front of the Arabah northward and went down to Arabah.

19 And the border passed along to the side of Beth Hoglah northward. And it came out at the northern bay of the Salt Sea, at the mouth of the Jordan in the south. This was the south border.
20 And the Jordan was its border on the east side. This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, according to their families and according to its borders all around.
21 ¶ Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho and Beth Hoglah and the valley of Keziz.
22 And Beth Arabah and Zemaraim and Bethel
23 and Avim and Parah and Ophrah
24 and Chephar Ammonai and Ophni and Gaba, twelve cities with their villages.
25 vGibeon and wRamah and Beeroth
26 and Mizpeh and Chephirah and Mozah
27 and Rekem and Irpeel and Taralah
28 and Zelah, Eleph and xJebus (that is Jerusalem) Gibeath and Kirjath, fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

Chapter 19

Allotment for Simeon
1 ¶ And the second lot fell to Simeon, for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families. bAnd their inheritance was within the inheritance of the children of Judah.
2 cAnd they had in their inheritance Beersheba and Sheba and Moladah
3 and Hazar Shual and Balah and Azem
4 and Eltolad and Bethul and Hormah
5 and Ziklag and Beth Marcaboth and Hazar Susah
6 and Beth Lebaoth and Sharuhen, thirteen cities and their villages,
7 Ain, Remmon and Ether and Ashan, four cities and their villages.
8 And all the villages that were around these cities to Baalath Beer, dRamath of the Negev. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families.
9 Out of the portion of the children of Judah was the inheritance of the children of Simeon, because the share for the children of Judah was too much for them. Therefore, the children of Simeon had their inheritance within their inheritance.

Allotment for Zebulun
10 ¶ And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families. And the border of their inheritance was to Sarid.
11 ¶ And their border went up toward the sea and Maralah and touched Dabbasoth. And it reached to the river that is before Jokneam.
12 And it turned from Sarid eastward toward the sunrising to the border of Chisloth Tabor, and then went out to xDaberath and up to Japhia.
13 And from there it continued on along on the east to xGittah Hepher, to Ittah Kazin, and it proceeded to Rimmon which stretches to Neah.
14 And the border circled around it on the north side to Hannah. And it ended at the valley of Jiphthahel.
15 Included were Kattath and Nahallal and Shimron and Idalah and Bethlehem, twelve cities with their villages.
16 This is the inheritance of the children of Zebulun according to their families, these cities with their villages.

Allotment for Issachar
17 And the fourth lot came out to Issachar, for the children of Issachar according to their families.
18 ¶ And their border was toward Jezreel and Chesulloth and Shunem
19 and Haphraim and Shihon and Anaharath
20 and Rabbith and Kishion and Abez
21 and Remeth and Engannim and Enhaddah and Beth Pazzez.
22 And the border reached to Tabor and Shahazimah and jBeth Shemesh, and ended at the Jordan, sixteen cities with their villages.
23 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families, the cities and their villages.

Allotment for Asher
24 ¶ kAnd the fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families.
25 And their border was Helkath and Hali and Beten and Achshaph
26 and Alammelech and Amad and Misheal.
27 And it reached to Carmel westward and to Shihor Libnath.
28 And it turned east to Beth Dagon and...
reached to Zebulun and to the valley of Jiphthahel toward the north side of Beth Emek and Neiel, and went out to Cabul on the left hand,

28 and Hebron and Rehob and Hammon and Kanah, even to great Sidon.

29 And the border turned to Ramah and to the strong city of Tyre. And the border turned to Hosah, and it ended at the sea by the region of Achzib.

30 Including also were Ummah and Aphek and Rehob, twenty-two cities with their villages.

31 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families, these cities with their villages.

Allotment for Naphtali

32 ¶ The sixth lot came out to the children of Naphtali, even for the children of Naphtali according to their families.

33 And their border was from Heleph, from Allon to Zaanannim and Adami Nekeb and Jabneel, and Lakum, and it ended at the Jordan.

34 And then the border turned westward to Aznoth Tabor and went out from there to Hukkok and reached to Zebulun on the south side. And it reached to Asher on the west side and to Judah at the Jordan toward the east.

35 And the fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer and Hammath, Rakkath and Chinnereth

36 and Adamah and Ramah and Hazor

37 and Kedesh and Edrei and Enhazor

38 and Iron and Migdalel, Horem and Beth Anath and Beth Shemesh, nineteen cities with their villages.

39 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Naphtali according to their families, the cities and their villages.

Allotment for Joshua

40 ¶ And the seventh lot came out for the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families.

41 And the border of their inheritance was Zorah and Eshtaol and Ir Shemesh

42 and Shaalabbin and Ajalon and Jethlah

43 and Elon and Thimnah and Ekron

44 and Eltekeh and Gibbethon and Baalath

45 and Jehud and Bene Berak and Gath Rimmon

46 and Me Jarkon and Rakkon, with the border before Japho.

47 And the territory of the sons of Dan went beyond them. Therefore, the children of Dan went up to fight against Leshem and took it. And they smote it with the edge of the sword and possessed it and dwelt in it. And they called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

48 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families, these cities with their villages.

Allotment for Joshua

49 ¶ When they had finished the dividing the land for inheritance by their borders, the children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua the son of Nun among them.

50 According to the word of the LORD, they gave him the city which he asked, even Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim. And he built the city and dwelt in it.

51 These are the inheritances that Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, divided for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly. So they finished the dividing the country.

Chapter 20

Cities of Refuge

1 ¶ The LORD also spoke to Joshua, saying,

2 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 

3 'Appoint out for yourselves cities of refuge about which I spoke to you through Moses,

4 'so that the manslayer who kills any person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood. 

4 'And when he who does flee to one of those cities will stand at the entering of the gate of the city and will declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city, they will take him into the city to them and give him a place so that he may dwell among them.
5  And if the avenger of blood pursues after him, then they will not deliver the manslayer up into his hand, because he smote his neighbor unintentionally and without malice beforehand.

6  ‘And he will dwell in that city until he stands before the assembly for judgment, and until the death of the high priest who is serving in those days. Then the manslayer will return and come to his own city and to his own house, to the city from where he fled.’”

7  ¶ And they appointed Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali and Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and Kirjath Arba, which is Hebron in the hill country of Judah.

8  And on the other side of the Jordan by Jericho eastward they assigned Bezer in the wilderness on the plain from the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead from the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan from the tribe of Manasseh.

9  These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel and for the stranger who sojourns among them, that whoever kills any person unintentionally might flee there and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stands before the assembly.

Chapter 21
Cities for the Levites

1  ¶ Then the heads of the fathers of the Levites approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel.

2  And they spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, “The LORD commanded by the hand of Moses to give us cities of refuge for the manslayer and a city of refuge for the stranger who sojourns among us, that the children of Israel and the stranger who sojourns among them, who kills any person unintentionally might flee there and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stands before the assembly.

3  So the children of Israel gave the following cities and their pasture lands to the Levites out of their inheritance, according to the commandment of the LORD:

4  And the first lot came out for the families of the Kohathites. And the children of Aaron the priest who were from the Levites had thirteen cities by lot out of the tribe of Judah and out of the tribe of Simeon and out of the tribe of Benjamin.

5  And the rest of the children of Kohath had ten cities by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim and out of the tribe of Dan and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh.

6  And the children of Gershon had thirteen cities by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar and out of the tribe of Asher and out of the tribe of Naphtali and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

7  The children of Merari by their families had twelve cities out of the tribe of Reuben and out of the tribe of Gad and out of the tribe of Zebulun.

8  And the children of Israel gave by lot to the Levites these cities with their suburbs, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

9  ¶ And they gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, these cities that are here mentioned by name, that the children of Aaron of the families of the Kohathites, of the sons of Levi, for the lot was theirs first.

10  And they gave them the city of Kiriath Arba, Arba being the father of Anak, that is, Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, with the pasture lands around it.

11  But the fields of the city and its villages, they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for his possession.

12  ¶ Thus they gave Hebron with its pasture lands to the children of Aaron the priest, to be a city of refuge for the manslayer and Libnah with its pasture lands, Jattir with its pasture lands and Eshtemoa with its pasture lands, Holon with its pasture lands and Debir with its pasture lands, Ain with its pasture lands and Juttah with its pasture lands and Beth Shemesh with its pasture lands; nine cities out of those two tribes.

13  And out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeah with its pasture lands, Geba with its pasture lands,
18 Anathoth with its pasture lands and b Almon with its pasture lands; four cities.
19 All the cities of the children of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities with their pasture lands.
20 ¶ And the families of the children of Kohath, the Levites who remained of the children of Kohath, even they had the cities of their lot out of the tribe of Ephraim.
21 For they gave them a Shechem with its pasture lands in the hill country of Ephraim, to be a city of refuge for the manslayer, and b Gezer with its pasture lands,
22 and Kibzaim with its pasture lands and Beth Horon with its pasture lands; four cities.
23 And out of the tribe of Dan, Eltekeh with its pasture lands, Gibbethon with its pasture lands, aijalon with its pasture lands, Aijalon with its pasture lands, Gath Rimmon with its pasture lands; four cities.
24 And out of the half-tribe of Manasseh, Tanach with its pasture lands and Gath Rimmon with its pasture lands; two cities.
25 All the cities were ten with their pasture lands for the families of the children of Kohath who remained.
26 ¶ And to the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, out of the other half-tribe of Manasseh they gave a Golan in Bashan with its pasture lands to be a city of refuge for the manslayer, and b Be Eshterah with its pasture lands; two cities.
27 And out of the tribe of Issachar, Kishon with its pasture lands, Dabareh with its pasture lands,
28 And out of the tribe of Naphtali, a Kedesh in Galilee with its pasture lands, to be a city of refuge for the manslayer; and b Hammoth Dor with its pasture lands and Kartan with its pasture lands; three cities.
29 All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were thirteen cities with their pasture lands.
30 And to the families of the children of Merari, the rest of the Levites, out of the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with its pasture lands and Kartah with its pasture lands,
31 Dimnah with its pasture lands, Nahalal with its pasture lands; four cities.
32 And out of the tribe of Reuben, a Bezer with its pasture lands and Jahazah with its pasture lands,
33 Kedemoth with its pasture lands and Mephaath with its pasture lands; four cities.
34 And out of the tribe of Gad, a Ramoth in Gilead with its pasture lands, to be a city of refuge for the manslayer, and b Mahanaim with its pasture lands,
35 Heshbon with its pasture lands, Jazer with its pasture lands; four cities in all.
36 So all the cities for the children of Merari by their families who were remaining of the families of the Levites, were by their lot twelve cities.
37 All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty-eight cities with their pasture lands.
38 Each of these cities had their pasture lands around them. Thus it was with all these cities.
39 ¶ And the LORD gave to Israel all the land that He swore to give to their fathers. And they possessed it and dwelt in it.
40 And the LORD gave them rest all around according to all that He swore to their fathers. And no one of all their enemies stood before them, the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand.
41 Not one good thing failed of all that the LORD had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass.

Chapter 22
Eastern Tribes Return Home

1 ¶ Then Joshua called the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh.
2 And he said to them, “You have kept all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all..."
that I commanded you.
3 "You have not left your brethren these many days to this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God.
4 "And now the LORD your God has given rest to your brethren as He promised them. Therefore, return now and go to your tents and to the land of your possession that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side of the Jordan.
5 "But be very careful to observe the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God and to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments and to cleave to Him and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."
6 So Joshua blessed them and sent them away. And they went to their tents.
7 ¶ Now to one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan, but to the other half Joshua gave a possession among their brethren westward beyond the Jordan. And when Joshua sent them away to their tents, he blessed them.
8 And he spoke to them, saying, "Return with great riches to your tents and with much livestock, with silver and with gold and with brass and with iron, and with many clothes. Divide the spoil of your enemies with your brethren."
9 So the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh returned and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, that is in the land of Canaan, to go to the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession that they had possessed, according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.
10 ¶ And when they came to the borders of the Jordan that are in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by the Jordan, a great altar in appearance.
11 And the children of Israel heard say, "Behold, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh have built an altar on the border of the land of Canaan in the region of the Jordan at the passage of the children of Israel."
12 And when the children of Israel heard of it, the whole assembly of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh in order to go up to war against them.
13 ¶ Then the children of Israel sent Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest to the children of Reuben and to the children of Gad and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, and with him ten princes, a prince of each chief house throughout all the tribes of Israel. And each one was head of the house of their fathers among the thousands of Israel.
14 So they came to the children of Reuben and to the children of Gad and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, to the land of Gilead. And they spoke with them, saying,
15 "Thus says the whole assembly of the LORD, "What trespass is this that you have committed against the God of Israel, to turn away this day from following the LORD, in that you have built for yourselves an altar besides the altar of the LORD our God."
16 "Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the assembly of Israel? And that man did not perish alone in his iniquity.'"
17 ¶ Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh answered and said to the heads of the thousands of Israel,
Mighty One, God, the LORD! "He knows! And may Israel itself know. If it was in rebellion, or if in an unfaithful act against the LORD do not save us this day!

23 "If we have built us an altar to turn from following the LORD, or if to offer on it burnt offering or grain offering, or if to offer peace offerings on it, let the LORD Himself call us to account.

24 "And if we have not done it for fear of this thing, saying, 'In time to come your children might speak to our children,' saying, ‘What have you to do with the LORD God of Israel?'

25 "For the LORD has made the Jordan a border between us and you, you children of Reuben and children of Gad; you have no part in the LORD. So your children may make our children cease from fearing the LORD.’

26 "Therefore, we said, ‘Let us now prepare to build us an altar, not for burnt offering or for sacrifice;

27 ‘but that it may be a witness between us and you and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before Him with our burnt offerings and with our sacrifices and with our peace offerings, so that your children may not say to our children in time to come, “You have no part in the LORD.”’

28 "Therefore, we said, ‘It will be when they should say this to us or to our generations in time to come, then we may say again, “Behold, the pattern of the altar of the LORD that our fathers made, not for burnt offerings or for sacrifices, but it is a witness between us and you.’

29 "Far be it from us that we should rebel against the LORD and turn this day from following the LORD, “to build an altar for burnt offerings, for grain offerings, or for sacrifices, in addition to the altar of the LORD our God that is before His tabernacle.”

30 ¶ So when Phinehas the priest and the princes of the assembly and heads of the thousands of Israel who were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spoke, it pleased them.

31 Then Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said to the children of Reuben and to the children of Gad and to the children of Manasseh, “This day we perceive that the LORD is among us because you have not committed this trespass against the LORD. Now you have delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of the LORD.”

32 ¶ And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest and the princes returned from the children of Reuben and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead to the land of Canaan to the children of Israel, and brought them word again.

33 And the thing pleased the children of Israel. And the children of Israel blessed God and did not intend to go up against them in battle, to destroy the land wherein the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt.

34 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called the altar “A witness between us that the LORD is God.”

Chapter 23
Joshua’s Farewell

1 ¶ Now it came to pass a long time after the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies around them, that Joshua was old and advanced in age.

2 So Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders and for their heads and for their judges and for their officers. And he said to them, “I am old and stricken in years.

3 “And you have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you, for the LORD your God is He who has fought for you.

4 “Behold, I have divided to you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan with all the nations that I have cut off, even to the great sea westward.

5 “And the LORD your God, He will expel them from before you and drive them from out of your sight. And you will possess their land as the LORD your God has promised to you.

6 “Be therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses so that you turn not aside from it to to
the right hand or to the left, 
7 "so that you not associate with these nations that remain among you, or make mention of the name of their gods, or make anyone swear by them, or serve them, or bow yourselves to them. 
8 "But cleave to the LORD your God as you have done to this day. 
9 "For the LORD has driven out from before you great and strong nations. But as for you, no man has been able to stand before you to this day. 
10 "One man of you will chase a thousand. For the LORD your God, He it is who fights for you as He has promised you. 
11 "Take diligent heed therefore to yourselves, that you love the LORD your God. 
12 "If you ever go back and cleave to the remnant of these nations, even these who remain among you, and will intermarr with them, and go in to them and they to you, 
13 "know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no longer drive out any of these nations from before you. "But they will be snares and traps to you, and scourges in your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good land that the LORD your God has given you. 
14 ¶ "And behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass to you and not one thing has failed. 
15 a"Therefore, it will come to pass that as all good things have come on you that the LORD your God promised you, so will the LORD bring on you all evil things, until He has destroyed you from off this good land that the LORD your God has given you. 
16 "When you have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God that He commanded you, and have gone and served other gods and bowed yourselves to them, then will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you and you will perish quickly from off the good land that He has given to you.”

Chapter 24

The Covenant Renewed at Shechem

1 ¶ Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel and for their heads and for their judges and for their officers. And they presented themselves before God. 
2 And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘In ancient times our fathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshiped other gods. 
3 ‘And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the River and led him throughout all the land of Canaan. And I multiplied his seed and gave him Isaac. 
4 ‘Then to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau, and to Esau I gave Mount Seir to possess it. But Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. 
5 b’I sent Moses also and Aaron. And I plagued Egypt according to that which I did among them. And afterward I brought you out. 
6 ‘Then I brought your fathers out of Egypt. And you came to the sea, and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. 
7 ‘And when they cried to the LORD, He put darkness between you and the Egyptians. And He brought the sea upon them and covered them. And your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt. And you dwelt in the wilderness a long time. 
8 ‘And I brought you into the land of the Amorites who dwelt on the other side of the Jordan, and they fought with you. And He has destroyed you from off this good land that the LORD your God has given you. 
9 ‘Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel. And he sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you. 
10 ‘But I would not hearken to Balaam. Therefore, he had to bless you. So I delivered you from their hand. 

n Ex 23:13; 24:14; 34:12 a Dt 7:24; 11:23; 28:68; 32:32; 33:4; 34:12 b Ex 23:33; 34:12 c Kg 21:24 d Jg 1:33 e Ex 14:14 f Ja 22:5 g Jg 11:25 h Jg 11:25 i Ex 14:14 j Ex 14:27 k Jg 11:25; 23:15 l Ex 26:8 m Ex 34:12 n Jg 11:25; 23:15 o Ex 14:19 p Jg 11:24; 23:15 q Ex 14:19 r Jg 11:25; 23:15 s Jg 11:25; 23:15. t Ex 14:19
out of his hand.

11 Then ‘you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho. And the “men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Girgashites, the Hivites and the Jebusites. And I delivered them into your hand.

12 x“Then I sent the hornet before you which drove out from before you the two kings of the Amorites, but not with your sword or with your bow.

13 ‘And I have given you a land for which you did not labor and ‘cities that you did not build, and you dwell in them. You are eating of vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.’

14 ¶ a“Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in b’sincerity and in truth. And c‘put away the gods that your fathers served on the other side of the River and d‘in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

15 “And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, e‘choose you this day whom you will serve, whether the f‘gods that your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the g‘gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.

hBut as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

16 Then the people answered and said, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD in order to serve other gods.

17 “It was the LORD our God who brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and who did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way in which we went and among all the people through whom we passed.

18 “And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, even the Amorites who dwelt in the land. ‘We will also serve the LORD, for He ‘is our God.’

19 And Joshua said to the people, ib“You are not able to serve the LORD, for He is a ‘holy God. He is a ‘jealous God. m‘He will not forgive your transgressions or your sins.

20 iv“If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, vthen He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done good to you.”

21 And the people said to Joshua, “No, but we will serve the LORD.”

22 Then Joshua said to the people, “You ‘are witnesses against yourselves that y‘you have chosen for yourselves the LORD in order to serve Him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.”

23 “Now therefore, z‘put away the foreign gods that are among you, and ‘incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel.”

24 And the people ‘said to Joshua, “We will serve the LORD our God and we will obey His voice.”

25 So Joshua ‘made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance w‘in Shechem.

26 ¶ And Joshua ‘wrote these words in the book of the law of God. And he took v‘a great stone and x‘set it up there y‘under an oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

27 And Joshua said to all the people, “Behold, this stone will be ‘a witness to us, for z‘it has heard all the words of the LORD that He spoke to us. It will be, therefore, a witness to you lest you deny your God.”

Death and Burial of Joshua

28 So b‘Joshua let the people depart, every man to his inheritance.

29 ¶ c‘Now it came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died. He d‘was one hundred and ten years old.

30 And they buried him in the territory of his inheritance in e‘Timnath Serah, which f‘is in the hill country of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash.

31 e‘And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, and g‘who had known all the works of the LORD that He had done for Israel.

32 ¶ g‘And the bones of Joseph that the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, they buried in Shechem in a parcel of ground h‘that Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor the fa-
then of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver. And it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

33 Then 'Eleazar the son of Aaron died. And they buried him on a hill that belonged to Phinehas his son, that was given to him in the hill country of Ephraim.

JUDGES

Chapter 1

Wars Against Remaining Canaanites

1 ¶ Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, “Who will go up for us first against the Canaanites in order to fight against them?”

2 Then the LORD said, “Judah will go up. Behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.”

3 And Judah said to Simeon his brother, “Come up with me into my allotted territory so that we may fight against the Canaanites. Then I will likewise go with you into your allotted territory.” So Simeon went with him.

4 And Judah went up, and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hands. And in Bezek they slew ten thousand men of them.

5 And they found Adonibezek in Bezek. And they fought against him and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

6 But Adonibezek fled. And they pursued after him and caught him and cut off his thumbs and his big toes.

7 And Adonibezek said, “Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off have picked up scraps under my table. As I have done, so God has repaid me.” And they brought him to Jerusalem and there he died.

8 ¶ Now the children of Judah had fought against Jerusalem and had taken it. And they struck it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire.

9 And afterward the children of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites who dwelt in the hill country and in the Negev and in the valley.

10 And Judah went against the Canaanites who dwelt in Hebron. (Now the name of Hebron before was Kirjath Arba.) And they slew Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai.

11 ¶ Then from there he went against the inhabitants of Debir. (And the name of Debir before was Kirjath Sepher.)

12 ¶ And Caleb said, “He who smites Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give Achsah my daughter for a wife.”

13 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb’s younger brother, took it. And he gave him Achsah his daughter for a wife.

14 ¶ Now it came to pass when she came to him that she persuaded him to ask for a field from her father. When she got off her donkey, Caleb said to her, “What do you want?”

15 And she said to him, “Give me a blessing. Since you have given me land in the Negev, give me also springs of water.” And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

16 ¶ And the children of the Kenite, Moses’ father-in-law, went up out of the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which lies in the Negev of Arad. And they went and dwelt among the people.

17 ¶ Then Judah went with Simeon his brother and they slew the Canaanites who inhabited Zephath. And they utterly destroyed it. And the name of the city was called Hormah.

18 Judah also took Gaza with its territory and Askelon with its territory and Ekron with its territory.

19 So the LORD was with Judah. And he drove out the inhabitants of the hill country. But he could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley because they had chariots of iron.

20 ¶ Then they gave Hebron to Caleb, as Moses said. And he expelled from there the three sons of Anak.

21 ¶ But the children of Benjamin did not drive...
out the Jebusites who inhabited Jerusalem. So the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this day.

22 ¶ And the house of Joseph also went up against Bethel. cAnd the LORD was with them.

23 And the house of Joseph sent to spy out Bethel. (Now the name of the city before was Luz.)

24 And the spies saw a man come forth out of the city and they said to him, “Please show us the entrance into the city and we will see that you are treated kindly.”

25 And when he showed them the entrance into the city, they smote the city with the edge of the sword. But they let go the man and all his family.

26 And the man went into the land of the Hittites and built a city. And he called the name of it Luz, which is its name to this day.

27 But Manasseh did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth Shean and its towns, nor Taanach and its towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and its towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibbleam and its towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and its towns. But the Canaanites continued dwelling in that land.

28 Now it came to pass when Israel was strong that they put the Canaanites to forced labor and did not utterly drive them out.

29 ¶ Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites who dwelt in Gezer, but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them.

30 ¶ Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol, but the Canaanites dwelt among them and became forced labor.

31 ¶ Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Sidon nor of Ahlab nor of Achzib nor of Helbah nor of Aphik nor of Rehob.

32 But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites, the habitants of the land, because they did not drive them out.

33 ¶ Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Beth Shemesh, nor the inhabitants of Bethanath. But he dwelt among the Canaanites, the habitants of the land. However, the inhabitants of Beth Shemesh and of Beth Anath became forced labor for them.

34 ¶ And the Amorites forced the children of Dan into the mountain because they would not allow them to come down to the valley.

35 But the Amorites continued to dwell in Mount Heres in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim. But the hand of the house of Joseph increased so that they became tributaries.

36 And the border of the Amorites was from the ascent of Akrabbim, from Sela and upward.

Chapter 2
The Angel of the Lord

1 ¶ Now an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, “I brought you up out of Egypt and have led you to the land that I swore to your fathers. And I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you.

2 ¶ And you will make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land. ‘You will tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed My voice. Why have you done this?

3 ¶ Therefore, I also said, ‘I will not drive them out from before you. But they will be thorns in your sides and their gods will be a snare to you.’”

4 Now it came to pass when the angel of the LORD spoke these words to all the children of Israel that the people lifted up their voice and wept.

5 And they called the name of that place Bochim. And they sacrificed there to the LORD.

6 And when Joshua had let the people go, the children of Israel went every man to his inheritance to possess the land.

Disobedience and Defeat

7 ¶ And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD that He did for Israel.

8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being one hundred and ten years old.

9 ¶ And they buried him in the territory of his
inheritance in Timnath Heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash.

10 And also all that generation were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them that did not know the LORD, nor the works that He had done for Israel.

11 ¶ And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals.

12 And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods from among the gods of the people who were around them. And they bowed themselves to them and provoked the LORD to anger.

13 And they forsook the LORD and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

14 So the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel and He delivered them into the hands of raiders who raided them. And He sold them into the hands of their enemies around them so that they could no longer stand before their enemies.

15 Wherever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said and as the LORD had sworn to them. And they were greatly distressed.

16 ¶ Nevertheless, the LORD raised up judges who delivered them out of the hand of those who raided them.

17 And yet they would not hearken to their judges. But they prostituted themselves after other gods and bowed to them. They turned quickly out of the way that their fathers walked in obeying the commandments of the LORD. They did not do as their fathers.

18 Whenever the LORD raised up judges for them, then the LORD was with the judge and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge, for the LORD was moved with compassion because of their groanings under those who oppressed and afflicted them.

19 Now it came to pass when the judge was dead, that they returned and corrupted themselves more than their fathers in following other gods to serve them and to bow down to them. They did not cease from their own practices or from their stubborn way.

20 ¶ So the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel. And He said, “Because this people have transgressed My covenant that I commanded their fathers and have not hearkened to My voice,

21 “I also will no longer drive out any of the nations from before them whom Joshua left when he died,

22 “in order that through them I may test Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk in it as their fathers did, or not.”

23 Therefore, the LORD left those nations, without driving them out quickly. Neither did He deliver them into the hand of Joshua.

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**Chapter 3**

1 ¶ Now these are the nations whom the LORD left to test Israel by them, who had not experienced any of the wars in Canaan.

2 (He only did this so that the generations of the children of Israel who had not formerly experienced war might be taught warfare.)

3 The nations are: five lords of the Philistines and all the Canaanites and the Sidonians and the Hivites who dwelt in Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hormon as far as Lebo Hamath.

4 And He left them to test Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken to the commandments of the LORD that He commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.

5 ¶ And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites and Amorites and Perizzites and Hivites and Jebusites.

6 And they took their daughters to be their wives and gave their daughters to their sons. And they served their gods.

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**Othniel**

7 So the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. And they forgot the LORD their God and served the Baals and the Asheroths.

8 Therefore, the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel and He sold them into the hand
of Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia. And the children of Israel served Cushan-Rishathaim eight years.

9 And when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for the children of Israel who delivered them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb’s younger brother.

10 And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel and went out to war. And the LORD delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand. And his hand prevailed against Cushan-Rishathaim.

11 And the land had rest forty years. And Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

Ehud

12 ¶ Then again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. And the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD.

13 So he gathered to himself the children of Ammon and Amalek, and went and smote Israel. And they possessed the city of palm trees.

14 So the children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

15 ¶ But when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up for them a deliverer, Ehud the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a lefthanded man. And by him the children of Israel sent a present to Eglon the king of Moab.

16 But Ehud made himself a dagger that had two edges, a cubit in length. And he strapped it under his clothing on his right thigh.

17 Then he brought a present to Eglon king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man.

18 So when he had finished offering the present, he sent away the people who carried the present.

19 But he himself turned back from the idols that were by Gilgal and said, “I have a secret errand for you, O king.” And he said, “Keep silence.” And all who stood by him went out from him.

20 So Ehud came to him while he was sitting alone in a summer chamber that he had for himself. And Ehud said, “I have a message from God for you.” And he arose out of his seat.

21 And Ehud put forth his left hand and took the dagger from his right thigh and thrust it into his belly.

22 And the handle also went in after the blade. And the fat closed upon the blade so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly. And the entrails came out.

23 Then Ehud went out through the porch and shut the doors of the chamber behind him and locked them.

24 ¶ When he was gone, his servants came. And when they saw that the doors of the chamber were locked, they said, “Surely He is only relieving himself in the cool room.”

25 So they waited until they became anxious. And behold, he did not open the doors of the chamber. Therefore, they took a key and opened them. And behold, their lord had fallen down dead on the floor.

26 ¶ Now Ehud escaped while they waited. And he passed beyond the idols and escaped to Seirath.

27 Now it came to pass when he had come, that he blew a trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim. And the children of Israel went down with him from the hill country and he before them.

28 Then he said to them, “Follow after me, for the LORD has delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand. And they went down after him and took the fords of the Jordan toward Moab. And they did not allow a man to pass over.

29 And they slew of Moab at that time about ten thousand men, all robust and all valiant men. And not a man escaped.

30 So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest eighty years.

Shamgar

31 ¶ Now after him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who slew six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad. And he also delivered Israel.
Chapter 4
Deborah and Barak

1 ¶ Now the "children of Israel again did "evil in the sight of the LORD after Ehud was dead. 2 And the LORD "sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan who reigned in "Hazor. The captain of his army was "Sisera who dwelt in "Harosheth Hagoyim. 3 So the children of Israel cried to the LORD because he had nine hundred "chariots of iron. And "he mightily oppressed the children of Israel for twenty years. 4 ¶ And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, judged Israel at that time. 5 i And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim. And the children of Israel came up to her for judgment. 6 Now she sent and called "Barak the son of Abinoam out of "Kedesh in Naphtali. And she said to him, "The LORD God of Israel has commanded, saying, 'Go and march toward "Mount Tabor and take with you ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun. 7 'And I will draw out to you Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his many troops, at the "River Kishon. And I will deliver him into your hand.'"
8 Then Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, then I will go. But if you will not go with me, then I will not go."
9 So she said, "I will surely go with you. Nevertheless, the journey that you take will not be for your honor, for the LORD will "sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." And Deborah arose and went with Barak to Kedesh.
10 And Barak called "Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh. And he went up with ten thousand men "at his feet. And Deborah went up with him.
11 ¶ Now Heber the "Kenite, who was of the children of "Hobab the father-in-law of Moses, had separated himself from the Kenites and pitched his tent as far away as the plain of Zaanaim, which is by Kedesh.
12 And they told Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor.
13 And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people who were with him, from Harosheth Hagoyim to the river of Kishon.
14 Then Deborah said to Barak, "Arise, for this is the day in which the LORD has delivered Sisera into your hand. "Has not the LORD gone out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him.
15 And the LORD routed Sisera and all his chariots and all his army with the edge of the sword before Barak. And Sisera abandoned his chariot and fled away on foot.
16 But Barak pursued after the chariots and after the army to Harosheth Hagoyim. And all the army of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword. And there was not a man left.
17 ¶ However, Sisera fled away on foot to the tent of "Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.
18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera. And she said to him, "Turn aside, my lord, turn aside to me. Do not fear.” And when he had turned aside to her into the tent, she covered him with a rug.
19 And he said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." And she opened a "jug of milk and gave him a drink. And she covered him.
20 Again he said to her, "Stand in the door of the tent, and it will be if any man comes and inquires of you, and says, 'Is there any man here?' that you will say, ‘No.’”
21 But Jael, Heber’s wife, "took a peg of the tent and a hammer in her hand, and went softly to him and drove the peg into his temples and into the ground, for he was fast asleep and exhausted. So he died.
22 And behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him and said to him, “Come, and I will show you the man whom you are seeking.” And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead and the peg was in his temples.
23 ¶ So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel.
24 So the hand of the children of Israel prospered and prevailed against Jabin, the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

Chapter 5
The Song of Deborah

1 ¶ Then on that day Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam sang, saying,
2 “Praise the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when leaders lead in Israel and when the people willingly offered themselves.
3 “Hear, O you kings. Give ear, O you princes. I, even I, will sing to the LORD. I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel.
4 “LORD, when You went out of Seir; when You marched out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled and the heavens dripped, the clouds also dripped water.
5 “The mountains quaked before the LORD, even Sinai, before the LORD God of Israel.
6 “In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were deserted. And the travellers walked through winding paths.
7 “The inhabitants of the villages ceased. They ceased in Israel until I, Deborah, arose. Until I arose a mother in Israel.
8 “They chose new gods. Then war was in the gates. Was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?
9 “My heart goes out to the governors of Israel who offered themselves willingly among the people. Praise the LORD.
10 “Speak you who ride on white donkeys, you who sit in judgment and walk by the way.
11 “They who are delivered from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there they will recount the righteous acts of the LORD, even the righteous acts toward the inhabitants of His villages in Israel. Then will the people of the LORD go down to the gates.
12 “Awake, awake, Deborah. Awake, awake, utter a song. Arise, Barak, and lead your captivity captive, you son of Abinoam.
13 “Then those who remained came down to the nobles. The people of the LORD came down to me as warriors.
14 “Out of Ephraim those whose root is in Amalek came down, following you, Benjamin, among your people. Out of Machir came down governors and out of Zebulun those who handle the pen of the writer.
15 “And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah, even Issachar and also Barak. He was sent on foot into the valley. Among the divisions of Reuben there were great resolves of heart.
16 “Why did you stay among the sheepfolds to hear the beatings of the flocks? Among the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart.
17 “Gilead remained beyond the Jordan. And why did Dan remain in ships? Asher continued on the seashore, and remained in its coves.
18 “Zebulun and Naphtali were a people who risked their lives to the death in the high places of the field.
19 “The kings came and fought, then the kings of Canaan fought in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo. They took no gain of money.
20 “They fought from heaven, from their courses they fought against Sisera.
21 “The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the River Kishon. O my soul, you have trodden down strength.
22 “Then were the horses’ hoofs broken from the dashing, the dashing of their mighty ones.
23 “Curse you Meroz,” said the angel of the LORD. “Curse utterly its inhabitants, because they did not come to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.”
24 “Blessed above women will Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be. Blessed she will be above women in the tent.
25 “He asked water, and she gave him milk. She brought forth butter in a magnificent dish.
26 “She put her hand to the peg and her right hand to the workmen’s hammer. And with the hammer she smote Sisera. She smashed his head when she had pierced and stricken through his temples.
27 “At her feet he bowed. He fell. He lay down. At her feet he bowed, he fell. Where he bowed,
there he fell down dead.

28 “The mother of Sisera looked out through a window. And she cried out through the lattice, ‘Why is his chariot so long in coming? Why do the wheels of his chariots tarry?’

29 “Her wise ladies answered her. Indeed, she repeats her words to herself,

30 ‘Are they not finding and dividing the spoils, to every man a damsel or two; to Sisera a spoil of many colors, a spoil of many colors of needlework, of many colors of needlework on both sides, suitable for the necks of those who take the spoil?’

31 “So let all your enemies perish, O LORD. But let those who love him be as the sun when he goes forth in his might.” And the land had rest forty years.

Chapter 6

Gideon

1 ¶ Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.

2 And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel. Because of the Midianites, the children of Israel made for themselves the dens that are in the mountains and caves and strongholds.

3 And so it was that when Israel had sown, the Midianites came up with the Amalekites and the sons of the east. And they came up against them.

4 And they camped against them and destroyed the increase of the earth as far as Gaza. And they left no sustenance for Israel, nor sheep nor ox nor donkey.

5 For they came up with their livestock and their tents, and they came as locusts in number, both they and their camels were without number. And they entered into the land to destroy it.

6 So Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites. And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.

7 ¶ Now it came to pass when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD because of the Midianites,

8 that the LORD sent a prophet to the children of Israel who said to them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘I brought you up from Egypt and brought you forth out of the house of bondage.

9 ‘And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of all who oppressed you. And I drove them out from before you and gave you their land.

10 ‘And I said to you, “I am the LORD your God. Do not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.” But you have not obeyed My voice.’”

11 ¶ Then there came an angel of the LORD and sat under an oak that was in Ophrah, that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite. And his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress in order to hide it from the Midianites.

12 Then the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, “The LORD is with you, you mighty valiant man.”

13 And Gideon said to him, “Oh my Lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this befallen us? And where are all His miracles that our fathers told us about, saying, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.”

14 Then the LORD looked on him and said, “Go in this your strength and you will save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?”

15 Then he said to him, “Oh my Lord, how will I save Israel? Behold, my family is poor in Manasseh and I am the least in my father’s house.”

16 And the LORD said to him, “Surely I will be with you, and you will smite the Midianites as one man.”

17 And he said to him, “If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that You are speaking with me.

18 ¶ “Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring my offering and set it before you.” And He said, “I will wait until you come again.”

19 ¶ So Gideon went in and made ready a young goat and unleavened cakes of an ephah
of flour. He put the meat in a basket and he put the broth in a pot. And he brought it out to him under the oak and presented it.

20 Then the angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened cakes and lay them on this rock, and pour out the broth.” And he did so.

21 Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And there arose fire out of the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

22 And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the LORD, he said, “Alas, O Lord God! For now I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face.”

23 And the LORD said to him, “Peace be to you. Do not fear. You will not die.”

24 Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it Jehovah Shalom. To this day it is in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

25 ¶ Now it came to pass the same night that the LORD said to him, “Take your father’s young bull, even the second bull of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is by it.

26 “And build an altar to the LORD your God on the top of this rock in an orderly manner, and take the second bull and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the Asherah that you will cut down.”

27 Then Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the LORD had said to him. And so it was, because he feared his father’s household and the men of the city, that he did it at night rather than in the daytime.

28 ¶ And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold the altar of Baal was cast down. And the Asherah was cut down that was by it and the second bull was offered on the altar that was built.

29 And they said to one another, “Who has done this thing?” And when they inquired and asked, they said, “Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing.”

30 Then the men of the city said to Joash, “Bring out your son so that he may die, because he has cast down the altar of Baal and because he has cut down the Asherah that was by it.”

31 And Joash said to all who stood against him, “Will you plead for Baal? Will you save him? He who will plead for him, let him be put to death while it is still morning. If he is a god, let him plead for himself because one has cast down his altar.”

32 Therefore, on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, “Let Baal plead against him,” because he has thrown down his altar.

33 ¶ Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the sons of the east gathered together. And they went over and camped in the valley of Jezreel.

34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet. And Abiezer was gathered to follow him.

35 Then he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, who also was gathered to follow him. And he sent messengers to Asher and to Zebulun and to Naphtali. And they came up to meet them.

36 ¶ Then Gideon said to God, “If you will save Israel by my hand as you have said,

37 “behold, I will put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If the dew is on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground, then I will know that You will save Israel by my hand as You have said.”

38 And it was so. For he rose up early on the next morning and squeezed the fleece together and wrung a bowl full of water out of the fleece.

39 Then Gideon said to God, “Do not let Your anger be hot against me, and I will speak but once more with the fleece. Let it now be dry only on the fleece, and on all the ground let there be dew.”

40 And God did so that night. And it was dry on the fleece only and there was dew on all the ground.

**Chapter 7**

**Gideon Defeats the Midianites**

1 ¶ Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the
people who were with him, rose up early and camped beside the well of Harod. And the camp of the Midianites was on the north side of them by the hill of Moreh in the valley.

2 ¶ Then the LORD said to Gideon, “The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel exalt themselves against Me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’

3 “Now therefore go and proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, ‘Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from Mount Gilead.’” And there returned of the people, 22,000. And there remained 10,000.

4 ¶ Then the LORD said to Gideon, “The people are still too many. Bring them down to the water and I will test them for you there. And it will be that he of whom I say to you, ‘This one will go with you,’ the same will go with you. And of whomever I say to you, ‘This one will not go with you,’ the same will not go.”

5 So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, “You will set by himself everyone who laps the water with his tongue as a dog laps, as well as everyone who bows down on his knees to drink.”

6 And the number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men. But all the rest of the people bowed down on his knees to drink water.

7 And the LORD said to Gideon, “By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you and deliver the Midianites into your hand. So let all the other people go every man to his place.”

8 So the people took provisions in their hand and their trumpets. And Gideon sent all the other men of Israel, each to his tent, and retained those three hundred men. And the army of Midian was below him in the valley.

9 ¶ Now it came to pass the same night that the LORD said to him, “Arise, get down to the army, for I have delivered it into your hand.

10 “But if you fear to go down, go with Purah your servant down to the army.

11 “And you will hear what they say, and afterward your hands will be strengthened to go down to the army.” Then he went down with Purah his servant to the outside of the armed men who were in the army.

12 And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the sons of the east lay along in the valley like locusts in number. And their camels were without number, as numerous as the sand by the seashore.

13 And when Gideon had come, behold, there was a man who told a dream to his fellow. And he said, “Behold, I dreamed a dream, and behold, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the army of Midian. And it came to a tent and smote it so that it fell. And it overturned it so that the tent lay flat.”

14 And his fellow answered and said, “This is nothing else except the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel. Into his hand God has delivered Midian and all the army.”

15 ¶ And so it was that Gideon worshiped when he heard the telling of the dream and its interpretation. And he returned to the army of Israel. And he said, “Arise, for the LORD has delivered into your hand the army of Midian.”

16 So he divided the three hundred men into three companies. And he put a trumpet in every man’s hand, with empty pitchers and lamps within the pitchers.

17 Then he said to them, “Look at me and do likewise. And behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it will be that as I do, so will you do.

18 “When I blow with a trumpet, I and all who are with me, then you blow the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, ‘The sword of the LORD and of Gideon.’”

19 ¶ So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outside of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch when they had just posted the watch. And they blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers that were in their hands.

20 Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers. And they held the lamps in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing. And they cried out, “The sword of the LORD and of Gideon.”

21 And every man stood in his place around the camp. And all the army ran and cried out and fled.
And the three hundred blew the trumpets. And the LORD set every man’s sword against his fellow, even throughout all the army. And the army fled to Beth Shittah in Zererath and to the border of Abel Meholah near to Tabbash.

The men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali and out of Asher and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

¶ And Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, “Come down against the Midianites and take before them the waters to Beth Barah and the Jordan. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together and took the waters to Beth Barah and the Jordan.

And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb. And they slew Oreb on the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb. And they pursued Midian and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side of the Jordan.

Then the men of Ephraim said to him, “Why have you served us this way, that you did not call us when you went to fight with the Midianites?” And they contended with him sharply.

So he said to them, “What have I done now in comparison with you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?”

“God has delivered into your hands, Oreb and Zeeb, the princes of Midian. And what was I able to do in comparison to you?” Then their danger was abated toward him when he had said that.

And Gideon came to the Jordan and passed over, he and the three hundred men who were with him, weary yet pursuing them.

And he said to the men of Succoth, “Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me, for they are weary and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian.”

¶ And the princes of Succoth said, “Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand, that we should give bread to your army?”

And Gideon said, “Therefore, when the LORD has delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.”

And he went up from there to Penuel and spoke to them likewise. And the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered him.

So he spoke also to the men of Penuel, saying, “When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.”

Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their armies with them, about 15,000 men, all who were left of all the armies of the sons of the east; for there fell 120,000 men who drew sword.

So Gideon went up by the way of those who dwelt in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah. And he smote the army, for the army was unsuspecting.

Now when Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued after them. And he took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and routed all the army.

And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun was up.

And he caught a young man of the men of Succoth and questioned him. And he described to him the princes of Succoth and its elders, even seventy-seven men.

Then he came to the men of Succoth, and said, “Behold Zebah and Zalmunna with whom you taunted me, saying, ‘Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand so that we should give bread to your men who are weary?’”

Then he took the elders of the city and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he punished the men of Succoth.

Then he took the elders of the city and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he punished the men of Succoth.

¶ Then he said to Zebah and Zalmunna, “What kind of men did you slay at Tabor?”

Chapter 8
Zebah and Zalmunna

1 ¶ Then the men of Ephraim said to him, “Why have you served us this way, that you did not call us when you went to fight with the Midianites?” And they contended with him sharply.

2 So he said to them, “What have I done now in comparison with you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?”

3 “God has delivered into your hands, Oreb and Zeeb, the princes of Midian. And what was I able to do in comparison to you?” Then their danger was abated toward him when he had said that.

4 ¶ And Gideon came to the Jordan and passed over, he and the three hundred men who were with him, weary yet pursuing them.

5 And he said to the men of Succoth, “Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me, for they are weary and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian.”
And they answered, “As you are, so were they. Each one resembled the son of a king.”

19 And he said, “They were my brothers, even the sons of my mother. As the LORD lives, if you had saved them alive, I would not slay you.”

20 And he said to Jether his firstborn, “Arise and slay them.” But the youth did not draw his sword, for he was afraid because he was still a youth.

21 Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, “Arise and fall on us, for as the man is, so is his strength.” And Gideon arose and slew Zebah and Zalmunna. And he took away the ornaments that were on their camels’ necks.

Gideon’s Ephod

22 ¶ Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, “Rule over us, both you and your son, and your son’s son also, for you have delivered us from the hand of Midian.”

23 And Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you, nor will my son rule over you. The LORD will rule over you.”

24 Then Gideon said to them, “I would request of you that every man give me the earrings of his spoil.” (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.)

25 And they answered, “We will willingly give them.” And they spread a garment, and each one of them cast an earring there from his spoil.

26 And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was 1,700 shekels of gold, besides ornaments and pendants and purple robes that were on the kings of Midian, and besides the chains that were around their camels’ necks.

27 And Gideon made an ephod of it and put it in Ophrah, his city. And all Israel played the harlot by worshiping it. And it became a snare to Gideon and to his house.

28 Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

Gideon’s Death

29 ¶ Then Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and dwelt in his own house.

30 Now Gideon had seventy sons who were his direct descendants, for he had many wives.

31 And his concubine who was in Shechem also bore him a son, whose name he called Abimelech.

32 Then Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age. And he was buried in the sepulchre of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

33 ¶ Now it came to pass as soon as Gideon was dead that the children of Israel turned again and played the harlot after Baalim. And they made Baal Berith their god.

34 So the children of Israel did not remember the LORD their God who had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on every side.

35 Neither did they show kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, namely, Gideon, according to all the goodness that he had shown to Israel.

Chapter 9

Abimelech

1 ¶ Then Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother’s brethren and communed with them, and with all the family of the house of his mother’s father, saying,

2 “Please speak in the ears of all the men of Shechem, ‘Which is better for you, that all the sons of Jerubbaal, who are seventy persons, reign over you, or that one reign over you?’ Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh.”

3 Then his mother’s relatives spoke all these words of his in the ears of all the men of Shechem. And their hearts were inclined to follow Abimelech, for they said, “He is our brother.”

4 So they gave him seventy pieces of silver out of the house of Baal Berith, with which Abimelech hired vain and reckless people who followed him.

5 Then he went to his father’s house at Ophrah and slew on one stone his brothers, the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy people. But Jotham the
youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself.

6 Then all the men of Shechem and all the house of Millo gathered together and went and made Abimelech king by the plain of the pillar that was in Shechem.

7 ¶ Now when they told it to Jotham, he went and stood on top of Mount Gerizim and lifted up his voice. And he cried out and said to them, “Hearken to me you men of Shechem, so that God may hearken to you.

8 “The trees went forth to anoint a king over them. And they said to the olive tree, ‘Reign over us.’

9 “But the olive tree said to them, ‘Should I leave my fatness with which God and men are honored, and go to wave over the trees?’

10 “And the trees said to the fig tree, ‘Come and reign over us.’

11 “But the fig tree said to them, ‘Should I forsake my sweetness and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees?’

12 “Then the trees said to the vine, ‘Come and reign over us.’

13 “Then the vine said to them, ‘Should I leave my wine that cheers God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?’

14 “Then all the trees said to the bramble, ‘Come and reign over us.’

15 “And the bramble said to the trees, ‘If in truth you anoint me king over you, then come and put your trust in my shadow. And if not, let fire come out of the bramble and devour the cedars of Lebanon.’

16 ¶ “Now therefore, if you have dealt in truth and sincerity in that you have made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house, and have done to him as he deserves—

17 “for my ‘father fought for you and risked his life to rescue you from the hand of Midian;

18 “but you have risen up against my father’s house this day and have slain upon one stone his sons, seventy people, and have made Abimelech the son of his maidservant king over the men of Shechem, because he is your brother—

19 “if you then have dealt in truth and sincerity with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice in Abimelech and let him also rejoice in you.

20 “But if not, ‘let fire come out from Abimelech and devour the men of Shechem and the house of Millo. And let fire come out from the men of Shechem and from the house of Millo and devour Abimelech.’

21 Then Jotham ran away and fled. And he went to Beer and dwelt there, for fear of Abimelech his brother.

22 ¶ Now Abimelech had reigned three years over Israel.

23 Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the men of Shechem, and the men of Shechem a dealt treacherously with Abimelech,

24 so that the cruelty done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid on Abimelech their brother who slew them, and on the men of Shechem who aided him in killing his brothers.

25 Now the men of Shechem set men in ambush against him on the top of the mountains. And they robbed all who came along that way by them. And it was told Abimelech.

26 ¶ Then Gaal the son of Ebed came with his brethren and went over to Shechem. And the men of Shechem put their confidence in him.

27 Then they went out into the fields and gathered their vineyards and trode the grapes and made merry. And they went into the house of their god and ate and drank and cursed Abimelech.

28 And Gaal the son of Ebed said, “Who is Abimelech and who is Shechem that we should serve him? Is he not the son of Jerubbaal? And is Zebul his officer? Serve the men of Hamor the father of Shechem, but why should we serve him?

29 “Would, therefore, that this people were under my hand! Then I would remove Abimelech.” And he said to Abimelech, “Increase your army and come out.”

30 ¶ And when Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger
was kindled.
31 And he secretly sent messengers to Abimelech, saying, “Behold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his brethren have come to Shechem, and behold, they fortify the city against you.
32 “Now therefore arise by night, you and the people who are with you, and lie in wait in the field.
33 “And it will be in the morning as soon as the sun is up, you will rise early and rush on the city. And behold, when he and the people who are with him come out against you, then you may do to them whatever you can.”
34 ¶ So Abimelech and all the people who were with him rose up by night. And they laid in wait near Shechem in four companies.
35 Now Gaal the son of Ebed went out and stood in the entrance of the gate of the city. And Abimelech and the people who were with him rose up from the ambush.
36 And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, “Behold, people are coming down from the top of the mountains.” And Zebul said to him, “You are seeing the shadow of the mountains as if they were men.”
37 Then Gaal spoke again and said, “See there, people are coming down by the center of the land and another company is coming along by the plain of the soothsayers’ tree.”
38 Then Zebul said to him, “Where is your boasting now by which you said, ‘Who is Abimelech that we should serve him?’ Is not this the people whom you have despised? Go out and fight with them.”
39 So Gaal went out before the men of Shechem and fought with Abimelech.
40 And Abimelech chased him. And he fled before him and many were overthrown and wounded, even to the entrance of the gate.
41 So Abimelech dwelt at Arumah. And Zebul drove out Gaal and his relatives so that they could not dwell in Shechem.
42 ¶ Now it came to pass on the next day that the people went out into the field, and they told Abimelech.
43 So he took the people and divided them into three companies. And he laid an ambush in the field. When he looked, behold, the people were coming out of the city. And he rose up against them and smote them.
44 Then Abimelech and the company that was with him rushed forward and stood in the entrance of the gate of the city. And the two other companies ran upon all the people who were in the fields and slew them.
45 So Abimelech fought against the city all that day and he took the city. And he slew the people who were in it and tore down the city. Then he sowed it with salt.
46 ¶ Now when all the men of the tower of Shechem heard what happened, they entered into the inner chamber of the temple of the god El-Berith.
47 Now it was told Abimelech that all the men of the tower of Shechem were gathered together.
48 So Abimelech went up to Mount Zalmon, he and all the people who were with him. And Abimelech took an ax in his hand and cut down a branch from the trees. And he took it and laid it on his shoulder. Then he said to the people who were with him, “What you have seen me do, hurry and do as I have done.”
49 So all the people likewise cut down every man his branch and followed Abimelech. And they put them on the inner chamber and set the inner chamber on fire over those inside, so that all the men of the tower of Shechem died also, about a thousand men and women.
50 ¶ Then Abimelech went to Thebez and camped against Thebez. And he took it.
51 But there was a strong tower in the middle of the city, and all the men and women with all the leaders of the city fled there. And they locked themselves in and climbed up on the roof of the tower.
52 And Abimelech came to the tower and fought against it. And he approached the entrance of the tower to burn it with fire.
53 Then a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone on Abimelech’s head, and cracked his skull.
54 Then he called hastily to the young man his armorbearer. And he said to him, “Draw your sword and slay me so that men not say of me, ‘A woman slew him.’” So his young man thrust him through and he died.
55 So when the men of Israel saw that...
Abimelech was dead, they departed every man to his place.

56 ¶ Thus God repaid the wickedness of Abimelech that he did to his father in slaying his seventy brothers.

57 And God returned all the wickedness of the men of Shechem on their heads, and the curse of Jotham son of Jerubbaal came on them.

**Chapter 10**

**Tola and Jair**

1 ¶ Now after Abimelech there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar. And he dwelt in Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim.

2 And he judged Israel twenty-three years. And he died and was buried in Shamir.

3 ¶ Then after him arose Jair, a Gileadite. And he judged Israel twenty-two years.

4 Now he had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys. And they had thirty cities that are called Havoth Jair to this day, which are in the land of Gilead.

5 Now Jair died and was buried in Camon.

**Jephthah**

6 ¶ Then the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Sidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines. And they forsook the LORD and did not serve Him.

7 So the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel. And He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the children of Ammon.

8 And that year they afflicted and oppressed the children of Israel. For eighteen years they afflicted all the children of Israel who were on the other side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead.

9 Moreover, the children of Ammon passed over the Jordan to fight also against Judah and against Benjamin and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was greatly distressed.

10 ¶ Then the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, saying, “We have sinned against you, both because we have forsaken our God and also served the Baals.”

11 So the LORD said to the children of Israel, “Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon and from the Philistines?

12 “Also when the Sidonians and the Amalekites and the Maonites oppressed you, and you cried out to Me, and I delivered you out of their hand.

13 ¶ “Yet you have forsaken Me and served other gods. Therefore, I will deliver you no more.

14 “Go and cry out to the gods that you have chosen. Let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation.”

15 ¶ Then the children of Israel said to the LORD, “We have sinned. Do to us whatever seems good to You. Only deliver us, we beg You, this day.”

16 ¶ So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the LORD. And His soul was grieved because of the misery of Israel.

17 ¶ Then the children of Ammon were gathered together and camped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled themselves together and camped in Mizpeh.

18 And the people and princes of Gilead said one to another, “What man is he who will begin to fight against the children of Ammon? He will become head over all the inhabitants of Gilead."

**Chapter 11**

1 ¶ Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty warrior, but he was the son of a harlot. And Gilead was the father of Jephthah.

2 And Gilead’s wife bore him sons. And his wife’s sons grew up, they thrust out Jephthah and said to him, “You will not inherit in our father’s house, for you are the son of another woman.”
3 So Jephthah fled from his brothers and dwelt in the land of dTob. And there were worthless men gathered to Jephthah and they went out with him.

4 ¶ Now it came to pass in the process of time that the children of Ammon made war against Israel.

5 And it was so that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob.

6 And they said to Jephthah, “Come and be our captain so that we may fight against the children of Ammon.”

7 And Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, “Did not you hate me and expel me out of my father’s house? And why have you come to me now when you are in distress?”

8 Then the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, “Nevertheless, we are turning to you now so that you may go with us and fight against the children of Ammon and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.”

9 Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and captain over them. And Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD in Mizpeh.

10 And Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the children of Ammon, saying, “What have you to do with me that you have come against me to fight in my land?”

11 And the king of the children of Ammon answered the messengers of Jephthah, saying, “Because Israel took away my land when they came up out of Egypt, from the Arnon even to Jabbok and to the Jordan. Now, therefore, restore those lands again peaceably.”

12 And Jephthah sent messengers again to the king of the children of Ammon.

13 And Jephthah said, “Thus says Jephthah, “Israel did not take away the land of Moab nor the land of the children of Ammon.

14 ¶ But when Israel came up from Egypt and walked through the wilderness to the Red Sea and came to Kadesh,

15 then Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, “Let me, I beg you, pass through your land,” “But the king of Edom would not listen. And in like manner they sent to the king of Moab. But he would not listen. So Israel abode in Kadesh.

16 Then they went along through the wilderness and ‘bypassed the land of Edom and the land of Moab. And they came by the east side of the land of Moab and pitched on the other side of the Arnon. But they did not come within the territory of Moab, for the Arnon was the border of Moab.

17 ¶ And Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, “If you bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivers them before me, will I become your head?”

18 And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, “The LORD be witness between us, if you do not so according to your words.”

19 Then the children of Ammon made war against Israel. And it was so that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob.

20 ¶ But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together and pitched in Jahaz and fought against Israel.

21 And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they smote them. So Israel possessed all the land of the Amorites, the inhabitants of that country.

22 And they possessed all the territory of the Amorites, from Arnon even to Jabbok, and from the wilderness even to the Jordan.

23 So now the LORD God of Israel has dispossessed the Amorites from before His people Israel, and should you now possess it?

24 ¶ Do you not possess that which Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So whatever the LORD our God has given us, we will possess.

25 ¶ And now are you anything better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever strive against Israel, or did he ever fight against them?

26 ¶ And now while Israel dwelt in Heshbon and her towns and in Areroth and her towns, and in all places where she dwelt, and on all the lands of the Amorites, the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel.
the cities that are along the banks of the Arnon, three hundred years? Therefore, why did you not recover them within that time? 
27 ‘Therefore, I have not sinned against you, but you are doing me wrong to war against me. The LORD, ‘the Judge, ‘decide this day between the children of Israel and the children of Ammon.’”

28 But the king of the children of Ammon did not hearken to the words of Jephthah which he sent him.

29 ¶ Then the ‘Spirit of the LORD came on Jephthah and he passed over Gilead and Manasseh, and passed over Mizpah of Gilead. And from Mizpah of Gilead he passed over to the children of Ammon.

30 Then Jephthah vowed a vow to the LORD, and said, “If you will without fail deliver the children of Ammon into my hands,

31 "then it will be that whatever comes forth from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, I will offer it up for a burnt offering.”

32 ¶ So Jephthah passed over to the children of Ammon to fight against them. And the LORD delivered them into his hands.

33 And he smote them with a very great slaughter from Aroer even to the regions of Minnith, twenty cities, and to the plain of the vineyards. Thus the children of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.

34 ¶ Then Jephthah came to Mizpah to his house, and behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances. And she was his only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter.

35 Now it came to pass when he saw her that he tore his clothes, and said, “Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low and you are one of those who trouble me, for ‘I have opened my mouth to the LORD and I cannot go back.”

36 And she said to him, “My father, if you have opened your mouth to the LORD, ‘do to me according to that which has proceeded out of your mouth, since the ‘LORD has avenged you of your enemies, the children of Ammon.”

37 So she said to her father, “Let this thing be done for me. Let me alone two months so that I may go up and down on the mountains and weep because of my virginity, I and my friends.”

38 And he said, “Go.” And he sent her away for two months. And she went with her companions and wept on the mountains because of her virginity.

39 Now it came to pass at the end of two months that she returned to her father who did with her according to his vow that he had vowed. And she knew no man. And thus it was a custom in Israel

40 that the daughters of Israel went yearly to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in the year.

Chapter 12

Jephthah and Ephraim

1 ¶ Then the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together and went northward. And they said to Jephthah, “Why did you pass over to fight against the children of Ammon and did not call us to go with you? We will burn your house upon you with fire.”

2 Then Jephthah said to them, “I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon. And when I called you, you did not deliver me out of their hands.

3 “And when I saw that you did not deliver me, I put my life in my hands and passed over against the children of Ammon. And the LORD delivered them into my hand. Why then have you come up to me this day to fight against me?”

4 Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead and fought with Ephraim. And the men of Gilead smote Ephraim because they said, “You Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites and in the midst of Manasseh.”

5 Then the Gileadites took the fords of the Jordan before Ephraim. And it was so that when those Ephraimites who had escaped said, “Let me go over,” that the men of Gilead said to him, “Are you an Ephraimite?” If he said, “No,”
6 then they said to him, “Say now, “Shibboleth.”’ And he said “Sibboleth,” for he could not pronounce it correctly. Then they took him and slew him at the fords of the Jordan. And there fell at that time 42,000 of Ephraim.

7 And Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died, and he was buried in one of the cities of Gilead.

Ibzan, Elon and Abdon

8 ¶ Then after him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel.

9 And he had thirty sons and thirty daughters. He gave his daughters away in marriage to those outside his family. And for his sons he brought in thirty young women as wives from outside his family. And he judged Israel seven years.

10 Then Ibzan died and he was buried in Bethlehem.

11 ¶ And after him Elon, a Zebulonite, judged Israel. And he judged Israel ten years.

12 Then Elon the Zebulonite died and was buried in Aijalon in the country of Zebulon.

13 ¶ Then after him Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, judged Israel.

14 And he had forty sons and thirty nephews who rode on seventy donkeys. And he judged Israel eight years.

15 Then Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the hill country of the Amalekites.

Chapter 13

Birth of Samson

1 ¶ Then the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD. And the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

2 ¶ Now there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and did not bare children.

3 Then the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, “Behold now, you are barren and have borne no children. But you will conceive and bear a son.

4 “Now therefore beware, be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing.

5 “For behold, you will conceive and bear a son. And no razor will come on his head, for the child will be a Nazarite to God from the womb. And he will begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.”

6 ¶ Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, “A man of God came to me and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of God, very awesome. But I did not ask him where he came from, nor did he tell me his name.

7 But he said to me, “Behold, you will conceive and bear a son. And now, drink no wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing, for the child will be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.”

8 ¶ Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, “O my Lord, let the man of God whom you sent come again to us and teach us what we will do to the child who will be born.”

9 And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah.

10 And the angel of the LORD came again to the woman as she sat in the field. But Manoah her husband was not with her.

11 So Manoah arose and went after his wife. And he came to the man and said to him, “Are you the man who spoke to the woman?” And he said, “I am.”

12 Then Manoah said, “Now let your words come to pass. What will be the rule for the child and what will we do to him?”

13 And the angel of the LORD said to Manoah, “Let the woman pay attention to all that I said.

14 “She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine. Neither let her drink wine, nor strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing. All that I commanded her let her observe.”

15 ¶ Then Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, “Please let us detain you until we have prepared a young goat for you.”

16 And the angel of the LORD said to Manoah,
“Though you detain me, I will not eat of your bread. And if you offer a burnt offering, you must offer it to the LORD.” For Manoah did not know that he was an angel of the LORD.

17 Then Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, “What is your name, so that when your sayings come to pass we may give you honor?”

18 But the angel of the LORD said to him, “Why do you ask for my name, seeing it is beyond understanding?”

19 So Manoah took a young goat with a grain offering and offered it on a rock to the LORD. And the angel worked wonders. And Manoah and his wife looked on.

20 Now it came to pass when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it and fell on their faces to the ground.

21 But the angel of the LORD did not appear again to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the LORD.

22 Then Manoah said to his wife, “We will surely die, because we have seen God.”

23 But his wife said to him, “If the LORD were pleased to kill us, He would not have received a burnt offering and a grain offering from our hands, nor would He have showed us all these things, nor would He have told us such things as these at this time.”

24 ¶ So the woman bore a son and called his name Samson. And the child grew and the LORD blessed him.

25 The Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Chapter 14
Samson’s Marriage

1 ¶ Then Samson went down to Timnath and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines.

2 And he came back and told his father and his mother and said, “I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. Now therefore, get her for me as a wife.”

3 Then his father and his mother said to him, “Is there not a woman among the daughters of your brethren or among all my people, that you go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?” And Samson said to his father, “Get her for me, for she pleases me well.”

4 But his father and his mother did not know that it was of the LORD that He sought an occasion against the Philistines, for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

5 ¶ Then Samson went down to Timnath with his father and his mother. And he came to the vineyards of Timnath, and behold, a young lion roared against him.

6 And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him and he tore him as he would have torn a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.

7 And he went down and talked with the woman. And she pleased Samson well.

8 Now after a time he returned to take her. And he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion. And behold, there was a swarm of bees and honey in the carcass of the lion.

9 Then he took of it in his hands and went on eating. And he came to his father and mother and gave to them and they ate. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey out of the carcass of the lion.

10 ¶ So his father went down to the woman. And Samson made there a feast, for so was the custom of the young men.

11 Now it came to pass when they saw him, that they brought thirty companions to be with him.

12 Then Samson said to them, “I will now put forth a riddle to you. If you can give me the answer within the seven days of the feast and find it out, then I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothes.

13 “But if you cannot give the answer to me, then you will give me thirty linen garments and thirty changes of clothes.” And they said to him, “Tell us your riddle so that we may hear it.”

n Gn 32:29 o Jg 6:19-21 p Ez 1:28 q Jg 6:22 r Dt 5:26 s Hb 11:32 t 1 Sm 3:19 u Jg 3:10 v Jg 18:11 w Jg 16:31 Chapter 14:
a Ja 15:10,57 b Gn 34:2 c Gn 21:21 d Gn 24:3,4 e Gn 34:14 f Ja 11:20 g Dt 28:48 h Jg 3:10 i Lv 11:27 j Ez 17:2 k Gn 29:27 l 2 Kg 5:22 m Ez 17:2
14 Then he said to them, “Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness.” And they could not in three days give an answer to the riddle.

15 ¶ Now it came to pass on the seventh day that they said to Samson’s wife, “Entice your husband so that he may declare to us the riddle, lest we burn you and your father’s house with fire. Did you invite us here to rob us? Is this not so?”

16 Then Samson’s wife wept before him, and said, “You hate me and you do not love me. You have put forth a riddle to the children of my people and have not told it to me.” And he said to her, “Behold, I have not told it to my father or my mother. So should I tell it to you?”

17 Now she wept before him the seven days while their feast lasted. And it came to pass on the seventh day that he told her, because she pressed on him. And she told the riddle to the children of her people.

18 Then the men of the city said to him on the seventh day before the sun went down, “What is sweeter than honey? And what is stronger than a lion?” And he said to them, “If you had not plowed with my heifer, you would not have found out my riddle.”

19 ¶ And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him and he went down to Ashkelon. And he slew thirty of their men and took their spoil and gave changes of clothes to them who explained the riddle. And his anger was kindled and he went up to his father’s house.

20 But Samson’s wife was given to his companion who had been his friend.

Chapter 15

Samson’s Vengeance on the Philistines

1 ¶ But it came to pass later on after the time of wheat harvest that Samson visited his wife with a young goat. And he said, “I will go in to my wife into the room.” But her father would not allow him to go in.

2 And her father said, “I actually thought that you utterly hated her. Therefore, I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger sister fairer than she? Please take her instead.”

3 Then Samson said concerning them, “Now I will be more blameless than the Philistines when I do them harm.”

4 So Samson went and caught three hundred foxes and tied them tail to tail. And he tied a torch in the middle between every pair of tails.

5 And when he had set the torches on fire, he let them go into the standing grain of the Philistines. And he burnt up both the shocks and also the standing grain, with the vineyards and olive groves.

6 Then the Philistines said, “Who has done this?” And they answered, “Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he took his wife and gave her to his companion.” And the Philistines came up and burned her and her father with fire.

7 Then Samson said to them, “Though you have done this, I will surely take vengeance on you, and after that I will cease.”

8 So he smote them viciously with a great slaughter. And he went down and dwelt in the top of the rock of Etam.

9 ¶ Then the Philistines went up and pitched in Judah, and spread out themselves against Lehi.

10 And the men of Judah said, “Why have you come up against us?” And they answered, “We have come up to bind Samson, to do to him as he has done to us.”

11 Then three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock of Etam and said to Samson, “Do you not know that the Philistines are rulers over us? What is this that you have done to us?” And he said to them, “As they did to me, so have I done to them.”

12 Then they said to him, “We have come down to bind you so that we may deliver you into their hands. But surely we will not kill you.” And they bound him with two new cords and brought him up from the rock.

13 So they spoke to him, saying, “No, but we will bind you securely and deliver you into their hands. But surely we will not kill you.” And they bound him with two new cords and brought him up from the rock.

14 ¶ Now when he came to Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him. And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him. And the
cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burned with fire, and his bonds fell from off his hands.

15 Then he found a new jawbone of a donkey and put forth his hand and took it. And he slew a thousand men with it.

16 Then Samson said, “With the jawbone of a donkey, heaps upon heaps. With the jaw of a donkey I have slain a thousand men.”

17 Now it came to pass when he had finished speaking that he threw away the jawbone out of his hand and called that place Ramath Lehi.

18 ¶ Now he was very thirsty. And he called on the LORD and said, j“But God split a hollow place in Lehi so that water came out of it. And when he drank, khis spirit came again and he revived. Therefore, he called the name of it En Hakkore, which is in Lehi to this day.

20 And he jJudged Israel mtwenty years nIn the days of the Philistines.

Chapter 16

Samson and Delilah

1 ¶ Then Samson went to Gaza and saw there a harlot. And he went in to her.

2 Now it was told to the Gazites, saying, “Samson has come here.” And they bsurrounded him and laid in wait for him all night at the gate of the city. And they kept quiet all night, saying, “In the morning when it is day, we will kill him.”

3 Now Samson lay until midnight, and arose at midnight. And he took the doors of the gate of the city and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all. And he put them on his shoulders and carried them up to the top of a hill that is before Hebron.

4 ¶ Now it came to pass afterward that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah.

5 And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, d“Entice him and see wherein his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him so that we may bind him to afflict him. And each one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.”

6 ¶ So Delilah said to Samson, “Please tell me where your great strength lies, and how you might be bound and afflicted.”

7 And Samson said to her, “If they bind me with seven green cords that have never dried, then I will be weak and be as another man.”

8 Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green cords that had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

9 Now she had men lying in wait in an inner chamber. And she said to him, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson.” And he broke the cords as a thread of tow snaps is broken when it touches the fire. So his strength was not known.

10 ¶ Then Delilah said to Samson, “Behold, you have mocked me and told me lies. Now please tell me how you might be bound.”

11 And he said to her, “If they bind me securely with new ropes that have never been used, then I will be weak and be as another man.”

12 Delilah then took new ropes and bound him with them. And she said to him, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson.” And there were men lying in wait in the inner room. And he broke them from off his arms like a thread.

13 ¶ Then Delilah said to Samson, “Until now you have mocked me and told me lies. Tell me how you might be bound.” And he said to her, “If you weave the seven locks of my head into the fabric on a loom and tighten them with the pin, I will become as weak as any other man.”

14 So while he slept, Delilah took the seven braids of his hair and wove them into the fabric. And she fastened it with the pin, and said to him, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson.” And he awoke from his sleep and went away with the pin of the beam and with the web.

15 ¶ Then she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times and have not told me where your great strength lies.”

16 Now it came to pass when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, that his
soul was annoyed to death.

17 So he 4told her all his heart and said to her, “There is not come a razor upon my head, for I have been a Nazarite to God from my mother’s womb. If I am shaved, then my strength will go from me and I will become weak and be like any other man.”

18 ¶ Now when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, “Come up once more, for he has showed me all his heart.” Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought money in their hands.

19 iSo she made him sleep on her knees, and she called for a man. And she had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

20 Then she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson.” And he awoke out of his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times before and free myself.” And he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.

21 ¶ But the Philistines took him and put out his keyes. And they brought him down to Gaza and bound him with chains of brass. And he was a grinder in the prison house.

22 However, the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaved.

23 ¶ Then the lords of the Philistines gathered themselves together in order to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, for they said, “Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hands.”

24 And when the people saw him, they praised their god, for they said, “Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hands.”

25 Now it came to pass when their hearts were merry that they said, “Call for Samson so that he may entertain us.” And they called for Samson out of the prison house. And he entertained them. And they set him between the pillars.

26 Then Samson said to the boy who held him by the hand, “Allow me to feel the pillars on which the house stands so that I may lean upon them.”

27 Now the house was full of men and women, and all the lords of the Philistines were there. And on the roof there were about three thousand men and women who looked on while Samson amused them.

28 ¶ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “O Lord GOD, please remember me and please strengthen me only once more, so that I may at this time be avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.”

29 Then Samson took hold of the two middle pillars on which the house stood and on which it was held up, the one with his right hand and the other with his left.

30 And Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” And he bowed himself with all his might, and the house fell upon the lords and on all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he slew at his death were more than those whom he slew in his life.

31 Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down and took him. And they brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

Chapter 17
Micaht’s Idols

1 ¶ Now there was a man of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Micaht.

2 And he said to his mother, “The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from you, about which you buttered a curse in my ears, behold, the silver is with me. I took it.” And his mother said, “Blessed are you of the LORD, my son.”

3 And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, “I had wholly dedicated the silver to the LORD from my hand for my son to make a graven image and a molten image. Now therefore, I will restore it to you.”

4 So he restored the money to his mother. And his mother took two hundred shekels of silver and gave them to the silversmith, who made from it a graven image and a molten image. And they were in the house of Micah.
5 Now the man Micah had a house of gods. And he made an ephod and household idols, and consecrated one of his sons who became his priest.
6 In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did what was right in his own eyes.
7 ¶ And there was a young man out of Bethlehem in Judah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite. And he sojourned there.
8 And the man departed out of the city from Bethlehem in Judah to sojourn where he could find a home. And as he journeyed he came to the hill country of Ephraim to the house of Micah.
9 And Micah said to him, “From where do you come?” And he said to him, “I am a Levite of Bethlehem in Judah and I am going to stay where I might find a home.”
10 Then Micah said to him, “Dwell with me and be to me a father and a priest. And I will give you ten shekels of silver a year and a suit of clothes, and your food.” So the Levite went in.
11 Now the Levite was content to dwell with the man. And the young man was to him as one of his sons.
12 So Micah consecrated the Levite. And the young man became his priest and was in the house of Micah.
13 Then Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will do good to me, seeing I have a Levite as my priest.”

Chapter 18
Danites Settle in Laish

1 ¶ In those days there was no king in Israel. And in those days the tribe of the Danites sought for themselves an inheritance in which to dwell, for to that day all their inheritance had not been allotted to them among the tribes of Israel.
2 So the children of Dan sent of their family five valiant men from Zorah and Eshtaol to spy out the land and explore it. And they said to them, “Go, search the land.” And when they came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.
3 When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man, the Levite. And they turned in there and said to him, “Who brought you here? And what are you doing in this place? And why are you here?”
4 And he said to them, “In this manner Micah deals with me. And he has hired me and I am his priest.”
5 Then they said to him, “Please ask counsel of God so that we may know whether our way that we go will be prosperous.”
6 And the priest said to them, “Go in peace. Your journey has the Lord’s approval.”
7 ¶ Then the five men departed and came to Laish. And they saw the people who were in it, how they dwelt securely after the manner of the Sidonians, unsuspecting and secure. And there were no rulers in the land who might deprive them of anything. And they were far from the Sidonians and had no business with any man.
8 Then they came to their brethren to Zorah and Eshtaol. And their brethren said to them, “What say you?”
9 And they said, “Arise, so that we may go up against them, for we have seen the land. And behold, it is very good. And do you sit still? Do not be slothful to go and enter to possess the land.
10 “When you go, you will come to an unsuspecting people and to a large land, for God has given it into your hands, a place where there is no lack of anything that is in the earth.”
11 ¶ And there went from there of the family of the Danites out of Zorah and out of Eshtaol, six hundred men appointed with weapons of war.
12 And they went up and pitched in Kirjath Jearim in Judah. Therefore, they called that place Mahaneh Dan to this day. Behold, it is behind Kirjath Jearim.
13 And they passed from there to the hill country of Ephraim and came to the house of Micah.
14 ¶ Then the five men who went to spy out the country of Laish answered and said to their brethren, “Go, search the land.” And when they came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.

5 Jg 8:27; 18:14 h Gn 31:19,30 i Jg 18:1; 19:1 j Dt 12:8 k Mt 2:1,5,6 l Dt 18:6 m Jg 18:19 n Gn 45:8 o Jg 17:5 p Jg 18:30 q Jg 18:4 Chapter 18: a Jg 17:6; 19:1; 21:25 b Ja 19:40-48 c Jg 13:25 d Nm 13:17 e Jg 17:1 f Jg 17:10,12 g Hs 4:12 h Jg 1:1; 17:5; 18:14 i 1 Kg 22:6 j Ja 19:47 k Jg 18:27-29 l Jg 10:12 m Jg 18:2 n Nm 13:30 o 1 Kg 22:3 p Jg 18:7,27 q Dt 8:9 r Ja 15:60 s Jg 13:25 t Jg 18:2 u 1 Sm 14:28
brethren, “Do you know that there is in these houses an ephod and teraphim and a graven image and a molten image? Now therefore, consider what you have to do.”

15 And they turned aside there and came to the house of the young man, the Levite, even to the house of Micah, and saluted him.

16 And the six hundred men appointed with their weapons of war, who were of the children of Dan, stood by the entrance of the gate.

17 And the five men who went to spy out the land went up and came in there and took the graven image and the ephod and the teraphim and the molten image. And the priest stood in the entrance of the gate with the six hundred men who were appointed with weapons of war.

18 And these went into Micah’s house and fetched the carved image, the ephod and the teraphim and the molten image. Then the priest said to them, “What are you doing?”

19 And they said to him, “Hold your peace. Put your hand on your mouth and go with us, and be to us a father and a priest. Is it better for you to be a priest to the house of one man, or that you be a priest to a tribe and a family in Israel?”

20 And the priest’s heart was glad. And he took the ephod and the teraphim and the graven image and went in among the people.

21 So they turned and departed. And they put the little ones and the livestock and the possessions before them.

22 ¶ When they were a good way from the house of Micah, the men who were in the houses near to Micah’s house gathered together and overtook the children of Dan.

23 And they cried out to the children of Dan. And they turned around and said to Micah, “What is the matter with you that you come with such a company?”

24 And he said, “You have taken away my gods that I made, and the priest, and have gone away. And what have I left? And what is this that you say to me, ‘What is the matter with you?’”

25 And the children of Dan said to him, “Do not let your voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows run upon you and you lose your life, with the lives of your household.”

26 So the children of Dan went their way. And when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back to his house.

27 ¶ So they took the things that Micah had made, and the priest whom he had. And they came to Laish, to a people who were quiet and secure. And they smote them with the edge of the sword and burned the city with fire.

28 And there was no one to deliver them, because it was far from Sidon. And they had no business with any man, and it was in the valley that lies by Beth Rehob. And they built a city and dwelt in it.

29 Then they called the name of the city Dan after the name of Dan their father, who was born to Israel. However, the name of the city was Laish at the first.

30 ¶ And the children of Dan set up the graven image. And Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, he and his sons were priests for the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land.

31 And they set up for themselves Micah’s graven image that he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

Chapter 19

A Levite and His Concubine

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in those days when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite who lived in a remote area in the hill country of Ephraim, who took a concubine out of Bethlehem in Judah.

2 And his concubine played the harlot against him, and went away from him to her father’s house to Bethlehem in Judah. And she was there four whole months.

3 Then her husband arose and went after her, to speak friendly to her, and to bring her back, taking his servant with him and a couple of donkeys. So she brought him into her father’s house. And when the father of the girl saw him, he was glad to meet him.

4 So his father-in-law, the girl’s father, detained him. And he remained with him three days. So they ate and drank and lodged there.

5 ¶ Now it came to pass on the fourth day
when they arose early in the morning, that he rose up to depart. And the girl’s father said to his son-in-law, “Comfort your heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward go your way.”

6 And they sat down and ate and drank, both of them together, for the damsel’s father had said to the man, “Please be content and stay all night, and let your heart be merry.”

7 And when the man rose up to depart, his father-in-law urged him, so he stayed there that night.

8 And he arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart. And the girl’s father said, “Please comfort your heart.” And they stayed until afternoon, and they both ate together.

9 Now when the man rose up to depart, he and his concubine and his servant, his father-in-law, the girl’s father, said to him, “Behold, now the day draws toward evening. Please stay all night. Behold, the day grows to an end. Lodge here so that your heart may be merry, and tomorrow leave early on your way in order that you may go home.”

10 But the man would not tarry that night, so he rose up and departed. And he came over opposite Jebus, which is Jerusalem. And there were with him two saddled donkeys. His concubine also was with him.

11 When they were by Jebus, the day was almost gone. And the servant said to his master, “Please come and let us turn aside into this city of the Jebusites and lodge in it.”

12 Then his master said to him, “We will not turn aside into the city of foreigners who are not of the children of Israel. We will pass over to Gibeah.”

13 And he said to his servant, “Come and let us draw near to one of these places to lodge all night in Gibeah or in Ramah.”

14 So they passed on and went their way. And the sun went down on them when they were by Gibeah which belongs to Benjamin.

15 So they turned aside there in order to go in and to lodge in Gibeah. And when he went in, he sat him down in a street of the city, for there was no man who took them into his house to lodge.

16 And behold, there came an old man from his work out of the field at evening, who was also from the hill country of Ephraim, and he was staying in Gibeah. But the men of the place were Benjamites.

17 And when he had lifted up his eyes, he saw a traveling man in the street of the city. And the old man said, “Where are you going? And from where did you come?”

18 And he said to him, “We are passing from Bethlehem in Judah toward the side of the hill country of Ephraim, from where I live. And I went to Bethlehem in Judah, but I am now going to the house of the LORD. And there is no man who receives me into his house, although there is both straw and fodder for our donkeys. And there is bread and wine also for me and for your maidservant, and for the young man who is with your servants. There is no lack of anything.”

19 And the old man said, “Peace be with you. Only let me take care of all your needs and do not lodge in the street.”

20 And the old man said, “Bring out the man who came into your house so that we may know him.”

21 And the man, the master of the house, went out to them and said to them, “No, my brethren, please do not act so wickedly, seeing that this man has come into my house. Do not do this folly.

22 “Behold, here is my virgin daughter and his concubine. I will bring them out now, and you can humble them and do with them what seems good to you. But to this man do not do so vile a thing.”

23 But the men would not hearken to him. So the man took his concubine and brought her out to them. And they raped her and abused her all night until the morning. And at dawn they let her go.

24 Then the woman came at the dawn of the day and fell down at the door of the man’s
house where her lord was, until it was light.

27 ¶ And her lord rose up in the morning and opened the doors of the house and went out to go his way. And behold, the woman, his concubine, had fallen down at the door of the house and her hands were on the threshold.

28 And he said to her, “Get up and let us be going.” But there was no answer. Then the man took her up on a donkey and rose up and went to his place.

29 ¶ Now when he had come to his house, he took a knife and laid hold on his concubine and divided her, together with her bones, into twelve pieces. And he sent her into all the territory of Israel.

30 Now everyone who saw it said, “There has never been such a deed done or seen from the day that the children of Israel came up out of the land of Egypt to this day. Consider it, take advice and speak your minds.”

Chapter 20

Israel Fights Against Benjamin

1 ¶ Then all the children of Israel from Dan even to Beersheba went out, and the assembly was gathered together as one man to the LORD at Mizpeh, including the land of Gilead.

2 And the chief of all the people, even of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, 400,000 foot soldiers who drew the sword.

3 (Now the children of Benjamin heard that the children of Israel had gone up to Mizpeh.) Then the children of Israel said, “Tell us, how did this wickedness take place?”

4 And the Levite, the husband of the woman who was slain, answered and said, “I and my concubine came to lodge in Gibeah that belongs to Benjamin.

5 ¶ And the men of Gibeah rose up against me and surrounded the house at night because of me. They intended to slay me. And they raped my concubine and she died.

6 ¶ And I took my concubine and cut her in pieces. Then I sent her throughout all the territory of Israel, for they have committed lewdness and folly in Israel.

7 “Behold, you are all children of Israel. Give here your advice and counsel.”

8 ¶ And all the people arose as one man, saying, “Not one of us will go to his tent, nor will any of us return into his house.

9 “But now this will be the thing that we will do to Gibeah. We will go up by lot against it.

10 “And we will take ten men out of one hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and one hundred out of one thousand, and one thousand out of ten thousand, in order to fetch provisions for the people. Then when the army comes to Gibeah of Benjamin, it can give them what they deserve for all this folly done in Israel.”

11 So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, united together as one man.

12 ¶ And the tribes of Israel sent men throughout all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, “What wickedness is this that is done among you?

13 “Now therefore, deliver to us the men, the children of Belial, who are in Gibeah, so that we may put them to death and put away evil from Israel.” But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel.

14 But the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together out of the cities 26,000 men who drew the sword, besides the inhabitants of Gibeah who were numbered 700 chosen men.

15 And the children of Benjamin were numbered at that time out of the cities 26,000 men who drew the sword, besides the inhabitants of Gibeah who were numbered 700 chosen men.

16 Among all this people there were 700 chosen men who were left-handed. Each one could sling stones at a hair and not miss.

17 And the men of Israel, besides Benjamin, were numbered 400,000 men who drew the sword. All these were men of war.

18 ¶ And the children of Israel arose and went up to the house of God and asked counsel of God. And they said, “Who of us will go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin?” And the LORD said, “Judah will go
And the children of Israel rose up in the morning and camped against Gibeah.

Then the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin. And the men of Israel took up battle positions against them at Gibeah.

And the "children of Benjamin came out of Gibeah and felled to the ground of the Israelites that day 22,000 men.

And the people, the men of Israel, encouraged themselves. And again they took up their positions where they had stationed themselves the first day.

v And the children of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until evening. And they asked counsel of the LORD, saying, "Will I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother?" And the LORD said, "Go up against him."

¶ And the children of Israel came against the children of Benjamin the second day.

So Benjamin went out against them from Gibeah the second day, and felled down to the ground of the children of Israel again 18,000 men. All these drew the sword.

¶ Then all the children of Israel and all the people went up and came to the house of God. And they wept and sat there before the LORD. And they fasted that day until evening, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

And the children of Israel inquired of the LORD (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days,

and Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days), saying, "Will I go out again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or will I cease?" And the LORD said, "Go up, for tomorrow I will deliver them into your hand."

¶ So Israel set men in ambush around Gibeah.

Then the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day and put themselves in battle positions against Gibeah as at other times.

And the children of Benjamin went out against the people. They were drawn away from the city and began to strike and kill some of the people as at other times on the highways, "one of which goes up to the house of God and the other to Gibeah. About thirty men of Israel fell in the field.

And the children of Benjamin said, "They are struck down before us as at the first." But the children of Israel said, "Let us flee and draw them from the city to the highways."

So all the men of Israel rose up out of their place and took up positions at Baal Tamar. And the men in ambush of Israel came out of their places, even out of the meadows of Gibeah.

And there came against Gibeah 10,000 chosen men out of all Israel, and the battle was sore. But they did not know that disaster was near them.

So the LORD smote Benjamin before Israel. And the children of Israel destroyed of the Benjamites that day 25,100 men. All these drew the sword.

¶ So the children of Benjamin saw that they were smitten. Now the men of Israel had given way before the Benjamites because they trusted the men in ambush whom they had set against Gibeah.

So the men in ambush hurried and rushed upon Gibeah. And the men in ambush deployed themselves and smote all the city with the edge of the sword.

Now there was an appointed sign between the men of Israel and the men in ambush, that they should make a great cloud of smoke rise up out of the city.

And when the men of Israel turned in the battle, Benjamin began to smite and kill about thirty men of Israel, for they said, "Surely they are smitten down before us as in the first battle."

But when the cloud began to arise up out of the city with a column of smoke, the Benjamites looked behind them, and behold, the cloud of the city ascended up to heaven.

And when the men of Israel turned again, the men of Benjamin were amazed because they saw that evil had come upon them.

Therefore, they turned their backs before
the men of Israel to the way of the wilderness, but the battle overtook them. And whoever came out of the cities they destroyed in their midst.

43 Thus they surrounded the Benjamites and chased them. They trod them down with ease opposite Gibeah toward the east.

44 So there fell of Benjamin 18,000 men. All these were valiant men.

45 Then the rest turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon. But they caught 5,000 of them on the highways and overtook them at Gidom and slew 2,000 of them.

46 So all who fell that day of Benjamin were 25,000 men who drew the sword. All these were valiant men.

47 But 600 men turned and fled to the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon. And they remained in the rock of Rimmon four months.

48 Then the men of Israel turned again on the children of Benjamin and smote them with the edge of the sword, as well as the men of every city, with the livestock and all that they found. They also set on fire all the cities to which they came.

Chapter 21
Wives for the Benjaminites

1 ¶ Now the men of Israel had sworn in Mizpeh, saying, “None of us will give his daughter to Benjamin in marriage.”

2 And the people came to the house of God and remained there before God until evening. And they lifted up their voices and wept bitterly.

3 And they said, “O LORD God of Israel, why has this come to pass in Israel that there should be today one tribe missing in Israel?”

4 Now it came to pass on the next day that the people rose early and built there an altar. And they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

5 Then the children of Israel said, “Who is there among all the tribes of Israel who did not come up with the assembly to the LORD?” For they had made a great oath concerning him who did not come up to the LORD to Mizpeh, saying, “He will surely be put to death.”

6 And the children of Israel were sorry for Benjamin their brother and said, “There is one tribe cut off from Israel this day.

7 “What will we do for wives for those who remain, seeing we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters in marriage?”

8 ¶ So they said, “What tribe is there of the tribes of Israel who did not come up to Mizpeh to the LORD?” And behold, there came no one to the camp from Jabesh Gilead to the assembly.

9 For the people were numbered, and behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead there.

10 And the assembly sent 12,000 of the valiant warriors there and commanded them, saying, “Go and strike the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.

11 “And this is the thing that you will do: you will utterly destroy every male and every woman who has lain with a man.”

12 And they found among the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead 400 young virgins who had not known a man by lying with any male. And they brought them to the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.

13 ¶ Then the whole assembly sent word to speak to the children of Benjamin who were in the rock of Rimmon, and proclaimed peace to them.

14 So Benjamin came again at that time. And they gave them wives whom they had saved alive of the women of Jabesh Gilead. And yet they were not enough for them.

15 And the people were sorry for Benjamin because the LORD had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.

16 ¶ Then the elders of the assembly said, “What will we do for wives for them who remain, seeing the women are destroyed out of Benjamin?”

17 And they said, “There must be an inheritance for them who have escaped of Benjamin in order that a tribe be not blotted out of Israel.
18 “However, we may not give them wives from our daughters.” For the children of Israel had sworn, saying, “Cursed be he who gives a wife to Benjamin.”

19 Then they said, “Behold, there is a yearly feast of the LORD in Shiloh in a place that is on the north side of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goes up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south of Lebanon.”

20 Therefore, they commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, “Go and lie in wait in the vineyards,

21 and see, and behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in dances, then come out of the vineyards and catch every man for himself his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.

22 And it will be when their fathers or their brothers come to us to complain, we will say to them, ‘Be favorable to them for our sakes, because we did not take for each man a wife in battle, and you are innocent, since you did not give your daughters to them.’”

23 ¶ And the children of Benjamin did so, and took wives according to their number of those who danced, whom they caught. And they went and returned to their inheritance and repaired the cities and dwelt in them.

24 Then the children of Israel departed from there at that time, every man to his tribe and to his family. And every man went out from there to his inheritance.

25 ¶ In those days there was no king in Israel. Every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

RUTH

Chapter 1

Naomi and Ruth

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons.

2 Now the name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife, Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah. And they came into the country of Moab and remained there.

3 Then Elimelech, Naomi’s husband, died. And she was left and her two sons.

4 And they took for themselves wives of the women of Moab. The name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. And they lived there about ten years.

5 Then Mahlon and Chilion also died. And the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

6 ¶ So she arose with her daughters-in-law so that she might return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab how the Lord had visited His people in giving them bread.

7 Therefore, she went forth out of the place where she was and her two daughters-in-law with her. And they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.

8 Now Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go. Return each of you to your mother’s house. The LORD may deal kindly with you as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

9 “The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

10 And they said to her, “Surely we will return with you to your people.”

11 But Naomi said, “Return, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Are there still more sons in my womb that they may be your husbands?”

12 “Return, my daughters. Go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, and I should have a husband tonight and also bear sons,

13 “would you wait for them until they were grown? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters, for it grieves me...
much for your sakes that the "hand of the LORD has gone out against me."

14 And they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth ¼ clung to her.

15 ¶ And she said, "Behold, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods. Return after your sister-in-law."

16 But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you. For where you go, I will go. And where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

17 "Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. The LORD do so to me and more also, if anything but death separates you and me."

18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, then she said no more to her.

19 ¶ So they both went until they came to Bethlehem. Now it came to pass when they had come to Bethlehem that all the city was stirred about them. And they said, "Is this Naomi?"

20 And she said to them, "Do not call me Naomi. Call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.

21 "I went out full, but the LORD has brought me home again empty. Why then call me Naomi, seeing the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has afflicted me?"

22 ¶ So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law with her, who returned out of the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

Chapter 2

Ruth Meets Boaz

1 ¶ Now Naomi had a kinsman of her husband’s, a mighty man of wealth of the family of Boaz. And his name was Boaz.

2 And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and the grain after one in whose sight I will find grace." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."

3 So she went and came and gleaned in the field after the reapers. And she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech.

4 ¶ And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you." And they answered him, "The LORD bless you."

5 Then Boaz said to his servant who was set over the reapers and answered and said, "It is the Moabite young woman who came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab.

6 And the servant who was set over the reapers answered and said, "It is the Moabite young woman who came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab.

7 "And she said, ‘Please let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.’ So she came and has continued even from the morning until now, except for a short rest in the house."

8 ¶ Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen carefully, my daughter? Do not go to glean in another field, nor go from here. But remain here with my servant girls.

9 "Let your eyes be on the field that they reap, and go after them. I have charged the young men that they not touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink of that which the young men have drawn."

10 Then she fell on her face and bowed herself to the ground. And she said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes that you should take notice of me, seeing I am a foreigner?"

11 And Boaz answered and said to her, "It has fully been reported to me all that you have done to your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and how you have left your father and your mother and the land of your nativity, and have come to a people that you did not previously know.

12 "The LORD repay your work. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to trust."

13 Then she said, "Let me find favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me, and indeed you have spoken kindly to your maid-
servant, “though I am not like one of your maidservants.”

14 ¶ At mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come over here. Eat of the bread and dip your morsel in the vinegar.” So she sat beside the reapers and he served her roasted grain. And she ate and “was satisfied and had some leftover.

15 And when she rose up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not insult her.

16 “And allow some to fall purposely from the bundles for her, and leave them so that she may glean them. And do not rebuke her.”

17 ¶ So she gleaned in the field until evening. And she beat out what she had gleaned and it was about an ephah of barley.

18 So she took it up and went into the city. And her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. And she took it out and gave to her what she had reserved after she was satisfied.

19 Then her mother-in-law said to her, “Where have you gleaned today? And where did you work? Blessed is he who took notice of you.” And she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, and said, “The man’s name with whom I worked today is Boaz.”

20 Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “May he be blessed of the LORD who has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and to the dead.” And Naomi said to her, “The man is a close relative to us. He is one of our kinsmen.”

21 Then Ruth the Moabitess said, “He said to me also, ‘You will stay close by my young men until they have ended all my harvest.’”

22 And Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his maidens so that you are not harmed in another field.”

23 So she kept close by the maidens of Boaz to glean to the end of the barley harvest and of the wheat harvest. And she dwelt with her mother-in-law.

Chapter 3

Ruth & Boaz at the Threshing Floor

1 ¶ Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, ‘should I not try to find a home for you so that it may be well with you?

2 “And now is not Boaz of our relatives, with whose maids you were? Behold, he winnows barley tonight in the threshing floor.

3 “Wash and anoint yourself, therefore, and put on your clothes, and go down to the threshing floor. But do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

4 “And it will be when he lies down, that you will mark the place where he lies. And you will go in and uncover his feet and lay down. Then he will tell you what you will do.”

5 So she said to her, “All that you say to me I will do.”

6 ¶ Then she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law told her.

7 Now when Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. And she came softly and uncovered his feet and laid herself down.

8 ¶ Now it came to pass at midnight that the man was afraid and turned himself, and a woman was lying at his feet.

9 And he said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth your maid. Spread, therefore, your covering over your maid, for you are a near kinsman.”

10 Then he said, “The LORD bless you, my daughter, for you have shown more kindness afterward than at the beginning, inasmuch as you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich.

11 “And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do to you all that you request, for all the city of my people know that you are a virtuous woman.

12 “And now it is true that I am your near kinsman. However, there is a kinsman closer than I.

13 “Remain this night and it will be in the morning that if he will perform to you the part of a kinsman, good. Let him do the kinsman’s part. But if he will not do the part of a kinsman to you, then as the LORD lives I..."
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**International King James Version**

**Chapter 4**

**Boaz Marries Ruth**

1 ¶ Then Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, 
the kinsman of whom Boaz spoke came by, to whom he said, 
"Come over here, my friend and sit down." And he turned aside and sat down.

2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." And they sat down.

3 Then he said to the kinsman, "Naomi, who has come again out of the country of Moab, is selling a parcel of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech.

4 "And I thought to inform you, saying, "Buy it before those who are here and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not redeem it, then tell me so that I may know, 'for there is no one to redeem it beside you, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."

5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead in order to raise up the name of the dead with his inheritance."

6 And the kinsman said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem my right for yourself, for I cannot redeem it."

7 ¶ Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning exchange of property, for to confirm all things a man took off his shoe and gave it to his neighbor. And this was the manner legalizing transactions in Israel.

8 Therefore, the kinsman said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." So he took off his shoe.

9 And Boaz said to the elders and to all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that was Elimelech's and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's.

10 Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, I have purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead on his inheritance so that the name of the dead not be cut off from among his brethren and from the town records. You are witnesses this day."

11 And all the people who were in the gate and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. The LORD make the woman who has come into your house like Rachel and like Leah, which two built the house of Israel. And may you do well in Ephratah and be famous in Bethlehem.

12 "And let your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the seed that the LORD will give you from this young woman."

**Genealogy of David**

13 ¶ So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. And when he went in to her, "the LORD enabled her to conceive and she bore a son.

14 And the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD who has not left you this day without a kinsman so that his name may be famous in Israel.

15 "And he will be to you a restorer of your life and a provider for your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has given birth to him."
16 Then Naomi took the child and laid it in her bosom and became a nurse to him.

17 And the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, “There is a son born to Naomi.” And they called his name Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

18 ¶ Now these are the generations of Perez: to Perez was born Hezron, and to Hezron was born Ram, and to Ram was born Amminadab, and to Amminadab was born Nahshon, and to Nahshon was born Salmon, and to Salmon was born Boaz, and to Boaz was born Obed, and to Obed was born Jesse, and to Jesse was born David.

19 and to Hezron was born Ram, and to Ram was born Amminadab, and to Amminadab was born Nahshon, and to Nahshon was born Salmon, and to Salmon was born Boaz, and to Boaz was born Obed, and to Obed was born Jesse, and to Jesse was born David.
returned and came to their house to Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. 

20 So it came to pass after Hannah had conceived that she gave birth to a son. And she called his name Samuel, saying, “Because I have asked for him from the LORD.”

**Dedication of Samuel**

21 ¶ And the man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and his vow. 

22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “I will not go up until the child is weaned, and then I will bring him so that he may appear before the LORD and there remain forever.” 

23 And Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems good to you. Wait until you have weaned him. Only let the LORD establish His word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. 

24 ¶ Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bulls and one ephah of flour and a bottle of wine. And she brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh. And the child was young. 

25 So they killed a bull and brought the child to Eli. 

26 Then she said, “Oh my lord, as your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD. 

27 “For this child I prayed. And the LORD has given me my petition that I asked of Him. 

28 “Therefore, I have also dedicated him to the LORD. As long as he lives he will be dedicated to the LORD.” And he worshiped the LORD there. 

**Chapter 2**

Hannah’s Prayer

1 ¶ And Hannah prayed and said, “My heart rejoices in the LORD. My horn is exalted in the LORD. My mouth is enlarged over my enemies because I rejoice in your salvation. 

2 “There is no one holy as the LORD, for there is no one besides You. Neither is there any rock like our God. 

3 “Talk no more so very proudly. Do not let arrogance come out of your mouth. For the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed. 

4 “The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they who stumbled are girded with strength. 

5 “Those who were full have hired out themselves for bread. And those who were hungry ceased. Even the barren gives birth to seven, and she who has many children has become feeble. 

6 “The LORD kills and makes alive. He brings down to the grave and brings up. 

7 “The LORD makes poor and makes rich. He brings low and lifts up. 

8 “He raises up the poor out of the dust and lifts up the beggar from the ash heap in order to set them among princes and to make them inherit the throne of glory, for the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s and He has set the world upon them. 

9 “He will guard the feet of His saints and the wicked will be silent in darkness, for by strength no man will prevail. 

10 “The adversaries of the LORD will be broken to pieces. From heaven He will thunder upon them. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth, and He will give strength to His king, and He will exalt the horn of His anointed.” 

11 Then Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child ministered to the LORD before Eli the priest. 

Wicked Sons of Eli

12 ¶Now the sons of Eli were sons of rebellion. They did not know the LORD. 

13 And the priests’ custom with the people was that when any man offered sacrifice, the priest’s servant came with a three-pronged fleshhook in his hand while the meat was boiling. 

14 And he thrust it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot. All that the fleshhook brought
Prophecy Against Eli’s House

26 ¶ Now the child Samuel grew in stature and was in favor both with the LORD and also with men.

27 And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, “Did I plainly appear to the house of your father when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh’s house?”

28 “And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be My priest, to offer on My altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before Me? And did I give to the house of your father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel?

29 Why do you kick at My sacrifice and at My offering that I have commanded in My tabernacle, and honor your sons more than Me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?”

30 “Therefore, the LORD God of Israel says, “I said indeed that your house and the house of your father should walk before Me forever.’ But now the LORD says, “Far be it from Me, for those who honor Me I will honor and those who despise Me will be lightly esteemed.

31 Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your arm and the arm of your father’s house so that there will not be an old man in your house.

32 And you will see an enemy in My habitation, in all the wealth that God will give Israel. And there will not be an old man in your house forever.

33 And any of your men whom I do not cut off from My altar will be to consume your eyes and to grieve your heart. And all the increase of your house will die in the prime of their life.

34 And this will be a sign to you that will come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas. In one day both of them will die.

35 Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who will do according to that which is in My heart and in My mind. And I will build him a sure house and he will walk before My anointed forever.

36 And it will come to pass that everyone who is left in your house will come and bow down to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread. And he will say, “Please, put me in Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there. 15 Also, before they burned the fat, the priest’s servant came and said to the man who sacrificed, “Give meat to roast for the priest, for he will not have boiled meat from you, but raw.’ 16 And if any man said to him, “They must surely burn the fat first and then take as much as your soul desires,” then he would answer him, “No, but you will give it now, and if not, I will take it by force.” 17 Therefore, the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD, for men abhorred the offering of the LORD. 18 ¶ But Samuel ministered before the LORD, even as a child, wearing a linen ephod.

19 Moreover, his mother made him a little coat and brought it to him from year to year when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

20 And Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, “The LORD give you seed of this woman for the loan that is given to the LORD.” And they went to their own home.

21 And the LORD visited Hannah so that she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

22 ¶ Now Eli was very old and heard all that his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.

23 And he said to them, “Why do you such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from the tabernacle of the assembly.

24 “No, my sons. For it is not a good report that I hear. You make the Lord’s people transgress.

25 “If one man sins against another, the Judge will judge him. But if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him? Nevertheless, they did not hearken to the voice of their father, because the LORD desired to slay them.
one of the priests’ offices so that I may eat a piece of bread.””

Chapter 3

Call of Samuel

1 ¶ Now the child Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days. There was no frequent vision.

2 Now it came to pass at that time when Eli was lying down in his place, and his eyes began to grow dim, that he could not see, 3 and before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the LORD where the ark of God was, and while Samuel was lying down,

4 that the LORD called Samuel. And he answered, “Here I am.”

5 So he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” And he said, “I did not call. Lie down again.” And he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called yet again, “Samuel.” And Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” And he answered, “I did not call, my son. Lie down again.”

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed to him.

8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.

9 Therefore, Eli said to Samuel, “Go. Lie down. And it will be if He calls you, that you will say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 ¶ And the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, “Samuel, Samuel.” Then Samuel answered, “Speak, for your servant hears.”

11 Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both the ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.

12 “In that day I will perform against Eli all things that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.

13 “For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity that he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them.

14 “And therefore, I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house will not be atoned for with sacrifice nor offering forever.”

15 And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to show Eli the vision.

16 Then Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he answered, “Here I am.”

17 And he said, “What is the thing that the LORD has said to you? Please do not hide it from me. God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all the things that He said to you.”

18 Then Samuel told him everything, and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let Him do what seems good to Him.”

19 ¶ So Samuel grew and the LORD was with him. And He let none of his words fall to the ground.

20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the LORD.

21 And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh. For the LORD revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

Chapter 4

Philistines Capture the Ark

1 ¶ And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and camped beside Ebenezer. And the Philistines camped in Aphek.

2 And the Philistines put themselves in battle array against Israel. And when they joined in battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines.

3 And when the people came into the camp, the elders of Israel said, “Why has the LORD smitten us today before the Philistines? Let us bring to us the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of Shiloh, so that when it comes among us it may save us out of the hand of our enemies.”
4 So the people sent to Shiloh so that they might bring from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of armies who dwells between the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.

5 ¶ Now when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth shook.

6 And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, “What does the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean?” Then they understood that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp.

7 So the Philistines were afraid, for they said, “God has come into the camp!” And they said, “Woe to us! For nothing like this has happened before.

8 “Woe to us! Who will deliver us out of the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

9 h“Be strong and conduct yourselves like men, you Philistines, so that you not be servants to the Hebrews as they have been to you. Conduct yourselves like men and fight.”

10 So the Philistines fought and Israel was smitten. And they fled every man into his tent. And there was a very great slaughter, for there fell of Israel 30,000 foot soldiers.

11 And the ark of God was taken, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

Death of Eli

12 ¶ Then a man of Benjamin ran from the army and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes torn and with dirt on his head.

13 And when he came, behold, Eli was sitting on his seat by the road watching, for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city and told it, all the city cried out.

14 And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, “What does the noise of this tumult mean?” And the man came quickly and told Eli.

15 Now Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes were dim so that he could not see.

16 And the man said to Eli, “I am he who came out of the army. And I fled today out of the army.” And he said, “How did things go, my son?”

17 And the messenger answered and said, “Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been also a great slaughter among the people. And your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead. And the ark of God has been taken.”

18 Now it came to pass when he made mention of the ark of God that he fell off the seat backward by the side of the gate and his neck broke. And he died, for he was an old man and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

19 ¶ And his daughter-in-law, Phinehas’ wife, was with child, ready to be delivered. And when she heard the news that the ark of God was taken and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and gave birth, for her pains came upon her.

20 Now about the time of her death the women who stood by her said to her, “Do not fear, for you have given birth to a son.” But she did not answer, nor did she regard it.

21 And she named the child Ichabod, saying, “The glory is departed from Israel,” because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father-in-law and her husband.

22 Then she said, “The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God is taken.”

Chapter 5

Ark in Ashdod and Ekron

1 ¶ Now the Philistines took the ark of God and brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod.

2 When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon and set it by Dagon.

3 Now when the people of Ashdod arose early in the morning, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD. So they took Dagon and set him in his place again.

4 Now when they arose early in the morning
the next day, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD. And the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were broken off on the threshold. Only the torso of Dagon was left.

5 Therefore, neither the priests of Dagon nor any who come into Dagon’s house tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.

6 ¶ But the hand of the LORD was heavy on the people of Ashdod. And He ravaged them and smote them with tumors, even Ashdod and its territories.

7 Now when the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, “The ark of the God of Israel will not remain with us, for His hand is harsh on us and on Dagon our god.”

8 Therefore, they sent and gathered all the lords of the Philistines to themselves and said, “What will we do with the ark of the God of Israel?” And they answered, “Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried away to Gath.” And they carried the ark of the God of Israel away.

9 So it was that after they had carried it away, the hand of the LORD was against the city with a very great destruction. And He smote the men of the city, both small and great. And tumors broke out on them.

10 ¶ Therefore, they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, “They have brought the ark of the God of Israel around to us, to slay us and our people!”

11 So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines and said, “Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to its own place so that it not slay us and our people.” For there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city. The hand of God was very heavy there.

12 And the men who did not die were smitten with the tumors. And the cry of the city went up to heaven.

Chapter 6

Ark Returned to Israel

1 ¶ Now the ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months.

2 And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, “What will we do to the ark of the LORD? Tell us where we will send it to its place.”

3 And they said, “If you send away the ark of the God of Israel, do not send it empty; but by all means return it to Him with a trespass offering. Then you will be healed and it will be known to you why His hand is not removed from you.”

4 Then they said, “What will be the trespass offering that we will return to Him?” They answered, “Five golden tumors and five golden mice, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines. For one plague was on all of you and on your lords.

5 ¶ Therefore, you will make images of your tumors and images of your mice that ravage the land. And you will give glory to the God of Israel. Perhaps He will lighten His hand from you and from off your gods and from your land.

6 ¶ Why then do you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? When He had worked wonderfully among them, did they not let the people go and they departed?

7 ¶ Now therefore, make a new cart, and take two milk cows that have never been yoked and tie the cows to the cart, and bring their calves home, away from them.

8 ¶ And take the ark of the LORD and lay it on the cart, and put the jewels of gold that you are returning to Him for a trespass offering in a chest by its side. And send it away so that it may go.

9 ¶ And see if it goes up by the way of its own territory to Beth Shemesh, then He has done us this great evil. But if not, then we will know that it is not His hand that smote us. It happened to us by chance.”

10 ¶ So the men did so. And they took two milk cows and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home.

11 And they laid the ark of the LORD on the cart and the chest with the mice of gold and the
images of their tumors.

12 And the cows took the straight way to the way of Beth Shemesh, and went along the highway, lowing as they went. And they did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. And the lords of the Philistines went after them to the border of Beth Shemesh.

13 And the people of Beth Shemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley. And they lifted up their eyes and saw the ark and rejoiced to see it.

14 And the cart came into the field of Joshua, a Bethshemite. And it stood there where there was a great stone. And they split the wood of the cart and offered the cows as a burnt offering to the LORD.

15 And the Levites took down the ark of the LORD and the chest that was with it, wherein were the jewels of gold. And they put them on the great stone. And the men of Beth Shemesh offered burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day to the LORD.

16 Now when the five lords of the Philistines saw this, they returned to Ekron the same day.

17 ¶ And these are the golden tumors that the Philistines returned for a trespass offering to the LORD: for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one; and the golden mice, according to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five lords, both fortified cities and country villages, even to the great stone of Abel, on which they set down the ark of the LORD, which stone remains to this day in the field of Joshua, the Bethshemite.

18 And He smote the men of Beth Shemesh because they had looked into the ark of the LORD. ¶ He smote of the people seventy men. And the people mourned because the LORD had smitten many of the people with a great slaughter.

19 And He said to the men of Beth Shemesh, “Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God? And to whom will He go up from us?”

20 ¶ And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjath Jearim, saying, “The Philistines have brought again the ark of the LORD. Come down and take it up to you.”

Chapter 7

1 ¶ So the men of Kirjath Jearim came and fetched the ark of the LORD. And they brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD.

Philistines Defeated at Mizpah

2 ¶ Now it came to pass while the ark remained in Kirjath Jearim that the time was long, for it was twenty years. And all the house of Israel mourned after the LORD.

3 And Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, “If you return to the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Asharothes from among you, and prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve Him only. And He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.”

4 Then the children of Israel put away the Baals and the Asharothes, and served the LORD only.

5 And Samuel said, “Gather all Israel to Mizpeh and I will pray to the LORD for you.

6 And they gathered together at Mizpeh, and drew water and poured it out before the LORD. And they fasted on that day and said there, “We have sinned against the LORD.” And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpeh.

7 Now when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel had gathered together at Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.

8 So the children of Israel said to Samuel, “Do not cease to cry out to the LORD our God for us so that He will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.”

9 ¶ So Samuel took a sucking lamb and offered it for a whole burnt offering to the LORD. And cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD heard him.

10 Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. ¶ But the LORD thundered with
a great thunder on that day on the Philistines. And He terrified them, and they were smitten before Israel.

11 Then the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh and pursued the Philistines. And they smote them down as far as below Beth Car.

12 Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpeh and Shen. And he called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the LORD has helped us.”

13 ¶ So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the territory of Israel. And the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

14 And the cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even to Gath. And Israel recovered its territory from the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

15 ¶ Now Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

16 And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel and Gilgal and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places.

17 Then his return was to Ramah, for his home was there. And there he judged Israel, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

Chapter 8
Request for a King

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Samuel was old that he made his sons judges over Israel.

2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second, Abiah. They were judges in Beersheba.

3 And his sons did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after dishonest gain. And they took bribes and perverted judgment.

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together and came to Samuel to Ramah.

5 And they said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.”

6 ¶ But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD.

7 Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Hearken to the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me that I should not reign over them.

8 “According to all the works that they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods, so do they also to you.

9 “Now therefore, hearken to their voice. However, you will solemnly warn them and tell them of the behavior of the king who will reign over them.”

10 ¶ So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who asked of him a king.

11 And he said, “This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you. He will take your sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots and to be his horsemen. And some will run before his chariots.

12 “And he will appoint for himself captains over thousands and captains over fifties. And he will set them to plow his ground and to reap his harvest and to make his instruments of war and instruments of his chariots.

13 “And he will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.

14 “And he will take your fields and your vineyards and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants.

15 “And he will take a tenth of your seed and of your vineyards, and give to his officers and to his servants.

16 “And he will take your male servants and your female servants, and your finest young men, and your donkeys, and put them to his work.

17 “He will take a tenth of your sheep. And you will be his servants.

18 “And you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you will have chosen for yourselves. And the LORD will not hear you in that day.”

19 ¶ Nevertheless, the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, “No, but we will have a king over us.
20 “so that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.”
21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he repeated them in the ears of the LORD.
22 Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Hearken to their voice and make them a king.” And Samuel said to the men of Israel, “Go every man to his city.”

Chapter 9
Anointing of Saul
1 ¶ Now there was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power.
2 And he had a son whose name was Saul, a choice and handsome young man. And there was not among the children of Israel a more handsome person than he. 3 From his shoulders and upward he was taller than any of the people.
3 Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul’s father, were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, “Take one of the servants with you, and arise, go seek the donkeys.”
4 So he passed through the hill country of Ephraim and passed through the land of cShalisha, but they did not find them. Then they passed through the land of Shalim, and they were not there. And he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they did not find them.
5 ¶ And when they had come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant who was with him, “Come and let us return, lest my father cease caring for the donkeys and become anxious for us.”
6 And he said to him, “Behold now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honorable man. 7 All that he says surely comes to pass. Now let us go there. Perhaps he can show us the way that we should go.”
7 Then Saul said to his servant, “But behold, if we go, what will we bring the man? For the bread in our vessels is all gone, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God. What do we have?”
8 And the servant answered Saul again and said, “Behold, I have here at hand one fourth of a shekel of silver. I will give that to the man of God to tell us our way.”
9 (Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke thus, “Come, and let us go to the seer”; for he who is now called a prophet was formerly called a seer.)
10 Then Saul said to his servant, “Well said. Come, let us go.” So they went to the city where the man of God was.
11 ¶ And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water. And they said to them, “Is the seer here?”
12 And they answered them and said, “He is. Behold, he is before you. Hurry now, for he has come into the city today because there is a sacrifice of the people today on the high place.
13 “As soon as you come into the city, you will surely find him before he goes up to the high place to eat. For the people will not eat until he comes, because he must bless the sacrifice; and afterward those who are invited will eat. Now therefore, go up, for about this time you will find him.”
14 And they went up into the city. When they had come into the city, behold, Samuel came out toward them in order to go up to the high place.
15 ¶ Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying,
16 “Tomorrow about this time I will send you a man out of the land of Benjamin, and you will anoint him to be captain over My people Israel, so that he may save My people out of the hand of the Philistines. For I have looked on My people because their cry has come to Me.”
17 So when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said to him, “Behold, the man of whom I spoke to you. This one will reign over My people.”
18 Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate and said, “Please tell me, where is the seer’s house?”
19 And Samuel answered Saul and said, “I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place,
for you will eat with me today. And tomorrow I will let you go, and will tell you all that is in your heart.

20 “And as for ‘your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not be anxious about them, for they are found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on you and on all your father’s house?’

21 And Saul answered and said, “Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak to me in this way?”

22 Then Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the hall. And he made them sit in the place of honor among those who were invited, which were about thirty persons.

23 And Samuel said to the cook, “Bring the portion that I gave you, of which I said to you, ‘Set it aside.’”

24 So the cook took up the shoulder and that which was on it and set it before Saul. And Samuel said, “Behold, that which was set aside! Set it before you and eat, for until this time it has been kept for you since I said I have invited the people.” So Saul ate with Samuel that day.

25 ¶ And when they came down from the high place into the city, Samuel communed with Saul on the top of the house.

26 Then they arose early. And it came to pass about the dawning of the day that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, “Get up so that I may send you away.” And Saul arose, and both he and Samuel went outside.

27 ¶ And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, “Tell the servant to go on before us.” And he went on. “But stand here awhile so that I may show you the word of God.”

Chapter 10

1 ¶ Then “Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head. And he kissed him and said, “Is it not because the LORD has anointed you to be captain over His inheritance?

2 “When you have departed from me today, you will find two men by Rachel’s sepulchre in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah. And they will say to you, ‘The donkeys that you went to seek are found. And behold, your father has left the care of the donkeys and is anxious for you, saying, ‘What will I do for my son?’

3 “Then you will go on forward from there and will come to the plain of Tabor. And there you will meet three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three young goats, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine.

4 “And they will salute you and give you two loaves of bread, which you will receive from their hands.

5 “After that you will come to the hill of God where the garrison of the Philistines is. And it will come to pass when you have come there to the city that you will meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a harp and a tambourine and a flute and a lyre before them. And they will be prophesying.

6 “And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you and you will prophesy with them. And you will be turned into another man.

7 “And let it be, when these signs have come to you, that you do as occasion demands, for God is with you.

8 “Then you will go down before me to Gilgal. And behold, I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings. You will wait seven days until I come to you and show you what you will do.”

Saul made King

9 ¶ And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart. And all those signs came to pass that day.

10 ‘Now when they came there to the hill, behold, a group of prophets met him. And the Spirit of God came upon him and he prophesied among them.

11 Now it came to pass when all who knew
him before saw that he prophesied with the prophets, then the people said to one another, “What is this that has come to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?”

12 Then a man of the same place answered and said, “But who is their father?” Therefore, it became a proverb, “Is Saul also among the prophets?”

13 Now when he had finished prophesying, he came to the high place.

14 ¶ Then Saul’s uncle said to him and to his servant, “Where did you go?” And he said, “To seek the donkeys. And when we saw that they were nowhere to be found, we came to Samuel.”

15 Then Saul’s uncle said, “Please tell me what Samuel said to you.”

16 And Saul said to his uncle, “He told us plainly that the donkeys had been found.” But he did not tell him about the matter of the kingdom that Samuel had mentioned.

17 ¶ Then Samuel called the people together to the LORD to Mizpeh.

18 And he said to the children of Israel, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘I brought up Israel out of Egypt and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and from those who oppressed you.’

19 “And you have this day rejected your God, who Himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations. And you have said to him, ‘No, but set a king over us.’ Now therefore, present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your clans.”

20 And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken.

21 When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken. And when they sought him, he could not be found.

22 Therefore, they inquired further of the LORD, “Has the man come here yet?” And the LORD answered, “Behold, he has hid himself among the equipment.”

23 So they ran and fetched him from there. And when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

24 And Samuel said to all the people, “Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen, that there is none like him among all the people?” And all the people shouted and said, “Long live the king.”

25 ¶ Then Samuel told the people the ordinances of the kingdom. And he wrote it in a book and laid it up before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

26 And Saul also went home to Gibeah. And there went with him valiant men whose hearts God had touched.

27 But the children of the rebellious ones said, “How will this man save us?” And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

Chapter 11
Saul Rescues Jabesh

1 ¶ Then Nahash the Ammonite came up and camped against Jabesh Gilead. And all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, “Make a covenant with us and we will serve you.”

2 And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, “On this condition I will make a covenant with you, that I may put out all your right eyes and thus I will make it a reproach on all Israel.”

3 And the elders of Jabesh said to him, “Give us seven days so that we may send messengers to all the territory of Israel. And then, if there is no man to save us, we will come out to you.”

4 ¶ Then the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul and told the news in the ears of the people. And fall the people lifted up their voices and wept.

5 And behold, Saul came after the herd out of the field. And Saul said, “What troubles the people that they weep?” And they told him the news of the men of Jabesh.

6 ¶ And the Spirit of God came on Saul when he heard this news. And his anger was greatly aroused.
7 Then he took a yoke of oxen and a cut them in pieces. And he sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, “Whoever does not go out after Saul and after Samuel, so will it be done to his oxen.” And the fear of the LORD fell on the people, and they came out with one accord.

8 Now when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were 300,000, and the men of Judah 30,000.

9 And they said to the messengers who came, “Thus you will say to the men of Jabesh Gilead, ‘Tomorrow, by the time the sun is hot, you will have help.’” And the messengers came and told it to the men of Jabesh, and they were glad.

10 Therefore, the men of Jabesh said, “Tomorrow we will come out to you, and you will do with us all that seems good to you.”

11 And it was so on the next day, that Saul put the people in three companies. And they came into the midst of the camp in the morning watch and slew the Ammonites until the heat of the day. And it came to pass that those who remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

Confirmation of Saul as King

12 ¶ Then the people said to Samuel, “Who is he who said, ‘Will Saul reign over us?’ Bring the men so that we may put them to death.”

13 And Saul said, “There will not a man be put to death this day, for today the LORD has accomplished salvation in Israel.”

14 Then Samuel said to the people, “Come and let us go to Gilgal and renew the kingdom there.”

15 So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal. And there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD, and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

Chapter 12

Samuel’s Farewell

1 ¶ Then Samuel said to all Israel, “Behold, I have hearkened to your voice in all that you said to me and have made a king over you.

2 “And now, behold, the king ‘walks before you. ‘But I am old and grayheaded. Now behold, my sons are with you. And I have walked before you from my childhood to this day.

3 “Here I am. Witness against me before the LORD and before His anointed. ‘Whose ox have I taken? Or, whose donkey have I taken? Or, whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or, of whose hand have I received any bribe with which to blind my eyes? I will restore it to you.’

4 And they said, “You have not defrauded us, nor oppressed us. Neither have you taken anything from any man’s hand.”

5 Then he said to them, “The LORD is witness against you and His anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.” And they answered, “He is witness.”

6 ¶ Then Samuel said to the people, “It is the LORD who appointed Moses and Aaron, and who brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

7 “Now therefore, take your stand so that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the righteous acts of the LORD that He did to you and to your fathers.

8 ¶ “When Jacob went into Egypt, and your fathers cried out to the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron who brought forth your fathers out of Egypt and made them dwell in this place.

9 “And when they forgot the LORD their God, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the army of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab. And they fought against them.

10 “Then they cried out to the LORD and said, ‘We have sinned because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served the Baals and the Ashtaroth. But now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve You.’

11 “So the LORD sent Jerubbaal and Bedan and Jephthah and Samuel and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side. And you dwelt in safety.
12 “And when you saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, as you said to me, ‘No, but a king will reign over us,’ although the LORD your God was your king.

13 “Now therefore, behold the king whom you have chosen, and whom you have desired! And behold, the LORD has set a king over you.

14 “If you will fear the LORD and serve Him and obey His voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then will both you and the king who reigns over you, continue following the LORD your God.

15 “But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then will the hand of the LORD be against you as it was against your fathers.

16 ¶ “Now therefore, take your stand and see this great thing that the LORD will do before your eyes.

17 “Is it not the wheat harvest today? I will call to the LORD and He will send thunder and rain so that you may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, what you have done in the sight of the LORD in asking for yourselves a king.”

18 So Samuel called to the LORD and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day. And all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

19 ¶ And all the people said to Samuel, “Pray for your servants to the LORD your God so that we do not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask a king for ourselves.”

20 And Samuel said to the people, “Do not fear. You have done all this wickedness; yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart.

21 “And do not turn aside, for then you would go after vain things that cannot profit nor deliver, for they are futile.

22 “For the LORD will not forsake His people for His great name’s sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you His people.

23 “Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you. But I will teach you the good and the right way.

24 ¶ “Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart, for consider what great things He has done for you.

25 “But if you will still do wickedly, you will be consumed, both you and your king.”

Chapter 13
Samuel Rebukes Saul

1 ¶ Saul was forty years old when he began to reign. And when he had reigned two years over Israel,

2 Saul chose for himself 3,000 men of Israel, of which 2,000 were with Saul in Michmash and in the hill country Bethel, and 1,000 were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. And the rest of the people he sent away, every man to his tent.

3 And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, “Let the Hebrews hear.”

4 And all Israel heard that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel had also become an abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal.

5 ¶ And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, 30,000 chariots and 6,000 horsemen, and people as the sand that is on the seashore in multitude. And they came up and camped in Michmash, east of Beth Aven.

6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in danger, (for the people were distressed), then the people hid themselves in caves and in thickets and in rocks and in high places and in pits.

7 And some of the Hebrews went over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

8 ¶ And he waited seven days, according to
the set time that Samuel had appointed. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattered from him. 9 And Saul said, “Bring here to me a burnt offering and peace offerings.” And he offered the burnt offering. 10 Now it came to pass that as soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came. And Saul went out to meet him so that he might salute him. 11 ¶ And Samuel said, “What have you done?” And Saul said, “Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash, 12 therefore I said, ‘The Philistines will now come down on me to Gilgal and I have not made supplication to the LORD.’ I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.” 13 And Samuel said to Saul, k“You have done foolishly. lYou have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God that He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 m“But now your kingdom will not continue. nThe LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be captain over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.” 15 And Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people who were present with him, qabout six hundred men. Lack of Weapons 16 ¶ And Saul and Jonathan his son, and the people who were present with them, remained in Gibeah of Benjamin. But the Philistines camped in Michmash. 17 Then the raiders came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies. One company turned to the way that leads to ‘Ophrah, to the land of Shual. 18 And another company turned the way to Beth Horon. And another company turned to the way of the border that looks to the valley of ‘Zeboim toward the wilderness. 19 ¶ Now there was no blacksmith found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, “Lest the Hebrews make for themselves swords or spears.” 20 But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines to sharpen every man his plowshare and his mattock and his ax and his hoe. 21 The charge was two-thirds of a shekel for the plowshares and the mattocks and the forks and the axes, and to fix the hoes. 22 So it came to pass on the day of battle that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan. But they were found with Saul and Jonathan his son. 23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash.

Chapter 14 Jonathan Attacks the Philistines 1 ¶ Now it came to pass one day that Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come, and let us go over to the Philistines’ garrison that is on the other side.” But he did not tell his father. 2 And Saul waited on the outskirts of a Gibeah under a pomegranate tree that is in Migron. And the people who were with him were about six hundred men. 3 And bAhiah, the son of Ahitub, cIchabod’s brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD’s priest in Shiloh, was dweari an ephod. And the people did not know that Jonathan had gone. 4 ¶ And between the passages by which Jonathan sought to go over to the Philistines’ garrison, there was a sharp rock on one side and a sharp rock on the other side. And the name of the one was Bozez and the name of the other Seneh. 5 The face of the one was situated northward opposite Michmash, and the other southward opposite Gibeah. 6 ¶ And Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come, and let us go over to
the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for there is no restraint to the LORD to gsave by many or by few.”
7 And his armorbearer said to him, “Do all that is in your heart. Turn yourself, and here I am with you according to your heart.”
8 Then Jonathan said, “Behold, we will pass over to these men and we will reveal ourselves to them.
9 “If they say thus to us, ‘Wait until we come to you,’ then we will stand still in our place and will not go up to them.
10 “But if they say thus, ‘Come up to us,’ then we will go up, for the LORD has delivered them into our hand, and this will be a sign to us.”
11 And both of them revealed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said, “Behold, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they have hidden themselves.”
12 Then the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armorbearer and said, “Come up to us and we will show you something.” And Jonathan said to his armorbearer, “Come up after me, for the LORD has delivered them into the hand of Israel.”
13 So Jonathan climbed up on his hands and on his feet, and his armorbearer after him. And they fell before Jonathan. And his armorbearer put some to death after him.
14 And that first slaughter that Jonathan and his armorbearer made was about twenty men within about half an acre of land.

The Philistines Panic
15 ¶ And there was trembling in the army, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and the raiders, they also trembled. And the earth quaked, so that it was a very great trembling.
16 And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and beheld, the multitude melted away. And they went here and there.
17 Then Saul said to the people who were with him, “Number and see who has gone from us.” And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armorbearer were not there.
18 And Saul said to Ahijah, “Bring here the ark of God.” For the ark of God was at that time with the children of Israel.
19 Now it came to pass while Saul talked to the priest, that the noise that was in the army of the Philistines went on and increased. And Saul said to the priest, “Withdraw your hand.”
20 And Saul and all the people who were with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle. And behold, every man’s sword was against his neighbor, and there was a very great confusion.
21 Moreover, the Hebrews who were with the Philistines before that time, who went up with them into the camp from the surrounding country, they also joined with the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan.
22 Likewise, all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in the hill country of Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, they also followed hard after them in the battle.
23 So the LORD saved Israel that day, and the battle passed over to Beth Aven.

The People Save Jonathan
24 ¶ And the men of Israel were distressed that day, for Saul had placed the people under oath, saying, “Cursed is the man who eats any food until evening, until I have avenged myself on my enemies.” So none of the people tasted food.
25 Now all the people of the land came to a forest. And there was honey on the ground.
26 And when the people had come into the forest, behold, the honey dropped. But no man put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath.
27 But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath. Therefore, he put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand and dipped it in a honeycomb and put his hand to his mouth. And his eyes were brightened.
28 Then one of the people said, “Your father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, ‘Cursed is the man who eats any food this
day." And the people were faint.

29 Then Jonathan said, “My father has troubled the land. See now how my eyes have brightened because I tasted a little of this honey.

30 “How much more if only the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies that they found? For now would there not have been a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?”

31 ¶ And they smote the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon. And the people were very faint.

32 And the people rushed on the spoil and took sheep and oxen and calves. And they slew them on the ground, and the people ate them with the blood.

33 Then they told Saul, saying, “Behold, the people sin against the LORD in that they eat with the blood.” And he said, “You have transgressed. Roll a great stone to me this day.”

34 And Saul said, “Let us go down after the Philistines by night and raid them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them.” And they said, “Do whatever seems good to you.” Then the priest said, “Let us draw near to God here.”

37 And Saul asked counsel of God, “Will I go down after the Philistines? Will You deliver them into the hand of Israel?” But He did not answer him that day.

38 And Saul said, “Bring yourselves over here all you chiefs of the people, and know and see what this sin has been this day.

39 For as the LORD lives who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he will surely die.” But there was not a man among all the people who answered him.

40 Then he said to all Israel, “You be on one side, and my son Jonathan and I will be on the other side.” And the people said to Saul, “Do what seems good to you.”

41 Therefore, Saul said to the LORD God of Israel, “Give a perfect lot.” And Saul and Jonathan were taken. But the people were cleared.

42 And Saul said, “Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son.” And Jonathan was taken.

43 Then Saul said to Jonathan, “Tell me what you have done.” And Jonathan told him and said, “I only tasted a little honey with the end of the staff that was in my hand. So now I must die!”

44 And Saul answered, “God do so and more also. For you will surely die, Jonathan.”

45 And the people said to Saul, “Will Jonathan die, who has accomplished this great salvation in Israel? Certainly not! As the LORD lives, there will not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day.” So the people rescued Jonathan so that he did not die.

46 Then Saul went up from following the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place.

47 ¶ So Saul took the kingdom over Israel and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab and against the children of Ammon and against Edom and against the kings of Zobah and against the Philistines. And wherever he turned, he harassed them.

48 And he gathered an army and smote the Amalekites. And he delivered Israel out of the hands of those who raided them.

Family of Saul

49 ¶ Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan and Ishui and Melchishua. And the names of his two daughters were these: the name of the first-born Merab and the name of the younger Michal.”

50 And the name of Saul’s wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz. And the name of the captain of his army was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul’s uncle.
51 ¶ And Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel.

52 ¶ Now there was fierce war against the Philistines all the days of Saul. And when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he recruited him into his service.

Chapter 15
Saul is Rejected as King

1 ¶ Samuel also said to Saul, “The LORD sent me to anoint you to be king over his people, over Israel. Now therefore, hearken to the voice of the words of the LORD.

2 “Thus says the LORD of armies: ‘I remember what Amalek did to Israel, how he laid in ambush for him in the way when he came up from Egypt.

3 “Now go and smite Amalek and utterly destroy all that they have. And do not spare them. But slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’”

4 So Saul gathered the people together and numbered them in Telaim, 200,000 foot soldiers and 10,000 men of Judah.

5 And Saul came to a city of Amalek and laid in ambush in the valley.

6 ¶ Then Saul said to the Kenites, “Go, depart, get down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt.” So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

7 Then Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah as you go to Shur, that is east of Egypt.

8 ¶ And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

9 But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and of the fatlings and the lambs and all that was good, and were not willing to utterly destroy them. But everything that was vile and refuse, that they utterly destroyed.

10 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying,

11 “I regret that I have set up Saul to be king, for he has turned his back from following Me and has not performed My commandments.” And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the LORD all night.

12 And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, “Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself. And he has gone on around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal.”

13 Then Samuel came to Saul. And Saul said to him, “Blessed are you of the LORD. I have performed the commandment of the LORD.”

14 And Samuel said, “What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen that I hear?”

15 And Saul said, “They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen to sacrifice to the LORD your God. And the rest we have utterly destroyed.”

16 Then Samuel said to Saul, “Wait, and I will tell you what the LORD has said to me this night.” And he said to him, “Speak.”

17 ¶ Then Samuel said, “When you were small in your own sight, were you not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed you king over Israel?

18 “And the LORD sent you on a journey, and said, ‘Go and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’

19 “Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD, but rushed on the spoil and did evil in the sight of the LORD?”

20 And Saul said to Samuel, “But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD and have gone the way that the LORD sent me. And I have brought Agag the king of Amalek and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

21 ¶“But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things that should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.”

22 Then Samuel said, “Does the LORD have great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken
than the fat of rams.

23 "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, "He has also rejected you from being king."

24 Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice."

25 ¶ Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice."

26 But Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel."

27 And as Samuel turned around to go away, he laid hold on the skirt of his robe, and it tore.

28 So Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to a neighbor of yours who is better than you."

29 "And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor change His mind, for He is not a man that He should change His mind."

30 Then he said, "I have sinned, but please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me so that I may worship the LORD."

31 So Samuel went back following Saul. And Saul worshiped the LORD.

32 ¶ Then Samuel said, "Bring here to me Agag the king of the Amalekites." And Agag came to him cautiously. And Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death is past."

33 Then Samuel said, "As your sword has made women childless, so will your mother be childless among women." And Samuel hacked Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

34 ¶ Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

35 And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless, Samuel mourned for Saul. And the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.

Chapter 16
Samuel Anoints David

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? bFill your horn with oil and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for Myself a king among his sons."

2 And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'"

3 "Then call Jesse to the sacrifice and I will show you what you will do. And you will anoint for Me the one I name to you."

4 So Samuel did what the LORD spoke and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming and said, "Do you come peaceably?"

5 And he said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

6 ¶ Now it came to pass when they had come, that he looked on Eliab and said, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him."

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees. For man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."

11 Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are these all the children?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and behold, he keeps the sheep."

12 And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and fetch him, z
for we will not sit down until he comes here.”

12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was full of spirit and with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.”

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD came on David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

David Serves Saul

14 ¶ But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

15 And Saul’s servants said to him, “Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubles you.

16 “Let our lord now command your servants that are before you to seek out a man who is skillful on a harp. And it will come to pass when the evil spirit from God is upon you, that he will play with his hand and you will be well.”

17 So Saul said to his servants, “Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring him to me.”

18 Then one of the servants answered and said, “Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skillful in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a handsome person. And the LORD is with him.”

19 ¶ Therefore, Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, “Send me David your son who is with the sheep.”

20 So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread and a bottle of wine and a young goat, and sent them by David his son to Saul.

21 And David came to Saul and stood before him. And he loved him greatly. And he became his armorbearer.

22 Then Saul sent to Jesse, saying, “Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight.”

23 Now it came to pass when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took a harp and played with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

Chapter 17
David and Goliath

1 ¶ Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle. And they were gathered together at Shohoh that belongs to Judah. And they camped between Shohoh and Azekah, in Ephes Dammim.

2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together. And they camped by the valley of Elah and set in battle array against the Philistines.

3 And the Philistines stood on a mountain on one side and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side. And there was a valley between them.

4 Now there went out a champion of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

5 And he had a helmet of bronze on his head. And he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze.

6 And he had bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders.

7 Now the staff of his spear was like a weaver’s beam. And his spear’s head weighed six hundred shekels of iron. And one bearing a shield went before him.

8 And he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel and said to them, “Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine and you servants to Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me.

9 “If he is able to fight with me and to kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you will be our servants and serve us.”

10 And the Philistine said, “I defy the armies of Israel this day. Give me a man so that we may fight together.”

11 When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

12 ¶ Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah whose name was Jesse who had eight sons. And the man
was old in the days of Saul, advanced in years among men.

And the three oldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

Now David was the youngest. And the three eldest followed Saul.

But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father’s sheep at Bethlehem.

And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

Then Jesse said to David his son, “Take now for your brethren an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to your brothers.

And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them.”

Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

So David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the supplies and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the circle of the camp as the army was going forth to the fight and shouting for the battle.

For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

Then David left his supplies in the hand of the keeper of the supplies, and ran into the army. And he came and saluted his brothers.

And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines. And he spoke according to the same words. And David heard them.

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were greatly afraid.

Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab’s anger was kindled against David. And he said, “Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down so that you might see the battle.”

And David said, “What have I now done? Is there not a cause?”

Then he turned from him toward another and spoke after the same manner. And the people answered him again after the former manner.

And when the words were heard that David spoke, they rehearsed them before Saul. And he sent for him.

Now David said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”

Then Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.”

But David said to Saul, “Your servant kept his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock,

then I went out after him and smote him out of his mouth. And when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and smote him and slew him.

Your servant slew both the lion and the bear. And this uncircumcised Philistine will be as one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.”

David also said, “The LORD who delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of
the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, b“Go, and the LORD be with you.”

38 ¶ So Saul armed David with his armor. And he put a helmet of bronze on his head. He also armed him with a coat of mail.

39 And David girded his sword on his armor, and he tried to walk, for he had not tested it. And David said to Saul, “I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them.” And David took them off.

40 ¶ Then he took his staff in his hand and chose for himself five smooth stones out of the brook. And he put them in a shepherd’s bag that he had, in a pouch, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

41 Then the Philistine came and drew near to David. And the man who bore the shield went before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he cdisdained him, for he was but a youth, and druddy, with a handsome appearance.

43 Then the Philistine e said to David, “Am I a dog that you come to me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

44 Then the Philistine f said to David, “Come to me and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field.”

45 Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a shield. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of armies, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have hdefied.

46 “This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand. And I will smite you and take your head from you. And I will give the icarcasses of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

47 “Then all this assembly will know that the LORD kdoes not save with sword and spear, for the battle is the Lord’s and He will give you into our hands.”

48 ¶ Now it came to pass when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hastened and mran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

49 Then David put his hand in his bag and took from there a stone. And he slung it and smote the Philistine in his forehead so that the stone sunk into his forehead. And he fell on his face to the earth.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone. And he smote the Philistine and slew him, but there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Then David ran and stood on the Philistine. And he took his o sword and drew it out of its sheath and slew him. Then he cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, pthey fled.

52 Then the men of Israel and of Judah arose and shouted. And they pursued the Philistines until you come to the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to qShaaraim, even to Gath and to Ekron.

53 Then the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they plundered their tents.

54 And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

55 ¶ And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said to rAbner, the captain of the army, “Abner, swhose son is this youth?” And Abner said, “As your soul lives, O king, I cannot tell.”

56 Then the king said, “Inquire whose son the young man is.”

57 Now as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul twith the head of the Philistine in his hand.

58 And Saul said to him, “Whose son are you, young man?” And David answered, “I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.”

Chapter 18
Saul is Jealous of David

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when he had finished speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was jointed with the soul of David. And bJonathan
16 And Saul took him that day and would not let him go home to his father’s house.
17 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.
18 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even his sword and his bow and his belt.
19 And David went out wherever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul’s servants.
20 ¶ Now it came to pass as they were coming, when David returned from the slaughter of the Philistines, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul with tambourines, with joy and with instruments of music.
21 And the women answered one another as they played, and said, “Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands.”
22 And Saul was very angry and the saying displeased him. And he said, “They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. And what can he have more but the kingdom?”
23 Then Saul looked with suspicion at David from that day forward.
24 ¶ Now it came to pass on the next day that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house. And David played with his hand as at other times. And there was a javelin in Saul’s hand.
25 ¶ Then Saul said, “I will give her to him so that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.” Therefore, Saul said to David, “For a second time you will this day be my son-in-law.”
26 And Saul commanded his servants, saying, “Speak with David secretly, and say, ‘Behold, the king has delight in you and all his servants love you. Now therefore, be the king’s son-in-law.’”
27 So Saul’s servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said to Saul, “Who am I? And what is my life or my father’s family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?”
28 But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul’s daughter should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.
29 And Michal, Saul’s daughter loved David. And they told Saul and the thing pleased him.
30 Then Saul said, “I will give her to him so that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines be against him.” Therefore, Saul said to David, “For a second time you will this day be my son-in-law.”
31 And Saul commanded his servants, saying, “Speak with David secretly, and say, ‘Behold, the king has delight in you and all his servants love you. Now therefore, be the king’s son-in-law.’”
32 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, “In this manner David spoke.”
33 Then Saul said, “Thus you will say to David, ‘The king does not desire any dowry, but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king’s enemies.’” But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.
34 And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king’s son-in-law. And the days had not expired.
and they gave them in full count to the king, so that he might be the king’s son-in-law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife.

28 ¶ And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal Saul’s daughter loved him.

29 And Saul was still more afraid of David. And Saul became David’s enemy continually.

30 Then the princes of the Philistines went forth to war. Now it came to pass after they went forth that David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name was highly esteemed.

Chapter 19
Saul’s Attempt on David’s Life

1 ¶ Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David.

2 But Jonathan Saul’s son delighted much in David. And Jonathan told David, saying, “Saul my father is seeking to kill you. Now therefore, please take heed to yourself until the morning, and stay in a secret place and hide yourself.

3 “And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you. And what I see, that I will tell you.”

4 ¶ And Jonathan spoke good of David to Saul his father. And he said to him, “Do not let the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you.

5 “For he took his life in his hand and struck the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Therefore, why will you sin against innocent blood to slay David without a cause?”

6 So Saul hearkened to the voice of Jonathan. And Saul swore, “As the LORD lives, he will not be killed.”

7 Then Jonathan called David and Jonathan showed him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as in times past.

8 ¶ Then there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines. 'And he slew them with a great slaughter, and they fled from him.

9 And the “evil spirit from the LORD was on Saul as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand. And David played with his hand.

10 And Saul sought to pin David even to the wall with the javelin. But he slipped away out of Saul’s presence, and he drove the javelin into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

11 “Saul also sent messengers to David’s house to watch him, and to kill him in the morning. And Michal David’s wife told him, saying, “If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.”

12 So Michal let David down through a window. And he went and fled and escaped.

13 Then Michal took an image and laid it in the bed. And she put a pillow of goats’ hair for his head and covered it with a cloth.

14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, “He is sick.”

15 Then Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, “Bring him up to me in the bed so that I may kill him.”

16 And when the messengers came in, behold, there was an image in the bed with a pillow of goats’ hair for his head.

17 And Saul said to Michal, “Why have you deceived me so and sent away my enemy so that he has escaped?” And Michal answered Saul, “He said to me, ‘Let me go! Why should I kill you?’”

18 ¶ So David fled and escaped. And he came to Samuel to Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.

19 And it was told Saul, saying, “Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.”

20 Then ‘Saul sent messengers to take David. 'And when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of God was on the messengers of Saul and they also prophesied.

21 And when it was told Saul, he sent other
messengers and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time and they prophesied also.

22 Then he went also to Ramah and came to a great well that is in Sechu. And he asked and said, “Where are Samuel and David?” And one said, “Behold, they are at Naiioth in Ramah.”

23 And he went there to Naiioth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God was upon him also. And he went on and prophesied until he came to Naiioth in Ramah.

24 Then he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner. And he lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore, they say, “Is Saul also among the prophets?”

Chapter 20

David and Jonathan

1 ¶ And David fled from Naiioth in Ramah and came and said before Jonathan, “What have I done? What is my iniquity? And what is my sin before your father that he is seeking my life?”

2 And he said to him, “Far from it, you will not die. Behold, my father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will show it to me. And why should my father hide this thing from me? It is not so.”

3 And David vowed again and said, “Your father certainly knows that I have found grace in your eyes. And he says, ‘Do not let Jonathan know this, or he will be grieved.’ But truly as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death.”

4 Then Jonathan said to David, “Whatever your soul desires, I will even do it for you.”

5 Then David said to Jonathan, “Behold, tomorrow is the new moon and I should not fail to sit with the king to eat. But let me go so that I may hide myself in the field until the third day at evening.

6 “If your father at all misses me, then say, ‘David earnestly asked leave of me so that he might run to Bethlehem his city, for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.’

7 “If he says thus, ‘It is well,’ your servant will have peace. But if he is very angry, then be sure that evil is determined by him. 8 Therefore, you will deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant of the LORD with you. Nevertheless, ‘if there is in me iniquity, slay me yourself, for why should you bring me to your father?’

9 Then Jonathan said, “Far be it from you. For if I knew for certain that evil were determined by my father to come upon you, then would I not tell it to you?”

10 Then David said to Jonathan, “Who will tell me? Or, what if your father answers you roughly?”

11 And Jonathan said to David, “Come, and let us go out into the field.” And both of them went out into the field.

12 ¶ Then Jonathan said to David, “O LORD God of Israel, when I have sounded out my father about this time tomorrow, or the third day, and behold, if there is good toward David, will I not then send to you and make it known to you?

13 “If it pleases my father to do you harm, may the LORD do so to Jonathan and more also if I do not make it known to you and send you away so that you may go in peace. And the LORD be with you as He has been with my father.

14 “And you will not only show me the kindness of the LORD while I still live, so that I not die.

15 “But also you will not cut off your kindness from my house forever, not even when the LORD has cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth.”

16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, “Let the LORD require it at the hand of David’s enemies.”

17 ¶ And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him. For he loved him as he loved his own soul.

18 Then Jonathan said to David, “Tomorrow is the new moon and you will be missed because your seat will be empty.

19 “And when you have stayed three days,
then you will go down quickly and come to the place where you hid yourself on that eventful day. And you will remain by the stone Ezel.

20 “And I will shoot three arrows on the side as though I shot at a mark.

21 “And behold, I will send a lad, saying, ‘Go find the arrows.’ If I specifically say to the lad, ‘Behold, the arrows are on this side of you, get them,’ then come, for there is peace for you and no harm, as the LORD lives.

22 “But if I say thus to the young man, ‘Behold, the arrows are beyond you,’ go your way, for the LORD has sent you away.

23 “And as for the matter about which you and I have spoken, behold, the LORD is between you and me forever.”

24 ¶ So David hid himself in the field. And when the new moon had come, the king sat down to eat food.

25 And the king sat on his seat as at other times, even on a seat by the wall. And Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul’s side, but David’s place was empty.

26 Nevertheless, Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, “Something has befallen him. He is not clean. Surely he is not clean.”

27 Now it came to pass on the next day, the second day of the month, that David’s place was empty. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, “Why has the son of Jesse not come to eat, neither yesterday nor today?”

28 And Jonathan answered Saul, “David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem.

29 “And he said, ‘Please let me go, for our family has a sacrifice in the city, and my brother, he has commanded me to be there. And now, if I have found favor in your eyes, please let me get away and see my brothers.’ Therefore, he is not coming to the king’s table.”

30 Then Saul’s anger was kindled against Jonathan. And he said to him, “You son of the perverse, rebellious woman, do not I know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother’s nakedness?

31 “For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, you will not be established, nor your kingdom. Now therefore, send and bring him to me, for he will surely die.”

32 And Jonathan answered Saul his father and said to him, “Why should he be killed? What has he done?”

33 And Saul “cast a javelin at him in order to smite him. So Jonathan knew that it was determined by his father to kill David.

34 So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and ate no food the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David, because his father had treated him shamefully.

35 ¶ Now it came to pass in the morning that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him.

36 And he said to his lad, “Run, find now the arrows that I shoot.” And as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

37 And when the lad had come to the place of the arrow that Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried out after the lad, and said, “Is not the arrow beyond you?”

38 And Jonathan cried out after the lad, “Make haste, hurry. Do not delay.” And Jonathan’s lad gathered up the arrows and came to his master.

39 But the lad did not know anything. Only Jonathan and David knew the matter.

40 And Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad and said to him, “Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘The LORD be between me and you and between my seed and your seed forever.’” And he arose and departed.

Chapter 21

David at Nob

1 ¶ Then David came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest. And a Ahimelech was afraid to meet David and said to him, “Why are you alone and no man with you?”

1 Samuel 21
2 And David said to Ahimelech the priest, “The king has commanded me some business and has said to me, ‘Let no man know anything of the business about which I send you and what I have commanded you.’ And I have appointed my servants to such and such a place.
3 “Now therefore, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread in my hand or whatever can be found.”
4 Then the priest answered David and said, “There is no common bread in my hand, but there is hallowed bread; if only the young men have kept themselves from women.”
5 And David answered the priest and said to him, “Of a truth women have been kept from us about these three days since I came out. And the vessels of the young men are holy and the bread is in effect common, even though it was sanctified this day in the vessel.”
6 So the priest gave him hallowed bread, for there was no bread there but the showbread that was taken from before the LORD in order to put hot bread in its place on the day when it was taken away.
7 ¶ Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before the LORD. And his name was Doeg, an Edomite, the chiefest of the herdsmen who belonged to Saul.
8 And David said to Ahimelech, “And is there not here in your hand a spear or sword? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me because the king’s business required haste.”
9 And the priest said, “The sword of Goliath the Philistine whom you killed in the valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it. For there is no other except that one here.” And David said, “There is none like it. Give it to me.”

David at Gath
10 ¶ So David arose and fled that day for fear of Saul. And he went to Achish the king of Gath.
11 And the servants of Achish said to him, “Is not this David the king of the land? Did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, ‘Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands’?”
12 And David laid up these words in his heart, and was very afraid of Achish the king of Gath.
13 So he changed his behavior before them and acted insanely in their hands. And he scratched on the doors of the gate and let his saliva fall down on his beard.
14 Then Achish said to his servants, “Lo, you see the man is mad. Why then have you brought him to me?
15 “Have I need of mad men, that you have brought this fellow to play the mad man in my presence? Will this fellow come into my house?”

Chapter 22

David at Adullam and Mizpah
1 ¶ David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father’s house heard it, they went down there to him.
2 “And everyone who was in distress and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented, gathered themselves to him. And he became a captain over them. And there were with him about four hundred men.
3 ¶ Then David went from there to Mizpeh of Moab. And he said to the king of Moab, “Please let my father and mother come here with you and be with you until I know what God will do for me.”
4 So he brought them before the king of Moab, and they dwelt with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.
5 And the prophet Gad said to David, “Do not remain in the stronghold. Depart, and go into the land of Judah.” Then David departed and came into the forest of Hareth.

Saul Kills the Priests of Nob
6 ¶ Then Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men who were with him. Now Saul remained in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand and all his servants were standing around him.
7 Then Saul said to his servants who stood around him, “Hear now, you Benjamites. Will the son of Jesse give everyone of you fields and vineyards, and make you all captains of thousands and captains of hundreds?
8 “All of you have conspired against me. And there is no one who shows me that my son has made a covenant with the son of Jesse. And there is not one of you who is sorry for me or shows to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait as it is this day?”

9 ¶ Then Doeg the Edomite, who was set over the servants of Saul answered and said, “I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.
10 "And he inquired of the LORD for him, and gave him provisions. And he gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."
11 ¶ Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father’s house, the priests who were in Nob. And all of them came to the king.
12 And Saul said, “Hear now, you son of Ahitub.” And he answered, “Here I am, my lord.”
13 Then Saul said to him, “Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread and a sword, and have inquired of God for him so that he should rise up against me, to lie in wait as it is this day?”
14 Then Ahimelech answered the king and said, “And who is so faithful among all your servants as David who is the king’s son-in-law, and goes at your bidding and is honorable in your house?
15 “Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? Be it far from me! Do not let the king impute anything to his servant, or to all the house of my father. For your servant knew nothing of all this, little or much.”
16 And the king said, “You will surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father’s house!”
17 And the king said to the footmen who stood about him, “Turn and slay the priests of the LORD, because their hand also is with David and because they knew when he fled and did not show it to me.” But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall on the priests of the LORD.
18 And the king said to Doeg, “Turn and fall on the priests.” And Doeg the Edomite turned and he fell on the priests and killed on that day eighty-five persons who wore the linen ephod.
19 ¶ And Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings. Also oxen and donkeys and sheep, he struck with the edge of the sword.
20 ¶ And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.
21 And Abiathar told David that Saul had slain the LORD’S priests.
22 Then David said to Abiathar, “I knew that day when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have caused the death of all the persons of your father’s house.
23 “Remain with me. Do not fear, for he who seeks my life seeks your life. But with me you will be in safety.”

Chapter 23

David Saves Keilah

1 ¶ Then they told David, saying, “Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah and they are robbing the threshingfloors.”
2 Therefore, David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Will I go and smite these Philistines?” And the LORD said to David, “Go and smite the Philistines and save Keilah.”
3 But David’s men said to him, “Behold, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?”
4 Then David inquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.”
5 So David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines. And he brought back their cattle and sheep, and gave them to the people of Judah. And David made himself a name to be strong.”
away their livestock, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

6 ¶ Now it came to pass when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, that he came down with an ephod in his hand.

7 And it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah. And Saul said, “God has delivered him into my hand, for he is shut in by entering into a town that has gates and bars.”

8 So David knew that Saul secretly plotted evil against him. So he said to Abiathar the priest, “Bring here the ephod.”

9 Then David said, “O LORD God of Israel, your servant has certainly heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah in order to destroy the city for my sake.

10 ¶ And David said, “Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? Will Saul come down, as your servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I beg you, tell your servant.” And the LORD said, “He will come down.”

11 Then David said, “Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?” And the LORD said, “They will deliver you up.”

12 ¶ Then David and his men, about six hundred men, arose and departed out of Keilah and went wherever they could go. And it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah. So he stopped the pursuit.

13 ¶ But there came a messenger to Saul, saying, “Hasten and come, for the Philistines have invaded the land.”

14 Therefore, Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines. Therefore, they called that place the Rock of Escape.

15 And Jonathan Saul’s son arose and went to David into the forest. And he strengthened his hand in God.

16 And he said to him, “Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father will not find you. And you will be king over Israel and I will be next to you, and Saul my father knows this also.”

17 ¶ And they arose and went to Ziph before Saul. But David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

18 So the two made a covenant before the LORD. And David stayed in the forest and Jonathan went to his house.

19 ¶ Then the Ziphites came up to Saul to Gibeah, saying, “Does not David hide himself with us in strongholds in the forest, in the hill of Hachilah which is on the south of Jeshimon?

20 ¶ Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of your soul to come down. And our part will be to deliver him into the king’s hand.”

21 ¶ And Saul said, “Blessed are you of the LORD, for you have compassion on me.

22 “Please go and make sure. And investigate and see his place where his hideout is, and who has seen him there. For I am told that he is very crafty.

23 “See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hides himself, and come again to me with certainty, and I will go with you. And it will come to pass if he is in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.”

24 ¶ And they arose and went to Ziph before Saul. But David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

25 Saul also and his men went to seek him. And they told David. Therefore, he came down into the rock and stayed in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard this, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

26 And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain. And David made haste to get away for fear of Saul, for Saul and his men were surrounding David and his men in order to take them.
Chapter 24
David Spares Saul

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Saul had returned from following the Philistines that it was told him, saying, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.”

2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel and went to seek David and his men on the rocks of the Wild Goats.

3 And he came to the sheepfolds by the way where there was a cave. And Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men remained in the inner recesses of the cave.

4 Then the men of David said to him, “Behold the day of which the LORD said to you, ‘Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand so that you may do to him as it seems good to you.’” Then David arose and secretly cut off the skirt of Saul’s robe.

5 Now it came to pass afterward that David’s heart bothered him because he had cut off Saul’s skirt.

6 So he said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD’S anointed, to stretch forth my hand against him, since he is the anointed of the LORD.”

7 So David restrained his servants with these words and did not allow them to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave and went on his way.

8 ¶ David also arose afterward and went out of the cave. And he called out to Saul, saying, “My lord the king!” And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth and bowed himself.

9 And David said to Saul, “Why do you hearken to the men who say, ‘Behold, David seeks your harm?’

10 “Behold, this day your eyes have seen how that the LORD delivered you today into my hand in the cave. And some urged me to kill you. But I spared you, and I said, ‘I will not put forth my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD’S anointed.’

11 “Now, my father, see. Yes, see the skirt of your robe and did not kill you. Know and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my soul to take it.

12 ¶ “The LORD judge between me and you, and the LORD avenge me on you. But my hand will not be against you.

13 “As the proverb of the ancients says, ‘Wickedness proceeds from the wicked.’ But my hand will not be against you.

14 “After whom has the king of Israel come out? After whom do you pursue? After a dead dog? After a flea?

15 ¶ “The LORD therefore be judge and judge between me and you, and see and plead my cause, and deliver me out of your hand.”

16 ¶ Now it came to pass when David finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, “Is this your voice, my son David?” And Saul lifted up his voice and wept.

17 Then he said to David, “You are more righteous than I, for you have rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded you evil.

18 “And you have showed this day how that you have dealt well with me, for when the LORD delivered me into your hand you did not kill me.

19 “For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away safely? Therefore, the LORD reward you good for what you have done to me this day.

20 ¶ “And now, behold, I know indeed that you will surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand.

21 ¶ “Therefore, swear now to me by the LORD that you will not cut off my seed after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father’s house.”

22 And David swore to Saul. And Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

Chapter 25
David, Nabal and Abigail

1 ¶ Then Samuel died. And all the Israelites were gathered together and laments him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David
arose and went down to the wilderness of Paran.

2 Now there was a man in Maon whose possessions were in Carmel. And the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. And he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.

3 Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife was Abigail. And she was a woman of good understanding and of beautiful countenance. But the man was harsh and evil in his doings. And he was of the house of Caleb.

4 Then David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep.

5 So David sent out ten young men. And David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name.

6 "And thus you will say to him who lives in prosperity, h'Peace be both to you and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have.

7 'And now I have heard that you have shepherds. We did not hurt your shepherds who were with us, nor was there anything missing from them all the time they were in Carmel.

8 'Ask your young men and they will show you. Therefore, let the young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a feast day. Please give whatever comes to your hand to your servants and to your son David.'"

9 And when David’s young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all these words in the name of David, and waited.

10 ¶ Then Nabal answered David’s servants and said, k"Who is David? And who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants today who are each breaking away from his master.

11 k"Will I then take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shepherds, and give it to men I do not know from where they come?"

12 So David’s young men returned the same way and went back. And they came and told him all these sayings.

13 Then David said to his men, “Gird on every man his sword.” And they girded on every man his sword, and David also girded on his sword. And there went up after David about four hundred men, and two hundred remained by the supplies.

14 ¶ But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal’s wife, saying, “Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master. And he reviled them.

15 “But the men were very good to us, and we were not hurt, nor did we miss anything, as long as we were conversant with them when we were in the fields.

16 “They were a wall to us both by night and day, all the time we were with them keeping the sheep.

17 “Now therefore, know and consider what you will do, for evil is determined against our master and against all his household. For he is such a worthless man that one cannot speak to him."

18 ¶ Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two bottles of wine and five sheep ready dressed and five measures of parched corn and one hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys.

19 And she said to her servants, “Go on before me. Behold, I am coming after you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal.

20 And it was, as she rode on the donkey, that she came down by the cover of the hill, and behold, David and his men came down toward her. And she met them.

21 Now David had said, “Surely in vain I have kept all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belongs to him. And he has repaid me evil for good.

22 u“May God do so to the enemies of David, if I 'leave by morning light one male of all who belong to him."

23 ¶ And when Abigail saw David, she hastened and dismounted from the donkey. And she fell before David on her face and bowed herself to the ground.

24 She fell at his feet and said, “Upon me, my lord, upon me let this iniquity be. And please let your maidservant speak in your audience,
and hear the words of your maidservant.  
25 "Please, do not let my lord regard this worthless man, even Nabal. For as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name and folly is with him. But I your maidservant did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent.  
26 "Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, seeing the LORD has held you back from coming to shed blood, and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm to my lord be as Nabal.  
27 "And now this blessing that your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it even be given to the young men who follow my lord.  
28 "Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the LORD will certainly make my lord an enduring house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the LORD, and evil has not been found in you all your days.  
29 "Yet a man has risen to pursue you and to seek your soul. But the soul of my lord will be bound in the bundle of the living with the LORD your God. And the souls of your enemies He will sling out as from the hollow of a sling.  
30 "And it will come to pass when the LORD has done to my lord according to all the good that He has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you ruler over Israel,  
31 "that this will be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. But when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maidservant."  
32 ¶ And David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the LORD God of Israel who sent you this day to meet me!  
33 "And blessed is your advice, and blessed are you who have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand.  
34 "For indeed, as the LORD God of Israel lives who has kept me back from hurting you, except you had hastened and come to meet me, certainly there would not have been left to Nabal until the morning light as much as one male."  
35 So David received from her hand what she had brought him. And he said to her, "Go up in peace to your house. See, I have harmented to your voice and have respected your person."  
36 ¶ And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, he held a feast in his house like the feast of a king. And Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken. Therefore, she told him nothing, little or much, until the morning light.  
37 But it came to pass in the morning when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him and he became as a stone.  
38 Now it came to pass about ten days later that the LORD smote Nabal and he died.  
39 ¶ And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, "Blessed is the LORD who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept his servant from evil. For the LORD has returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head." And David sent and proposed to Abigail, to take her as his wife.  
40 And when the servants of David had come to Abigail to Carmel, they spoke to her, saying, "David sent us to you to take you as his wife."  
41 And she arose and bowed herself on her face to the earth and said, "Behold, let your maidservant be a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord."  
42 And Abigail hastened and arose. And she rode on a donkey, attended by five of her maids. And she went after the messengers of David and became his wife.  
43 David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and they both became his wives.  
44 ¶ But Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Phalti the son of Laish, who was from Gallim.  

Chapter 26  
David Spares Saul's Life Again
¶ Then the Ziphites came to Saul to Gibeah, saying, "Does not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon?"

2 Then Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having with him three thousand chosen men of Israel, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

3 And Saul camped in the hill of Hachilah that is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David remained in the wilderness. And he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

4 David therefore sent out spies and understood that Saul had indeed come.

5 ¶ So David arose and came to the place where Saul had camped. And David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his army. And Saul was lying in the circle of the camp and the people camped around him.

6 Then David answered and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother to Joab, saying, "Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp?" And Abishai said, "I will go down with you."

7 So David and Abishai came to the people by night. And behold, Saul lay sleeping inside the circle of the camp, and his spear stuck in the ground at his head. But Abner and the people were lying around him.

8 Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please let me smite him at once with the spear even to the earth, and I will not smite him a second time!"

9 And David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him, for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD’S anointed, and be guiltless?"

10 David said furthermore, "As the LORD lives, the LORD will smite him, or his day will come to die, or he will go into battle and perish.

11 "The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth my hand against the LORD’S anointed. But please take now the spear that is at his head and the jug of water, and let us go."

12 So David took the spear and the jug of water by Saul’s head, and they got away. And no man saw it or knew it or awoke. For they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the LORD had fallen on them.

13 ¶ Then David went over to the other side and stood on top of a hill afar off, a great distance being between them.

14 And David cried out to the people and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, "Do you not answer, Abner?" Then Abner answered and said, "Who are you who calls to the king?"

15 And David said to Abner, "Are you not a valiant man? And who is like you in Israel? Why then have you not guarded your lord the king? For there came one of the people in to destroy the king your lord.

16 "This thing is not good that you have done. As the LORD lives, you are worthy of death, because you have not guarded your master, the LORD’S anointed. And now see where the king’s spear is and the jug of water that was at his head."

17 ¶ And Saul knew David’s voice and said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" And David said, "It is my voice, my lord, O king."

18 And he said, "Why does my lord pursue after his servant? For what have I done? Or what evil is in my hand?

19 "Now therefore, please let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD has stirred you up against me, let him accept an offering. But if they are the children of men, cursed they are before the LORD, for they have driven me out this day from sharing in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, ‘Go, serve other gods.’

20 "Now therefore, do not let my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD. For the king of Israel has come out to seek a ‘flea, as when one hunts a partridge in the mountains.’"

21 ¶ Then Saul said, "I have sinned. Return, my son David. For I will no longer do you harm because my soul was precious in your eyes this day. Behold, I have played the fool and have erred exceedingly."

22 Then David answered and said, "Behold the king’s spear! And let one of the young men come over and fetch it."
23 “The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD delivered you into my hand today. But I would not stretch forth my hand against the LORD’S anointed.

24 “And behold, as your life was highly valued in my sight this day, so let my life be highly valued in the eyes of the LORD, and let Him deliver me out of all tribulation.”

25 Then Saul said to David, “Blessed are you, my son David. You will both do great things, and also surely prevail.” So David went on his way and Saul returned to his place.

Chapter 27

David Among the Philistines

1 ¶ Then David said in his heart, “I will now perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines, and Saul will despair in searching for me, to seek me anymore in any territory of Israel. So I will escape out of his hand.”

2 And David arose and he passed over with the six hundred men who were with him b to Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath.

3 ¶ So David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal’s wife.

4 Now it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath. And he sought no more for him.

5 Then David said to Achish, “If I have now found favor in your eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country so that I may dwell there. For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?”

6 Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day. Therefore, Ziklag has belonged to the kings of Judah to this day.

7 ¶ Now the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months.

8 And David and his men went up and invaded the Geshurites and the Gezrites and the Amalekites. For those nations were of old the inhabitants of the land, as you go to Shur, even to the land of Egypt.

9 And David smote the land and left neither man nor woman alive. And he took away the sheep and the oxen and the donkeys and the camels and the apparel. And he returned and came to Achish.

10 Then Achish said, “Where have you made a raid today?” And David said, “Against the south of Judah and against the south of the Jerahmeelites and against the south of the Kenites.”

11 And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring news to Gath, saying, “Lest they should tell about us, saying, ‘So did David. And so will be his manner all the while he dwells in the country of the Philistines.’”

12 And Achish believed David, saying, “He has made his people Israel utterly abhor him, therefore, he will be my servant forever.”

Chapter 28

The Witch of En Dor

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in those days that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare in order to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, “Know assuredly that you will go out with me to battle, you and your men.”

2 And David said to Achish, “Truly, you will know what your servant can do.” And Achish said to David, “Therefore, I will make you keeper of my bodyguard forever.”

3 Now Samuel was dead and all Israel had lamented him. And they buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away out of the land those who had familiar spirits and the wizards.

4 And the Philistines gathered themselves together and came and camped in Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel together and they camped in Gilboa.

5 And when Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid and his heart trembled greatly.

6 And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by prophets.
Then Saul said to his servants, “Seek me a woman who is a medium k so that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “Behold, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor.”

So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes. And he went, and two men with him. And they came to the woman by night. And he said, “Please conjure up for me, and bring up for me whom I will name to you.”

And the woman said to him, “Behold, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off out of the land those who are mediums and the wizards. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?”

Saul swore to her by the LORD, saying, “As the LORD lives, no punishment will happen to you for this thing.”

Then the woman said, “Whom will I bring up to you?” And he said, “Bring up Samuel for me.”

And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman spoke to Saul, saying, “Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul.”

Then the king said to her, “Do not be afraid. But what did you see?” And the woman said to Saul, “I saw gods ascending out of the earth.”

And he said to her, “What is his form?” And she said, “An old man comes up. And he is covered with a mantle.” And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he kneeled with his face to the ground and bowed himself.

¶ Then Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me, to bring me up?” And Saul answered, “I am deeply distressed, for the Philistines make war against me and God has departed from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore, I have called you so that you may make known to me what I should do.”

And Samuel said, “Why then do you ask of me, seeing the LORD has departed from you and has become your enemy?

“And the LORD has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, even to David.

“Because you did not obey the voice of the LORD nor execute His fierce wrath on Amalek, therefore, the LORD has done this thing to you this day.

Furthermore, the LORD will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The LORD will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.”

¶ Then Saul immediately fell full length on the ground and was greatly afraid because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no bread all day or all night.

And the woman came to Saul and saw that he was greatly troubled. And she said to him, “Behold, your maidservant has obeyed your voice and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened to your words that you spoke to me.

Now therefore, please hearken also to the voice of your maidservant and let me set a morsel of bread before you, and eat so that you may have strength when you go on your way.”

But he refused and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him. And he hearkened to their voice. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed.

Now the woman had a fat calf in the house. And she hastened and killed it, and took flour and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread from it.

And she brought it before Saul and before his servants, and they ate. Then they rose up and went away that night.

Chapter 29
David Returns to Ziklag

Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek. And the Israelites were camping by a fountain that is in Jezreel.

And the lords of the Philistines marched on by hundreds and by thousands. But David and his men marched at the rear with Achish.

Then the princes of the Philistines said, “What are these Hebrews doing here?” And Achish said to the princes of the Philistines,
“Is not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel who has been with me these days, or these years? And to this day I have found no fault in him since he defected to me?”

4 But the princes of the Philistines were angry with him. And the princes of the Philistines said to him, “Make this fellow return so that he may go again to his place that you have appointed him. And do not let him go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become an adversary to us. For with what could this man make himself acceptable to his master? Would it not be with the heads of these men?”

5 “Is not this David kof whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, ‘Saul slew his thousands and David his ten thousands’?”

6 ¶ Then Achish called David and said to him, “Surely as the LORD lives, you have been upright and your going out and your coming in with me in the army is good in my sight. For I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming to me to this day. Nevertheless, the lords do not favor you.

7 “Therefore, return now, and go in peace so that you do not displease the lords of the Philistines.”

8 ¶ So David said to Achish, “But what have I done? And what have you found in your servant as long as I have been with you to this day, that I may not go fight against the enemies of my lord the king?”

9 And Achish answered and said to David, “I know that you are good in my sight as an angel of god. Nevertheless, the princes of the Philistines have said, ‘He will not go up with us to the battle.’

10 “Therefore now, rise up early in the morning with your master’s servants who have come with you. And as soon as you are up early in the morning and have light, depart.”

11 So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morning in order to return to the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

Chapter 30
David Defeats the Amalekites

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when David and his men had come to Ziklag on the third day that the Amalekites had invaded the Negev and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag and burned it with fire.

2 And they had taken the women captives who were there, both small and great, without killing anyone. And they carried them off and went their way.

3 So David and his men came to the city, and behold, it was burned with fire. And their wives and their sons and their daughters had been taken captive.

4 Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voice and wept until they had no more power to weep.

5 And David’s two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive.

6 And David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters. But David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

7 ¶ And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech’s son, “Please bring me here the ephod.” And Abiathar brought the ephod to David.

8 Then David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I pursue after this army? Shall I overtake them?” And He answered him, “Pursue, for you will surely overtake them and without fail recover all.”

9 So David went, he and the six hundred men who were with him. And he came to the Brook Besor where those who were left behind stayed.

10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men, for two hundred remained behind, who were so faint that they could not go over the Brook Besor.

11 ¶ Then they found an Egyptian in the field and brought him to David. And they gave him bread and he ate. And they made him drink water.

12 And they gave him a piece of cake of figs and two clusters of raisins. And when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him, for he...
had eaten no bread nor drunk any water for three days and three nights.

13 Then David said to him, “To whom do you belong? And from where do you come?” And he said, “I am a young man from Egypt, servant to an Amalekite. And my master left me because three days ago I fell sick.

14 “We made an invasion on the Negev of the Cherethites and on the territory that belongs to Judah and on the Negev of Caleb. And we burned Ziklag with fire.”

15 And David said to him, “Can you bring me down to this army?” And he said, “Swear to me by God that you will neither kill me nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring you down to this army.”

16 ¶ And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad on all the land, eating and drinking and dancing because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines and out of the land of Judah.

17 And David smote them from the twilight even to the evening of the next day. And not a man of them escaped, except four hundred young men who rode upon camels and fled.

18 So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away. And David rescued his two wives.

19 And there was nothing of theirs lacking, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil nor anything that they had taken from them. David recovered all.

20 Then David took all the flocks and the herds that they had driven before those other livestock, and said, “This is David’s spoil.”

21 ¶ And David came to the two hundred men who were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to stay at the Brook Besor. And they went forth to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. And when David came near to the people, he saluted them.

22 Then all the wicked men and worthless men of those who went with David answered and said, “Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man his wife and his children, so that they may lead them away and depart.”

23 Then David said, “My brethren, you will not do so with that which the LORD has given us, who has preserved us and delivered the army that came against us into our hand.

24 “For who will hearken to you in this matter? But as his part is who goes down to the battle, so will his part be who tarries by the stuff. They will share alike.”

25 And it was so from that day forward that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day.

26 ¶ And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil to the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying, “Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD”:

27 to those who were in Bethel, and to those who were in south Ramoth, and to those who were in Jattir,

28 and to those who were in Aror, and to those who were in Siphmoth, and to those who were in Eshtemoa,

29 and to those who were in Rachal, and to those who were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to those who were in the cities of the Kenites,

30 and to those who were in Hormah, and to those who were in Chorashan, and to those who were in Athach,

31 and to those who were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were accustomed to go.

Chapter 31

Death of Saul

1 ¶ Now the Philistines fought against Israel. And the men of Israel fled before the Philistines and fell down slain in Mount Gilboa.

2 And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons. And the Philistines slew Jonathan and Abinadab and Melchishua, Saul’s sons.

3 ¶ And the battle went fierce against Saul. And the archers hit him, and he was severely
wounded by the archers.

4 "Then Saul said to his armorbearer, “Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through and abuse me.” But his armorbearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. Therefore, Saul took a sword and fell upon it.

5 And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise on his sword and died with him.

6 So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armorbearer, and all his men that same day together.

7 And when the men of Israel who were on the other side of the valley, and those who were on the other side of the Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities and fled. And the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

8 Now it came to pass on the next day when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.

9 And they cut off his head and stripped off his armor. And they sent them throughout the land of the Philistines in order to publish the news in the house of their idols and among the people.

10 Then they put his armor in the house of Ashtaroth. And they fastened his body to the wall of Beth Shan.

11 And when the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul,

12 all the valiant men arose and went all night and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth Shan. And they came to Jabesh and burnt them there.

13 And they took their bones and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

2 SAMUEL

Chapter 1

Report of Saul's Death

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David had returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had remained two days in Ziklag,

2 it came even to pass on the third day that behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul with his clothes torn and dust on his head. And so it was that when he came to David he fell to the ground and prostrated himself.

3 Then David said to him, “From where have you come?” And he said to him, “I am an Amalekite.”

4 And David said to him, “How did things go? Please tell me.” And he answered, “The people have fled from the battle and many of the people are also fallen and dead. And Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also.”

5 Then David said to the young man who told him, “How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?”

6 And the young man who told him said, “As I happened by chance to be on Mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned on his spear. And behold, the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him.

7 ¶ And when he looked behind him, he saw me and called to me. And I answered, ‘Here I am.’

8 And he said to me, ‘Who are you?’ And I answered him, ‘I am an Amalekite.’

9 He said to me again, ‘Please stand over me and slay me, for anguish has come upon me because my life still remains in me.’

10 ¶ So I stood over him and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown that was on his head and the bracelet that was on his arm and have brought them here to my lord.”

11 ¶ Then David took hold on his clothes and tore them. And so did also all the men who were with him.

12 And they mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son and for the people of the LORD and for the

e Jg 9:54 f 1 Sm 14:6; 17:26,36 g 2 Sm 1:14 h 2 Sm 1:6,10 i 2 Sm 1:20 j 1 Sm 21:9 k Jg 2:13 l 2 Sm 21:12 m Jg 1:27 n 1 Sm 11:1-13 o 2 Sm 2:4-7 p 2 Ch 16:14 q 2 Sm 2:4,7,5; 21:12-14 r Gn 50:10 2 SAMUEL: Chapter 1: a 1 Sm 31:6 b 1 Sm 30:1,17,26 c 2 Sm 4:10 d 1 Sm 4:12 e 1 Sm 25:23 f 1 Sm 4:16; 31:3 g 1 Sm 31:1 h 1 Sm 31:1 i 1 Sm 31:2-4 j Jg 9:54 k 2 Sm 3:31; 13:31 l 2 Sm 3:31 m 1 Sm 31:13 n 2 Sm 6:21
house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

13 Then David said to the young man who told him, “Where are you from?” And he answered, “I am the son of a foreigner, an Amalekite.”

14 Then David said to him, “How was it you were not afraid to stretch forth your hand to destroy the LORD’S anointed?”

15 And David called one of the young men and said, “Go near and fall on him.” And he smote him so that he died.

16 And David said to him, “Your blood is on your head, for your mouth has testified against you, saying, ‘I have slain the LORD’S anointed.’”

David’s Lamentation

17 ¶ And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son.

18 “He also told them to teach the children of Judah the song of the bow. Behold, it is written in the book of Jasher.

19 “The beauty of Israel is slain on your high places! How have the mighty fallen!

20 “Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

21 “You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain on you, nor fields of offerings. For the shield of the mighty is cast away there! The shield of Saul is not anointed with oil.

22 “From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back. And the sword of Saul did not return empty.

23 “Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided. They were swifter than eagles. They were stronger than lions.

24 “You daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you luxuriously in scarlet, and who put ornaments of gold on your clothes.

25 “How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan was slain in your high places.

26 “I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan. Very pleasant you have been to me. Your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

27 “How are the mighty fallen and the weapons of war perished!”

Chapter 2

David Anointed as King

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?” And the LORD said to him, “Go up.” And David said, “Where shall I go up?” He said, “To Hebron.”

2 So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail Nabal’s wife the Carmelite.

3 And David brought up his men who were with him, every man with his household. And they dwelt in the cities of Hebron.

4 ¶ And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. And they told David, saying, “The men of Jabesh Gilead were those who buried Saul.”

5 Then David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh Gilead. And he said to them, “Blessed are you of the LORD because you have shown this kindness to your lord, even to Saul, and have buried him.

6 “And now the LORD show kindness and truth to you. And I also will repay you this kindness because you have done this thing.

7 “Now therefore, let your hands be strengthened and be valiant, for your master Saul is dead and also the house of Judah has anointed me king over them.”

David’s Conflict with Saul’s House

8 ¶ But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul’s army, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim.

9 And he made him king over Gilead and over the Ashurites and over Jezeel and over Ephraim and over Benjamin and over all Is-
Saul’s son Ishbosheth was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel. And he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David.

And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

¶ And Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ishbosheth the son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon.

And Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David went out and met them by the pool of Gibeon. And they sat down, the one on one side of the pool and the other on the other side of the pool.

Then there arose and went over by number twelve from Benjamin, who were followers of Ishbosheth the son of Saul and twelve from the servants of David.

And they caught every one his opponent by the head and thrust his sword in his opponent’s side. So they fell down together. Therefore, that place was called Helkath Hazzurim, which is in Gibeon.

And there was a very fierce battle that day. And Abner and the men of Israel were beaten before the servants of David.

¶ And there were ‘three sons of Zeruiah there, Joab and Abishai and Asahel. And Asahel was as light of foot as a wild gazelle.

And Asahel pursued after Abner. And in going he did not turn to the right hand or to the left from following Abner.

Then Abner looked behind him and said, “Are you Asahel?” And he answered, “I am.”

And Abner said to him, “Turn aside to your right hand or to your left, and lay hold on one of the young men and take his armor.” But Asahel would not turn aside from following him.

And Abner said again to Asahel, “Turn aside from following me. Why should I smite you to the ground? How then could I lift up my face to your brother Joab?”

However, he refused to turn aside. Therefore, Abner struck him in the belly with the butt end of the spear so that the spear came out behind him. And he fell down there and died in the same place. And it came to pass that as many as came to the place where Asahel fell down and died, stood still.

¶ Joab also and Abishai pursued after Abner. And the sun went down when they came to the hill of Ammah that lies before Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon.

And the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner and became one troop. And they stood on top of a hill.

Then Abner called to Joab and said, “Will the sword devour forever? Do you not know that it will be bitterness in the latter end? How long will it be then until you tell the people to return from following their brethren?”

And Joab said, “As God lives, unless you had spoken, surely then in the morning the people would have given up from following his brother.”

So Joab blew a trumpet and all the people stood still. And they did not pursue Israel anymore, nor did they fight anymore.

Then Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain and passed over the Jordan. And they went through all Bithron and came to Mahanaim.

¶ So Joab returned from following Abner. And when he had gathered all the people together, there lacked of David’s servants nineteen men and Asahel.

But the servants of David had smitten of Benjamin and of Abner’s men, so that three hundred and sixty men died.

And they took up Asahel and buried him in the tomb of his father that was in Bethlehem. And Joab and his men went all night, and they came to Hebron at daybreak.

Chapter 3

Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. But David became stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul became weaker and weaker.
And his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelite; 3 and his second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; 4 and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; 5 and the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah David’s wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

Abner Joins David

6 ¶ Now it came to pass while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner made himself strong for the house of Saul. 7 And Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. And Ishboseth said to Abner, “Why have you gone in to my father’s concubine?” 8 Then Abner was very angry at the words of Ishbosheth. And he said, “Am I a dog’s head that belongs to Judah? Today I show kindness to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers and to his friends. And I have not delivered you into the hand of David. And yet today you charge me with a guilt concerning the woman. 9 “May God do so to Abner and more also if I do not do for David as the LORD has sworn to him, 10 ‘to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah from Dan even to Beer-sheba.’” 11 And he could not answer Abner a word because he feared him. 12 And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, “Whose is the land?” saying also, “Make your covenant with me, and behold, my hand will be with you to bring all Israel to you.” 13 And he said, “Good, I will make a covenant with you. But one thing I require of you, that is, you will not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul’s daughter, when you come to see my face.”

14 And David sent messengers to Ishboseth Saul’s son, saying, “Deliver me my wife Michal whom I betrothed to myself for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines.” 15 So Ishboseth sent and took her from her husband, even from Phaltiel the son of Laish. 16 But her husband went along with her weeping behind her to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, “Go, return!” And he returned. 17 ¶ Then Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying, “In times past you sought for David to be king over you. 18 ‘Now then do it! For the LORD has spoken of David, saying, ‘By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines and out of the hand of all their enemies.’’” 19 Now Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin. And Abner went also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel and that seemed good to the whole house of Benjamin. 20 So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. And David made Abner and the men who were with him a feast. 21 Then Abner said to David, “I will arise and go. And I will gather all Israel to my lord the king so that they may make a covenant with you and that you may reign over all that your heart desires.” And David sent Abner away, and he went in peace.

Joab Kills Abner

22 ¶ And behold, the servants of David and Joab came from pursuing a troop. And they brought in a great spoil with them. But Abner was not with David in Hebron, for he had sent him away and he had gone in peace. 23 When Joab and all the army that was with him had come, they told Joab, saying, “Abner the son of Ner came to the king and he has sent him away and he is gone in peace.” 24 Then Joab came to the king and said, “What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you. Why is it that you have sent him away, and he has already gone? 25 “You know Abner the son of Ner, that he
came to deceive you and to know your going out and your coming in, and to know all that you do.”

26 And when Joab came out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, who brought him again from the well of Sirah. But David did not know it.

27 And when Abner had returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him privately. And he smote him there under the fifth rib so that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

28 ¶ And afterward when David heard it, he said, “I and my kingdom are guiltless before the LORD forever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner.

29 z Let it rest on the head of Joab and on all his father’s house. And let there not fail from the house of Joab one who has a discharge, or who is a leper, or who leans on a staff, or who falls on the sword, or who lacks bread.

30 So Joab and Abishai his brother slew Abner because he had slain their brother b Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.

31 ¶ And David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, c Tear your clothes. d Gird yourselves with sackcloth, and mourn for Abner.” And King David himself walked behind the bier.

32 So they buried Abner in Hebron. And the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept.

33 And the king lamented over Abner and said, “Should Abner die as a e fool dies?

34 Your hands were not bound, nor your feet put into fetters. As a man falls before wicked men, so you fell.” And all the people wept again over him.

35 And when all the people came to persuade David to eat food while it was still day, David swore, saying, “So do God to me and more also if I taste bread or anything else until the sun goes down.”

36 And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them, as everything the king did pleased all the people.

37 For all the people and all Israel understood that day that it had not been the intent of the king to slay Abner the son of Ner.

38 And the king said to his servants, “Do you not know that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?

39 "And I am this day weak, though anointed king. And these men the sons of Zeruiah are too hard for me. ‘The LORD will reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.’”

Chapter 4

Ishbosheth is Killed

1 ¶ And when Saul’s son heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, a his hands were feeble and all the Israelites were b troubled.

2 And Saul’s son had two men who were captains of bands. The name of the one was Baanah and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon a Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin (for Beeroth also was considered part of Benjamin,

3 and the Beerothites fled to Gittaim and have been aliens there until this day.)

4 ¶ And Jonathan, Saul’s son, had a son who was lame in his feet. He was five years old when the news came about Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel. And his nurse took him up and fled. And it came to pass as she made haste to flee, that he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

5 And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, went and came in the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, who was lying on a bed at noon.

6 And they brought the head of Ishbosheth to David to Hebron and said to the king, “Behold, the head of Ishbosheth the son of Saul your enemy who sought your life. Thus the
LORD has avenged my lord the king this day of Saul and of his seed.”

9 ¶ And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said to them, “As the LORD lives who has redeemed my soul out of all adversity,

10 “when one told me, saying, ‘Behold, Saul is dead,’ thinking to have brought good tidings, I took hold of him and slew him in Ziklag, which was the reward I gave him for his news.

11 “How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house on his bed? Will I not therefore now require his blood from your hand and take you away from the earth?”

12 And David commanded his young men and they slew them. And they cut off their hands and their feet and hanged them up over the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth and buried it in the tomb of Abner in Hebron.

Chapter 5
David Becomes King

1 ¶ Then all the tribes of Israel came to David to Hebron and spoke, saying, “Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.

2 “Also in time past when Saul was king over us you were the one who led Israel out and brought them in. And the LORD said to you, ‘You will feed My people Israel and you will be a captain over Israel.’”

3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron. ¶ And King David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel.

4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign and he reigned forty years.

5 He reigned in Hebron over Judah seven years and six months. And in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

David Conquers Jerusalem

6 ¶ And the king and his men went to Jerusalem to the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who spoke to David, saying, “Except you take away the blind and the lame, you will not come in here,” thinking, “David cannot come in here.”

7 Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion. The same is the city of David.

8 Now David said on that day, “Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him reach the lame and the blind, who are hated by David’s soul, through the watercourse.” Therefore, they say, “The blind or the lame will not come into the house.”

9 So David dwelt in the fort and called it the City of David. And David built all around from the Millo and inward.

10 And David went on and became great. And the LORD God of armies was with him.

11 ¶ Then Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees and carpenters and masons. And they built David a house.

12 So David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel and that he had exalted his kingdom for His people Israel’s sake.

13 And David took more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he had come from Hebron. And there were more sons and daughters born to David.

14 And these are the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammuah and Shobab and Nathan and Solomon,

15 Ibhar also and Elishua and Nepheg and Japhia

16 and Elishama and Eliada and Eliphelet.

David Defeats the Philistines

17 ¶ But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to search for David. And David heard of it and went down to the stronghold.

18 The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

19 Then David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I go up to the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?” And the LORD said to David, “Go up. For I will certainly deliver the Philistines into your hand.”
20 So David came to 'Baal Perazim. And David smote them there and said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me as a breakthrough of waters." Therefore, he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.

21 And they left their images there and David and his men burned them.

22 ¶ Then the Philistines came up again and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

23 And when 'David inquired of the LORD, he said, "You will not go up. But circle behind them and come on them in front of the mulberry trees.

24 "And let it be when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you will advance. For then will the LORD go out before you in order to smite the army of the Philistines."

25 So David did as the LORD had commanded him. And he smote the Philistines from Geba until you come to Gazer.

Chapter 6

The Ark is Brought to Jerusalem

1 ¶ Again David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, 30,000.

2 And 'David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Baale Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD who dwells between the cherubim.

3 Then they set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah. And Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart.

4 So they brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was on the hill, accompanying the ark of God. And Ahio went before the ark.

5 And David and all the house of Israel 'played before the LORD on all kinds of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps and on psalteries and on timbrels and on cymbals.

6 ¶ And when they came to Nachon’s threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth 'his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled.

7 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah. And God smote him there for his error, and there he died by the ark of God.

8 And David was displeased because of the LORD'S outburst against Uzzah. And he called the name of the place Perez Uzzah to this day.

9 bSo David was afraid of the LORD that day. And he said, "How will the ark of the LORD come to me?"

10 And David would not move the ark of the LORD to him into the city of David. But David carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

11 kSo the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months. And the LORD blessed Obededom and all his household.

12 ¶ Then it was told King David, saying, "The LORD has blessed the house of Obededom and all that belongs to him because of the ark of God. "So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness.

13 Now it was so that when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings.

14 Then David danced before the LORD with all his might. And David was girded with a linen ephod.

15 'So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

16 ¶ Now as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, 'Michal, Saul’s daughter, looked through a window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD. And she despised him in her heart.

17 So they brought in the ark of the LORD and set it in “its place in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it. And David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

18 And as soon as David finished offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, "he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of armies.

19 xAnd he distributed among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, both
to the women and the men, to every one a cake of bread and a good piece of meat and a cake of raisins. So everyone departed to his own house.

20 ¶ Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David. And she said, “How glorious was the king of Israel today, who uncovered himself today in the eyes of the maidservants of his servants, as one of the base fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!”

21 But David said to Michal, “It was before the LORD who chose me before your father and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel. Therefore, I will play before the LORD.

22 “And I will still be more undignified than this and will be base in my own sight. And of the maidservants of whom you have spoken, by them I will be held in honor.”

23 Therefore, Michal the daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death.

Chapter 7

David’s House to Reign Forever

1 ¶ Now it came to pass that the king sat in his house and the LORD had given him rest all around from all his enemies,

2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells within curtains.”

3 And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

4 ¶ Now it came to pass that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying,

5 “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Would you build for Me a house, where I may walk in a tent and in a tabernacle.

6 “For I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day. But I have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.

7 “In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel have I spoken a word with any of the tribes of Israel whom I commanded to feed My people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’”’

8 “Now therefore, you will say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, “I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel.

9 “And I was with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies out of your sight and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are in the earth.

10 “Moreover, I will appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them so that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more. Neither will the children of wickedness afflict them anymore, as previously,

11 “even from the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house.

12 ¶ “And when your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you who will proceed out of your own body. And I will establish his kingdom.

13 “He will build a house for My name and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

14 “I will be his Father and he will be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the stripes of the children of men.

15 “But My mercy will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before you.

16 “And your house and your kingdom will be established forever before you. Your throne will be established forever.”’”

17 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

David’s Prayer

18 ¶ Then King David went in and sat before the LORD. And he said, “Who am I, O Lord GOD? And what is my house that You have brought me this far?

19 “And this was yet a small thing in your sight, O Lord GOD. But You have spoken also
of Your servant’s house for a great while to come.  

b And is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD?

20 “And what can David say more to You?  
For You, Lord GOD,  
c know Your servant.

21 “For Your word’s sake, and according to  
Your own heart, You have done all these great  
things, to make Your servant know  
them.

22 “Therefore,  
you are great, O LORD God.  
For there is  
none like You, nor is there any  
God like You, according to all that we have  
heard with our ears.

23 “And what one nation in the earth  
is like Your people, even like Israel, whom God went  
to redeem for a people to Himself and to make  
for Himself a name, and to do for Yourself great  
and awesome deeds for Your land; before  
your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from  
Egypt, from the nations and their gods?

24 “For You have confirmed to Yourself Your  
people Israel  
to be a people for Yourself forever.  
And You, LORD, have become their  
God.

25 “And now, O LORD God, the word that  
You have spoken concerning Your servant and  
concerning his house, establish it forever and  
do as You have said.

26 “And let Your name be magnified forever,  
saying, ‘The LORD of armies is the God over  
Israel.’ And let the house of Your servant David  
be established before You.

27 “And now, O LORD God, the word that  
You have spoken concerning Your servant and  
concerning his house, establish it forever and  
do as You have said.

28 “And now, O Lord GOD, You are that God,  
and your words are true, and You have promised  
this goodness to Your servant.

29 “Therefore, now let it please You to bless  
the house of Your servant so that it may continue  
forever before You. For You, O Lord GOD,  
have spoken it. And with Your blessing let the  
house of Your servant be blessed forever.”

Chapter 8
David’s Victories

1 ¶ Then after this it came to pass that David  
smote the Philistines and subdued them. And  
David took Methe Gammah out of the hand of  
the Philistines.

2 And he smote Moab, and measured them  
with a line, making them lie down on the  
ground. With two lines he measured off those  
to be put to death, and with one full line to  
keep alive. And so the Moabites became  
David’s servants and brought gifts.

3 ¶ David smote also Hadadezer, the son of  
Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover  
his border at the River Euphrates.

4 Then David took from him a thousand chariots  
and seven hundred horsemen and 20,000  
footmen. And David hocked all the chariot  
horses, but spared enough of them for one hun-

dred chariots.

5 ¶ Then when the Syrians of Damascus came  
to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David slew  
22,000 Syrians.

6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus.  
And the Syrians became servants to David  
and brought gifts. And the LORD preserved David  
wherever he went.

7 Now David took the shields of gold that  
were on the servants of Hadadezer and brought  
them to Jerusalem.

8 And from Betah and from Bero-thai, cities  
of Hadadezer, King David took a very large  
amount of bronze.

9 ¶ When Toi king of Hamath heard that David  
had smitten all the army of Hadadezer,  
he sent Joram his son to King David to  
salute him and to bless him, because he had  
fought against Hadadezer and smitten him, for  
Hadadezer had fought with Toi. And  
Joram brought with him vessels of silver and vessels  
of bronze.

10 he sent Joram his son to King David to  
salute him and to bless him, because he had  
fought against Hadadezer and smitten him, for  
Hadadezer had fought with Toi. And  
Joram brought with him vessels of silver and vessels  
of gold and vessels of bronze.

11 King David also dedicated these to the  
LORD, with the silver and gold that he had  
dedicated from all nations that he subdued;

12 from Syria and from Moab and from the  
children of Ammon and from the Philistines  
and from Amalek and from the spoil of  
Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

13 And David made himself a name when he
returned from smiting 18,000 Syrians in the Valley of Salt.
14 And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom he put garrisons, and all those of Edom became David’s servants. And the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

David’s Officials
15 ¶ So David reigned over all Israel. And David executed judgment and justice to all his people.
16 ¶ And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army. And Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder.
17 ¶ And Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were the priests. And Seraiah was the scribe.
18 ¶ And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites. And David’s sons were chief rulers.

Chapter 9
David Cares for Mephibosheth
1 ¶ Then David said, “Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul that I may ashow him kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”
2 Now there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. And when they called him to David, the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?” And he said, “I am your servant.”
3 And the king said, “Is there not yet anyone of the house of Saul that I may show the kindness of God to him?” And Ziba said to the king, “Jonathan still has a son who is lame in his feet.”
4 And the king said to him, “Where is he?” And Ziba said to the king, “Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar.”
5 ¶ Then King David sent and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar.
6 Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. And David said, “Mephibosheth.” And he answered, “Here is your servant!”
7 Then David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. And I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you will eat bread at my table continually.”
8 And he bowed himself and said, “What is your servant that you should look on such a dead dog as I am?”
9 ¶ Then the king called to Ziba, Saul’s servant. And he said to him, “I have given to your master’s son all that belonged to Saul and to all his house.
10 “You therefore, and your sons, and your servants, will farm the land for him. And you will bring in the fruits so that your master’s son may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth your master’s son will eat bread always at my table.” Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.
11 Then Ziba said to the king, “According to all that my lord the king has commanded his servant, so will your servant do.” 
12 And Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Michal. And all who dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants to Mephibosheth.
13 So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king’s table. And he was lame in both his feet.

Chapter 10
David Defeats the Ammonites
1 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his place.
2 Then David said, “I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash as his father showed kindness to me.” And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father. And David’s servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.
3 Then the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun their lord, “Do you think that David is honoring your father because he has sent comforters to you? Has not David rather sent his servants to you to search the city and
to spy it out and to overthrow it?"

4 Therefore, Hanun took David’s servants and shaved off one half of their beards and cut off their garments in the middle, as far as their buttocks. And he sent them away.

5 When they told it to David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, “Wait at Jericho until your beards are grown, and then return.”

6 ¶ And when the children of Ammon saw that they had become odious to David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Beth Rehob and the Syrians of Zoba, 20,000 footmen, and of King Maacah a thousand men, and of Ishtob 12,000 men.

7 And when David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of the mighty men.

8 And the children of Ammon came out and drew up in battle array at the entrance of the gate. And the Syrians of Zoba and of Rehob and Ishtob and Maacah were by themselves in the field.

9 ¶ When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel and put them in battle array against the Syrians.

10 And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, so that he might put them in battle array against the children of Ammon.

11 And he said, “If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you will help me. But if the children of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come and help you.

12 ¶“Be of good courage, and let us show ourselves courageous for the sake of our people and for the cities of our God. And the LORD do what seems good in His sight.”

13 And Joab, and the people who were with him, drew near to the battle against the Syrians. And they fled before him.

14 And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians had fled, then they fled also before Abishai and entered into the city. So Joab returned from the children of Ammon and came to Jerusalem.

15 ¶ Now when the Syrians saw that they were smitten before Israel, they gathered themselves together.

16 Then Hadarezer sent and brought out the Syrians who were beyond the river. And they came to Helam, and Shobach the captain of the army of Hadarezer went before them.

17 Now when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together and passed over the Jordan and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in battle array against David and fought with him.

18 Then the Syrians fled before Israel. And David slew seven hundred charioteers of the Syrians and 40,000 horsemen. And he smote Shobach the captain of their army, who died there.

19 And when all the kings who were servants to Hadarezer saw that they were smitten before Israel, they made peace with Israel and served them. So the Syrians were afraid to help the children of Ammon anymore.

Chapter 11

David & Bathsheba

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the spring, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they destroyed the children of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at Jerusalem.

2 ¶ Now it came to pass one evening that David arose from off his bed and walked on the roof of the king’s house. And from the roof he saw a woman washing herself. And the woman was very beautiful to look upon.

3 And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, “Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?”

4 Then David sent messengers and took her. And she came in to him and he lay with her, for she was purified from her uncleanness. And she returned to her house.

5 Now the woman conceived and sent and told David. And she said, “I am with child.”

6 ¶ Then David sent to Joab, saying, “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent Uriah to
David.
7 And when Uriah had come to him, David demanded of him how Joab was doing and how the people were doing, and how the war prospered.
8 And David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” And Uriah departed out of the king’s house, and there followed him a gift of food from the king.
9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king’s house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house.
10 Now when they told David, saying, “Uriah did not go down to his house,” David said to Uriah, “Did you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?”
11 Then Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah stay in tents. And my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camped in the open fields. Will I then go into my house to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? As you live and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing.”
12 Then David said to Uriah, “Wait here today also and tomorrow I will let you depart.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next.
13 And when David had called him, he ate and drank before him. And he made him drunk. And at evening he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.
14 Now it came to pass in the morning that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.
15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, “Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him so that he may be smitten and die.”
16 Now it came to pass when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew that valiant men were.
17 And the men of the city went out and fought with Joab. And there fell some of the people of the servants of David, and Uriah the Hittite died also.
18 Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war.
19 And he charged the messenger, saying, “When you have finished telling the matters of the war to the king,
20 “and if it happens that the king’s wrath arises and he says to you, ‘Why did you approach so near to the city when you fought? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall?’
21 ‘Who smote Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Did not a woman cast a piece of a millstone on him from the wall so that he died in Thebez? Why did you go so near the wall?’ Then you say, ‘Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.’”
22 ¶ So the messenger went and came and showed David all that Joab had sent by him.
23 And the messenger said to David, “Surely the men prevailed against us and came out to us into the field, and we were on them even to the entrance of the gate.
24 “And the archers shot from off the wall upon your servants, and some of the king’s servants’ charioteers are dead and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.”
25 Then David said to the messenger, “Thus you will say to Joab, ‘Do not let this thing displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Make your battle stronger against the city and overthrow it.’ Say this to encourage him.”
26 ¶ Now when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.
27 When the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house. And she became his wife and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

Chapter 12
Nathan Rebukes David
1 ¶ Then the LORD sent Nathan to David. And he came to him and said to him, “There were two men in one city, the one rich and the other poor.
2 “The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds.
3 “But the poor man had nothing, except one
little ewe lamb that he had bought and nourished. It grew up together with him and with his children. It ate from his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom, and was to him as a daughter.

4 Now there came a traveller to the rich man. And he refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd in order to prepare for the wayfaring man who had come to him. But he took the poor man’s lamb and dressed it for the man who had come to him.”

5 And David’s anger was greatly aroused against the man. And he said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this thing will surely die!

6 And he will restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing and because he had no pity.”

7 ¶ Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man. Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul.

8 ‘And I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if that had been too little, I would moreover have given you much more!

9 ‘Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

10 ‘Now therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you have despised Me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’

11 ‘Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he will lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.

12 ‘For you did it secretly. But I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.’”

13 ¶ Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin. You will not die.

14 “However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you will surely die.”

15 Then Nathan departed to his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah’s wife bore to David, and he was very sick.

16 David therefore inquired of God for the child. And David fasted and went in and played all night on the ground.

17 And the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat bread with them.

18 Now it came to pass on the seventh day that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, “Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him and he would not hearken to our voice. How then can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do himself harm!”

19 But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead. Therefore, David said to his servants, “Is the child dead?” And they said, “He is dead.”

20 Then David arose from the ground and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he came into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he came to his own house, and when he requested, they set bread before him and he ate.

21 Then his servants said to him, “What thing is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive. But when the child was dead, you arose and ate food.”

22 And he said, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, ‘Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’

23 “But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him but he will not return to me.”

24 ¶ Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. And she bore a son and he called his name Solomon. And the LORD loved him.
25 And he sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet, and he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

26 ¶ Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the children of Ammon and took the royal city.

27 Then Joab sent messengers to David and said, “I have fought against Rabbah and have taken the city of waters.

28 “Now therefore, gather the rest of the people together and camp against the city and take it, lest I take the city and it be called after my name.”

29 So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah and fought against it and took it.

30 zAnd he took their king’s crown from off his head. And its weight was a talent of gold with the precious stones. And it was set on David’s head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city in great abundance.

31 Then he brought forth the people who were in it and put them under saws and under iron picks and under axes of iron. And he made them pass through the brick kiln. And thus he did to all the cities of the children of Ammon. So David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

Chapter 13
Ammon and Tamar

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that Absalom, the son of David had a beautiful sister whose name was Tamar. And Amnon, the son of David loved her.

2 And Amnon was so frustrated because of his sister Tamar that he made himself ill, for she was a virgin. And it seemed hard to Amnon to do anything to her.

3 But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David’s brother. And Jonadab was a very shrewd man.

4 And he said to him, “Why are you, the king’s son, becoming thinner day after day? Will you not tell me?” And Amnon said to him, “I love Tamar, my brother Absalom’s sister.”

5 And Jonadab said to him, “Lay down on your bed and pretend to be sick. And when your father comes to see you, say to him, ‘Please let my sister Tamar come and give me food, and prepare the food in my sight so that I may see it and eat it at her hand.’”

6 So Amnon lay down and pretended to be sick. And when the king had come to see him, Amnon said to the king, “Please let Tamar my sister come and ‘make a couple of cakes for me in my sight so that I may eat at her hand.’”

7 ¶ Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, “Go now to your brother Amnon’s house and prepare food for him.”

8 So Tamar went to her brother Amnon’s house, and he was lying down. And she took flour and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight and baked the cakes.

9 And she took a pan and dished them out before him. But he refused to eat. And Amnon said, “Have everyone go out from me.” And every man went out from him.

10 Then Amnon said to Tamar, “Bring the food into the room so that I may eat from your hand.” And Tamar took the cakes that she had made and brought them into the room to Amnon her brother.

11 Now when she had brought them to eat, she took hold of her and said to her, “Come lie with me, my sister.”

12 But she answered him, “No, my brother, do not force me, for no such thing ought to be done in Israel. Do not do this disgraceful thing!

13 “And I, where will I take my shame? And as for you, you will be as one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, please speak to the king, ifor he will not withhold me from you.”

14 However, he would not hearken to her voice. But being stronger than she, he forced her and lay with her.

15 ¶ Then Amnon hated her exceedingly, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, “Arise, be gone!”

16 Then she said to him, “No, indeed! This evil in sending me away is greater than the other that you did to me.” But he would not hearken to her.

17 Then he called his servant who ministered to him and said, “Put this woman out from me and bolt the door behind her.”
18 And she had a robe of many colors on her, for with such robes were the king’s daughters clothed who were virgins. Then his servant brought her out and bolted the door behind her.

19 ¶ Then Tamar put ashes on her head and tore her robe of many colors that was on her. And she laid her hand on her head and went on crying.

20 Then Absalom her brother said to her, “Has Amnon your brother been with you? But now hold your peace, my sister. He is your brother. Do not take this thing to heart.” So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom’s house.

21 ¶ But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry.

22 Then Absalom spoke to his brother Amnon neither good nor bad. For Absalom hated Amnon because he had forced his sister Tamar.

Absalom Kills Amnon
23 ¶ Now it came to pass after two full years that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal Hazor that is beside Ephraim. And Absalom invited all the king’s sons.

24 Then Absalom came to the king and said, “Behold now, your servant has sheepshearers. Please, let the king and his servants go with your servant.”

25 But the king said to Absalom, “No, my son, let us not all now go, lest we be a burden to you.” Though he urged him, he would not go, but blessed him.

26 Then Absalom said, “If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us.” And the king said to him, “Why should he go with you?”

27 But Absalom urged him that he let Amnon and all the king’s sons go with him.

28 ¶ Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, “Take note now when Amnon’s heart is merry with wine. And when I say to you, ‘Smite Amnon,’ then kill him. Do not fear. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and be valiant.”

29 And the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king’s sons arose and every man got up on his mule and fled.

30 ¶ Now it came to pass while they were in the way that news came to David, saying, “Absalom has slain all the king’s sons and there is not one of them left.”

31 Then the king arose and tore his clothes and ‘lay on the ground. And all his servants stood by with their clothes torn.

32 Then Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David’s brother, answered and said, “Do not let my lord suppose that they have slain all the young men, the king’s sons, for Amnon only is dead. For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.

33 “Now therefore, do not let my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king’s sons are dead. For Ammon only is dead.”

34 ¶ Then Absalom fled. And the young man who kept the watch lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, there came many people by the way of the hillside behind him.

35 And Jonadab said to the king, “Behold, the king’s sons are coming; as your servant said, so it is.”

36 Then it came to pass as soon as he had finished speaking, that behold, the king’s sons came and lifted up their voice and wept. And the king also and all his servants wept very bitterly.

37 But Absalom fled and went to Talmai, the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day.

38 So Absalom fled and went to Geshur. And he was there three years.

39 And the soul of King David longed to go to Absalom, for he was comforted concerning Amnon, because he was dead.

Chapter 14
Absalom Returns to Jerusalem
1 ¶ Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king’s heart was inclined toward Absalom.

2 And Joab sent to Tekoah and fetched from there a wise woman. And he said to her, “Please
pretend to be a mourner and put on now mourning apparel. Do not anoint yourself with oil, but be as a woman who has for a long time mourned for the dead.

3 "Then come to the king and speak in this manner to him." So Joab put the words in her mouth.

4 ¶ And when the woman of Tekoah spoke to the king, she fell on her face to the ground and prostrated herself. And she said, "Help, O king."

5 And the king said to her, "What is troubling you?" And she answered, "I am indeed a widow woman and my husband is dead. 6 And your maidservant had two sons, and the two fought together in the field, and there was no one to separate them. But the one smote the other and slew him. 7 And behold, the whole family has risen against your maidservant. And they said, 'Deliver him who smote his brother so that we may destroy him for the life of his brother whom he slew, and we will destroy the heir also.' Thus they will extinguish my coal that is left and will leave to my husband neither name nor remainder on the earth."

8 ¶ Then the king said to the woman, "Go to your house and I will give orders concerning you."

9 And the woman of Tekoah said to the king, "My lord, O king, the iniquity is on me and on my father's house. And the king and his throne are guiltless."

10 And the king said, "Whoever says anything to you, bring him to me and he will not touch you anymore."

11 Then she said, "Please let the king remember the LORD your God, that you would not allow the revengers of blood to destroy anymore, lest they destroy my son." And he said, "As the LORD lives, there will not one hair of your son fall to the earth."

12 ¶ Then the woman said, "Please, let your maidservant speak one word to my lord the king." And he said, "Say on."

13 And the woman said, "Why then have you thought such a thing against the people of God? For the king speaks this thing as one who is guilty, in that the king does not bring back his banished one."

14 "For we must surely die, and are as water spilled on the ground that cannot be gathered up again. Neither does God respect any person. Yet He devises means so that His banished ones not be expelled from Him. 15 "Now therefore, I have come to speak of this thing to my lord the king because the people have made me afraid. And your maidservant said, 'I will now speak to the king. It may be that the king will perform the request of his maidservant."

16 ‘For the king will hear in order to deliver his maidservant out of the hand of the man who would destroy me and my son together out of the inheritance of God.’ 17 "Then your maidservant said, 'The word of my lord the king will now be comforting; for as an angel of God, so is my lord the king to discern good and evil. Therefore, the LORD your God will be with you.'"

18 ¶ Then the king answered and said to the woman, "Please do not hide from me anything that I ask you." And the woman said, "Let my lord the king now speak."

19 And the king said, "Is not the hand of Joab with you in all this?" And the woman answered and said, "As your soul lives, my lord, O king, no one can turn to the right hand or to the left from anything that my lord the king has spoken. For your servant Joab, he commanded me and he put all these words in the mouth of your maidservant."

20 "In order to change the appearance of things, your servant Joab has done this thing. And my lord is wise according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are on the earth."

21 And the king said to Joab, "Behold now, I have done this thing. Go therefore, bring the young man Absalom again."

22 And Joab fell to the ground on his face and prostrated himself and blessed the king. And Joab said, "Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, my lord, O king, in that the king has fulfilled the request of his servant."
23 So Joab arose and "went to Geshur and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.  
24 And the king said, “Let him turn to his own house, and let him not see my face.” So Absalom returned to his own house and did not see the king’s face.  
25 ¶ But in all Israel there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his handsome looks. “From the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.  
26 And when he cut the hair of his head (for it was at every year’s end that he cut it because the hair was heavy on him, therefore he cut it), he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels after the king’s weight.  
27 And to Absalom there were born three sons and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a woman of beautiful appearance.  
28 ¶ So Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, and did not see the king's face.  
29 Therefore, Absalom sent for Joab, to have him sent to the king. But he would not come to him. And when he sent again the second time, he would not come.  
30 Therefore, he said to his servants, “See, Joab’s field is near mine and he has barley there. Go and set it on fire.” And Absalom’s servants set the field on fire.  
31 Then Joab arose and came to Absalom to his house and said to him, “Why have your servants set my field on fire?”  
32 And Absalom answered Joab, “Behold, I sent to you, saying, ‘Come here so that I may send you to the king, to say, ‘Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to be there still.’’ Now therefore, let me see the king’s face, and if there is any iniquity in me, let him kill me.”  
33 So Joab came to the king and told him. And when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king and prostrated himself on his face to the ground before the king. And the king kissed Absalom.  

Chapter 15  
Absalom’s Conspiracy  
1 ¶ Now “it came to pass after this that Absalom prepared for himself chariots and horses and fifty men to run before him.  
2 And Absalom rose up early and stood beside the way of the gate. And it was so that when any man who “had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called to him and said, “From what city are you?” And he said, “Your servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.”  
3 And Absalom said to him, “See, your matters are good and right. But no man listens to you on the part of the king.”  
4 Moreover, Absalom said, “Oh that I were made judge in the land, then every man who had any suit or cause might come to me and I would give him justice.”  
5 Now it was so that when any man came near to him to bow down to him, he would put forth his hand and take him and “kiss him.  
6 And in this manner Absalom did to all Israel who came to the king for judgment. “So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.  
7 ¶ Now it came to pass after four years that Absalom said to the king, “Please let me go and pay my vow that I have vowed to the LORD in Hebron.  
8 “For your servant vowed a vow while I remained at Geshur in Syria, saying, ‘If the LORD will bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.’”  
9 And the king said to him, “Go in peace.” So he arose and went to Hebron.  
10 ¶ But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, “As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you will say, ‘Absalom reigns in Hebron.’”  
11 And two hundred men went with Absalom out of Jerusalem who were invited and went innocently. And they did not know anything.  
12 Then Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, “David’s counselor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong, for the people increased continually with Absalom.  

David Flees From Absalom  
13 ¶ And there came a messenger to David,
saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom."
14 Then David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, "Arise, and let us flee, for otherwise we will not escape from Absalom. Make haste to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly and bring evil upon us and smite the city with the edge of the sword."
15 And the king's servants said to the king, "Behold, your servants are ready to do whatever my lord the king will command."
16 And the king went forth and all his household after him. And the king left ten women who were concubines, to keep the house.
17 And the king went forth and all the people after him. And they stopped in a place that was far off.
18 And all his servants passed on beside him, and all the Cherethites and all the Pelethites and all the Gittites, six hundred men who came after him from Gath, passed on before the king.
19 Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite, "Why are you also going with us? Return to your place and abide with the king, for you are a foreigner and also an exile.
20 "In fact, you came but yesterday. Should I this day make you go up and down with us, since I do not know where I am going? Return and take back your brethren. Mercy and truth be with you."
21 And Ittai answered the king and said, "As the LORD lives and as my lord the king lives, surely in what place my lord the king will be, whether in death or life, even there also will your servant be."
22 Then David said to Ittai, "Go and cross over." And Ittai the Gittite passed over and all his men and all the little ones who were with him.
23 And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people crossed over. The king also himself crossed over the Brook Kidron, and all the people crossed over toward the way of the wilderness.
24 And behold, Zadok also and all the Levites were with him, bearing the ark of the covenant of God. And they set down the ark of God, and Abiathar went up until all the people had finished crossing over from the city.
25 And the king said to Zadok, "Carry back the ark of God into the city. If I will find favor in the eyes of the LORD, He will bring me again and show me both it and His habitation."
26 "But if He says thus, 'I have no delight in you,' behold, here I am, let Him do to me as it seems good to Him."
27 The king said also to Zadok the priest, "Are you not a seer? Return to the city in peace and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz your son and Jonathan the son of Abiathar.
28 "See, I will wait in the plain of the wilderness until there comes word from you to inform me."
29 Therefore, Zadok and Abiathar carried the ark of God back to Jerusalem. And they waited there.
30 ¶ Then David went up by the ascent of Mount Olivet and wept as he went up. And he had his head covered and he went barefoot. And all the people who were with him covered every man his head. And they went up weeping as they went up.
31 And someone told David, saying, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom." And David said, "O LORD, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness."
32 ¶ Now it came to pass that when David had come to the top of the mountain where he worshiped God, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his coat torn and dirt on his head.
33 David said to him, "If you cross over with me, then you will be a burden to me.
34 "But if you return to the city and say to Absalom, "I will be your servant, O king. As I was your father's servant in the past, so I will now also be your servant,' then you may defeat for me the counsel of Ahithophel.
35 "And do you not have there with you Zadok and Abiathar the priests? Therefore, it will be that whatever thing you hear out of the king's house, you will tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests.
“Behold, they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz, Zadok’s son, and Jonathan, Abiathar’s son. And by them you will send to me everything that you can hear.”

37 So Hushai, David’s friend, came into the city, and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

Chapter 16
David and Ziba

1 ¶ Now when David was a little past the top of the hill, behold, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him with two saddled donkeys, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread and one hundred bunches of raisins and one hundred summer fruits and a bottle of wine.

2 Then the king said to Ziba, “What do you mean to do with these?” And Ziba said, “The donkeys are for the king’s household to ride on, and the bread and summer fruit are for the young men to eat, and the wine for whoever is faint in the wilderness to drink.”

3 And the king said, “And where is your master’s son?” And Ziba said to the king, “Behold, he is staying in Jerusalem, for he said, ‘Today the house of Israel will restore to me the kingdom of my father.’”

4 Then the king said to Ziba, “Behold, all that belongs to Mephibosheth is yours.” And Ziba said, “I humbly beseech you that I may find favor in your sight, my lord, O king.”

Shimei Curses David

5 ¶ And when King David came to Bahurim, behold, there came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera. He came out cursing continually as he came.

6 And he cast stones at David and at all the servants of King David. And all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

7 And thus Shimei said when he cursed, “Come out! Come out! You man of bloodshed and worthless fellow!

8 “The LORD has returned on you all the blood of the house of Saul in whose place you have reigned. And the LORD has delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. And behold, you are taken in your mischief because you are a man of bloodshed.”

9 ¶ Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please let me go over and take off his head.”

10 Then the king said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? So let him curse, because the LORD has said to him, ‘Curse David.’ Who will then say, ‘Why have you done so?’”

11 And David said to Abishai and to all his servants, “Behold, my son who came forth from my own body seeks my life. How much more now may this Benjamite do it? Let him alone and let him curse, for the LORD has ordered him.

12 “It may be that the LORD will look on my affliction, and that the LORD will repay me good for his cursing this day.”

13 So as David and his men went along the way, Shimei went along on the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him and threw up dust.

14 And the king and all the people who were with him, became weary. So they refreshed themselves there.

Advice of Hushai and Ahithophel

15 ¶ Now Absalom and all the people, the men of Israel, came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him.

16 Now it came to pass when Hushai the Archite, David’s friend, had come to Absalom, that Hushai said to Absalom, “God save the king! God save the king!”

17 And Absalom said to Hushai, “Is this your kindness to your friend? Why did you not go with your friend?”

18 And Hushai said to Absalom, “No, but whom the LORD and this people and all the men of Israel choose, his I will be and with him I will remain.

19 “And again, whom should I serve? Should I not serve in the presence of his son? As I
have served in your father’s presence, so will I be in your presence.”

20 ¶ Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, “Give counsel as to what we should do.”

21 And Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Go into your father’s concubines whom he has left to keep the house. And all Israel will hear that you are abhorred by your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be strong.”

22 So they spread Absalom a tent on the top of the house, and Absalom went into his father’s concubines in the sight of all Israel.

23 And the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, was as if a man had inquired at the oracle of God. So was all the counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

Chapter 17

1 ¶ Furthermore, Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Let me now choose out 12,000 men and I will arise and pursue after David this night.

2 “And I will come upon him while he is weary and weak. And I will make him afraid. And all the people who are with him will flee, and I will smite the king only.

3 “And I will bring back all the people to you. The return of everyone depends on the man you seek, then all the people will be at peace.”

4 And the saying pleased Absalom well and all the elders of Israel.

5 ¶ Then Absalom said, “Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear also what he says.”

6 And when Hushai had come to Absalom, Absalom spoke to him, saying, “Ahithophel has spoken after this manner. Will we do after his advice? If not, speak.”

7 And Hushai said to Absalom, “The counsel that Ahithophel has given is not good at this time.

8 Moreover, Hushai said, “You know your father and his men, that they are mighty men and they are fierce in their minds, as a bear robbed of her whelps in the field. And your father is a man of war and will not lodge with the people.

9 “Behold, he is hidden now in some pit or in some other place. And it will come to pass when some of them are overthrown at the first, that whoever hears it will say, ‘There is a slaughter among the people who follow Absalom.’

10 ¶ And he also who is valiant, whose heart is as the heart of a lion, will utterly melt away. For all Israel knows that your father is a mighty man and those who are with him are valiant men.

11 “Therefore, I counsel that all Israel be fully gathered to you, from Dan even to Beersheba, as the sand that is by the sea for multitude, and that you go to battle in person.

12 “So will we come on him in some place where he will be found. And we will light on him as the dew falls on the ground. And of him and of all the men who are with him there will not be left so much as one.

13 “Moreover, if he withdraws into a city, then all Israel will bring ropes to that city, and we will drag it into the river until there is not one small stone found there.”

14 Then Absalom and all the men of Israel said, “The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel.” For the LORD had purposed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring evil on Absalom.

15 ¶ Then Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, “Thus and so did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel. And thus and so have I counselled.

16 “Now therefore, send quickly and tell David, saying, ‘Do not lodge this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily pass over, lest the king be swallowed up and all the people who are with him.’”

17 ¶ Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by En Rogel, for they dared not be seen to come into the city. And a maidservant went and told them, and they went and told King David.

18 Nevertheless, a lad saw them and told Absalom. But both of them went away quickly and came to a man’s house in Bahurim, who had a well in his court. And they went down into it.
19 And the woman took and spread a covering over the well's mouth, and spread ground grain on it. And the thing was not known.

20 And when Absalom’s servants came to the woman to the house they said, “Where is Ahimaaz and Jonathan?” And the woman said to them, “They are gone over the brook of water.” And when they had searched and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.

21 Now it came to pass after they had departed, that they came up out of the well and went and told King David. And they said to David, “Arise and cross quickly over the water. For thus has Ahithophel counselled against you.”

22 Then David arose and all the people who were with him, and they crossed over the Jordan. By the morning light there lacked not one of them who had not gone over the Jordan.

23 ¶ Then David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom crossed over the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him.

24 ¶ Then David numbered the people who were with him and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.

25 And David sent forth a third part of the people under the hand of Joab and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab’s brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the people, “I will surely go forth with you myself also.”

26 ¶ So the people went out into the field against Israel. And the battle was in the forest of Ephraim.

27 Then the people of Israel were slain before the servants of David, and there was there a great slaughter that day of 20,000 men.

28 For the battle there was scattered over the face of all the country. And the forest devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.

29 And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode on a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak.

30 His head caught in the oak and he was taken up between heaven and earth. And the mule that was under him went away.

31 And a certain man saw it, and told Joab.

32 And he said, “Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an oak.”

33 And Joab said to the man who told him, “Now behold, you saw him. And why did you
not smite him there to the ground? And I would have given you ten shekels of silver and a belt.”

12 And the man said to Joab, “Though I should receive a thousand shekels of silver in my hand, yet I would not put forth my hand against the king’s son. For in our hearing the king charged you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, ‘Beware that no one touch the young man Absalom.’

13 “Otherwise, I would have dealt falsely against my own life, for there is no matter hidden from the king. And you yourself would have set yourself against me.”

14 Then Joab said, “I will not linger here with you.” And he took three spears in his hand and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was still alive in the midst of the oak.

15 And ten young men who bore Joab’s armor circled around and smote Absalom and slew him.

16 ¶ Then Joab blew the trumpet and the people returned from pursuing after Israel, for Joab held back the people.

17 And they took Absalom and cast him into a great pit in the forest and laid a very great heap of stones upon him. And all Israel fled everyone to his tent.

18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar which is in the King’s Valley. For he said, “I have no son to keep my name in remembrance.” And he called the pillar after his own name. And it is called to this day, Absalom’s Monument.

David Mourns Absalom

19 ¶ Then mAhimaaz the son of Zadok said, “Let me now run and bear the king news, how that the LORD has avenged him of his enemies.”

20 And Joab said to him, “You will not bear news this day, but you will bear news another day. But this day you will bear no news because the king’s son is dead.”

21 Then Joab said to the Cushite, “Go tell the king what you have seen.” And the Cushite bowed himself to Joab and ran.

22 Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said again to Joab, “But whatever happens, please let me also run after the Cushite.” And Joab said, “Why will you run, my son, seeing that you have no news ready?”

23 “But whatever happens,” said he, “let me run.” And he said to him, “Run.” Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain and outran the Cushite.

24 ¶ Now David sat between the two gates. And the watchman went up to the roof over the gate to the wall and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and beheld a man running alone.

25 And the watchman cried out and told the king. And the king said, “If he is alone, there is news in his mouth.” And he came quickly and drew near.

26 Now the watchman saw another man running. And the watchman called to the porter and said, “Behold, another man running alone.” And the king said, “He also brings news.”

27 And the watchman said, “I think the running of the first one is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok.” And the king said, “He is a good man and comes with good news.”

28 And Ahimaaz called and said to the king, “All is well.” And he fell down to the ground on his face before the king and said, “Blessed be the LORD your God who has delivered up the men who lifted up their hand against my lord the king.”

29 And the king said to the Cushite, “Is the young man Absalom safe?” And the Cushite answered, “When Joab sent the king’s servant and me your servant, I saw a great tumult, but I did not know what it was.”

30 And the king said to him, “Turn aside and stand here.” And he turned aside and stood still.

31 And behold, the Cushite came. And Cushite said, “There is news my lord the king, for the LORD has avenged you this day of all those who rose up against you.”

32 And the king said to the Cushite, “Is the young man Absalom safe?” And the Cushite answered, “The enemies of my lord the king and all who rise against you to do you harm are as that young man is.”

33 ¶ And the king was deeply moved, and went up to the room over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said thus, “O my son
Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died for you, O Absalom, my son, ‘my son!’

Chapter 19
1 ¶ Then it was told Joab, “Behold, the king weeps and mourns for Absalom.”
2 And the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the people. For the people heard say that day how the king was grieved for his son.
3 And the people went by stealth that day into the city, as people being ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.
4 But the king covered his face. And the king cried out with a loud voice, “O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!”
5 And Joab came into the house to the king and said, “You have shamed this day the faces of all your servants who this day have saved your life, and the lives of your sons and of your daughters, and the lives of your wives and the lives of your concubines,
6 ‘in that you love your enemies and hate your friends. For you have declared this day that you do not regard either princes or servants. For this day I perceive that if Absalom had lived and all we had died this day, then it would have pleased you well.
7 “Now therefore, arise, go out and speak comfortably to your servants. For I swear by the LORD, if you do not go out, there will not one stay with you this night. And that will be worse to you than all the evil that has befallen you from your youth until now.”
8 Then the king arose and sat in the gate. And they told all the people, saying, “Behold, the king is sitting in the gate.” And all the people came before the king, for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

David Returns to Jerusalem
9 ¶ And all the people were quarreling throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, “The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines. And now he is fled out of the land for Absalom.
10 “However, Absalom whom we anointed over us is dead in battle. Now therefore, why do you say nothing about bringing back the king?”
11 ¶ So King David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, “Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, ‘Why are you the last to bring the king back to his house, since the words of all Israel have come to the king, even to his house?
12 ‘You are my brethren. You are my bones and my flesh. Why then are you the last to bring back the king?’
13 “And say to Amasa, ‘Are you not of my bone and of my flesh? God do so to me and more also if you are not captain of the army before me continually in the room of Joab.’”
14 And he turned the heart of all the men of Judah, even as the heart of one man, so that they sent this word to the king, “Return, and all your servants.”
15 So the king returned and came to the Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to escort the king over the Jordan.
16 And Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite, who was of Bahurim, hastened and came down with the men of Judah to meet King David.
17 And there were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him. And they went over the Jordan before the king.
18 And there went over a convoy to carry over the king’s household and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king when he had crossed the Jordan.
19 And he said to the king, “Let not my lord impute iniquity to me, nor remember that which your servant did perversely the day when my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, so that the king should take it to heart.
20 “For your servant knows that I have sinned. Therefore, behold, I am the first to come today of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.”
21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, “Will not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD’S anointed?”

22 And David said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be adversaries to me? Will any man be put to death this day in Israel? For do not I know that I am this day king over Israel?”

23 Therefore, the king said to Shimei, “You will not die.” And the king swore to him.

24 ¶ Then Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king. And he had neither dressed his feet nor trimmed his beard nor washed his clothes from the day the king departed until the day he returned in peace.

25 Now it came to pass when he had come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said to him, “Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?”

26 And he answered, “My lord, O king, my servant deceived me, for your servant said, ‘I will saddle a donkey for myself, so that I may ride on it and go to the king,’ because your servant is lame.

27 “And he has slandered your servant to my lord the king. But my lord the king is as an angel of God. Do therefore what is good in your eyes.

28 “For all of my father’s house were but dead men before my lord the king. Yet you set your servant among those who eat at your own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry out anymore to the king?”

29 And the king said to him, “Why do you speak anymore of your matters? I have said, ‘You and Ziba divide the land.’”

30 And Mephibosheth said to the king, “Rather, let him take all since my lord the king has come back in peace to his own house.

31 ¶ And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim and went over the Jordan with the king, to escort him over the Jordan.

32 Now Barzillai was a very aged man, even eighty years old. And he had provided the king with sustenance while he lay at Mahanaim, for he was a very great man.

33 And the king said to Barzillai, “Come over with me and I will feed you with me in Jerusalem.”

34 And Barzillai said to the king, “How long have I to live, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem?

35 “I am this day eighty years old. Can I discern between good and evil? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear anymore the voice of singing men and singing women? Why then should your servant be still a burden to my lord the king?

36 “Your servant will go a little way over the Jordan with the king. And why should the king repay me with such a reward?

37 “Please let your servant turn back again so that I may die in my own city, and be buried by the grave of my father and of my mother. But behold, your servant Chimham, let him go over with my lord the king, and do to him what seems good to you.”

38 And the king answered, “Chimham will go over with me and I will do to him that which will seem good to you. And whatever you will require of me, that I will do for you.”

39 Then all the people went over the Jordan. And when the king had come over, the king kissed Barzillai and blessed him. And he returned to his own place.

40 ¶ Then the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him. And all the people of Judah escorted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

41 And behold, all the men of Israel came to the king and said to the king, “Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen you away, and have brought the king and his household and all David’s men with him over the Jordan?”

42 So all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, “Because the king is near of kin to us. Why then are you angry because of this matter? Have we eaten at all at the king’s expense? Or has he given us any gift?”

43 Then the men of Israel answered the men of Judah and said, “We have ten shares in the king, and we have also more right in David than you. Why then did you despise us? Was it not our advice first to bring back our king?”
And the words of the men of Judah were harsher than the words of the men of Israel.

Chapter 20

Sheba Rebels Against David

1 ¶ Now there happened to be there a rebellious man whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite. And he blew a trumpet and said, “We have no part in David, nor have we inheritance in the son of Jesse. Every man to his tents, O Israel.”

2 So every man of Israel went up from after David and followed Sheba the son of Bichri. But the men of Judah remained steadfast to their king, from the Jordan even to Jerusalem.

3 ¶ Then David came to his house at Jerusalem, and the king took the ten women, his concubines whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in seclusion and fed them. But he did not go in to them. So they were shut up to the day of their death, living in widowhood.

4 ¶ Then the king said to Amasa, “Within three days, assemble for me the men of Judah and be present here yourself.”

5 So Amasa went to assemble the men of Judah. But he delayed longer than the set time that he had appointed him.

6 And David said to Abishai, “Now will Sheba the son of Bichri do us more harm than Absalom. Take your lord’s servants and pursue after him, lest he find for himself fortified cities and escape us.”

7 And there went out after him Joab’s men, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and all the mighty men. And they went out of Jerusalem in order to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

8 When they were at the great stone that is in Gibeon, Amasa went before them. And Joab was dressed in his military attire, and over it was a belt with a sword in its sheath fastened at his waist. And as he went forward, it fell out.

9 Then Joab said to Amasa, “Are you in health, my brother?” And Joab took Amasa by the beard with the right hand to kiss him.

10 But Amasa did not notice the sword that was in Joab’s hand. So he smote him with it in the fifth rib, and poured out his inward parts on the ground. And he did not strike him again. And he died. So Joab and Abishai his brother pursued after Sheba the son of Bichri.

11 And one of Joab’s men stood by him and said, “He who favors Joab and he who is for David, let him follow after Joab.”

12 But Amasa wallowed in blood in the middle of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field and cast a cloth upon him, when he saw that everyone who came by him stood still.

13 When he was removed out of the highway, all the people went on after Joab, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

14 ¶ And he went through all the tribes of Israel to Abel, and to Bethmaachah, and all the Berites. And they were gathered together and went also after him.

15 Then they came and besieged him in Abel of Bethmaachah. And they cast up a bank against the city, and it stood by the rampart. And all the people who were with Joab battered the wall, to throw it down.

16 ¶ Then a wise woman cried out of the city, “Hear, hear! Please say to Joab, ‘Come nearby so that I may speak with you.’”

17 And when he had come near to her, the woman said, “Are you Joab?” And he answered, “I am he.” Then she said to him, “Hear the words of your maidservant.” And he answered, “I am listening.”

18 Then she spoke, saying, “Formerly they used to say, ‘They will surely ask advice at Abel,’ and thus they ended the matter.

19 “I am one of those who are peaceable and faithful in Israel. You seek to destroy a city and a mother in Israel. Why will you swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?”

20 And Joab answered and said, “Far be it, far be it from me that I should swallow up or destroy!

21 “The matter is not so. But a man of Mount Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, has lifted up his hand against the king, even against David. Deliver him only and I will de-
part from the city.” And the woman said to Joab, “Behold, his head will be thrown to you over the wall.”

22 Then the woman wisely went to all the people. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri and cast it out to Joab. And he blew a trumpet and withdrew from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.

23 ¶ Now Joab was over all the army of Israel. And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and over the Pelethites.

24 And Adoram was over the tribute. And Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder.

25 And Sheva was scribe. And Zadok and Abiathar were the priests.

26 And Ira also the Jairite was a chief ruler about David.

Chapter 21

Gibeonites are Revenged

1 ¶ Then there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year. So David inquired of the LORD. And the LORD answered, “It is for Saul and for his bloodthirsty house, because he slew the Gibeonites.”

2 And the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them. Now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites. And the children of Israel had sworn to them. And Saul sought to slay them in his zeal for the children of Israel and Judah.

3 Therefore, David said to the Gibeonites, “What will I do for you? And with what will I make the atonement so that you may bless the inheritance of the LORD?”

4 And the Gibeonites said to him, “We will have no silver or gold from Saul, or from his house. Neither for us will you kill any man in Israel.” And he said, “What you will say, that I will do for you.”

5 And they answered the king, “The man who consumed us and who plotted against us that we should be destroyed from remaining in any of the territory of Israel,”

6 “let seven men of his sons be delivered to us, and we will hang them up to the LORD in Gibeah of Saul,” whom the LORD chose.” And the king said, “I will give them to you.”

7 ¶ But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the LORD’S oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul.

8 But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth, and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she brought up for Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite.

9 And he delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites. And they hanged them in the hill before the LORD. So they fell all together, and were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, in the beginning of barley harvest.

10 ¶ And Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until water dropped on them out of heaven. And she did not allow the birds of the air to rest on them by day nor the beasts of the field by night.

11 And it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.

12 And David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabesh Gilead, who had stolen them from the street of Bethshan, where the Philistines had hanged them, when the Philistines had slain Saul in Gilboa.

13 And he brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son. And they gathered the bones of those who had been hanged.

14 And they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the tomb of Kish his father. And they performed all that the king commanded. And after that God was moved by prayer for the land.

Wars Against the Philistines

15 ¶ Now when the Philistines were at war again with Israel, and David went down and
his servants with him, and fought against the Philistines, David grew weary.
16 And Ishbi-Benob, who was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of bronze in weight, was girded with a new sword, and he intended to kill David.
17 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah helped him and smote the Philistine. And he killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, “You will go no more out with us to battle so that you not quench the light of Israel.”
18 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob. Then Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Saph, who was of the sons of the giant.
19 And there was again a battle in Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim, a Bethlehemite, slew the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver’s beam.
20 And there was war again in Gath where there was a man of great stature who had six fingers on every hand and six toes on every foot, twenty-four in number. And he also was born to the giant.
21 And when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimeah the brother of David slew him.
22 ¶ These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

Chapter 22
David’s Song of Praise

1 ¶ Then David spoke to the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies and out of the hand of Saul.
2 And he said, “The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my high tower and my refuge, my savior. You save me from violence.
3 “I will call on the LORD who is worthy to be praised. So I will be saved from my enemies.
4 “When the waves of death surrounded me, the floods of ungodly men overwhelmed me;
5 “The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death confronted me.
6 “In my distress I called on the LORD and cried out to my God. And He heard my voice out of His temple and my cry entered into His ears.
7 “Then the earth shook and trembled. The foundations of heaven moved and shook because He was angry.
8 “There went up a smoke out of His nostrils, and fire out of His mouth devoured. Coals were kindled by it.
9 “He sent from above. He took me. He drew me out of many waters.
10 “He delivered me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, for they were too strong for me.
11 “They confronted me in the day of my calamity. But the LORD was my support.
12 “And He made darkness pavilions around Him, dark waters and thick clouds of the skies.
13 “Through the brightness before Him were coals of kindled fire.
14 “The LORD thundered from heaven, and the most High uttered His voice.
15 “And He sent out arrows and scattered them, lightning and discomfited them.
16 “And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of His nostrils.
17 ¶ He sent from above. He took me. He drew me out of many waters.
18 “He delivered me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, for they were too strong for me.
19 “They confronted me in the day of my calamity. But the LORD was my support.
20 ¶ He brought me forth also into a large place. He delivered me because He delighted in me.
21 ¶ The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness. According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me.
22 ¶ For I have kept the ways of the LORD and have not wickedly departed from my God.
23 “For all His judgments were before me. And as for His statutes, I did not depart from them.
24 I was also upright before Him and have kept myself from my iniquity.
25 “Therefore, the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in His eyes.
26 “With the merciful you will show Yourself merciful, and with the upright man You will show Yourself upright.
27 “With the pure You will show Yourself pure, and with the perverted You will show Yourself astute.
28 “And You will save the afflicted people. But Your eyes are on the haughty, that You may bring them down.
29 “For You are my lamp, O LORD. And the LORD will lighten my darkness.
30 “For by You I have run through a troop. By my God I have leaped over a wall.
31 “As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tested. He is a shield to all those who trust in Him.
32 “Who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?
33 “God is my strength and power. And He makes my way perfect.
34 “He makes my feet like the feet of deer. And He sets me on my high places.
35 “He teaches my hands to make war, so that a bow of steel is broken by my arms.
36 “You have also given me the shield of Your salvation. And Your gentleness has made me great.
37 “You have enlarged my path under me, so that my feet did not slip.
38 “I have pursued my enemies and destroyed them, and did not turn back until I had consumed them.
39 “And I have consumed them and wounded them, so that they could not arise. Yes, they are fallen under my feet.
40 “For You have girded me with strength for battle. Those who rose up against me You have subdued under me.
41 “You have also given me the necks of my enemies that I might destroy those who hate me.
42 “They looked, but there was none to save, even to the LORD, but He did not answer them.
43 “Then I beat them as small as the dust of the earth. I stamped them as the mire of the street, and spread them out.
44 “You also have delivered me from the strivings of my people. You have kept me to be head of the nations. A people whom I have not known will serve me.
45 “Foreigners will submit themselves to me. As soon as they hear, they will be obedient to me.
46 “Foreigners will fade away, and they will be frightened out of their hideouts.
47 “The LORD lives. And blessed be my rock. And exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.
48 “It is God who avenges me, and who brings down the people under me.
49 “And who brings me forth from my enemies. You also have lifted me up on high above those who rose up against me. You have delivered me from the violent man.
50 “Therefore, I will give thanks to you, O LORD, among the nations, and I will sing praises to Your name.
51 “He is the tower of salvation for His king. And He shows mercy to His anointed, to David, and to his seed forever.”

Chapter 23
Last Words from David
1 ¶ Now these are the last words of David. David the son of Jesse declares, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel,
2 “The spirit of the LORD spoke by me and His word was on my tongue.
3 “The God of Israel said. The Rock of Israel spoke to me. He who rules over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.
And he will be as the light of the morning when the sun rises, even a morning without clouds, as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.’

“Although my house is not so with God, yet He has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and sure. For this is all my salvation and all my desire. Will He now make it grow?

‘But the sons of rebellion will all be as thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with hands.

“But the man who will touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear, and they will be utterly burned with fire in their place.”

The Mighty Men of David

These are the names of the mighty men whom David had: Josheb-basshebeth a Tahachmonite, chief of the captains. The same was Adino the Ezrite. He lifted up his spear against eight hundred whom he slew at one time.

And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David when they defied the Philistines who were gathered together there for battle, and the men of Israel had withdrawn.

He arose and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand stuck to the sword. And the LORD brought about a great victory that day, and the people returned after him only to plunder.

And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines gathered together into a troop where there was a piece of ground full of lentils. And the people fled from the Philistines.

But he stood in the midst of the ground and defended it, and slew the Philistines. And the LORD brought about a great victory.

¶ And the thirty chief men went down and came to David in the harvest time to the cave of Adullam. And the troop of the Philistines camped in the valley of Rephaim.

And David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem.

And David longed and said, “Oh that one would give me drink from the water of the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate!”

And the three mighty men broke through the army of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate. And they took it and brought it to David. Nevertheless, he would not drink of it, but poured it out to the LORD.

And he said, “Be it far from me, O LORD, that I should do this. Is not this the blood of the men who went in jeopardy of their lives?” Therefore, he would not drink it. These things these three mighty men did.

And Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was chief among three. And he lifted up his spear against three hundred and slew them, and won a name among the three.

Was he not most honorable of three? Therefore, he was their captain. However, he did not attain to the first three.

¶ And Benaiah was the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man, of Kabzeel, who had done many acts. He slew two lion-like men of Moab. He went down also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow.

And he slew an Egyptian, a goodly man. And the Egyptian had a spear in his hand, but he went down to him with a staff and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian’s hand and slew him with his own spear.

These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and won a name among three mighty men.

He was more honorable than the thirty, but he did not attain to the first three. And David set him over his guard.

¶ Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty; Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

Shammah the Harodite, Elika the Harodite,

Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite,

Abiezer the Anothite, Mebunnai the Hushathite,

Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the
Netophathite,
29 Heleb the son of Baanah, a Netophathite, 
Ittai the son of Ribai out of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin,
30 Benaiyah the Pirathonite, Hiddai of the brooks of Gaash,
31 Abitalbon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite,
32 Yshammah the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sharar the Hararite,
33 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maachathite, Eliam the son of Abihithopel the Gilonite,
34 Hezrai the Carmelite, Parai the Arbite,
35 Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite,
36 Zelek the Ammonite, Nahari the Beerothite, 
ombassador to Joab the son of Zeruiah,
37 Ira an Ithrite, Gareb an Ithrite,
38 Uriah the Hittite: thirty-seven in all.

Chapter 24
David Numbers the Men of War

1 ¶ And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel. And He moved David against them to say, "Go, number Israel and Judah."
2 For the king said to Joab the captain of the army who was with him, "Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, and number the people so that I may know the number of the people."
3 And Joab said to the king, "Now may the LORD add to the people a hundred times as many as they are, while the eyes of my lord the king still see. But why does my lord the king delight in this thing?"
4 Notwithstanding the king's word prevailed against Joab and against the captains of the army. And Joab and the captains of the army went out from the presence of the king in order to number the people of Israel.
5 And they passed over the Jordan and camped in the midst of the river of Gad, and toward Jazer.
6 Then they came to Gilead and to the land of Tahitim Hodshi. And they came to Danjaan and around to Sidon.
7 And they came to the stronghold of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites and of the Canaanites. And they went out to the south of Judah, even to Beersheba.
8 So when they had gone through all the land, they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days.
9 And Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people to the king. And there were in Israel 800,000 valiant men who drew the sword. And the men of Judah were 500,000 men.
10 ¶ And David's heart troubled him after he had numbered the people. And said to the LORD, "I offer three things. Choose one of them so that I may do it to you."
11 Now when David rose up in the morning the word of the LORD came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying,
12 "Go and say to David, 'Thus says the LORD, "I offer three things. Choose one of them so that I may do it to you."'"
13 So Gad came to David and told him and said to him, "Will seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months before your enemies, while they pursue you? Or will there be three days' pestilence in your land? Now consider, and see what answer I will return to Him who sent me."
14 And David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Let us now fall into the hand of the LORD, for His mercies are great. And let me not fall into the hand of man."
15 ¶ So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed. And there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba 70,000 men.
16 ¶ And when the angel stretched out his hand on Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented from the calamity and said to the angel who destroyed the people, "It is enough. Hold back now your hand." And the angel of the LORD
was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite.

17 And David spoke to the LORD when he saw the angel who smote the people, and said, “Lo, I have sinned and I have done wickedly. But these sheep, what have they done? Let your hand, I ask you, be against me and against my father’s house.”

David Builds an Altar

18 ¶ And Gad came that day to David and said to him, “Go up, erect an altar to the LORD in the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite.”

19 And David, according to the saying of Gad, went up as the LORD commanded.

20 Now Araunah looked and saw the king and his servants coming toward him. And Araunah went out and bowed himself before the king on his face on the ground.

21 And Araunah said, “Why has my lord the king come to his servant?” And David said, “To buy the threshingfloor from you in order to build an altar to the LORD so that the plague may be withdrawn from the people.”

22 And Araunah said to David, “Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him. Behold, here are oxen for burnt sacrifice and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood.

23 “All these, O king, Araunah has given to the king.” And Araunah said to the king, “The LORD your God accept you.”

24 And the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will surely buy it from you at a price. Neither will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God of that which did not cost me anything.”

25 And David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

26 And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD was moved by prayer for the land and the plague was withdrawn from Israel.
and David our lord does not know it?
12 “Now therefore come, please let me give you counsel so that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon.
13 “Go immediately to King David and say to him, ‘Did not you, my lord, O king, swear to your maidservant, saying, “Assuredly Solomon your son will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne”? Why then does Adonijah reign?’
14 “Behold, while you are still there speaking with the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words.”
15 ¶ So Bathsheba went in to the king into the chamber. And the king was very old. And Abishag the Shu-nammite ministered to the king.
16 And Bathsheba bowed and prostrated herself to the king. And the king said, “What do you wish?”
17 And she said to him, “My lord, you swore by the LORD your God to your maidservant, saying, ‘Assuredly Solomon your son will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne.’
18 “But now, behold, Adonijah is reigning. And now, my lord the king, you do not know it.
19 “And he has slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance. And he has called all the king’s sons and the captains of the army and Abiathar the priest. But he has not called Solomon your servant.
20 “And you, my lord, O king, the eyes of all Israel are on you, that you should tell them who should sit on the throne of my lord and be the king after him.”
21 Then King David answered and said, “Call Bathsheba to me.” And she came into the king’s presence and stood before the king.
22 ¶ And King David said, “Call to me Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada.” And they came before the king.
23 The king also said to them, “Take with you the servants of your lord and cause Solomon my son to ride on my own b*mule, and bring him down to Gihon.
24 “And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there king over Israel. And e*blow with the trumpet and say, ‘Long live King Solomon.’
25 “Then you will come up after him so that he may come and sit on my throne, for he will be king in my place. And I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.”
26 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered
the king and said, "Amen! May the LORD God of my lord the king say so too.

36 "As the LORD has been with my lord the king, even so may He be with Solomon and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David."

37 ¶ So Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, went down and caused Solomon to ride on King David’s mule. And they brought him to Gihon.

38 Then Zadok the priest took a horn of oil out of the tabernacle and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!"

39 Then all the people came up after him. And the people piped with pipes and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth shook with their sound.

40 Then Zadok the priest took a horn of oil out of the tabernacle and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!"

41 ¶ And Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they finished eating. And when Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, "Why is the city making such an uproar?"

42 And while he still spoke, behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came. And Adonijah said to him, "Come in, for you are a valiant man and bring good tidings."

43 And Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, "No! Our lord King David has made Solomon king.

44 "And the king has sent with him Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and the Cherethites and the Pelethites. And they have caused him to ride on the king’s mule.

45 "And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king in Gihon. And they have come up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise that you have heard.

46 "And also Solomon sits on the throne of the kingdom.

47 "And furthermore, the king’s servants came to bless our lord King David, saying, "May God make the name of Solomon better than your name. ‘And make his throne greater than your throne. ‘And the king bowed himself on the bed.

48 "And also thus said the king, ‘Blessed is the LORD God of Israel who has given one to sit on my throne this day while my own eyes see it.’"

49 Then all the guests who were with Adonijah were afraid. And they rose up and went every man his way.

50 ¶ Now Adonijah feared because of Solomon. And he arose and went and took hold of the horns of the altar.

51 Then it was told Solomon, saying, "Behold, Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon, for behold, he has taken hold on the horns of the altar, saying, ‘Let King Solomon swear to me today that he will not slay his servant with the sword.’"

52 So Solomon said, "If he will show himself a worthy man, there will not a hair of him fall to the earth. But if wickedness is found in him, he will die."

53 So King Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and bowed himself to King Solomon. And Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."

Chapter 2

1 ¶ Now the days of David drew near that he should die. And he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2 "I am going the way of all the earth. Therefore, be strong and show yourself a man.

3 "And keep the charge of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes and His commandments and His judgments and His testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, so that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn,

4 "so that the LORD may fulfill His word that He spoke concerning me, saying, ‘If your children take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, you will not lack a man on the throne of Israel.’"

5 "Furthermore, you know also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, and what he did to the two captains of the armies of Israel, to
Abner the son of Ner, and to Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed. And he shed the blood of war in peace and put the blood of war on his belt that was about his loins and in his shoes that were on his feet.

“Do therefore according to your wisdom, and do not let his gray hair go down to the grave in peace.

“But show kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those who eat at your table; for they came to me when I fled because of Absalom your brother.

“And behold, you have with you Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite of Bahurim who cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim. But he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by the LORD, saying, ‘I will not put you to death with the sword.’

“Now therefore, do not hold him guiltless, for you are a wise man and know what you ought to do to him. But bring his gray hair down to the grave with blood.”

¶ So David slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David.

And the days that David reigned over Israel was forty years. He reigned seven years in Hebron and he reigned thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

Then Solomon sat on the throne of David his father. And his kingdom was firmly established.

And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, “Do you come peacefully?” And he said, “Peacefully.”

Then he said, “I have something to say to you.” And she said, “Say on.”

And he said, “You know that the kingdom was mine and that all Israel set their faces on me that I should reign. However, the kingdom is turned about and has become my brother’s, for it was his from the LORD.

“How now I ask one request of you. Do not refuse me.” And she said to him, “Say on.”

And she said, “Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah your brother as a wife.”

Then King Solomon answered and said to his mother, “And why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also, for he is my elder brother; even for him and for Abiathar the priest and for Joab the son of Zeruiah.”

Then King Solomon swore by the LORD, saying, “God do so to me and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his own life.

“Now therefore, as the LORD lives, who has established me and set me on the throne of David my father, and who has made me a house as He promised, Adonijah will be put to death this day.”

And Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest to the LORD in order that he might fulfill the word of the LORD that He spoke concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.

¶ Then news came to Joab, for Joab had turned after Adonijah, although he did not turn after Absalom. And Joab fled to the tabernacle
of the LORD and took hold on the horns of the altar.

29 And it was told King Solomon that Joab had fled to the tabernacle of the LORD. And behold, he was by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, “Go, fall on him.”

30 And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD and said to him, “Thus says the king, ‘Come out.’” And he said, “No, for I will die here.” And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, “Thus said Joab and thus he answered me.”

31 And the king said to him, “Do as he has said and fall on him and bury him, so that you may take away from me and from the house of my father the innocent blood that Joab shed.

32 And the LORD will return his blood on his own head, because he fell on two men more righteous and better than he and killed them with the sword, while my father David did not know it: Abner the son of Ner, captain of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the army of Judah.

33 Their blood will therefore return on the head of Joab and on the head of his seed forever. But on David and on his seed and on his house and on his throne, there will be peace forever from the LORD.”

34 So Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up and fell on him and killed him. And he was buried in his own house in the wilderness.

35 And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his place over the army. And the king appointed Zadok the priest in the place of Abiathar.

36 And the king sent and called for Shimei. And he said to him, “Build a house in Jerusalem and dwell there. And do not go out from there to any place.

37 For it will be that on the day you go out and pass over the Brook Kidron, you will know for certain that you will surely die. Your blood will be on your own head.”

38 Then Shimei said to the king, “The saying is good. As my lord the king has said, so will your servant do.” And Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days.

39 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of three years that two of the servants of Shimei ran away to Achish, son of Maacah, king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, “Behold, your servants are in Gath.”

40 So Shimei arose and saddled his donkey and went to Gath to Achish to seek his servants. And Shimei went and brought his servants from Gath.

41 Then it was told Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and had come again.

42 And the king sent and called for Shimei and said to him, “Did I not make you swear by the LORD and warn you, saying, ‘Know for certain that on the day you go out and walk abroad anywhere, that you will surely die?’ And you said to me, ‘The word that I have heard is good.’

43 “Why then have you not kept the oath of the LORD, and the commandment that I have charged you?”

44 The king said also to Shimei, “You know, as your heart acknowledges, fall the wickedness that you did to my father David. Therefore, the LORD will return your wickedness on your own head.

45 But King Solomon will be blessed, and the throne of David will be established before the LORD forever.”

46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, who went out and fell on him so that he died. And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

Chapter 3

Solomon’s Prayer

1 ¶ And Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And he took Pharaoh’s daughter and brought her into the city of David until he had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem.

2 Meanwhile, the people sacrificed on high places because there was no house built for the name of the LORD until those days.
3 And Solomon **loved** the LORD, **walking** in the statutes of David his father, except he sacrificed and burnt incense on high places.

4 ¶ And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that **was** the great high place. Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night. And God said, “Ask what I will give you.”

6 And Solomon said, “You have showed to your servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before You in truth and in righteousness and in uprightness of heart with You. And You have kept for him this great kindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne as **it is** this day.

7 ‘And now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of David my father. And I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in.

8 ‘And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people who cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9 ‘Give therefore your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, so that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”

10 ¶ And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11 So God said to him, ‘Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, neither have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern judgment,’

12 ‘behold, I have done according to your words. ‘Behold, I have given you a wise and an understanding heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, neither after you will any arise like you.

13 ‘And I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days.

14 ‘And if you will walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

15 And Solomon ‘awoke, and behold, **it was** a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD and offered up burnt offerings. And he offered peace offerings and made a feast to all his servants.

**Solomon’s Wise Rule**

16 ¶ Then two women who were harlots came to the king and stood before him.

17 And one woman said, “O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house. And I gave birth to a child with her in the house.

18 Now it came to pass the third day after I had delivered, that this woman delivered also. And we were together. There was no stranger with us in the house, only the two of us in the house.

19 “And this woman’s child died in the night because she lay on it.

20 So she arose at midnight and took my son from beside me while your maidservant slept. And she laid him in her bosom and laid her dead child in my bosom.

21 “And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, he was dead. But when I considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son whom I had borne.”

22 Then the other woman said, “No, but the living is your son and the dead is my son.” Thus they spoke before the king.

23 ¶ Then the king said, “The one says, ‘This is my son who lives, and your son is the dead.’ And the other says, ‘No, but your son is the dead and my son is the living.’”

24 Then the king said, “Bring me a sword.”

25 And they brought a sword before the king.

26 Then the woman whose child was the living one spoke to the king, for she yearned with...
compassion for her son. And she said, “O my lord, give her the living child, and by no means make him die.” But the other said, “Let it be neither mine nor yours, but divide him.”

27 Then the king answered and said, “Give her the living child, and by no means slay it. She is the mother.”

28 And all Israel heard of the judgment with which the king had judged. And they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to do judgment.

Chapter 4
Government Officials

1 ¶ So King Solomon was king over all Israel.
2 And these were the princes he had: Azariah the son of Zadok the priest, Elisha the principal officer, and Zabud the son of Nathan, recorder.

3 Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder.

4 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the army. And Zadok and Abiathar were the priests.

5 And Azariah the son of Nathan was over the officers, and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal officer and the king’s friend.

6 And Ahishar was over the household. And Adoniram the son of Abda was over the labor force.

7 ¶ And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel who provided food for the king and his household; each man had to provide for a month in the year.

8 And these were their names: The son of Hur was in the mountains of Ephraim;

9 Ben-Dekar was in Makaz and Shaalbim and Beth Shemesh and Elon Beth Hanan;

10 Ben-Hesed was in Arubboth. To him belonged Sochoh and all the land of Hepher.

11 Ben-Abinadab was in all the region of Dor, who had Taphath the daughter of Solomon as a wife.

12 Baana the son of Ahilud was in Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth Shean, which is by Zarethan beneath Jezreel, from Beth Shean to Abel Meholah, even to the place that is beyond Jokneam.

13 Ben-Geber was in Ramoth Gilead. To him belonged the towns of Jair the son of Maacah that are in Gilead. To him also belonged the region of Argob that is in Bashan, sixty great cities with walls and bronze bars.

14 Ahinadab the son of Iddo had Mahanaim.

15 Ahimaaz was in Naphtali. He also took Basemath the daughter of Solomon to wife.

16 Baana the son of Hushai was in Asher and in Aloth.

17 Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah was in Issachar.

18 Shimei the son of Elah was in Benjamin.

19 Geber the son of Uri was in the country of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites and of Og king of Bashan. And he was the only officer who was in the land.

Solomon’s Daily Provisions

20 ¶ Judah and Israel were many, as the sand that is by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and making merry.

21 And Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt. They brought presents and served Solomon all the days of his life.

22 ¶ And Solomon’s provision for one day was thirty measures of fine flour and sixty measures of meal,

23 ten fat oxen, and twenty oxen out of the pastures, and a hundred sheep, beside deer and gazelles and fattened fowl.

24 For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the River, from Tiphsah even to Gaza, over all the kings on this side of the River. And he had peace on all sides around him.

25 And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.

26 ¶ And Solomon had 4,000 stalls of horses for his chariots, and 12,000 horsemen.

27 And these officers provided food for King Solomon and for all who came to King Solomon’s table, every man in his month. They
lacked nothing.

28 They also brought barley and straw for the horses and swift steeds to the place where the officers were, every man according to his charge.

Wisdom of Solomon

29 ¶ And God gave Solomon great wisdom and understanding, and largeness of heart, as the sand that is on the seashore.

30 And Solomon’s wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the children of the east country and all the wisdom of Egypt.

31 For he was wiser than all men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite and Heman and Chalcol and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his fame was in all the surrounding nations.

32 And he spoke 3,000 proverbs. And his songs were 1,055.

33 And he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall. He spoke also of animals and of birds and of creeping things and of fish.

34 And there came from all people men to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.

Chapter 5

Building Preparations

1 ¶ Now Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon when he had heard that they had anointed him king in the place of his father, for Hiram was always a lover of David.

2 Then Solomon sent to Hiram, saying,

3 You know that David my father could not build a house to the name of the Lord his God because of the wars that were around him on every side, until the Lord put them under the soles of his feet.

4 “But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side so that there is neither adversary nor evil occurrence.

5 And behold, I intend to build a house to the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord spoke to David my father, saying, ‘Your son whom I will set on your throne in your room, he will build a house to My name.’

6 “Now therefore, command that they cut for me cedar trees out of Lebanon, and my servants will be with your servants. And I will give you wages for your servants according to all that you will appoint, for you know that there is not among us any who can cut timber like the Sidonians.”

7 ¶ Now it came to pass when Hiram heard the words of Solomon that he rejoiced greatly. And he said, “Blessed be the Lord this day, who has given to David a wise son over this great people.”

8 Then Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, “I have considered the things that you sent to me. I will do all you desire concerning timber of cedar, and concerning timber of cypress.

9 “My servants will bring them down from Lebanon to the sea. And I will take them by sea in rafts to the place that you will indicate to me. And I will cause them to be discharged there, and you will receive them. And you will accomplish my desire in giving food for my household.”

10 So Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees and cypress trees according to all his desire.

11 And Solomon gave Hiram 20,000 measures of wheat for food for his household, and twenty measures of pure oil; thus Solomon gave to Hiram every year.

12 So the Lord gave Solomon wisdom as He promised him. And there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two made a covenant together.

13 ¶ Now King Solomon raised a labor force from all Israel. And the levy was 30,000 men.

14 And he sent them to Lebanon, 10,000 a month by shifts. They were in Lebanon a month and two months at home. And Adoniram was over the labor force.

15 And Solomon had 70,000 who bore burdens, and 80,000 hewers of stone in the mountains,

16 besides the chief of Solomon’s 3,300 officers who were over the work and who ruled over the people who were doing the work.

17 And the king commanded, and they brought
great stones, costly stones, and hewed stones to lay the foundation of the house.

18 So Solomon’s builders and Hiram’s builders and the Gebalites cut them. And they prepared the timbers and the stones to build the house.

Chapter 6

Building the Temple

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the 480th year after the children of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon’s reign over Israel, in the month Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.

2 And the house that King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits long and twenty cubits wide and thirty cubits high.

3 And the porch before the temple of the house was twenty cubits in length, according to the width of the house, and its width along the front of the house was ten cubits.

4 And for the house he made windows of beveled frames.

5 ¶ And against the wall of the house he built chambers all around, against the walls of the house all around, both in the temple and in the inner sanctuary. And he made chambers all around.

6 The lowest chamber was five cubits wide, and the middle was six cubits wide, and the third was seven cubits wide; for on the outside he made offsets in the wall of the house all around in order that the beams not be inserted in the walls of the house.

7 And the house, when it was being built, was built of stone prepared at the quarry, so that there was neither hammer nor ax nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was being built.

8 The door for the middle chamber was on the right side of the house. And they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber; and out of the middle into the third.

9 ¶ So he built the house and finished it. And he covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.

10 Then he built chambers against all the house, each was five cubits high. And they rested on the house with timber of cedar.

11 ¶ Now the word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying,

12 “Concerning this house that you are building, if you will walk in My statutes and execute My judgments and keep all My commandments to walk in them, then I will perform My word with you that I spoke to David your father.

13 “And I will dwell among the children of Israel and will not forsake My people Israel.”

14 ¶ So Solomon built the house and finished it.

15 Then he built the walls of the house on the inside with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house and the walls of the ceiling. He covered them on the inside with wood and covered the floor of the house with planks of cypress.

16 And he built twenty cubits on the sides of the house, both the floor and the walls with boards of cedar. He even built them for it on the inside, even for the inner sanctuary, even as the most holy place.

17 And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long.

18 And the cedar of the house inside was carved as buds and open flowers. All was cedar. There was no stone seen.

19 And he prepared an inner sanctuary within the house in order to place there the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

20 And the inner sanctuary in the front was twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in width, and twenty cubits in height. And he overlaid it with pure gold. He also overlaid the altar with cedar.

21 So Solomon overlaid the house inside with pure gold. And he made a partition by the chains of gold before the inner sanctuary. And he overlaid it with gold.

22 And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house. Also the whole altar that was by the inner sanctuary he overlaid with gold.

23 ¶ And within the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olive tree, each ten cubits high.
24 And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub. And five cubits the other wing of the cherub. There were ten cubits from the uttermost part of the one wing to the uttermost part of the other.

25 And the other cherub was ten cubits. Both the cherubim were of one measure and one size.

26 The height of the one cherub was ten cubits, and so was the other cherub.

27 Then he set the cherubim inside the inner house. And they stretched forth the wings of the cherubim so that the wings of the one touched the one wall and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall. And their wings touched one another in the middle of the house.

28 And he overlaid the cherubim with gold.

29 ¶ Then he carved all the walls of the house all around with carved figures of cherubim and palm trees and open flowers. And he overlaid them with gold. And he spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees.

30 And he overlaid with gold the floor of the house, inside and outside.

31 ¶ And for the entrance of the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood. The lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

32 The two doors also were of olive wood. And he carved on them carvings of cherubim and palm trees and open flowers, inside and outside.

33 So for the door of the temple he also made doorposts of olive tree, one-fourth of the wall.

34 And the two doors were of cypress wood. The two panels of the one door were folding, and the two panels of the other door were folding.

35 And he carved on it cherubim and palm trees and open flowers. And he covered them with gold fitted on the carved work.

36 ¶ And he built the inner court with three rows of hewed stone, and a row of cedar beams.

37 ¶ In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid, in the month Ziv.

38 And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished throughout all its parts, and according to all the fashion of it. So it took him seven years to build it.

Chapter 7
Building the Palace

1 ¶ Now Solomon was building his own house for thirteen years, and he finished all his house.

2 He built also the house of the forest of Lebanon. The length of it was one hundred cubits and its width fifty cubits and its height thirty cubits, on four rows of cedar pillars with cedar beams on the pillars.

3 And it was covered with cedar above on the beams that lay on forty-five pillars, fifteen in a row.

4 And there were windows in three rows, and window was opposite window in three tiers.

5 And all the doors and doorposts were square, with the windows. And window was opposite window in three tiers.

6 ¶ And he made a porch of pillars. The length of it was fifty cubits and the width of it thirty cubits. And the porch was in front of them. And the other pillars and the thick beam were in front of them.

7 Then he made a porch for the throne where he was to judge, even the porch of judgment. And it was covered with cedar from one side of the floor to the other.

8 And his house where he dwelt had another court within the porch, which was of the same workmanship. Solomon made also a house like this porch for Pharaoh’s daughter whom he had married.

9 ¶ All these were of costly stones according to the measures of cut stones, sawed with saws, inside and outside, even from the foundation to the eaves, and also on the outside toward the great court.

10 And the foundation was of costly stones, even great stones, stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits.

11 And above were costly stones after the measures of cut stones and cedars.

12 And all around the great court were three rows of cut stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the LORD and for the porch of the house.

Temple Furnishings

13 ¶ Then King Solomon sent and brought

p 2 Ch 5:8 q Ex 36:8,35 r Ez 41:23-25 s 1 Kg 7:12 t 1 Kg 6:1 u 1 Kg 5:5; 6:1; 8:19 Chapter 7: a 2 Ch 8:1 b 2 Ch 9:16 c 2 Ch 8:11 d 1 Kg 6:36 e Jn 10:23
Hiram from Tyre.

14 He was a widow’s son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in bronze. And he was filled with wisdom and understanding and skillful in all works in bronze. And he came to King Solomon and performed all his work.

15 ¶ For he cast two pillars of bronze of eighteen cubits high each. And a line of twelve cubits measured the circumference of both.

16 And he made two capitals of molten bronze to set on the tops of the pillars. The height of one capital was five cubits and the height of the other capital was five cubits.

17 There were networks of interwoven threads of chainwork for the capitals that were on the top of the pillars, seven for one capital and seven for the other capital.

18 And he made the pillars and two rows around on one network to cover the capitals that were on the top of the pillars, seven for one capital and seven for the other capital.

19 And the capitals that were on the top of the pillars in the porch were of lily work, four cubits.

20 And the capitals on the two pillars also had pomegranates above, over against the convex surface that was by the network. And the pomegranates were two hundred in rows around on the other capitals.

21 ¶ Then he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple. And he set up the right pillar and called the name of it Jachin. And he set up the left pillar and called the name of it Boaz.

22 And on the top of the pillars was lily work. So the work of the pillars was finished.

23 ¶ Then he made a molten sea, ten cubits from one brim to the other. It was circular, and its height was five cubits. And it took a line of thirty cubits to measure around it.

24 Under its brim gourds went around encircling it ten to a cubit, completely surrounding the sea. The buds were cast in two rows when it was cast.

25 It stood on twelve oxen, three looking toward the north and three looking toward the west and three looking toward the south and three looking toward the east. And the sea was set upon them, and all their back parts were inward.

26 And it was a hand breadth thick, and its brim was made like the brim of a cup, like a lily blossom. Its content was 2,000 baths.

27 ¶ And he made ten stands of bronze. The length of each stand was four cubits and its width four cubits and its height three cubits.

28 And the work of the stands was after this manner: they had borders and the borders were between the ledges.

29 And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen and cherubim. And on the ledges there was a pedestal above. And beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of hanging work.

30 And every stand had four bronze wheels and plates of bronze. And its four corners had supports. Under the laver were molten supports at the side of every addition.

31 And on the inside of the crown was an opening that was a cubit. But the mouth of it was round after the work of the base, a cubit and an half. And also on the mouth of it were engravings, and their borders were square, not round.

32 And under the borders were four wheels. And the axles of the wheels were joined to the stand. And the height of a wheel was a cubit and a half.

33 And the work of the wheels was like the work of a chariot wheel. Their axles and their rims and their spokes and their hubs were all cast.

34 And there were four supports at the four corners of one stand. The supports were part of the stand itself.

35 And on the top of the stand, at the height of half a cubit, it was perfectly round. And on the top of the stand, its ledges and its borders were part of it.

36 On the plates of its ledges and on its borders, he engraved cherubim, lions and palm trees, according to the clear space of every one, with wreaths all around.

37 After this manner he made the ten bases: all of them had one casting, one measure and one size.
Then he made ten layers of bronze. One laver contained forty baths and every laver was four cubits. On every one of the ten stands was one laver.

And he put five stands on the right side of the house and five on the left side of the house. And he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward toward the south.

Then Hiram made the lavers and the shovels and the basins. So Hiram completed doing all the work that he made for King Solomon for the house of the LORD:

the two pillars and the two bowls of the capitals that were on top of the two pillars, and the two networks to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the top of the pillars;

two networks, even two rows of pomegranates for one network to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the pillars;

and the ten bases and ten layers on the bases;

and one sea and twelve oxen under the sea;

and the pots and the shovels and the basins. And all these vessels that Hiram made for King Solomon for the house of the LORD, were of bright bronze.

In the plain of the Jordan the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarethan.

And Solomon left all the vessels unweighed because they were too many; neither was the weight of the bronze determined.

And Solomon made all the vessels that pertained to the house of the LORD; the altar of gold and the table of gold, upon which the showbread was placed;

and the lampstands of pure gold, five on the right side and five on the left, before the sanctuary, with the flowers and the lamps and the tongs of gold;

and the bowls and the snuffers and the basins and the spoons and the censers of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the house, that is for the temple.

So all the work that King Solomon made for the house of the LORD was completed. And Solomon brought in the things that his father David had dedicated, even the silver and the gold and the vessels. He put them among the treasures of the house of the LORD.

Chapter 8
Ark Brought to the Temple

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem, so that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.

And all the men of Israel assembled themselves to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.

Then they brought up the ark of the LORD and the tabernacle of the assembly, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, even these the priests and the Levites brought up.

And King Solomon and all the assembly of Israel who were assembled to him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen that could not be counted or numbered because of the multitude.

Then the priests brought in the ark of the LORD and the tabernacle of the assembly, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, into the inner sanctuary of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubim.

For the cherubim spread forth their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim covered from above the ark and the poles.

And they extended the poles so that the ends of the poles could be seen from the holy place before the sanctuary. But they were not seen outside. And there they are to this day.

There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

Now it came to pass when the priests came out of the holy place that the cloud filled the
house of the LORD,
11 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.
12 ¶ Then Solomon said, "The LORD said that He would dwell in the dark cloud.
13 "I have surely built You a house to dwell in, a place for You to abide in forever."
14 ¶ And the king turned his face around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood.
15 And he said, "Blessed is the LORD God of Israel who spake with His mouth to David and has fulfilled it with His hand, saying,
16 'Since the day that I brought forth My people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel to build a house in order that My name might be in it. But I chose David to be over My people Israel.'
17 "Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.
18 And the LORD said to David my father, 'Because it was in your heart to build a house to My name, you did well that it was in your heart.
19 'Nevertheless, you will not build the house, but your son who will come forth out of your loins. He will build the house to My name.'
20 "And the LORD has performed His word that He spoke, and I am risen up in the place of David my father and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised. And I have built a house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.
21 "And I have set a place for the ark in which is the covenant of the LORD, that He made with our fathers when He brought them out of the land of Egypt."

Prayer of Dedication
22 ¶ And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel. And he spread forth his hands toward heaven.
23 Then he said, "LORD God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, who keeps covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their heart,
24 "who have kept with Your servant David my father that You promised him. You spoke also with Your mouth and have fulfilled it with Your hand as it is this day.
25 "Now therefore, LORD God of Israel, keep with Your servant David my father what You promised him, saying, 'You will not lack a man to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your sons take heed to their way to walk before Me as you have walked.'
26 "And now, O God of Israel, please let Your word be confirmed that You spoke to Your servant David my father.
27 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this house that I have built?
28 "Yet You have respect to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before You today;
29 "that Your eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which You have said, 'My name will be there,' that You may hearken to the prayer that Your servant will make toward this place.
30 "And hearken to the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they will pray toward this place; and hear in heaven Your dwelling place. And when You hear, forgive.
31 ¶ "If any man trespass against his neighbor, and an oath be laid on him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before Your altar in this house,
32 "then hear in heaven and act and judge Your servants, condemning the wicked to bring his way on his head, and justifying the righteous to give him according to his righteousness.
33 ¶ "When Your people Israel are smitten down before the enemy because they have sinned against You, and will turn again to You and confess Your name and pray and make supp-
application to You in this house,
34 “then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel and bring them again to the land that You gave to their fathers.
35 “When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, if they pray toward this place and confess Your name and turn from their sin when You afflict them,
36 “then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants and of Your people Israel, so that You teach them the good way in which they should walk. And send rain on Your land that You have given to Your people for an inheritance.
37 “If there is in the land famine, if there is pestilence, blight, mildew, locust, or if there is grasshopper, if their enemy besieges them in the land of their cities, whatever plague, whatever sickness there is,
38 whatever prayer and supplication is made by any man or by all Your people Israel, each knowing the affliction of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house;
39 “then hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive and act and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart You know, for You, even You only know the hearts of all the children of men,
40 “that they may fear You all the days that they live in the land that You gave to our fathers.
41 “Furthermore, concerning an alien who is not of Your people Israel, but comes from a far country for Your name’s sake
42 “(for they will hear of Your great name and of Your strong hand and of Your stretched out arm), when he comes and prays toward this house,
43 “hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and act according to all that the alien calls to You so that all people of the earth may know Your name, to fear You as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house that I have built is called by Your name.
44 “If your people go out to battle against their enemy, wherever You will send them, and they will pray to the LORD toward the city that You have chosen, and toward the house that I have built for Your name,
45 “then hear in heaven their prayer and their supplication and maintain their cause.
46 “If they sin against You (for there is no man that does not sin), and You are angry with them and deliver them to the enemy so that they carry them away captives to the land of the enemy, far or near;
47 “if they will take thought in the land where they have been taken captive, and repent and make supplication to You in the land of those who carried them captive, saying, ‘We have sinned and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness’;
48 “and they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies who led them away captive, and pray to You toward their land that You have chosen and the house that I have built for Your name;
49 “then hear their prayer and their supplication in heaven Your dwelling place, and maintain their cause,
50 “and forgive Your people who have sinned against You and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against You, and give them compassion before those who carried them captive so that they may have compassion on them,
51 “(for they are Your people and Your inheritance that You brought forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron),
52 “that Your eyes may be open to the supplication of Your servant and to the supplication of Your people Israel, to hearken to them in all that they call to You.
53 “For You separated them from among all the people of the earth to be Your inheritance as You spoke by the hand of Moses Your servant when You brought our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord GOD.”
54 ¶ And it was so that when Solomon finished praying all this prayer and supplication to the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with
his hands spread up to heaven.  

55 And he stood and 'blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying,  

56 “Blessed be the LORD who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. 'There has not failed one word of all His good promise that He promised by the hand of Moses His servant.  

57 “The LORD our God be with us as He was with our fathers. 'Let Him not leave us or forsake us,  

58 so that He may incline our hearts to Him, to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments that He commanded our fathers.  

59 “And let these my words with which I have made supplication before the LORD be near to the LORD our God day and night, so that He maintain the cause of His servant and the cause of His people Israel at all times, as the matter requires,  

60 'so that all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, that there is no one else.  

61 “Let your heart therefore be loyal to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day.”

Dedication of the Temple  

62 ¶ And the king and all Israel with him, offered sacrifices before the LORD.  

63 And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, that he offered to the LORD, 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD.  

64 The same day Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD, for there he offered burnt offerings and grain offerings and the fat of the peace offerings; because the bronze altar that was before the LORD was too little to receive the burnt offerings and grain offerings and the fat of the peace offerings.  

65 And at that time Solomon held a feast and all Israel with him, a great assembly, from the entrance of Hamath to the River of Egypt, before the LORD our God, 'seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.  

66 On the eighth day he sent the people away. And they blessed the king and went to their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had done for David His servant and for Israel His people.

Chapter 9

God Exhorts Solomon

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD and the king’s house and all Solomon’s desire which he was pleased to do,  

2 that the LORD appeared to Solomon the second time when he had heard the prayer that he had prayed. And God appeared to him the second time  

3 And the LORD said to him, “I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you have made before Me. I have consecrated this house that you have built, to put My name there forever. And My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.  

4 “And if you will walk before Me as David your father walked, in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, and will keep My statutes and My judgments,  

5 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever as I promised to David your father, saying, ‘There will not lack a man from you on the throne of Israel.’  

6 “But if you will at all turn from following Me, you or your children, and will not keep My commandments and My statutes that I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them,  

7 then I will cut off Israel out of the land that I have given them, and this house that I have consecrated for My name, I will cast out of My sight. And Israel will be a proverb and a byword among all peoples.  

8 “And this house that is high, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and will hiss. And they will say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?’  

9 “And they will answer, ‘Because they for-
sook the LORD their God who brought forth their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and have adopted other gods and have worshiped them and served them. Therefore, the LORD has brought on them 'all this evil.'"

Solomon’s International Activities

10 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of twenty years in which Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD and the king’s house

11 (Hiram, the king of Tyre, had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and cypress trees, and with gold according to all his desire), that King Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

12 And Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities that Solomon had given him. And they did not please him.

13 So he said, “What cities are these that you have given me, my brother?” And he called them the land of Cabul to this day.

14 And Hiram sent to the king 120 talents of gold.

15 ¶ And this is the account of the forced labor that King Solomon levied to build the house of the LORD, his own house and Millo and the wall of Jerusalem and Hazor and Megiddo and Gezer.

16 For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and taken Gezer. And he burned it with fire and killed the Canaanites who dwelt in the city. And he had given it as a present to his daughter, Solomon’s wife.

17 Then Solomon built Gezer and Lower Beth Horon

18 and Baalath and Tadmor in the wilderness in the land of Judah,

19 and all the storage cities that Solomon had, and cities for his chariots and cities for his horsemen, and that which Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem and in Lebanon and in all the land of his dominion.

20 ¶ And all the people who were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, who were not of the children of Israel,

21 their children who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel also were not able to destroy utterly, on those Solomon levied forced laborers, even to this day.

22 But Solomon did not make slaves of the sons of Israel. But they were men of war and his servants and his princes and his captains and rulers of his chariots and his horsemen.

23 ¶ These were the chief of the officers who were over Solomon’s work, 550 who ruled over the people who did the work.

24 ¶ But Pharaoh’s daughter came up out of the city of David to her house that Solomon had built for her. Then he built the Millo.

25 ¶ And three times a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar that he built to the LORD. And he burnt incense on the altar that was before the LORD. So he finished the house.

26 ¶ And King Solomon made a fleet of ships in Ezion Geber, that is beside Eloth, on the shore of the Red Sea in the land of Edom.

27 And Hiram sent his servants with the fleet of ships, sailors who had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

28 And they came to Ophir and took gold from there, 420 talents. And they brought it to King Solomon.

Chapter 10

Visit of a Queen

1 ¶ Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions.

2 And she came to Jerusalem with a very large company, with camels that bore spices, and a great amount of gold and many precious stones.

3 And Solomon answered all her questions. Nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her.

4 Now when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon’s wisdom, and the house that he had built,

5 and the food of his table, and the sitting of
his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their clothes, and his cupbearers, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her.

6 Then she said to the king, “It was a true report that I heard in my own land of your acts and of your wisdom.

7 However, I did not believe the words until I came, and my eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame that I heard.

8 “Happy are your men, happy are these your servants who stand continually before you and who hear your wisdom.

9 “Blessed be the LORD your God who delighted in you, to set you on the throne of Israel. Because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore, He made you king in order to do justice and righteousness.”

10 Then she gave the king 120 talents of gold, and a great store of spices and precious stones. There came no greater abundance of spices as these that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

11 ¶ And the ships also of Hiram that brought gold from Ophir, brought in from Ophir a very great number of almug wood and precious stones.

12 ¶ And the king made of the almug wood pillars for the house of the LORD and for the king’s house, harps also and psalteries for singers. There came no such almug wood since, nor were seen to this day.

13 Now King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked, besides what Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. So she and her servants returned and went to her own country.

Solomon’s Greatness

14 ¶ Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold,

15 besides that from the merchants and from the traffic of the spice merchants and from all the kings of Arabia, and from the governors of the country.

16 ¶ And King Solomon made 200 shields of beaten gold. Six hundred shekels of gold went into one shield.

17 And he made 300 shields of beaten gold. Three minas of gold went into one shield. And the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.

18 ¶ Furthermore, the king made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with the best gold.

19 The throne had six steps. And the top of the throne was round at the back. And there were arms on each side of the seat and two lions stood beside the arms.

20 And twelve lions stood there, one on each side of the six steps. There was nothing like it for any other kingdom.

21 ¶ Now all King Solomon’s drinking vessels were of gold. And all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver. This was accounted as nothing in the days of Solomon.

22 And the king had a fleet of trading ships with the ships of Hiram. Once every three years the trading ships came bringing gold and silver, ivory and apes and peacocks.

23 So King Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom.

24 ¶ And all the earth sought Solomon, to hear his wisdom that God had put in his heart.

25 And every man brought a present, vessels of silver and vessels of gold and garments and armor and spices, horses and mules, so much year after year.

26 ¶ And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen. And he had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen whom he stationed in the cities for chariots and with the king at Jerusalem.

27 ¶ And the king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedars he made as common as the sycamore trees that are abundant in the lowland.

28 ¶ And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt and Keveh. The king’s merchants received them in droves, each drove at a price.

29 And a chariot came up and went out of Egypt for 600 shekels of silver and a horse for
150. And they exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria.

Chapter 11
Solomon’s Wives
1 ¶ But King Solomon loved many foreign women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites, of the nations concerning which the LORD said to the children of Israel, “You will not go in to them, neither will they come in to you. Surely they will turn away your heart after their gods.” Solomon held fast to these in love.

2 But he had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines. And his wives turned away his heart.

3 For it came to pass when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods. And his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

4 ¶ Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not follow the LORD fully as did David his father.

5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not follow the LORD fully as David his father.

7 ¶ Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

8 And likewise he did for all his foreign wives who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

9 ¶ So the LORD was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods. But he did not keep what the LORD commanded.

10 Therefore, the LORD said to Solomon, “Because you have done this, and you have not kept My covenant and My statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely take the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant.

11 Nevertheless, in your days I will not do this for David your father’s sake, but I will take it out of the hand of your son.

12 “However, I will not take away all the kingdom, but will give one tribe to your son for David my servant’s sake, and for Jerusalem’s sake that I have chosen.”

Solomon’s Enemies
14 ¶ And the LORD stirred up an adversary to Solomon, Hadad the Edomite. He was of the king’s seed in Edom.

15 ¶ For it came to pass when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the army had gone up to bury the slain, after he had smitten every male in Edom,

16 (for six months Joab remained there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom),

17 that Hadad fled, and certain Edomites of his father’s servants with him, to go into Egypt, while Hadad was yet a little child.

18 So they arose out of Midian and came to Paran. And they took men with them out of Paran and came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house and assigned to him food and gave him land.

19 And Hadad found great favor in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him in marriage the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.

20 And the sister of Tahpenes bore him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh’s house. And Genubath was in Pharaoh’s household among the sons of Pharaoh.

21 ¶ So when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, “Let me depart so that I may go to my own country.”

22 Then Pharaoh said to him, “But what have you lacked with me, that behold, you seek to go to your own country?” And he answered, “Nothing. Nevertheless, allow me to go anyway.”

23 ¶ And God stirred up another adversary,
Rezon the son of Eliadah, who had fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah.

24 And he gathered men to himself and became captain over a band when David killed those of Zobah. And they went to Damascus and dwelt in it and reigned in Damascus.

25 And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, besides the mischief that Hadad did. And he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

Insurrection of Jeroboam

26 ¶ And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zereda, Solomon’s servant, whose mother’s name was Zeruah, a widow woman, also lifted up his hand against the king.

27 And this was the reason that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father.

28 Now the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valor. When Solomon saw that the young man was industrious, he put him in charge of all the labor force of the house of Joseph.

29 Now it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah, the Shilonite, found him on the way. And he had dressed himself with a new garment. Now both of them were alone in the field.

30 And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and tore it in twelve pieces.

31 Then he said to Jeroboam, “Take ten pieces, for thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will take the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon and will give ten tribes to you,

32 (but he will have one tribe for my servant David’s sake and for Jerusalem’s sake, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel),

33 because they have forsaken Me and have worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon. And they have not walked in My ways, to do what is right in My eyes and keep My statutes and My judgments, as did David his father.

34 ‘However, I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand. But I will make him prince all the days of his life for David My servant’s sake, whom I chose because he kept My commandments and My statutes.

35 ‘But I will take the kingdom out of his son’s hand and will give it to you, even ten tribes.

36 ‘And to his son I will give one tribe so that David My servant may have a light always before Me in Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen for Myself to put My name there.

37 ‘And I will take you, and you will reign according to all that your soul desires. And you will be king over Israel.

38 ‘And it will be, if you will hearken to all that I command you, and will walk in My ways and do what is right in My sight, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as David My servant did, that I will be with you and build you a sure house as I built for David. And I will give Israel to you.

39 ‘Thus I will afflict the seed of David for this, but not always.’”

40 Solomon, therefore, sought to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose and fled into Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt. And he was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

Solomon’s Death

41 ¶ And the rest of the acts of Solomon and all that he did and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon?

42 ¶And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.

43 So Solomon slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

Rebellion Against Rehoboam

1 ¶ Then Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king.

2 Now it came to pass when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was still in Egypt, heard of
it (for he had fled from the presence of King Solomon and was living in Egypt),
3 that they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,
4 “Your father made our yoke grievous. Now therefore, make lighter the grievous service of your father and his heavy yoke that he put on us, and we will serve you.”
5 So he said to them, “Depart for three days, then come again to me.” And the people departed.
6 ¶ Now King Rehoboam consulted with the old men who stood before Solomon his father while he still lived. And he said, “How do you advise that I may answer this people?”
7 Then they spoke to him, saying, “If you will be a servant to this people this day, and will serve them and grant them their request, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever.”
8 But he forsook the counsel of the old men that they had given him. And he consulted with the young men who had grown up with him and served him.
9 And he said to them, “What counsel do you give that we may answer this people who have spoken to me, saying, ‘Make the yoke that your father put on us lighter’?”
10 Then the young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, “Thus you will speak to this people this day, and will serve them and grant them their request, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever.”
11 ‘And now whereas my father put a heavy yoke on you, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.’”
12 ¶ So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day as the king had appointed, saying, “Come to me again the third day.”
13 And the king answered the people roughly. And he forsook the old men’s counsel that they gave him.
14 And he spoke to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, “My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.”
15 Therefore, the king did not hearkened to the people, for the cause was from the LORD, that He might perform His saying that the LORD spoke by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
16 ¶ So when all Israel saw that the king did not hearkened to them, the people answered the king, saying, “What portion have we in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your tents, O Israel. Now look to your own house, David.” So Israel departed to their tents.
17 But as for the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.
18 Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram who was over the forced labor, and all Israel stoned him with stones so that he died. Therefore, King Rehoboam made haste to get himself up to his chariot to flee to Jerusalem.
19 So Israel rebelled against the house of David to this day.
20 Now it came to pass when all Israel heard that Jeroboam had come again, that they sent and called him to the assembly. And they made him king over all Israel. There was no one who followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.
21 ¶ And when “Rehoboam had come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, with the tribe of Benjamin, 180,000 chosen men who were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel in order to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.
22 But the word of God came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying,
23 “Speak to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the remnant of the people, saying,
24 ‘Thus says the LORD, “You will not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel. Return every man to his house, for this thing is from Me.”’” They hearkened there-
fore to the word of the LORD. So they returned and went their way according to the word of the LORD.

Altars in Bethel & Dan

25 ¶ Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and dwelt in it. And he went out from there and built Penuel.

26 And Jeroboam said in his heart, “Now the kingdom may return to the house of David.

27 “If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then will the heart of this people turn again to their lord, even to Rehoboam king of Judah, and they will kill me and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah.”

28 So the king took counsel and made two calves of gold. And he said to them, “It is too far for you to go up to Jerusalem. Behold your gods, O Israel, that brought you up out of the land of Egypt.”

29 So he set one in Bethel and the other he put in Dan.

30 And this thing became a sin, for the people went to sacrifice before the one, even to Dan.

31 Then he made a house of high places, and he made priests of the lowest of the people who were not of the sons of Levi.

32 And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like the feast that is in Judah, and he offered on the altar. So he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he had made. And he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places that he had made.

33 So he offered on the altar that he had made in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month that he had devised in his own heart. And he ordained a feast to the children of Israel. And he offered on the altar and burned incense.

Chapter 13

Man of God from Judah

1 ¶ And behold, there came to Bethel a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD. Now Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.

2 Then he cried out against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, “O altar, altar, thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, a child will be born to the house of David, Josiah by name. And on you he will offer the priests of the high places who burn incense on you, and men’s bones will be burned on you.’”

3 Then he gave a sign the same day, saying, “This is the sign that the LORD has spoken, ‘Behold, the altar will be torn apart and the ashes that are on it will be poured out.’”

4 Now it came to pass when King Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God who had cried out against the altar in Bethel, that he stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, “Lay hold on him.” And his hand that he stretched out against him dried up so that he could not draw it in again to himself.

5 The altar also was torn apart. And the ashes poured out from the altar according to the sign that the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

6 Then the king answered and said to the man of God, “Please entreat the LORD your God, and pray for me so that my hand may be restored to me again.” And the man of God entreated the LORD, and the king’s hand was restored to him again and became as it was before.

7 Now the king said to the man of God, “Come home with me and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward.”

8 But the man of God said to the king, “If you will give me half your house, I will not go in with you, nor will I eat bread or drink water in this place.

9 “For so it was commanded me by the word of the LORD, saying, ‘Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that you came.’”

10 So he went another way and did not return by the same way that he came to Bethel.

11 ¶ Now there dwelt an old prophet in Bethel. And his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel. The words that he had spoken to the
king, these they told also to their father.  
12 Then their father said to them, “What way did he go?” For his sons had seen the way the man of God went who came from Judah.  
13 And he said to his sons, “Saddle for me the donkey.” So they saddled for him the donkey, and he rode on it.  
14 Then he went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak. And he said to him, “Are you the man of God who came from Judah?” And he said, “I am.”  
15 Then he said to him, “Come home with me and eat bread.”  
16 And he said, “I cannot return with you, nor go in with you. Neither will I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place.  
17 “For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, ‘You will eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that you came.’”  
18 He said to him, “I am a prophet also as you are. And an angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD, saying, ‘Bring him back with you into your house so that he may eat bread and drink water.’” But he lied to him.  
19 So he went back with him and ate bread in his house and drank water.  
20 ¶ Now it came to pass as they sat at the table that the word of the LORD came to the prophet who brought him back.  
21 And he cried out to the man of God who came from Judah, saying, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Forasmuch as you have disobeyed the mouth of the LORD and have not kept the commandment that the LORD your God commanded you,  
22 ‘but came back and have eaten bread and drunk water in the place of the which the LORD said to you, ‘Eat no bread and drink no water’; your body will not come to the grave of your fathers.’”  
23 Now it came to pass after he had eaten bread and after he had drunk, that he saddled the donkey for him, for the prophet whom he had brought back.  
24 And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way and killed him. And his body was cast in the way and the donkey stood by it. The lion also stood by the body.  
25 And behold, men passed by and saw the body cast in the way and the lion standing by the carcass. And they came and told it in the city where the old prophet dwelt.  
26 Now when the prophet who brought him back from the way heard of it, he said, “It is the man of God who was disobedient to the word of the LORD. Therefore, the LORD has delivered him to the lion that has torn him, and slain him according to the word of the LORD that He spoke to him.”  
27 And he spoke to his sons, saying, “Saddle the donkey for me.” And they saddled it.  
28 And he went and found his body cast in the way, and the donkey and the lion standing by the body. The lion had not eaten the carcass nor torn the donkey.  
29 So the prophet took up the body of the man of God and laid it on the donkey. And he brought it back. And the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.  
30 Then he laid his body in his own grave, and they mourned over him, saying, “Alas, my brother!”  
31 Now it came to pass after he had buried him that he spoke to his sons, saying, “When I am dead, bury me in the grave in which the man of God is buried. Lay my bones beside his bones.  
32 “For the saying that he cried out by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places that are in the cities of ‘Samaria, will surely come to pass.”  
33 ¶ After this thing Jeroboam did not return from his evil way, but made again of the lowest of the people priests for the high places. Anyone who would, he consecrated him and he became one of the priests of the high places.  
34 ‘And this thing became sin to the house of Jeroboam, even to cut it off and to destroy it from off the face of the earth.

Chapter 14

Prophecy Against Jeroboam

1 ¶ At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick.  
2 And Jeroboam said to his wife, “Please arise

k 1 Kg 13:8,9 l 1 Kg 20:35 m 1 Kg 13:9 n 1 Kg 20:36 o Jr 22:18 p 2 Kg 23:17,18 q 2 Kg 23:16,19 r 1 Kg 16:24 s 1 Kg 12:31,32 t 1 Kg 12:30 u 1 Kg 14:10; 15:29,30
and disguise yourself so that you not be known to be the wife of Jeroboam, and go to Shiloh. Behold, there is Ahijah the prophet who told me that "I should be king over this people.

3 "And take with you ten loaves, and cakes and a jar of honey, and go to him. He will tell you what will become of the child."

4 And Jeroboam’s wife did so. And she arose and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah could not see, for his eyes were dim by reason of his age.

5 ¶ Then the LORD said to Ahijah, "Behold, the wife of Jeroboam is coming to ask something of you for her son, for he is sick. You will say thus and thus to her, for it will be when she comes in that she will pretend to be another woman."

6 Now it was so that when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet as she came in at the door, that he said, "Come in, wife of Jeroboam. Why do you pretend to be another woman? For I am sent to you with heavy news."

7 "Go, tell Jeroboam, ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel, “Because I exalted you from among the people and made you prince over My people Israel, and etore the kingdom away from the house of David and gave it you—and yet you have not been as My servant David who kept My commandments and who followed Me with all his heart, to do only that which was right in My eyes; but you have done evil above all who were before you, for you have gone and made other gods and molten images in order to provoke Me to anger, and have cast Me behind your back—therefore behold, I will bring evil on the house of Jeroboam and will cut off from Jeroboam every male person, both bond and free in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam as a man takes away rubbish, until it is all gone. The dogs will eat whoever belongs to Jeroboam and dies in the city. And he who dies in the field the birds of the air will eat, for the LORD has spoken it.”’"

12 “Arise therefore, go to your own house. "When your feet enter into the city, the child will die.

13 “Then all Israel will mourn for him and bury him, for he only of Jeroboam will come to the grave, because in him “there is found some good thing toward the LORD God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam.

14 “Furthermore, the LORD will raise up for Himself a king over Israel who will cut off the house of Jeroboam, this day and from now on!

15 “For the LORD will smite Israel as a reed is shaken in the water. And He will root up Israel out of this ‘good land that He gave to their fathers. And He will scatter them beyond the River ‘because they have made their Asherim, provoking the LORD to anger.

16 “And He will give up Israel because of the sins of Jeroboam, who sinned and ‘who made Israel sin.”

17 ¶ Then Jeroboam’s wife arose and departed, and came to "Tirzah. ‘When she came to the threshold of the door, the child died.

18 Then they buried him, and all Israel mourned for him ‘according to the word of the LORD that He spoke by the hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet.

19 ¶ And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he ‘made war and how he reigned, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

20 And the days that Jeroboam reigned were twenty-two years. And he slept with his fathers, and Nadab his son reigned in his place.

Rehoboam Reigns in Judah

21 ¶ And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. ‘Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he began to reign. And he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city that the LORD chose out of all the tribes of Israel to put His name there. And his mother’s name was Naamah the Ammonitess.

22 “So Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD. And they ‘provoked Him to jealousy with their sins that they had committed, above all that their fathers had done.
23 For they also built for themselves high places and images and Asherim, on every high hill and under every green tree.

24 Now there were also sodomites in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations that the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

25 Now it came to pass in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem.

26 And he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house. He took away everything. And he took away all the shields of gold that Solomon had made.

27 So King Rehoboam made in their place bronze shields. And he committed them to the hands of the chief of the guard who kept the door of the king's house.

28 Now it happened when the king went into the house of the LORD, that the guards carried them and brought them back into the guards' chamber.

29 Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam.

30 Then Abijam slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place.

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Chapter 15
Abijah Reigns in Judah

1 ¶ Now in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, Abijam became king over Judah.

2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom.

3 And he walked in all the sins of his father that he had done before him. And his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father.

4 Nevertheless, for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him and to establish Jerusalem;

5 because David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except only in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.

6 And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

7 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Abijam and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam.

8 Then Abijam slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place.

Asa Reigns in Judah

9 ¶ Now in the twentieth year of Jeroboam the king of Israel, Asa began to reign as king of Judah.

10 And he reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom.

11 And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, like David his father.

12 And he took away the sodomites out of the land and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

13 And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove. And Asa destroyed her idol and burned it by the Brook Kidron.

14 But the high places were not removed. Nevertheless Asa's heart was loyal to the LORD all his days.

15 And he brought into the house of the LORD the things that his father had dedicated and the things that he himself had dedicated: silver and gold and vessels.

16 ¶ And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

17 And Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah so that he might not
allow anyone from going out or coming in to Asa king of Judah.

18 Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasuries of the house of the LORD, and the treasuries of the king’s house, and delivered them into the hand of his servants. And King Asa sent them to Ben-hadad, the son of Tabrimmon, the son of Hezion, king of Syria, who dwelt at Damascus, saying,

19 “There is a league between me and you, as between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent to you a present of silver and gold. Come and break your league with Baasha king of Israel so that he may depart from me.”

20 So Ben-hadad hearkened to King Asa and sent the captains of the armies that he had against the cities of Israel. And he attacked Ijon and Dan and Abel Beth Maachah, and all Chinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali.

21 Now it came to pass when Baasha heard this, that he ceased building Ramah. And he dwelt in Tirzah.

22 Then King Asa made a proclamation throughout all Judah. No one was exempt. And they took away the stones and timber of Ramah with which Baasha had built. And King Asa built with them Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah.

23 The rest of all the acts of Asa, and all his might and all that he did and the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? Nevertheless, in the time of his old age he was diseased in his feet.

24 And Asa slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father. And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.

Nadab Reigns in Israel

25 And Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah. And he reigned over Israel two years.

26 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD. And he walked in the way of his father and in his sin with which he made Israel sin.

27 And Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him. And Baasha killed him at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, for Nadab and all Israel laid siege to Gibbethon.

28 Even in the third year of Asa king of Judah Baasha killed him and reigned in his place.

29 Now it came to pass when he reigned, that he killed all the house of Jeroboam. He did not leave to Jeroboam any persons alive, until he had destroyed them according to the word of the LORD that He spoke by His servant Ahijah the Shilonite,

30 because of the sins of Jeroboam that he sinned and that he made Israel sin, by his provocation with which he provoked the LORD God of Israel to anger.

31 Now the rest of the acts of Nadab and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

32 Now there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

Baasha Reigns in Israel

33 In the third year of Asa king of Judah, Baasha the son of Ahijah began to reign over all Israel in Tirzah. He reigned twenty-four years.

34 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin with which he made Israel sin.

Chapter 16

1 Then the word of the LORD came to Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha, saying,

2 Forasmuch as I exalted you out of the dust and made you prince over My people Israel, and you have walked in the way of Jeroboam and have made My people Israel sin, to provoke Me to anger with their sins,

3 “Behold, I will take away the posterity of Baasha and the posterity of his house. And I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

4 Anyone of Baasha who dies in the city the dogs will eat. And anyone of his who dies in

v 2 Ch 16:2 w 1 Kg 11:23; 24 x 1 Kg 20:1 y 2 Kg 15:29 z Jg 18:29 a 2 Sm 20:14, 15 b 1 Kg 14:17; 16:15-18 c 2 Ch 16:6 d Ja 21:17 e Ja 18:26 f 2 Ch 16:11-14 g 2 Ch 17:1 h Mt 1:8 i 1 Kg 14:20 j 1 Kg 12:28-33 k 14:16 l 1 Kg 14:14 m 1 Ja 19:44; 21:23 n 1 Kg 14:10-14 o 1 Kg 14:9, 16 p 1 Kg 15:16 q 1 Kg 13:33; 14:16 r Chapter 16: a 2 Ch 19:2; 20:34 s 2 Ch 16:7-10 t 1 Kg 15:27 u 1 Kgs 14:7 v 1 Kg 12:25-33; 15:34 w 1 Kg 16:11; 21:21 x 1 Kg 14:10; 15:29 y 1 Kg 14:11; 21:24
the field the birds of the heavens will eat.”

5 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Baasha and what he did and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

6 So Baasha slept with his fathers and was buried in Tirzah. And Elah his son reigned in his place.

7 And also by the hand of the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani came the word of the LORD against Baasha and against his house, even for all the evil that he did in the sight of the LORD, in provoking Him to anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam, and because he killed him.

8 ¶ In the twenty-sixth year of Asa, king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha began to reign over Israel in Tirzah. He reigned two years.

9 And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him as he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, steward of his house at Tirzah.

10 So Zimri went in and killed him. And he killed him in the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah. And he reigned in his place.

11 Now it came to pass when he began to reign, as soon as he sat on his throne, that he killed all the house of Baasha. He did not leave a single male, neither of his relatives nor of his friends.

12 Thus Zimri destroyed all the house of Baasha according to the word of the LORD that He spoke against Baasha by Jehu the prophet.

13 For all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son, by which they sinned and by which they made Israel sin, in provoking the LORD God of Israel to anger with their vanities.

14 Now the rest of the acts of Elah and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

15 ¶ In the twenty-seventh year of Asa, king of Judah, Zimri reigned seven days in Tirzah. And the people were camped against Gibbethon which belonged to the Philistines.

16 And the people who were camped heard it said, “Zimri has conspired and has also slain the king.” Therefore, all Israel made Omri, the captain of the army, king over Israel that day in the camp.

17 And Omri went up from Gibbethon and all Israel with him. And they besieged Tirzah.

18 Now it came to pass when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the palace of the king’s house and burned the king’s house over himself with fire. And he died

19 because of his sins that he sinned in doing evil in the sight of the LORD, in walking in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin that he did to make Israel sin.

20 Now the rest of the acts of Zimri and his treason that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Omri Reigns in Israel

21 ¶ Then the people of Israel were divided into two parts: half of the people followed Tibni the son of Ginath, to make him king, and half followed Omri.

22 But the people who followed Omri prevailed against the people who followed Tibni the son of Ginath. So Tibni died and Omri reigned.

23 In the thirty-first year of Asa, king of Judah, Omri began to reign over Israel. He reigned twelve years. He reigned six years at Tirzah.

24 And he bought the hill Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver and built on the hill. And he called the name of the city that he built Samaria after the name of Shemer, owner of the hill.

25 But Omri did evil in the eyes of the LORD. And he did worse than all who were before him.

26 For he walked in all the ways of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and in his sin with which he made Israel sin, to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger by their idols.

27 Now the rest of the acts of Omri that he did and his might that he showed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
28 So Omri slept with his fathers and was buried in Samaria. And Ahab his son reigned in his place.

Ahab Reigns in Israel

29 ¶ And in the thirty-eighth year of Asa, king of Judah, Ahab the son of Omri began to reign over Israel. And Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years.

30 And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all who were before him.

31 Now it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jero-boam the son of Nebat, 2that he married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the 3Sidonians. 4And he went and served Baal and worshiped him.

32 And he erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal that he had built in Samaria.

33 dNow Ahab made a grove. And Ahab edid more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

34 In his days Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho. He laid the foundation of it with the loss of Abiram his firstborn. And he set up the gates of it with the loss of his youngest son Segub, 4according to the word of the LORD that He spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

Chapter 17

Elijah Fed by God

1 ¶ Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the ainhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, b“As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, 4there will not be dew nor rain 4these years, except by my word.”

2 Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

3 “Get away from here and turn eastward. Hide yourself by the Brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan.

4 “Now it will be that you will drink of the brook. And I have commanded the fourns to feed you there.”

5 So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and dwelt by the Brook Cherith that flows into the Jordan.

6 And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening. And he drank from the brook.

7 Now it came to pass after a while that the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land.

Widow of Zarephath

8 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

9 “Arise, go to Zarephath that belongs to 3Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to provide for you.”

10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please fetch me a little water in a vessel so that I may drink.”

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”

12 But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I do not have a cake, only a handful of meal in a barrel and a little oil in a jar. And behold, I am gathering two sticks so that I may go in and prepare for me and my son so that we may eat it and die.”

13 Then Elijah said to her, “Do not fear. Go and do as you have said, but first make me a little cake from it and bring it to me, and afterward make for yourself and for your son.

14 “For thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘The barrel of meal will not be exhausted, neither will the jar of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.’”

15 So she went and did according to the saying of Elijah. And she and he, and her house ate many days.

16 And the barrel of meal was not exhausted, neither did the jar of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that He spoke by Elijah.

17 ¶ Now it came to pass after these things that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick. And his sickness was so severe that there was no breath left in him.

18 And she said to Elijah, 4“What have I to do
with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to call my sin to remembrance and to slay my son?"

19 Then he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him out of her bosom and carried him up into a loft where he lived. And he laid him on his own bed.

20 Then he cried out to the LORD and said, “O LORD my God, have You also brought evil on the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?”

21 Then he stretched himself on the child three times and cried out to the LORD and said, “O LORD my God, please let this child’s soul come into him again.”

22 Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah. And the soul of the child came into him again and he revived.

23 So Elijah took the child and brought him down out of the chamber into the house. And he delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives.”

24 And the woman said to Elijah, “Now by this mI know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.”

Chapter 18
Elijah & Obadiah

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after many days that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, “Go. Show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth.”

2 And Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. And there was a severe famine in Samaria.

3 And Ahab called Obadiah who was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly,

4 for it was so when Jezebel killed off the prophets of the LORD that Obadiah took 100 prophets and hid them by fifty in a cave and fed them with bread and water.)

5 Then Ahab said to Obadiah, “Go into the land, to all fountains of water and to all brooks. Perhaps we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive so that we not lose all the cattle.”

6 So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it. Ahab went one way by himself and Obadiah went another way by himself.

7 ¶ Now as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him. And he recognized him and fell on his face. And he said, “Is it you, Elijah, my master?”

8 And he answered him, “It is I. Go tell your lord, ‘Behold, Elijah is here.’”

9 Then he said, “What sin have I committed that you would deliver your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?

10 “As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent someone to seek you. And when they said, ‘He is not there,’ he made the kingdom and nation swear that they could not find you.

11 “And now you say, ‘Go, tell your lord, “Behold, Elijah is here.”’

12 “Now it will come to pass as soon as I have left you that the Spirit of the LORD will carry you where I do not know; and when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant fear the LORD from my youth.

13 “Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD, how I hid 100 men of the Lord’s prophets by fifty in a cave and fed them with bread and water?

14 “And now you say, ‘Go, tell your lord, “Behold, Elijah is here.”’ He will kill me.”

15 And Elijah said, “As the LORD of armies lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today.”

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him. And Ahab went to meet Elijah.

Contest on Mt. Carmel

17 ¶ Now it came to pass when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, “Are you he who troubles Israel?”

18 And he answered, “I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father’s house because you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and you have followed the Baals.

19 “Now therefore send and gather to me all Israel at Mount Carmel, with the 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of the Asherah,
who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

20 ¶ So Ahab sent to all the children of Israel and gathered the prophets together at Mount Carmel.

21 Then Elijah came to all the people and said, “How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, ‘follow Him, but if Baal, follow him.’ And the people did not answer him a word.

22 Then Elijah said to the people, “I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD, but Baal’s prophets are 450 men.

23 “Let them therefore give us two bulls. And let them choose one bull for themselves and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood and put no fire under it. And I will dress the other bull and lay it on wood and put no fire under it.

24 “Then call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD. And the God who answers by fire, let him be God.” And all the people answered and said, “It is well spoken.”

25 ¶ So Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one bull for yourselves and dress it first, for you are many. Then call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under it.”

26 Then they took the bull that was given them, and they dressed it. And they called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, “O Baal, hear us.” But there was no voice, nor anyone who answered. And they leaped on the altar that was made.

27 Now it came to pass at noon that Elijah mocked them. And he said, “Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he is meditating or he is busy or he is on a journey. Perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened.”

28 So they cried out with a loud voice and cut themselves according to their custom with swords and lances until the blood gushed out on them.

29 Now it came to pass when midday was past, and ‘they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice nor any to answer, nor any who paid attention.

30 ¶ Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come near to me.” And all the people came near to him. And ‘he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.

31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob to whom the word of the LORD came, saying, “Israel will be your name.”

32 And with the stones he built an altar ‘in the name of the LORD. And he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed.

33 Then he ‘put the wood in order, and cut the bull in pieces. And he laid it on the wood and said, “Fill four waterpots with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood.”

34 Then he said, “Do it the second time.” And they did it the second time. And he said, “Do it the third time.” And they did it the third time.

35 And the water ran around the altar. And he filled the ‘trench also with water.

36 Now it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice that Elijah the prophet came near and said, “LORD ‘God of Abraham, Isaac and of Israel, ‘let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and that ‘I have done all these things because of Your word.

37 “Hear me, O LORD, hear me so that this people may know that You are the LORD God and that You have turned their heart back again.”

38 Then the ‘fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering, and the wood and the stones and the dust and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces. And they said, “The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!”

40 Then Elijah said to them, “‘Take the prophets of Baal. Do not let one of them escape.” And they took them, and Elijah brought them down to the ‘Brook Kishon. And ‘he killed them there.

41 ¶ Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Get yourself up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of abundance of rain.”

42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And
Elijah went up to the top of Carmel. And he cast himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees.

**43** And he said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” And he went up and looked. And he said, “There is nothing.” And he said, “Go again seven times.”

**44** Now it came to pass at the seventh time that he said, “ Behold, there arises a small cloud out of the sea, like a man’s hand.” And he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot and go down so that the rain not stop you.’”

**45** Now it came to pass in the meantime that the heaven was black with clouds and wind. And there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel.

**46** Then the hand of the LORD was on Elijah. And he girded up his loins and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

### Chapter 19

**Flight of Elijah**

**1** ¶ Now Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

**2** Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So let the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.”

**3** Now when he saw this he arose and ran for his life. And he came to Beersheba which belongs to Judah. And he left his servant there.

**4** ¶ But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. And he came and sat down under a juniper tree. And he requested for himself that he might die. And he said, “It is enough, now, O LORD. Take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.”

**5** Now as he lay down and slept under a juniper tree, behold, there an angel touched him and said to him, “Arise and eat.”

**6** Then he looked, and behold, there was a cake baked on the coals and a jar of water at his head. And he ate and drank and laid himself down again.

**7** Then the angel of the LORD came again the second time. And he touched him and said, “Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.”

**8** So he arose and ate and drank. And he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mountain of God.

### God Appears to Elijah

**9** ¶ And he came there to a cave and lodged there. And behold, the word of the LORD came to him. And He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

**10** And he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God of armies, for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and slain Your prophets with the sword, and I, even I alone am left. And they seek my life, to take it away.”

**11** ¶ Then He said, “Go forth and stand on the mountain before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD. But the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake. But the LORD was not in the earthquake.

**12** And after the earthquake a fire. But the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire a still small voice.

**13** Now it was so that when Elijah heard it he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

**14** Then he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God of armies because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and slain Your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.”

**15** Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And you will anoint Hazael to be king over Syria.

**16** And you will anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi to be king over Israel. And you will anoint Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah to be a prophet in your place.
17 "And it will come to pass that the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu will slay. And he who escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha will slay.

18 Yet I have left for Me 7,000 in Israel whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Call of Elisha

19 So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth. And Elijah passed by him and cast his mantle on him.

20 Then he left the oxen and ran after Elijah. And he said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you."

21 So he returned from following him, and took a yoke of oxen and sacrificed them. And he boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen and gave to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and ministered to him.

Chapter 20

Ben-hadad Attacks Samaria

1 Now Ben-hadad the king of Syria gathered all his army together, and there were thirty-two kings with him, and horses and chariots. And he went up and besieged Samaria and fought against it.

2 Then he sent messengers to the city to Ahab king of Israel. And he said, "Tell him, 'Your silver and your gold are mine. Your wives also and your children, even the most beautiful, are mine.'"

3 Then the king of Israel answered and said, "Tell him, 'Do not let him who puts on his armor boast himself as he who puts it off.'"

4 Now it came to pass when Ben-hadad heard this message as he was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, that he said to his servants, "Get ready!"

Defeat of Ben-hadad

13 And behold, there came a prophet to Ahab king of Israel, saying, "Thus says the LORD, 'Have you seen all this great multitude? Behold, I will deliver it into your hand this day, and you will know that I am the LORD.'"

14 Then Ahab said, "By whom?" And he said, "Thus says the LORD, 'Even by the young men of the princes of the provinces.'" Then he said, "Who will order the battle?" And he answered, "You."

15 Then he numbered the young men of the princes of the provinces, and there were 232. And after them he numbered all the people, even all the children of Israel, being 7,000.

16 And they went out at noon. But Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, and he and the kings, the thirty-two kings who helped him.
17 And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out first. And Ben-hadad sent out and they told him, saying, “There are men who have come out of Samaria.”

18 And he said, “If they have come out for peace, take them alive. If they have come out for war, take them alive.”

19 So these young men of the princes of the provinces came out of the city, and the army that followed them.

20 Then they killed every one his man. And the Syrians fled, and Israel pursued them. And Ben-hadad the king of Syria escaped on a horse with the horsemen.

21 And the king of Israel went out and struck the horses and chariots. And he killed the Syrians with a great slaughter.

22 Then the prophet came to the king of Israel and said to him, “Go, strengthen yourself and observe and see what you have to do. For at the turn of the year the king of Syria will come up against you.”

23 ¶ Now the servants of the king of Syria said to him, “Their gods are gods of the hills. Therefore, they were stronger than we. But let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we will be stronger than they.

24 “And do this thing: take the kings away, every man out of his place, and put captains in their place.

25 “And muster an army like the army that you have lost, horse for horse and chariot for chariot. And we will fight against them in the plain, and surely we will be stronger than they.

26 Now it came to pass at the turn of the year that Ben-hadad mustered the Syrians and went up to Aphek to fight against Israel.

27 Then the children of Israel were mustered and were all present, and went against them. And the children of Israel camped before them like two little flocks of kids. But the Syrians filled the country.

28 ¶ Then there came a man of God and spoke to the king of Israel. And he said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Because the Syrians have said, “The LORD is God of the hills, but He is not God of the valleys,” therefore I will deliver all this great multitude into your hand and you will know that I am the LORD.’”

29 And they camped opposite one another for seven days. And so it was, that on the seventh day the battle was joined. And the children of Israel killed 100,000 of the Syrian foot soldiers in one day.

30 But the rest fled to Aphek into the city, and there a wall fell on 27,000 of the men who were left. And Ben-hadad fled and came into the city, into an inner chamber.

31 ¶ And his servants said to him, “Behold now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings. Please let us put sackcloth on our loins and ropes on our heads, and go out to the king of Israel. Perhaps he will save your life.”

32 So they girded sackcloth on their loins and put ropes on their heads, and came to the king of Israel. And they said, “Your servant Ben-hadad says, ‘Please let me live.’” And he said, “Is he still alive? He is my brother.”

33 Now the men took this as an omen, and quickly understanding his word, said, “Your brother Ben-hadad.” Then he said, “Go, bring him.” Then Ben-hadad came out to him, and he took him up into the chariot.

34 Then Ben-hadad said to him, “The cities that my father took from your father, I will restore. And you will make streets for trade for yourself in Damascus as my father made in Samaria.” Then Ahab said, “I will send you away with this covenant.” So he made a covenant with him and sent him away.

35 ¶ Then a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor by the word of the LORD, “Please strike me.” And the man refused to strike him.

36 Then he said to him, “Because you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, behold, as soon as you have departed from me, a lion will slay you.” And as soon as he had departed from him, a lion found him and killed him.

37 Then he found another man and said, “Please strike me.” And the man struck him, so that in striking he wounded him.

38 So the prophet departed and waited for the king by the way. And he disguised himself with
ashes on his face.

39 Now as the king passed by, he cried to the king and said, “Your servant went out into the midst of the battle, and behold, a man turned aside and brought a man to me and said, ‘Keep this man. If by any means he is missing, then will your life be for his life, or else you will pay a talent of silver.’

40 “And as your servant was busy here and there, he was gone.” And the king of Israel said to him, “So will your judgment be. You yourself have decided it.”

41 Then he hastily took the bandage away from his face. And the king of Israel recognized him that he was of the prophets.

42 And he said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Because you have let go out of your hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore your life will go for his life and your people for his people.’”

43 And the king of Israel went to his house heavy and displeased, and came to Samaria.

Chapter 21
Naboth’s Vineyard

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after these things that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard that was in Jezreel, next to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

2 And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, “Give me your vineyard so that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near to my house. And I will give you for it a better vineyard. If you like, I will give you the value of it in money.”

3 But Naboth said to Ahab, “The LORD forbid me that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you.”

4 Then Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word that Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him, for he had said, “I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers.” And he laid himself down on his bed and turned away his face. And he would not eat food.

5 ¶ But Jezebel his wife came to him and said to him, “Why is your spirit so sad that you are not eating food?”

6 Then he said to her, “Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, ‘Give me your vineyard for money. Or, if it please you, I will give you another vineyard for it.’ And he answered, ‘I will not give you my vineyard.’”

7 Then Jezebel his wife said to him, “Do you now govern the kingdom of Israel? Arise and eat food, and let your heart be merry. I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.”

8 So she wrote letters in Ahab’s name and sealed them with his seal. And she sent the letters to the elders and to the nobles who were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.

9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, “Proclaim a fast and seat Naboth at the head among the people.

10 “And set worthless men before him, to bear witness against him, saying, ‘You blasphemed God and the king.’ And then carry him out and stone him so that he may die.”

11 ¶ So the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent to them, and as it was written in the letters that she had sent to them.

12 ¶ They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head among the people.

13 And there came in two worthless men and sat before him. And the worthless men bore witness against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, “Naboth blasphemed God and the king.” Then they carried him out of the city and stoned him with stones so that he died.

14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, “Naboth is stoned and he is dead.”

15 ¶ Now it came to pass when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, “Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to give you for money, for Naboth is not alive, but dead.”

16 Now it came to pass when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

17 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to
kElijah the Tishbite, saying,

18 “Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria. Behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to possess it.

19 “And you will speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Have you killed and also taken possession?”’ And you will speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth will dogs lick your blood, even yours.”’

20 Then Ahab said to Elijah, “Have you found me, O my enemy?” And he answered, “I have found you because you have sold yourself to work evil in the sight of the LORD.

21 “Behold, I will bring evil on you, and will take away your posterity. And I will cut off from Ahab every male, both bond and free in Israel.

22 “And I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation by which you have provoked Me to anger and made Israel sin.

23 “And concerning Jezebel also the LORD spoke, saying, ‘The dogs will eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.’

24 The dogs will eat the one belonging to Ahab who dies in the city. And the one who dies in the field the birds of heaven will eat.”

25 ¶ But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.

26 And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

27 ¶ Now it came to pass when Ahab heard those words, that he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his body. And he fasted and lay in sackcloth, and went about depressed.

28 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

29 “Do you see how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he humbles himself before Me, I will not bring the evil in his days.

But in his son’s days I will bring the evil on his house.”

Chapter 22

Micaiah Prophesies Against Ahab

1 ¶ Now they continued three years without war between Syria and Israel.

2 Then it came to pass in the third year that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel.

3 And the king of Israel said to his servants, “Do you know that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we are doing nothing to take it out of the hand of the king of Aram?”

4 Then he said to Jehoshaphat, “Will you go with me to battle to Ramoth Gilead?” And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.”

5 So Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “Please inquire for the word of the LORD.”

6 Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about 400 men. And he said to them, “Shall I go against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I forbear?” And they said, “Go up, for the Lord will deliver it into the hand of the king.”

7 But Jehoshaphat said, “Is there not here a prophet of the LORD that we may inquire of him?”

8 Then the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the LORD. But I hate him, for he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil.” And Jehoshaphat said, “Let not the king say so.”

9 Then the king of Israel called an officer and said, “Bring quickly Micaiah the son of Imlah.”

10 Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, having put on their robes, were sitting each on his throne at the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Samaria. And all the prophets prophesied before them.

11 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made horns of iron for himself. And he said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘With these you will gore the Syrians until you have consumed them.’”
12 Then all the prophets prophesied so, saying, “Go up to Ramoth Gilead and prosper, for the LORD will deliver it into the king’s hand.”

13 ¶ Then the messenger who had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, “Behold now, the words of the prophets are favorable to the king with one mouth. Please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably.”

14 But Micaiah said, “As the LORD lives, what the LORD says to me, that I will speak.”

15 So he came to the king. And the king said to him, “Micaiah, will we go against Ramoth Gilead to battle, or will we forbear?” And he answered him, “Go and prosper, for the LORD will deliver it into the hand of the king.”

16 Then the king said to him, “How many times will I adjure you that you tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?”

17 ¶ And he said, “I saw all Israel scattered on the hills as sheep that have no shepherd. And the LORD said, ‘These have no master. Let them return every man to his house in peace.’”

18 Then the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Did I not tell you that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil?”

19 And he said, “Therefore, hear the word of the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the army of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

20 “And the LORD said, ‘Who will persuade Ahab so that he may go up and fall at Ramoth Gilead?’ And one said on this manner and another said on that manner.

21 “Then there came forth a spirit and stood before the LORD. And he said, ‘I will persuade him.’

22 “And the LORD said to him, ‘How?’ And he said, ‘I will go forth and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘You will persuade him and prevail also. Go forth and do so.’

23 “Now therefore, behold, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets, and the LORD has spoken evil concerning you.”

24 ¶ But Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near and struck Micaiah on the cheek. And he said, “‘Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak to you?”

25 Then Micaiah said, “Behold, you will see in the day when you will go into an inner chamber to hide yourself.”

26 And the king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s son.

27 “Then say, ‘Thus says the king, ‘Put this fellow in the prison and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction until I come in peace.’”

28 Then Micaiah said, “If you return at all in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Hearken, O people, every one of you.”

Death of Ahab

29 ¶ So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead.

30 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself and enter into the battle. But you put on your robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into the battle.

31 But the king of Syria commanded his thirty-two captains who had command over his chariots, saying, “Do not fight with either small nor great, but only with the king of Israel.”

32 Now it came to pass when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, “Surely it is the king of Israel.” And they turned aside to fight against him. And Jehoshaphat cried out.

33 Then it came to pass when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.

34 Now a certain man drew a bow at random and struck the king of Israel between the joints of the armor. Therefore, he said to the driver of his chariot, “Turn your hand and carry me out of the fight, for I am wounded.”

35 And the battle increased that day. And the king was propped up in his chariot facing the
Syrians, and he died at evening. And the blood ran out of the wound into the bottom of the chariot.

36 And there went a proclamation throughout the army close to sunset, saying, “Every man to his city and every man to his own country.”

37 ¶ So the king died and was brought to Samaria. And they buried the king in Samaria.

38 And they washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood (now the harlots bathed themselves there), according to the word of the LORD that He spoke.

39 Now the rest of the acts of Ahab and all that he did, and the ivory house that he made, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

40 So Ahab slept with his fathers, and Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah

41 ¶ And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel.

42 Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he began to reign. And he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

43 And he walked in all the ways of Asa his father. He turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the LORD. Nevertheless, the high places were not taken away, for the people still offered and burned incense on the high places.

44 And Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

45 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat and his might that he showed, and how he warred, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

46 ¶ And the remnant of the sodomites who remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land.

47 ¶ There was then no king in Edom. A deputy was king.

48 ¶ Jehoshaphat made trading ships to go to Ophir for gold. But they did not go because the ships were wrecked at Ezion Geber.

49 Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, “Let my servants go with your servants in the ships.” But Jehoshaphat was not willing.

50 And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father. And Jehoram his son reigned in his place.

Ahaziah Reigns in Israel

51 ¶ Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. And he reigned two years over Israel.

52 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD. And he walked in the way of his father and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

53 So he served Baal and worshiped him. And he provoked to anger the LORD God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.

2 KINGS

Chapter 1

Judgment on Ahaziah

1 ¶ Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.

2 And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was injured. And he sent messengers and said to them, “Go, inquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I will recover from this injury.”

3 But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, “Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria and say to them, ‘Is it because there is no God in Israel that you go to inquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron?’

4 “Now therefore, thus says the LORD, ‘You will not come down from the bed on which you have gone up, but will surely die.’” And
Elijah departed.

Now when the messengers turned back to him he said to them, “Why have you returned?”

And they said to him, “There came a man up to meet us. And he said to us, ‘Go, return to the king who sent you and say to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Is it not because there is no God in Israel that you send to inquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? Therefore, you will not come down from that bed on which you have gone up, but will surely die.’”’”

Then he said to them, “What manner of man was he who came up to meet you and told you these words?”

And they answered him, “He was a hairy man with a leather girdle bound about his loins.” And he said, “It is Elijah the Tishbite.”

Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him. And behold, he sat on the top of a hill. And he spoke to him, “You man of God, the king has said, ‘Come down.’”

And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, “If I am a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty.” And there came down fire from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

So again he sent a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up and came and fell on his knees before Elijah. And he begged him and said to him, “O man of God, please let my life and the life of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight.

Behold, there came fire down from heaven and burned up the two captains of the former fifty with their fifties. Therefore, let my life now be precious in your sight.”

So the angel of the LORD said to Elijah, “Go down with him. Do not be afraid of him.” And he arose and went down with him to the king.

Then he said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Forasmuch as you have sent messengers to inquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron, is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? Therefore, you will not come down off the bed on which you have gone up. But you will surely die.’”

So he died according to the word of the LORD that Elijah had spoken. And because he had no son, Jehoram became king in his place in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah.

Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Chapter 2

Elijah Taken to Heaven

Now it came to pass when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

And Elijah said to Elisha, “Please wait here, for the LORD has sent me to Bethel.” And Elisha said to him, “As the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

And the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from you today?” And he answered, “Yes, I know. Hold your peace.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Elisha, please wait here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” And he said, “As the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho.

And the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from you today?” And he answered, “Yes, I know. Hold your peace.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Please wait here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” And he said, “As the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” And the two went on.
And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood to look at a distance while the two of them stood by the Jordan.

And Elijah took his mantle and wrapped it together. And he struck the waters and they were divided here and there so that the two of them went over on dry ground.

Now it came to pass when they had gone over, that Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I will do for you before I am taken away from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let a double portion of your spirit be on me.”

And he said, “You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you it will be so for you. But if not, it will not be so.”

Now it came to pass as they continued on and talked, that behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire that separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

And Elisha saw it and he cried out, “My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen.” And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and returned and stood by the bank of the Jordan.

And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and struck the waters. And he said, “Where is the LORD God of Elijah?” And when he had smitten the waters, they divided here and there. And Elisha went over.

Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

And they said to him, “Behold now, there are with your servants fifty strong men. Please let them go and search for your master, lest perhaps the spirit of the LORD has taken him up and cast him on some mountain or into some valley.” And he said, “You will not send anyone.”

But when they urged him until he was embarrassed, he said, “Send.” They sent therefore fifty men, and they searched three days but did not find him.

Now when they came again to him while he waited at Jericho, he said to them, “Did I not say to you, ‘Do not go’?”

And the men of the city said to Elisha, “Please behold that the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees. But the water is bad and the ground barren.”

And he said, “Bring me a new jar and put salt in it.” And they brought it to him.

And he went out to the spring of the waters and cast the salt in it and said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘I have healed these waters. There will not be from here any more death or barren land.’”

So the waters were healed to this day, according to the saying of Elisha that he spoke.

Then he went up from there to Bethel. And as he was going up by the way, there came young men out of the city. And they mocked him and said to him, “Go up, you bald head. Go up, you bald head.”

And he looked back and saw them, and cursed them in the name of the LORD. And there came forth two female bears out of the woods and tore up forty-two of the youths.

Then he went from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.

Then a Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah. And he reigned twelve years.

And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, but not like his father and like his mother. For he put away the image of Baal that his father had made.

Nevertheless, he clung to the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat who made Israel sin. He did not depart from them.

And Mesha, king of Moab, was a
sheepmaster, and regularly paid the king of Israel 100,000 lambs and the wool of 100,000 rams.
5 But it came to pass when Ahab was dead that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.
6 ¶ And King Jehoram went out of Samaria at the same time and mustered all Israel.
7 And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, “The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me against Moab to battle?” And he said, “I will go up. I am as you are, my people as your people, and my horses as your horses.”
8 And he said, “Which way will we go up?” And he answered, “The way through the wilderness of Edom.”
9 So the king of Israel went and the king of Judah and the king of Edom. And they marched on that roundabout route for seven days. And there was no water for the army and for the cattle that followed them.
10 Then the king of Israel said, “Alas! For the LORD has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab!”
11 But Jehoshaphat said, “Is there not here a prophet of the LORD so that we may inquire by him?” And one of the servants of the king of Israel answered and said, “Here is Elisha the son of Shaphat who poured water on the hands of Elijah.”
12 And Jehoshaphat said, “The word of the LORD is with him.” So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat, and the king of Edom, went down to him.
13 ¶ And Elisha said to the king of Israel, “What have I to do with you? I go to the prophyl of your father and to the prophyl of your mother.” And the king of Israel said to him, “No, for the LORD has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab.”
14 And Elisha said, “As the LORD of armies lives, before whom I stand, surely, were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward you nor see you.
15 “But now bring me a musician.” And it came to pass when the musician played, that the hand of the LORD came on him.
16 And he said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Make this valley full of ditches.’
17 “For thus says the LORD, ‘You will not see wind, nor will you see rain; yet this valley will be filled with water so this you may drink, both you and your cattle and your livestock.
18 ‘And this is but a light thing in the sight of the LORD. He will deliver the Moabites also into your hand.
19 ‘And you will smite every fortified city and every choice city. And you will cut down every good tree and stop all wells of water and ruin every good piece of land with stones.’”
20 ¶ Now it came to pass in the morning when the grain offering was offered, that behold, there came water by the way of Edom and the country was filled with water.
21 And when all the Moabites heard that the kings had come up to fight against them, they gathered all who were able to put on armour, and older, and stood at the border.
22 When they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone on the water, then the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood.
23 Then they said, “This is blood. The kings are surely slain and they have smitten one another. Now therefore, Moab, to the spoil.”
24 Now when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites so that they fled before them. So they went forward smiting the Moabites, even in their country.
25 And they beat down the cities, and on every good piece of land every man cast his stone and filled it. And they stopped all the wells of water and cut down all the good trees. Only in Kir Haraseth they left its stones. However, the slingers went around it and struck it.
26 ¶ And when the king of Moab saw that the battle was too fierce for him, he took with him 700 men who drew swords in order to break through even to the king of Edom. But they could not.
27 Then he took his oldest son who should have reigned in his place, and offered him as a
burnt offering on the wall. And there was great indignation against Israel. And they departed from him and returned to their own land.

Chapter 4
The Widow’s Oil

1 ¶ Now a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD. And the creditor has come to take my two sons to be his slaves.”
2 And Elisha said to her, “What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?”
3 And she said, “Your maidservant has nothing in the house except a pot of oil.”
4 Then he said, “Go, borrow vessels from everyone for yourself, from all your neighbors. Do not borrow a few.
5 “And when you have come in, you will shut the door behind you and your sons. And you will pour out into all these vessels, and you will set aside that which is full.”
6 So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons who brought the vessels to her, and she poured.
7 Now it came to pass when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, “Bring me another vessel.” And he said to her, “There is not one vessel left.” And the oil stopped.
8 ¶ Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, “Go, sell the oil and pay your debt, and you and your sons can live on the rest.”

The Shunammite’s Son

8 ¶ Now it happened one day that Elisha passed to Shunem, where there was a great woman. And she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as often as he passed by he turned in there to eat bread.
9 And she said to her husband, “Behold now, I perceive that this is a holy man of God who passes by us continually.
10 “Please, let us make a little walled upper room and let us make a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand. And it will be when he comes to us that he will turn in there.”
11 Now it happened one day that he came there and he turned into the room and lay down there.
12 And he said to Gehazi his servant, “Call this Shunammite.” And when he had called her, she stood before him.
13 Then he said to him, “Say now to her, ‘Behold, you have been concerned for us with all this care. What is to be done for you? Do you want me to speak on your behalf before the king, or to the captain of the army?’” And she answered, “I dwell among my own people.”
14 Then he said, “What then is to be done for her?” And Gehazi answered, “Truly she has no child and her husband is old.”
15 Then he said, “Call her.” And when he had called her she stood in the doorway.
16 Then he said, “About this time next year you will embrace a son.” And she said, “No, my lord, O man of God. Do not lie to your maidservant.”
17 But the woman conceived and bore a son at that time the next year as Elisha had said to her.
18 ¶ And when the child was grown, it happened one day that he went out to his father to the reapers.
19 And he said to his father, “My head, my head.” And he said to a servant, “Carry him to his mother.”
20 Now when he had taken him and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees until noon. And then he died.
21 Then she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door on him and went out.
22 Then she called to her husband and said, “Please send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys so that I may run to the man of God and return.”
23 But he said, “Why will you go to him today? It is neither new moon nor the Sabbath.” And she said, “It will be well.”
24 Then she saddled a donkey and said to her servant, “Drive and go forward. Do not slow down the pace for me unless I tell you.”
25 So she went and came to the man of God at

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w 2 Kg 8:20  Chapter 4:  a 1 Kg 20:35  b Lv 25:39-41,48  c 2 Kg 3:16  d Ja 19:18  e 2 Kg 4:29-31; 5:20-27; 8:4,5  f 2 Kg 4:28  g 1 Ch 23:31
Mount Carmel. Now it came to pass when the man of God saw her afar off that he said to Gehazi his servant, “Behold, there is the Shunammite.

26 “Please run now to meet her and say to her, ‘Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?’ And she answered, “It is well.”

27 Now when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet. But Gehazi came near to push her away. And the man of God said, “Let her alone, for her soul is vexed within her. And the LORD has hid it from me and has not told me.”

28 Then she said, “Did I desire a son of my lord? I Did I not say, ‘Do not deceive me’?”

29 Then he said to Gehazi, “Gird up your loins and take my staff in your hand, and go your way. If you meet any man, do not greet him. And if any greet you, do not answer him again. And lay my staff on the face of the child.”

30 Then the mother of the child said, “As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” And he arose and followed her.

31 And Gehazi passed on before them and laid the staff on the face of the child, but there was neither voice nor hearing. Therefore, he went again to meet him and told him, saying, “The child is not awake.”

32 ¶ Then when Elisha came into the house, behold, the child was dead and laid on his bed.

33 He went in, therefore, and shut the door on them both and prayed to the LORD.

34 Then he went up and lay on the child and put his mouth on his mouth and his eyes on his eyes and his hands on his hands. And he stretched himself on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm.

35 Then he returned and walked in the house to and fro, and went up and stretched himself on him. And the child sneezed seven times and the child opened his eyes.

36 Then he called Gehazi and said, “Call this Shunammite.” So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, “Take up your son.”

37 Then she went in and fell at his feet and bowed herself to the ground. And she took up her son and went out.

38 ¶ And Elisha came again to Gilgal. And there was a famine in the land, and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him. And he said to his servant, “Put on the great pot and boil pottage for the sons of the prophets.”

39 Then one went out into the field to gather herbs. And he found a wild vine and gathered from it his lap full of wild gourds. And he came and shred them into the pot of pottage, for they did not know what they were.

40 So they poured out for the men to eat. Now it came to pass as they were eating of the pottage that they cried out and said, “O man of God, there is death in the pot.” And they could not eat from it.

41 But he said, “Then bring flour.” And he put it into the pot and said, “Pour out for the people so that they may eat.” And there was no harm in the pot.

42 ¶ Now there came a man from Baal Shalisha. And he brought the man of God bread from the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley and fresh grain in his sack. And he said, “Give to the people so that they may eat.”

43 And his servant said, “What? Should I set this before one hundred men?” He said again, “Give to the people so that they may eat, for thus says the LORD, ‘They will eat and have some left over.’”

44 So he set it before them and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD.

Chapter 5

Naaman Healed

1 ¶ Now Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and highly respected because by him the LORD had given deliverance to Syria. He was also a mighty man in valor. But he was a leper.

2 And the Syrians had gone out with raiding
parties and had taken captive a little girl from the land of Israel. And she waited on Naaman’s wife.

3 Now she said to her mistress, “I wish that my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria, for he would cure him of his leprosy.”

4 Then one went in and told his lord, saying, “Thus and thus said the maid who is from the land of Israel.”

5 ¶ So the king of Syria said, “Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel.” And he departed and took with him ten talents of silver and 6,000 pieces of gold, and ten changes of clothes.

6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, “Now when this letter has come to you, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy.”

7 Now it came to pass when the king of Israel had read the letter that he tore his clothes. And he said, “Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends to me a man to cure his leprosy? Therefore, please consider now and see how he is seeking a quarrel against me.”

8 ¶ Now it happened when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times and your flesh will come again to you and you will be clean.”

9 But Naaman was furious. And he went away and said, “Behold, I thought He will surely come out to me and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God and strike his hand over the place and cure the leprosy.

10 ‘Are not Abanah and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?’ So he turned and went away in a rage.

11 Then his servants came near and spoke to him. And they said, “My father, if the prophet had asked you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather then, when he says to you, ‘Wash and be clean’?”

14 Then he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan according to the saying of the man of God. And his flesh came again like the flesh of a little child. And he was clean.

15 ¶ Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company. And he came and stood before him. And he said, “Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel. Now therefore, please take a gift from your servant.”

16 But he said, “As the LORD lives before whom I stand, I will receive nothing.” And he urged him to take it. But he refused.

17 Then Naaman said, “If not, please let your servant at least be given two mule-loads of soil, for your servant will no longer offer either burnt offering or sacrifice to other gods, but to the LORD.

18 “In this one thing may the LORD pardon your servant, that when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, that when I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon the LORD pardon your servant in this thing.”

19 Then he said to him, “Go in peace.” So he departed from him a little way.

20 ¶ But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, “Behold, my master has spared Naaman this Syrian in not receiving at his hands that which he brought. But as the LORD lives, I will run after him and take something from him.”

21 So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw him running after him, he came down from the chariot to meet him and said, “Is all well?”

22 And he said, “All is well. My master has sent me, saying, ‘Behold, even now there have come to me from the hill country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets. Please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothes.’”
23 And Naaman said, “Be pleased to take two talents.” And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothes. And he laid them on two of his servants, and they bore them before him.

24 Now when he came to the tower, he took them from their hand and deposited them in the house. And he let the men go, and they departed.

25 But he went in and stood before his master. And Elisha said to him, “Where have you been, Gehazi?” And he said, “Your servant went nowhere.”

26 And he said to him, “Did not my heart go with you when the man turned again from his chariot to meet you? Is it a time to receive money and to receive clothes and oliveyards and vineyards and sheep and oxen and menservants and maidservants?

27 “The leprosy therefore of Naaman will cleave to you and to your seed forever.” And he went out from his presence as white as snow.

Chapter 6
The Floating Ax Head

1 ¶ And the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, “Behold now, the place where we dwell with you is too limited for us.

2 “Please let us go to the Jordan. Let each of us take there a beam, and let us make a place there where we may dwell.” And he answered, “Go.”

3 Then one said, b“Please be willing to go with your servants.” And he answered, “I will go.”

4 So he went with them. And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down wood.

5 But as one was cutting down a beam, the ax head fell into the water. And he cried, and said, “Alas, master! For it was borrowed.”

6 And the man of God said, “Where did it fall?” And he showed him the place. Then he cut down a stick and cast it there and the iron floated.

7 Then he said, “Take it up for yourself.” And he put out his hand and took it.

The Trapped Syrians

8 ¶ Then the king of Syria warred against Israel. And he took counsel with his servants, saying, “In such and such a place will be my camp.”

9 Then the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, “Beware that you do not pass this place, for there the Syrians have come down.”

10 And the king of Israel sent to the place that the man of God told him and warned him. And he guarded himself there, not once nor twice.

11 Therefore, the heart of the king of Syria was outraged over this thing. And he called his servants and said to them, “Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel?”

12 Then one of his servants said, “None, my lord, O king. But Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, is telling the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom.”

13 ¶ So he said, “Go and spy where he is so that I may send and fetch him.” And it was told him, saying, “Behold, he is in Dothan.”

14 Therefore, he sent there horses and chariots and a great army. And they came by night and surrounded the city.

15 Now when the servant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army surrounded the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What will we do?”

16 Then he answered, g“Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

17 So Elisha prayed and said, “Please, LORD, open his eyes so that he may see.” And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around Elisha.

18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, “Please smite this people with blindness.” And he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

19 ¶ Then Elisha said to them, “This is not the way, neither is this the city. Follow me and I will bring you to the man whom you seek.”
But he led them to Samaria.

20 Now it came to pass when they had come into Samaria that Elisha said, “LORD, open the eyes of these men so that they may see.” And the LORD opened their eyes and they saw. And behold, they were in the middle of Samaria.

21 Then the king of Israel said to Elisha when he saw them, “My father, shall I smite them? Shall I smite them?”

22 And he answered, “You will not smite them. Would you smite those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Set bread and water before them so that they may eat and drink, then go to their master.”

23 So he prepared great provisions for them. And when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away. And they went to their master. So the raiding parties of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

Famine in Samaria

24 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that Ben-hadad, king of Syria, gathered all his army. And he went up and besieged Samaria.

25 Now there was a great famine in Samaria. And behold, they besieged it until a donkey’s head was sold for eighty pieces of silver and the fourth part of a kab of dove’s dung for five pieces of silver.

26 And as the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried to him saying, “Help, my lord, O king.”

27 Then he said, “If the LORD does not help you, how will I help you? From the threshing floor, or from the winepress?”

28 Then the king said to her, “What is your problem?” And she answered, “This woman said to me, ‘Give your son so that we may eat him today and we will eat my son tomorrow.’

29 “So we boiled my son and ate him. And I said to her on the next day, ‘Give your son so that we may eat him.’ And she has hidden her son.”

30 ¶ Now it came to pass when the king heard the words of the woman that he tore his clothes. And he passed by on the wall and the people looked. And behold, he had sackcloth underneath on his body.

31 Then he said, “‘God do so and more also to me if the head of Elisha, the son of Shaphat, will remain on him this day.”

32 But Elisha sat in his house and the elders sat with him. And the king sent a man from his presence. But before the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, “See how this son of a murderer has sent to take away my head? Look, when the messenger comes, shut the door and hold him fast at the door. Is not the sound of his master’s feet behind him?”

33 And while he still spoke with them, behold, the messenger came down to him. And he said, “Behold, this evil is from the LORD. Why should I wait for the LORD any longer?”

Chapter 7

1 ¶ Then Elisha said, “Hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the LORD, “Tomorrow about this time a measure of fine flour will be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel in the gate of Samaria.”

2 Then an officer on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God and said, “Behold, if the LORD would make windows in heaven, could this thing happen?” And he said, “Behold, you will see it with your eyes, but will not eat of it.”

End of the Siege

3 ¶ Now there were four leprous men at the entrance of the gate. And they said to one another, “Why are we sitting here until we die?

4 “If we say, ‘We will enter into the city,’ then the famine is in the city and we will die there. And if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall to the army of the Syrians. If they save us alive, we will live. And if they kill us, we will but die.”

5 So they rose up in the twilight to go to the camp of the Syrians. And when they came to the outermost part of the camp of the Syrians, behold, there was no man there.

6 For the Lord had made the army of the Syrians hear a noise of chariots and a noise of
horses, *even* the noise of a great army. And they said to one another, “Lo, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of the Egyptians to come upon us.”

7 Therefore, they *arose* and fled in the twilight. And they left their tents and their horses and their donkeys, even the camp as it *was*. And they fled for their lives.

8 So when these lepers came to the outermost part of the camp, they went into one tent and ate and drank. And they carried from there silver and gold and clothing. Then they went and *hid* it. And they came again and entered into another tent and carried from there also. And they went and hid it.

9 ¶ Then they said to one another, “We do not well. This day *is* a day of good tidings and we hold our peace. If we tarry until the morning light, some mischief will come upon us. Now, therefore, come so that we may go and tell the king’s household.”

10 So they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city. And they told them, saying, “We came to the camp of the Syrians, and behold, there was no man there, neither the voice of a man, but horses tied and donkeys tied, and the tents as they were.”

11 And he called the gatekeepers. And they told it within to the king’s house.

12 ¶ Then the king arose in the night and said to his servants, “I will now show you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we are hungry. Therefore, they are gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, ‘When they come out of the city, we will catch them alive and get into the city.’”

13 Then one of his servants answered and said, “Please allow *some* to take five of the horses that remain, that are left in the city. Behold, they *are* as all the multitude of Israel that are left in it. Behold, *I* say, they *are* even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are consumed. And let us send and see.”

14 They took therefore two chariot horses, and the king sent after the army of the Syrians, saying, “Go and see.”

15 And they went after them to the Jordan.

And behold, all the way *was* full of clothing and vessels that the Syrians had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned and told the king.

16 And the people went out and plundered the tents of the Syrians. So a measure of fine flour was *sold* for a shekel and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD.

17 ¶ Then the king appointed the chief officer to be in charge of the gate. But the people trampled on him at the gate. And he died just *as* the man of God had said who spoke when the king came down to him.

18 So it came to pass as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, “Two measures of barley for a shekel and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, will be tomorrow about this time in the gate of Samaria.”

19 And the captain answered the man of God and said, “Now behold, *if* the LORD should make windows in heaven, could such a thing be?” And he said, “Behold, you will see it with your eyes, but will not eat of it.”

20 And so it happened to him, for the people trampled on him at the gate and he died.

### Chapter 8

**Restoration of the Shunammite’s Land**

1 ¶ Then Elisha spoke to the woman “whose son he had restored to life, saying, “Arise, and you and your household go and sojourn wherever you can sojourn, for the LORD has called for a famine, and it will also come on the land for seven years.”

2 Then the woman arose and did according to the saying of the man of God. And she went with her household and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.

3 Now it came to pass at the end of seven years that the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines. And she went out to appeal to the king for her house and for her land.

4 And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, “Please tell me all the great things that Elisha has done.”

5 Now it came to pass as he was telling the king how he had restored a dead body to life,
that behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, appealed to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, “My lord, O king, this is the woman and this is her son whom Elisha restored to life.”

6 Now when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed to her a certain officer, saying, “Restore all that was hers and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now.”

Hazael Murders Ben-hadad

7 ¶ Then Elisha came to Damascus. And Ben-hadad, the king of Syria, was sick. And it was told him, saying, “The man of God has come here.”

8 Then the king said to Hazael, “Take a present in your hand and go, meet the man of God and inquire of the LORD through him, saying, ‘Will I recover from this disease?’”

9 So Hazael went to meet him and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels loaded. And he came and stood before him and said, “Your son Ben-hadad, king of Syria, has sent me to you, saying, ‘Will I recover from this disease?’”

10 And Elisha said to him, “Go. Say to him, ‘You will certainly recover.’ However, the LORD has showed me that he will surely die.”

11 Then he fixed his gaze steadily on him until he was ashamed. And the man of God wept.

12 Then Hazael said, “Why do you weep my lord?” And he answered, “Because I know the evil that you will do to the children of Israel. You will set their strongholds on fire and you will slay their young men with the sword. And you will dash their children and rip up their women with child.”

13 Then Hazael said, “But what is your servant, but a dog, that he should do this great thing?” And Elisha answered, “The LORD has showed me that you will be king over Syria.”

14 So he departed from Elisha and came to his master, who said to him, “What did Elisha say to you?” And he answered, “He told me that you will surely recover.”

15 Now it came to pass on the next day that he took a thick cloth and dipped it in water. And he spread it on his face so that he died. And Hazael reigned in his place.

Jehoram Reigns in Judah

16 ¶ Now in the fifth year of Joram, the son of Ahab, king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, began to reign.

17 He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign. And he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

18 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel as did the house of Ahab, for the daughter of Ahab was his wife. And he did evil in the sight of the LORD.

19 However, the LORD would not destroy Judah for the sake of David, his servant, as He promised to him and to his sons to give him always a light.

20 In his days Edom rebelled from under the hand of Judah and made a king over themselves.

21 So Joram went over to Zair and all the chariots with him. And he rose by night and killed the Edomites who surrounded him, and the captains of the chariots. And the people fled to their tents.

22 However, Edom rebelled from under the hand of Judah to this day. Then Libnah rebelled at the same time.

23 Now the rest of the acts of Joram and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

24 Then Joram slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

25 ¶ In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab, king of Israel, Ahaziah the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, began to reign.

26 Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he began to reign. And he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri, king of Israel.

27 ¶ Now he walked in the way of the house of Ahab and did evil in the sight of the LORD, as
did the house of Ahab, for he was the son-in-law of the house of Ahab.

28 ¶ And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael, king of Syria, at Ramoth Gilead. Now the Syrians wounded Joram.

29 So King Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds that the Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

Chapter 9  

Jehu Reigns in Israel

1 ¶ Then Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets and said to him, “Gird up your loins and take this flask of oil in your hand and go to Ramoth Gilead.

2 ¶ And when you arrive there, look for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi. Go in and make him rise up from among his brethren and carry him to an inner chamber.

3 ¶ Then take the flask of oil and pour it on his head and say, ‘Thus says the LORD, “I have anointed you king over Israel.”’ Then open the door and flee. Do not tarry.”

4 ¶ So the young man, even the young man the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead.

5 And when he came, behold, the captains of the army were sitting. And he said, “I have a message for you, O captain.” And Jehu said, “For which one of us?” And he said, “For you, O captain.”

6 Then he arose and went into the house. And he poured the oil on his head and said to him, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘I have anointed you king over the people of the LORD, even over Israel.

7 ¶ And you will smite the house of Ahab your master so that I may avenge the blood of My servants the prophets and the blood of all the servants of the LORD at the hand of Jezebel.

8 ¶ For the whole house of Ahab will perish. And I will cut off from Ahab every male person in Israel, both bond and free.

9 ¶ And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah.

10 ¶ And the dogs will eat Jezebel on the property of Jezreel and there will be no one to bury her.” Then he opened the door and fled.

11 ¶ Then Jehu came out to the servants of his lord. And someone said to him, “Is all well? Why did this mad fellow come to you?” And he said to them, “You know the man and his talk.”

12 And they said, “It is false. Tell us now.” And he said, “Thus and thus he spoke to me, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, I have anointed you king over Israel.’”

13 Then they hurried and every man took his garment and put it under him on the top of the stairs. And they blew with trumpets, saying, “Jehu is king.”

Jehu Murders Joram & Ahaziah

14 ¶ So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, conspired against Joram. Now Joram had kept Ramoth Gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria.

15 But King Joram had returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds that the Syrians had given him when he fought with Hazael king of Syria. So Jehu said, “If this is your mind, then let no one go out or escape out of the city to go tell it in Jezreel.”

16 So Jehu rode in a chariot and went to Jezreel, for Joram was laid up there. And Ahaziah, king of Judah, had come down to see Joram.

17 ¶ Now there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel and he saw the company of Jehu as he came. And he said, “I see a company.” And Jehu said, “Take a horseman and send to meet them. And let him say, ‘Is it peace?’”

18 So there went one on horseback to meet him. And he said, “Thus says the king, ‘Is it peace?’” And Jehu said, “What have you to do with peace? Follow behind me.” And the watchman reported, saying, “The messenger came to them, but he did not return.”

19 Then he sent out a second on horseback...
who came to them and said, “Thus says the king, ‘Is it peace?’” Then Jehu answered, “What have you to do with peace? Follow behind me.”

20 And the watchman reported, saying, “He came even to them and did not return. And the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi, for he is driving furiously.”

21 ¶ Then Joram said, “Make ready.” And his chariot was made ready. And Joram, king of Israel, and Ahaziah, king of Judah, went out, each in his chariot. And they went out to meet Jehu. And they met him on the property of Naboth the Jezreelite.

22 Now it came to pass when Joram saw Jehu that he said, “Is it peace, Jehu?” And he answered, “What peace, as long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?”

23 Then Joram turned around and fled. And he said to Ahaziah, “There is treachery, O Ahaziah.”

24 And Jehu drew a bow with his full strength and killed Jehoram between his arms. And the arrow went out at his heart and he sunk down in his chariot.

25 Then Jehu said to Bidkar his captain, “Take him and cast him on the property of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite, for I remember that when you and I rode together after Ahab his father, the LORD laid this burden on him.

26 ‘Surely I saw yesterday the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons,’ says the LORD. ‘And I will repay you on this property,’ says the LORD. Now, therefore, take and cast him on the property, according to the word of the LORD.”

27 ¶ But when Ahaziah, the king of Judah, saw this, he fled by the way of the garden house. And Jehu followed after him and said, “Smite him also in the chariot.” And they did so at the ascent to Gur that is by Ibleam. And he fled to Megiddo and died there.

28 And his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the city of David.

29 Now in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab, Ahaziah began to reign over Judah.

Death of Jezebel

30 ¶ And when Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it. And she painted her face and adorned her head, and looked out from a window.

31 Now as Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, “‘Is it peace, Zimri, your master’s murderer?’”

32 And he lifted up his face to the window and said, “Who is on my side? Who?” And there looked out to him two, then three eunuchs.

33 Then he said, “Throw her down.” So they threw her down. And some of her blood was splattered on the wall and on the horses. And he trampled her under foot.

34 And when he came in he ate and drank and said, “Go. See to this cursed woman and bury her, for she was a king’s daughter.”

35 So they went to bury her. But they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands.

36 Therefore, they came again and told him. And he said, “This is the word of the LORD that He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ‘On the property of Jezreel the dogs will eat the flesh of Jezebel.

37 ‘And the corpse of Jezebel will be as refuse on the face of the field on the property of Jezreel so that they will not say, ‘This is Jezebel.’”’

Chapter 10

Death of Ahab’s Heirs

1 ¶ Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters and sent them to Samaria to the rulers of Jezreel, to the elders and to those who brought up Ahab’s sons, saying,

2 “Now as soon as this letter comes to you, seeing your master’s sons are with you, and there are with you chariots and horses, a fortified city also and armor,

3 “choose the best and fittest of your master’s sons and set him on his father’s throne and fight for your master’s house.”

4 But they were terrified and said, “Behold, two kings did not stand before him. How then will we stand?”
Now he who was over the house, and he who was over the city, the elders also and the guardians of the children, sent to Jehu, saying, “We are your servants and will do all that you ask of us. We will not make any king. Do that which is good in your sight.”

Then he wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, “If you are on my side, and you will hearken to my voice, take the heads of the men your master’s sons and come to me to Jezreel by this time tomorrow.” Now the king’s sons, seventy persons, were with the great men of the city who brought them up.

¶ Now it came to pass when the letter came to them that they took the king’s sons and killed seventy persons. And they put their heads in baskets and sent them to him to Jezreel.

Then there came a messenger and told him, saying, “They have brought the heads of the king’s sons.” And he said, “Lay them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning.”

¶ Now it came to pass in the morning that he went out and stood. And he said to all the people, “You are innocent. Behold, I conspired against my master and killed him. But who killed all these?

Know now that there will fall to the earth nothing of the word of the LORD that the LORD spoke concerning the house of Ahab, for the LORD has done that which He spoke by His servant Elijah.”

So Jehu killed all who remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men and his close acquaintances and his priests, until he left none remaining.

¶ Then he arose and departed and came to Samaria. And on the way while he was at the shearing house of the shepherds,

¶ Jehu met with the brethren of Ahaziah, king of Judah. And he said, “Who are you?” And they answered, “We are the brethren of Ahaziah, and we are going down to greet the sons of the king and the children of the queen.”

And he said, “Take them alive.” And they took them alive and killed them at the pit of the shearing house, even forty-two men. And he left none of them alive.

When he had departed from there he met Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him. And he greeted him and said to him, “Is your heart right as my heart is with your heart?” And Jehonadab answered, “It is.” “If it is, then give me your hand.” And he gave him his hand. And he brought him up to him into the chariot.

Then he said, “Come with me and see my zeal for the LORD.” So they made him ride in his chariot.

Now when he came to Samaria he killed all who remained of Ahab in Samaria until he had destroyed him according to the saying of the LORD that He spoke to Elijah.

Then Jehu gathered all the people together and said to them, “Ahab served Baal a little, but Jehu will serve him much.

Now therefore call to me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants and all his priests. Let none be missing, for I have a great sacrifice to offer to Baal. Whoever is missing, he will not live.” But Jehu did it as a trick, to the intent that he might destroy the worshipers of Baal.

Then Jehu said, “Proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal.” And they proclaimed it.

And Jehu sent throughout all Israel. And all the worshipers of Baal came so that there was not a man left who did not come. And they came into the house of Baal, and the house of Baal was full from one end to the other.

And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed eighty men outside. And he said, “If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he who lets him go, his life will be for his life.”
25 Now it came to pass as soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, “Go in and slay them. Let none come out.” And they killed them with the edge of the sword. And the guard and the captains cast them out, and went to the city of the house of Baal.

26 And they brought forth the ‘images out of the house of Baal and burned them.

27 And they broke down the image of Baal and broke down the house of Baal, and made it a refuse dump to this day.

28 Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

29 ¶ However, as for the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, Jehu did not depart from following after them, even from the golden calves that were in Bethel and that were in Dan.

30 Then the LORD said to Jehu, “Because you have done well in executing that which is right in My eyes and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in My heart, your sons to the fourth generation will sit on the throne of Israel.”

31 But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart. For he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam who made Israel sin.

32 ¶ In those days the LORD began to cut off portions from Israel. And Hazael killed them in all the borders of Israel, from the Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer that is by the River Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan.

34 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Jehu and all that he did and all his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

35 And Jehu slept with his fathers. And they buried him in Samaria. And Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place.

36 And the time that Jehu reigned over Israel was twenty-eight years.

Chapter 11
Reigns of Athaliah & Joash

1 ¶ Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal seed.

2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah and stole him from among the king’s sons that were slain. And they hid him from Athaliah, him and his nurse, in the bedchamber so that he was not slain.

3 Now he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah reigned over the land.

4 ¶ Now in the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard. And he brought them to him into the house of the LORD. And he made a covenant with them and took an oath from them in the house of the LORD, and showed them the king’s son.

5 Then he commanded them, saying, “This is the thing that you will do. A third of you who enter in on the Sabbath will be keepers of the watch of the king’s house, and a third will be at the gate of Sur, and a third at the gate behind the guard. So you will keep the watch of the house so that it not be broken down.

7 “And two companies of you who go forth on the Sabbath, even they will keep the watch of the house of the LORD for the king.

8 “Then you will surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand. And he who comes within the ranks, let him be slain. And you stay with the king as he goes out and as he comes in.”

9 ¶ And the captains over the hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded. And every man took his men who were to come in on the Sabbath, with those who were to go out on the Sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

10 Then the priest delivered to the captains over hundreds the spears and shields that had been King David’s that were in the temple of the LORD.

11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, around the king, from...
the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.

12 And he brought out the king's son and put the crown on him. And he gave him the testimony. Then they made him king and anointed him. And they clapped their hands and said, "Long live the king."

13 Now when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD.

14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king. And all the people of the land rejoiced and blew with trumpets. Then Athaliah tore her clothes and cried out, "Treason, Treason."

15 But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the army, and said to them, "Bring her out between the ranks. Whoever follows her, kill with the sword." For the priest had said, "Do not let her be slain in the house of the LORD."

16 Then they laid hands on her, and she went by way of the horses' entrance into the king's house. And there she was slain.

17 Then Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and the people, that they should be the LORD'S people, also between the king and the people.

18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal and broke it down, its altars and its images they broke in pieces thoroughly. And they killed Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.

19 And he took the rulers over hundreds and the captains and the guard, and all the people of the land, and they brought down the king from the house of the LORD and came by the way of the gate of the guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.

20 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet. And they killed Athaliah with the sword in the king's house.

22 Jehoash was seven years old when he became king.
into the hands of those who did the work, who had the oversight of the house of the LORD. And they paid it out to the carpenters and builders who worked on the house of the LORD, and to masons and hewers of stone, and to buy timber and hewed stone to repair the damages of the house of the LORD, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair it.

12 But there were not made for the house of the LORD bowls of silver, snuffers, basins, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver from the money that was brought into the house of the LORD. 

13 But bowls of silver, snuffers, basins, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver from the money that was brought into the house of the LORD. 

14 But they gave that to those who did the work and repaired the house of the LORD.

15 Moreover, they did not require an accounting from the men into whose hand they delivered the money to be given to the workmen, for they dealt faithfully.

16 The trespass money and sin money was not brought into the house of the LORD. It belonged to the priests.

17 Then Hazael, king of Syria, went up and fought against Gath and took it. And Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

18 And Jehoash, king of Judah, took all the sacred things that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own sacred things, and all the gold that was found in the treasury of the house of the LORD, and in the king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of Syria. And he went away from Jerusalem.

19 Now the rest of the acts of Joash and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

20 And his servants arose and made a conspiracy. And they killed Joash in the house of Millo that goes down to Silla.

21 For Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, struck him and he died. And they buried him with his fathers in the city of David. And Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 13
Jehoahaz Reigns in Israel

1 ¶ In the twenty-third year of Joash the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria. And he reigned seventeen years.

2 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. And he followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat who made Israel sin. He did not turn from them.

3 Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel and He delivered them all their days into the hand of Hazael, king of Syria, and into the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael.

4 And Jehoahaz begged the LORD and the LORD hearkened to him, for He saw the oppression of Israel because the king of Syria oppressed them.

5 ¶ And the LORD gave Israel a savior so that they escaped from the hand of the Syrians. And the children of Israel dwelt in their tents as before.

6 Nevertheless, they did not depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam who made Israel sin. They walked in them. And there remained also the Asherah in Samaria.

7 For he left of the army of Jehoahaz only fifty horsemen and ten chariots and 10,000 footmen, for the king of Syria had destroyed them and had made them like the dust in threshing.

8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz and all that he did and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

9 Then Jehoahaz slept with his fathers and they buried him in Samaria. And Joash his son reigned in his place.

Jehoash Reigns in Israel

10 ¶ In the thirty-seventh year of Joash, king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria. And he reigned sixteen years.

11 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin. But he walked in them.
12 "Now the rest of the acts of Joash and "all that he did, and "his might by which he fought against Amaziah, king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
13 Then Joash "slept with his fathers, and Jeroboam sat on his throne. And Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.
14 ¶ Now Elisha became sick of an illness by which he was to die. And Joash, the king of Israel, came down to him. And he wept over his face and said, "O my father, my father, "the chariots of Israel and its horsemen."
15 Then Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and arrows." So he took a bow and arrows.
16 Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." And he put his hand "on it. Then Elisha put his hands on the king's hands.
17 Then he said, "Open the window eastward." And he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot." And he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the LORD'S deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria. For you will smite the Syrians in 'Aphek until you have consumed them."
18 Then he said, "Take the arrows." And he took "them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground." And he struck it three times and stopped.
19 But the man of God was angry with him. And he said, "You should have struck five or six times, then you would have smote the Syrians in 'Aphek until you have consumed them."
20 ¶ Now Elisha died and they buried him. And the 'raiding parties of the Moabites invaded the land in the spring of the year.
21 Now it came to pass as they were burying a man, that they saw a raiding party of men. And they cast the man into the tomb of Elisha. And when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood up on his feet.
22 ¶ But "Hazael, king of Syria, oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.
23 And the LORD was "gracious to them and had compassion on them. And "He had respect for them because of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And He would not yet destroy them, nor cast them from His presence.
24 ¶ So Hazael, king of Syria, died. And Benhadad his son reigned in his place.
25 And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again the cities out of the hand of Ben-hadad, the son of Hazael, that he had taken by war out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father. Joash defeated him three times and recovered the cities of Israel.

Chapter 14
Amaziah Reigns in Judah

1 ¶ In the "second year of Joash son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, "Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, reigned.
2 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign. And he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.
3 Now he did "that which was right in the sight of the LORD, yet not as David his father. He did according to all things that Joash 'his father had done.
4 "However, the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.
5 ¶ Now it came to pass as soon as the kingdom was established in his hand that he killed his servants 'who had slain the king his father.
6 But he did not kill the sons of the murderers, according to that which is written in the book of the law of Moses, wherein the LORD commanded, saying, "The fathers will not be put to death for the sons, nor the sons be put to death for the fathers. But every man will be put to death for his own sin."
7 "He killed 10,000 of Edom in the "valley of salt and took Selah by war. 'And he called the name of it Joktheel to this day.
8 ¶ Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz, son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come. Let us look one another in the face."
9 And Jehoash, the king of Israel, sent to Amaziah, king of Judah, saying, "The thistle..."
that was in Lebanon sent to the 1cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, ‘Give your daughter to my son as a wife.’ But there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon. And he trampled down the thistle.

10 “You have indeed smitten Edom and your heart has lifted you up. Glory in this and stay at home. For why should you meddle to your own harm, that you should fall, even you and Judah with you?”

11 But Amaziah would not listen. Therefore, Jehoash, king of Israel, went up. And he and Amaziah, king of Judah, looked one another in the face at Beth-shemesh, that belongs to Judah.

12 Then Judah was put to the worse before Israel. And every man fled to his tent.

13 And Jehoash, king of Israel, took Amaziah, king of Judah, the son of Jehoash, the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh. And he came to Jerusalem and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, 400 cubits.

14 Then he took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the LORD and in the treasures of the king’s house, and hostages, and returned to Samaria.

15 The rest of the acts of Jehoash that he did, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah, king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

16 Then Jehoash slept with his fathers. And he was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel, and Jeroboam his son reigned in his place.

Jeroboam II Reigns in Israel

23 ¶ In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, began to reign in Samaria. And he reigned forty-one years.

24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

25 He restored the borders of Israel from the entrance of Hamath to the sea of the plain, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel that He spoke by the hand of His servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet who was from Gath Hepher.

26 For the LORD saw the bitter affliction of Israel, for there was neither bond nor free, and there was none left to help Israel.

27 ¶ And the LORD did not say that He would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven. But He saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

28 Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he warred, and how he recovered Damascus and Hamath that belonged to Judah for Israel, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

29 And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, even with the kings of Israel. And Zechariah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 15

Azariah Reigns in Judah

1 ¶ In the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam, king of Israel, Azariah the son of Amaziah, king of Judah, began to reign.

2 He was sixteen years old when he began to reign. And he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.
3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done,
4 except the high places were not removed. The people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.
5 So the LORD struck the king so that he was a leper to the day of his death. And he dwelt in a separate house. And Jotham the king’s son was over the house, judging the people of the land.
6 Now the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
7 So Azariah slept with his fathers. And they buried him with his fathers in the city of David, and Jotham his son reigned in his place.

Zechariah Reigns in Israel
8 ¶ In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah, king of Judah, Zechariah the son of Jeroboam reigned over Israel in Samaria six months.
9 But he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD as his fathers had done. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.
10 And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him. And he struck him before the people and killed him. And he reigned in his place.
11 Now the rest of the acts of Zechariah, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.
12 This was the word of the LORD that He spoke to Jehu, saying, "Your sons will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." And so it came to pass.

Shallum Reigns in Israel
13 ¶ Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah, king of Judah. And he reigned a full month in Samaria.
14 And Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah and came to Samaria. And he struck Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria and killed him. And he reigned in his place.
15 Now the rest of the acts of Shallum and his conspiracy that he made, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.
16 Then from Tirzah, Menahem struck Tiphssah and all who were within it. Because they did not surrender, he struck it and all the women in it who were with child he ripped up.

Menahem Reigns in Israel
17 ¶ In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah, king of Judah, Menahem the son of Gadi began to reign over Israel. And he reigned ten years in Samaria.
18 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.
19 And Pul, the king of Assyria, came against the land. And Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver so that his hand might be with him to establish the kingdom in his hand.
20 And Menahem exacted the money from Israel, even from all the mighty men of wealth, from each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back and did not remain in the land.
21 And the rest of the acts of Menahem and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
22 And Menahem slept with his fathers. And Pekahiah his son reigned in his place.

Pekahiah Reigns in Israel
23 ¶ In the fiftieth year of Azariah, king of Judah, Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria. And he reigned two years.
24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.
25 But Pekah the son of Remaliah, a captain of his, conspired against him. And he struck him in Samaria, in the citadel of the king’s house, with Argob and Arieh, and with him fifty men of the Gileadites. And he killed him and reigned in his place.
26 Now the rest of the acts of Pekahiah and
all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Pekah Reigns in Israel

27 ¶ In the fifty-second year of Azariah, king of Judah, Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria. And he reigned twenty years.

28 But he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

29 In the days of Pekah, king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser, king of Assyria came and took Ijon, and Abelbeth-maachah and Janoah and Kedesh and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.

30 And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah. And he struck him and killed him, and reigned in his place in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.

31 Now the rest of the acts of Pekah and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Jotham Reigns in Judah

32 ¶ In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, Jotham the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, began to reign.

33 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign. And he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerusha, the daughter of Zadok.

34 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD. He did according to all that his father Uzziah had done.

35 However, the high places were not removed. The people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. He built the Higher Gate of the house of the LORD.

36 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham and all that he did, are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah.

37 In those days the LORD began to send against Judah, Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.

38 And Jotham slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father. And Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 16

Ahaz Reigns in Judah

1 ¶ In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah, Ahaz the son of Jotham, king of Judah, began to reign.

2 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign. And he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem and did not do that which was right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.

3 But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and even made his son pass through the fire according to the abominations of the nations that the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.

4 And he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places and on the hills and under every green tree.

5 ¶ Then Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, came up against Jerusalem to wage war. And they besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.

6 At that time Rezin, king of Syria, recovered Elath for Syria. And he drove the Jews from Elath. And the Edomites came to Elath and dwell there to this day.

7 ¶ So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser, king of Assyria, saying, “I am your servant and your son. Come up and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, who rise up against me.”

8 And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasury of the king’s house, and sent it for a present to the king of Assyria.

9 And the king of Assyria hearkened to him, for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus and took it. And he carried its people captive to Kir and killed Rezin.

10 ¶ And King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-pileser, king of Assyria. And King

s Is 7:1 t 1 Ch 5:26 u 1 Kg 15:20 v 2 Kg 17:6 w Hs 10:3,7,15 x 2 Ch 27:1 y 2 Kg 15:3,4 z 2 Kg 15:4 a 2 Ch 23:20; 27:3 b 2 Kg 16:5-9 c 2 Kg 15:28,27 Chapter 16: a Lv 18:21 b Dt 12:31 c 2 Kg 15:34,35 d Dt 12:2 e Is 7:1,4 f 2 Kg 14:22 g 1 Ch 5:26 h 2 Kg 12:17,18 i 2 Kg 14:28 j Am 1:5 k Am 9:7
Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the pattern of the altar, and its model, according to all its workmanship.

11 And Urijah the priest built an altar according to all that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus. So Urijah the priest made it before King Ahaz came from Damascus.

12 And when the king had come from Damascus, the king saw the altar. And the king approached the altar and offered on it.

13 And he burned his burnt offering and his grain offering and poured his drink offering. And he sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings on the altar.

14 And he brought also the bronze altar that was before the LORD, from the front of the house, from between the altar and the house of the LORD. And he put it on the north side of the altar.

15 Then King Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, saying, "On the great altar burn the morning burnt offering and the evening grain offering and the king’s burnt sacrifice and his grain offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their grain offering, and their drink offerings. And sprinkle on it all the blood of the burnt offering and all the blood of the sacrifice. And the bronze altar will be for me to inquire by."

16 Thus Urijah the priest did according to all that King Ahaz commanded.

17 ¶ And King Ahaz cut off the panels of the bases and removed the laver from them. And he took down the sea from off the bronze oxen that were under it and put it on a pavement of stones.

18 And the covered pavilion for the Sabbath that they had built in the house, and the king’s outer entrance, he removed from the house of the LORD because of the king of Assyria.

19 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaz that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

20 And Ahaz slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 17
Hoshea Reigns in Israel

1 ¶ In the twelfth year of Ahaz, king of Judah, aHoshea the son of Elah began to reign in Samaria over Israel, and he reigned nine years.

2 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, but not as the kings of Israel who were before him.

3 bAgainst him came up Shalmaneser, king of Assyria. And Hoshea became his vassal and gave him tribute.

4 And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea, for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt. And he did not bring tribute to the king of Assyria as he had done year after year. Therefore, the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison.

5 ¶ Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land. And he went up to Samaria and besieged it three years.

6 In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria. And he carried Israel away into Assyria and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

Captivity of Israel

7 ¶ For so it was because the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And they had feared other gods,

8 and walked in the statutes of the nations whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel that they had made.

9 And the children of Israel did secretly against the LORD their God those things that were not right. And they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city.

10 ¶ And they set up for themselves images and the Asherah on every high hill and under every green tree.

11 And there they burned incense in all the high places, as did the nations whom the LORD
carried away before them. And they did wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger.

12 For they served idols, concerning "which the LORD had said to them, "You will not do this thing.

13 Yet the LORD testified against Israel and against Judah by all the 4prophets and by 'all the seers, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments and My statutes, according to all the law that I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets."

14 However, they would not hear, but 'stiffened their necks like to the neck of their fathers who 'did not believe in the LORD their God.

15 And they 'rejected His statutes and "His covenant that He made with their fathers, and His testimonies that He testified against them. And they followed 'vanity and 'became vain, and went after the nations that were around them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them that they should 'not do like them.

16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God and 'made for themselves molten images, even two calves. And they bmade an Asherah and worshiped all the 'hosts of heaven and 'served Baal.

17 'And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire. And they 'practiced divination and enchantments, and 'sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.

18 Therefore, the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them out of His sight. There was none left 'but the tribe of Judah.

19 ¶ Also 1Judah did not keep the commandments of the LORD their God, and 'made for themselves molten images, even two calves. And they bmade an Asherah and worshiped all the 'hosts of heaven and 'served Baal.

20 And the LORD rejected all the seed of Israel and afflicted them. And He 'delivered them into the hand of plunderers until He had cast them out of His 'sight.

21 For 'He tore Israel from the house of David, and 'they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king. And Jeroboam drove Israel from following the LORD and made them sin a great sin.

22 For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam that he did. They did not depart from them

23 until the LORD removed Israel out of His sight "as He had said by all His servants the prophets. 'So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

Resettlement of Samaria

24 ¶ And the king of Assyria brought people from Babylon and from Cuthah and from 4Ava and from Hamath and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel. And they possessed Samaria and dwelt in its cities.

25 And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there that they did not fear the LORD. Therefore, the LORD sent lions among them that killed some of them.

26 Therefore, they spoke to the king of Assyria, saying, "The nations that you have removed and placed in the cities of Samaria do not know the custom of the God of the land. Therefore, he has sent lions among them, and behold, they slay them because they do not know the custom of the God of the land."

27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, "Carry there one of the priests whom you brought from there. And let him go and dwell there, and let him teach them the custom of the God of the land."

28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel. And he taught them how they should fear the LORD.

29 ¶ However, every nation made gods of their own and put them in the houses of the high places that the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities in which they dwelt.

30 And the men of 3Babylon made Succothbenoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

31 'and the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites 'burned their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

32 So they feared the LORD and 'made for
themselves priests of the lowest of them for the high places, who sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.

33 They feared the LORD and served their own gods after the customs of the nations whom they carried away from there.

34 To this day they do according to the former customs. They do not fear the LORD, nor do they follow their statutes or their ordinances or the law, and the commandments that the LORD commanded the sons of Jacob, whom He named Israel;

35 with whom the LORD had made a covenant and charged them, saying, “You will not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them.

36 “But the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and an outstretched arm, Him you will fear, and Him you will worship, and to Him you will sacrifice.

37 “And the statutes and the ordinances and the law and the commandment that He wrote for you, you will observe to do forever. And you will not fear other gods.

38 “And the covenant that I have made with you, you will not forget. Neither will you fear other gods.

39 “But you will fear the LORD your God. And He will deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.”

40 However, they did not hearken, but they did according their former custom.

41 So these nations feared the LORD yet served their graven images, both their children and their children’s children. As did their fathers, so do they to this day.

Chapter 18
Hezekiah Reigns in Judah

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the third year of aHoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, that bHezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign.

2 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign. And he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name also was Abi, the daughter of Zechariah.

3 Now he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.

4 ¶ He removed the high places and broke the images and cut down the Asherah. And he broke in pieces the ‘bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the children of Israel burned incense to it. And it was called Nehushtan.

5 He trusted in the LORD God of Israel, so that after him there was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any who were before him.

6 For he clung to the LORD and did not depart from following Him. But he kept His commandments that the LORD commanded Moses.

7 So the LORD was with him. And he prospered wherever he went. And he rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him.

8 He defeated the Philistines, even to Gaza and its borders, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city.

9 ¶ Now it came to pass in the fourth year of King Hezekiah, that was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, that Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.

10 And at the end of three years they took it, in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is the ninth year of Hoshea, king of Israel, Samaria was taken.

11 ¶ And the king of Assyria carried away Israel to Assyria and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes,

12 because they did not obey the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed His covenant and all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, for they would not hear them nor do them.

13 ¶ Now in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.
14 Then Hezekiah, king of Judah, sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, “I have offended. Return from me. That which you demand of me I will bear.” And the king of Assyria appointed to Hezekiah, king of Judah, three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

15 And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasury of the king’s house.

16 At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD and from the pillars that Hezekiah, king of Judah, had overlaid. And he gave it to the king of Assyria.

Threat of Sennacherib

17 ¶ Then the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rabshakeh from Lachish to King Hezekiah with a great army against Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they had come up, they came and stood by the aqueduct of the upper pool, that is in the highway of the fuller’s field.

18 And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder.

19 Then Rabshakeh said to them, “Speak now to Hezekiah, ‘Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria, “What confidence is this in which you trust?

20 You say, (but they are only empty words), ‘I have counsel and strength for the war.’ Now on whom do you trust, that you have rebelled against me?’

21 ‘Now, behold, you rely on the staff of this bruised reed, even on Egypt, on which if a man leans, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh, king of Egypt, to all who trust in him.

22 ‘But if you say to me, ‘We trust in the LORD our God,’ is not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and Jerusalem, “You will worship before this altar in Jerusalem”?

23 “Now therefore, please give pledges to my lord the king of Assyria and I will give you 2,000 horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them.

24 “How then will you turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master’s servants and put your trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

25 “Have I now come up without the LORD’S approval against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, ‘Go up against this land and destroy it.’”

26 ¶ Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah and Shebna and Joah, said to Rabshakeh, “Please speak to your servants in the Aramaic, for we understand it. And do not talk with us in the Jews’ language in the ears of the people who are on the wall.”

27 But Rabshakeh said to them, “Has my master sent me to your master and to you, to speak these words? Has he not sent me to the men who sit on the wall so that they may eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?”

28 Then Rabshakeh stood and cried out with a loud voice in the Jews’ language. And he spoke, saying, “Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria.

29 “Thus says the king, ‘Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you out of his hand.

30 ‘Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, “The LORD will surely deliver us and this city will not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.”

31 ‘Do not hearken to Hezekiah when he persuades you, saying, “The LORD will deliver us.”

32 ‘Has any of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?"
34 ‘Where are the gods of Hamath and of Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena and Ivah? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?
35 ‘Who are they among all the gods of the countries who have delivered their country out of my hand, ‘that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?’”
36 ¶ But the people held their peace and did not answer him a word, for the king’s commandment was, “Do not answer.”
37 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn. And they told him the words of Rabshakeh.

Chapter 19
Deliverance of Jerusalem
1 ¶ Now it came to pass when King Hezekiah heard it that he tore his clothes. And he covered himself with sackcloth and went into the house of the LORD.
2 Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.
3 And they said to him, “Thus says Hezekiah, ‘This day is a day of trouble and of rebuke and blasphemy, for the children have come to birth and there is no strength to bring forth.
4 ‘It may be the LORD your God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria, his master, has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard. Therefore, lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’”
5 ¶ So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.
6 And Isaiah said to them, “Thus will you say to your master, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Do not be afraid of the words you have heard with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.
7 ‘Behold, I will send a spirit in him and he will hear a rumor. And he will return to his own land, and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.”’
8 ¶ So Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he had heard that he had departed from Lachish.
9 And when he heard what they said of Tirhakah, king of Ethiopia, “Behold, he has come out to fight against you,” he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying,
10 “Thus you will speak to Hezekiah, king of Judah, ‘Do not let your God in whom you are trusting deceive you, saying, “Jerusalem will not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.”
11 ‘Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by utterly destroying them. So will you be delivered?
12 Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, as Gozan and Haran and Rezeph and the children of Eden who were in Thelasar?
13 Where is the king of Hamath and the king of Arpad and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena and Ivah?’”

Prayer of Hezekiah
14 ¶ Then Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it. And Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD and spread it before the LORD.
15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said, “O LORD our God, I beseech You, save us out of his hand so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You have made heaven and earth.
16 “LORD, bow down Your ear and hear. Open, LORD, Your eyes and see. Hear the words of Sennacherib that he has sent to reproach the living God.
17 “Of a truth, LORD our God, I beseech You, save us out of his hand so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You have made heaven and earth.
18 “And they have cast their gods into the fire, for they were not gods, but the work of men’s hands, wood and stone. Therefore, they have destroyed them.
19 “Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech You, save us out of his hand so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You

2 Kg 19:13 h 2 Kg 17:24 i Dn 3:15 j Is 33:7 Chapter 19: a Is 37:1 b Ps 69:11 c 2 Sm 16:12 d 2 Kg 18:35 e Ps 50:21 f Is 37:6 g Ps 112:7 h 2 Kg 18:17 i 2 Kg 19:35-37 j 2 Kg 18:14,17 k 1 Sm 23:27 l 2 Kg 18:5 m 2 Kg 18:33,34 n Ez 27:23 o 2 Kg 18:34 p Is 37:14 q Ex 25:22 r Is 44:6 s Ps 31:2 t 2 Ch 6:40 u 2 Kg 19:4 v Jr 10:3-5 w At 17:29 x Ps 83:18 y 1 Kg 8:42,43
are the LORD God, even You only.”

Prophecy of Sennacherib’s Demise

Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, “Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib, king of Assyria, ‘I have heard.’

This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him: ‘The virgin, the daughter of Zion, has despised you. She has laughed you to scorn. The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head at you.

¶ ‘Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? And against whom have you exalted your voice and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel!

¶ ‘By your messengers you have reproached the Lord and have said, “With the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down its tall cedar trees, and its choice fir trees. And I will enter into his farthest lodging-place, the forest of his fruitful field.

¶ ‘I have dug and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet I have dried up all the rivers of besieged places.”

¶ ‘Have you not heard long ago how I have done it, and of ancient times that I have formed it? Now I have brought it to pass so that you should lay waste fortified cities into ruinous heaps.

¶ ‘Therefore, their inhabitants were of small power. They were dismayed and confounded. They were as the grass of the field and as the green herb, as the grass on the house tops, and as grain scorched before it is grown up.

¶ ‘But I know your dwelling place and your going out and your coming in and your rage against Me.

¶ ‘Because of your rage against Me, and your tumult has come up into My ears, therefore, I will put My hook in your nose and My bridle in your lips. And I will turn you back by the way by which you came.

¶ ‘And this will be a sign to you. You will eat this year the things that grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springs from the same. And in the third year, sow and reap, and plant vineyards and eat their fruits.

And the remnant that has escaped from the house of Judah will yet again take root downward and bear fruit upward.

¶ ‘For out of Jerusalem will go forth a remnant, and they who escape out of Mount Zion.

¶ ‘The zeal of the LORD will do this.

¶ ‘Therefore, thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, “He will not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it.

¶ ‘By the way that he came, by the same he will return. And he will not come into this city,’” says the LORD.

¶ ‘For I will defend this city, to save it for My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’”

¶ Now “it came to pass that night that the angel of the LORD went out and killed 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead bodies.

So Sennacherib, king of Assyria, departed and went. And he returned and dwelt at Nineveh.

Now it came to pass as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god that Adrammelech and Sharezer, his sons, struck him with the sword. Then they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 20

Sickness of Hezekiah

¶ In those days Hezekiah was sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Set your house in order for you will die and not live.’”

¶ Then he turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, saying,

¶ “I beseech You, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before You in truth and with a whole heart. And I have done that which is
good in Your sight.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

4 Now it came to pass before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

5 “Turn again and tell Hezekiah cthe captain of My people, ‘Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father, “I have heard your prayer. I have seen your tears. Behold, I will heal you. On the third day you will go up to the house of the LORD.

6 “And I will add to your days fifteen years. And I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria. And fI will defend this city for My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’”

7 And gIsaiah said, “Take a cake of figs.” And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

8 ¶ And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, h“What will be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I will go up into the house of the LORD the third day?”

9 And Isaiah said, i“This sign you will have from the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that He has spoken: will the shadow go forward ten steps or go back ten steps?”

10 Then Hezekiah answered, “It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten steps. No, but let the shadow turn backward ten steps.”

11 And Isaiah the prophet cried to the LORD. And jHe brought the shadow ten steps backward by which it had gone down in the sundial of Ahaz.

Emissaries from Babylon

12 ¶ kAt that time Berodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

13 And lHezekiah hearkened to them and showed them all his treasure house, the silver and the gold and the spices and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasury. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.

14 ¶ Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and said to him, “What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?” And Hezekiah said, “They have come from a far country, even from Babylon.”

15 Then he said, “What have they seen in your house?” And Hezekiah answered, m“They have seen all the things that are in my house. There is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them.”

16 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the LORD.

17 ‘Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house and that which your fathers have laid up in store to this day will be carried into Babylon. Nothing will be left,’ says the LORD.

18 ‘And of your sons who will issue from you, whom you will beget, othey will be qeunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’”

19 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, r“Good is the word of the LORD that you have spoken.” And he said, s“Is it not good if peace and truth be in my days?”

20 ¶ tAnd the rest of the acts of Hezekiah and all his might and how he made a pool and ua tunnel and vbrought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

21 Then uHezekiah slept with his fathers. And Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 21

Manasseh Reigns in Judah

1 ¶ Manasseh was twenty-two years old when he began to reign. And he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Hephzibah.

2 Now he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD after the abominations of the nations whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

3 For he built again the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed. And he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as did Ahab, king of Israel. And he worshiped all the hosts of heaven and served them.
4 And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD said, “In Jerusalem I will put My name.”
5 And he built altars for all the hosts of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD.
6 And he made his son pass through the fire. And he practiced witchcraft and used enchantments, and dealt with mediums and spiritists. He worked much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.
7 And he set a graven image of Asherah that he had made in the house of which the LORD said to David and to Solomon his son, “In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever.
8 Neither will I cause the feet of Israel to move anymore out of the land that I gave their fathers, only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them.”
9 But they did not hearken. And Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.
10 And the LORD spoke by His servants the prophets, saying,
11 “Because Manasseh, king of Judah, has done these abominations and has done wickedly above all that the Amorites did who were before him, and has made Judah sin with his idols,
12 “therefore, thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Behold, I am bringing calamity on Jerusalem and Judah, so that whoever hears of it, both his ears will tingle.
13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab. And I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipes a dish, wiping and turning it upside down.
14 And I will forsake the remnant of my inheritance and deliver them into the hand of their enemies. And they will become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies,
15 because they have done that which was evil in My sight and have provoked Me to anger since the day their fathers came out of Egypt, even to this day.”
16 Moreover, Manasseh shed much innocent blood until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to the other, besides his sin by which he made Judah sin in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.
17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
18 And Manasseh slept with his fathers and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza. And Amon his son reigned in his place.

Amon Reigns in Judah

19 Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Meshul-lemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.
20 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did his father Manasseh.
21 And he walked in all the ways in which his father walked. And he served the idols that his father served and worshiped them.
22 And he forsook the LORD God of his fathers and did not walk in the way of the LORD.
23 And the servants of Amon conspired against him and killed the king in his own house.
24 And the people of the land killed all those who had conspired against King Amon. Then the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.
25 Now the rest of the acts of Amon that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
26 And he was buried in his tomb in the garden of Uzza. And Josiah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 22
Discovery of God’s Book

1 Josiah was eight years old when he began...
to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD. And he walked in all the ways of David his father and did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

3 ¶ Now it came to pass in the eighteenth year of King Josiah that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying,

4 “Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest so that he may count the silver that is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered from the people.

5 “And let them deliver it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD. And let them give it to the workmen who are in the house of the LORD, to repair the damages of the house,

6 ‘to carpenters and builders and masons, and to buy timber and cut stone to repair the house.

7 “However, there was no accounting made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand because they dealt faithfully.”

8 ¶ Then Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, “I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.” And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan and he read it.

9 Then Shaphan the scribe came to the king and brought the king word again and said, “Your servants have gathered the money that was found in the house and have delivered it into the hand of those who do the work, who have the oversight over the house of the LORD.”

10 And Shaphan the scribe showed the king, saying, “Hilkiah the priest has delivered me a book.” And Shaphan read it before the king.

11 Now it came to pass when the king had heard the words of the book of the law that he tore his clothes.

12 And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah and Shaphan the scribe and Asahiah the king’s servant, saying,

13 “Go. Inquire of the LORD for me and for the people and for all Judah concerning the words of this book that is found, for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us because our fathers have not hearkened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.”

14 ¶ So Hilkiah the priest and Ahikam and Achbor and Shaphan and Asahiah, went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe. (Now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second quarter.) And they communed with her.

15 Then she said to them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Tell the man who sent you to me,”

16 “thus says the LORD, “Behold, I will bring calamity on this place and on its inhabitants, even all the words of the book that the king of Judah has read.

17 “Because they have forsaken Me and have burned incense to other gods so that they might provoke Me to anger with all the works of their hands, therefore My wrath will be kindled against this place and will not be quenched.””

18 “But to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus you will say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel, “Concerning the words that you have heard,”

19 “because your heart was tender and you have humbled yourself before the LORD when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and have torn your clothes and wept before Me, I also have heard you, says the LORD.

20 “Behold therefore, I will gather you to your fathers and you will be gathered into your grave in peace. And your eyes will not see all the calamity that I will bring on this place.”’” And they brought the king word again.

Chapter 23
Restoration of Josiah

1 ¶ Then the king sent and they gathered to
him all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

2 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests and the prophets and all the people, both small and great. And he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the LORD.

3 ¶ Then the king stood by a pillar and made a covenant before the LORD to walk after the LORD, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people committed to the covenant.

4 Then the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the Asherah, and for all the hosts of heaven. And he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron. Then he carried their ashes to Bethel.

5 Then he put down the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense on the high places in the cities of Judah and in the places around Jerusalem, those also who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and to the moon and to the planets, and to all the hosts of heaven.

6 Then he brought out the Asherah from the house of the LORD outside Jerusalem, to the Brook Kidron. And he burned it at the Brook Kidron. And he filled their places with the bones of men.

7 ¶ Then he broke down the houses of the sodomites that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove curtains for the Asherah.

8 Then he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba. And he broke down the high places of the gates that were in the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city that were on one’s left at the city gate.

9 Nevertheless, the priests of the high places did not come up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they ate unleavened bread among their brothers.

10 Then he defiled Topheth that is in the valley of the children of Hinnom so that no man might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire to Molech.

11 Then he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entrance of the house of the LORD by the chamber of Nathan-melech the assistant that was in the court. And he burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

12 And the altars that were on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, that the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, the king broke down. And he smashed them and cast their dust into the Brook Kidron.

13 And the high places that were east of Jerusalem, that were on the south of the mountain of corruption that Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, the king defiled.

14 Then he broke in pieces the images and cut down the Asherah. And he filled their places with the bones of men.

15 ¶ Furthermore, the altar that was at Bethel and the high place that Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he broke down. And he burned the high place and beat it to powder and burned the Asherah.

16 And as Josiah turned himself, he saw the tombs that were there in the mountain. And he sent and took the bones out of the tombs and burned them on the altar. And he defiled it according to the “word of the LORD that the man of God proclaimed who proclaimed these words.

17 Then he said, “What is this monument that I see?” And the men of the city told him, “It is the tomb of the man of God who came from...
Judah and proclaimed these things that you have done against the altar of Bethel.”

18 Then he said, “Let him alone. Let no man move his bones.” So they left his bones alone, with the bones of the ‘prophet that came out of Samaria.

19 And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria that the kings of Israel had made to provoke the LORD to anger, Josiah took away. And he did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.

20 And he killed all the priests of the high places who were there on the altars. And he burned men’s bones on them. Then he returned to Jerusalem.

21 ¶ Then the king commanded all the people, saying, “Keep the Passover to the LORD your God as it is written in the book of this covenant.”

22 Surely such a Passover had not been celebrated from the days of the judges who judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah.

23 But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was observed to the LORD in Jerusalem.

24 Moreover, the mediums with familiar spirits and the wizards, and the images and the idols, and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, Josiah put away so that he might perform the words of the law that were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

25 Before him there was no king like him who turned to the LORD with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses. Neither after him arose there any like him.

26 ¶ However, the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of His great wrath with which His anger was kindled against Judah because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked Him.

27 And the LORD said, “I will remove Judah also out of My sight as I have removed Israel. And I will cast off this city Jerusalem that I have chosen and the house of which I said, ‘My name will be there.’”

28 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

29 ¶ In his days Pharaoh Neco, king of Egypt, went up against the king of Assyria to the River Euphrates. And King Josiah went against him. And when Pharaoh Neco saw him he killed him at Megiddo when he confronted him.

30 ¶ Then his servants carried him dead in a chariot from Megiddo. And they brought him to Jerusalem and buried him in his own tomb. And the people of the land took Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, and anointed him and made him king in his father’s place.

31 ¶ Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign. And he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

32 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

33 And Pharaoh Neco put him in bonds at Riblah in the land of Hamath so that he might not reign in Jerusalem. And he subjected the land to tribute for a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.

34 Then Pharaoh Neco made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the place of Josiah his father. And he changed his name to Jehoiakim and took Jehoahaz away. ¶ And he came to Egypt and died there.

35 ¶ Then Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh. But he taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh. He exacted the silver and the gold from the people of the land, from everyone according to his taxation, in order to give it to Pharaoh Neco.

36 ¶ Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old...
when he began to reign. And he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

37 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

Chapter 24

1 ¶ In his days Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came up and Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years. Then he turned and rebelled against him.

2 ¶ Then the LORD sent against him raiding parties of the Chaldeans and of the Syrians and of the Moabites and of the children of Ammon. And He sent them against Judah to destroy it according to the word of the LORD that He spoke by His servants the prophets.

3 Surely at the command of the LORD it came upon Judah to remove her out of His sight because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done,

4 and also for the innocent blood that he shed, for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood that the LORD would not pardon.

5 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

6 ¶ So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place.

7 And the king of Egypt did not come again out of his land, for the king of Babylon had taken from the River of Egypt to the River Euphrates all that pertained to the king of Egypt.

Jehoiachin Reigns in Judah

8 ¶ Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother’s name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father had done.

10 ¶ At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came up against Jerusalem and the city was besieged.

11 And Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came against the city and his servants besieged it.

12 ¶ Jehoiachin, the king of Judah, went out to the king of Babylon, he and his mother and his servants and his princes and his officers. And the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.

13 ¶ ¶ And he carried out from there all the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king’s house. And he cut in pieces all the vessels of gold that Solomon, king of Israel, had made in the temple of the LORD, as the LORD had said.

14 And he carried away all Jerusalem and all the princes and all the mighty men of valor, even 10,000 captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths. No one remained except the poorest of the people of the land.

15 ¶ And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon, and the king’s mother and the king’s wives and his officers and the mighty of the land, he carried them into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

16 ¶ And all the men of might, even 7,000, and a thousand craftsmen and smiths, all who were strong and fit for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

17 And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father’s brother king in his place. And he changed his name to Zedekiah.

Zedekiah Reigns in Judah

18 ¶ Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

19 ¶ And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

20 For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from his presence, ‘that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

Chapter 25

The Fall of Jerusalem
1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem. And they built forts against it all around.

2 And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.

3 And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city and there was no bread for the people of the land.

4 ¶ Then the city was broken up and all the men of war fled by night. And the gate between two walls that is by the king’s garden, though the Chaldeans were all around the city. And the king went the way toward the plain.

5 And the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king and overtook him in the plains of Jericho. And all his army were scattered from him.

6 So they took the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah. And they gave judgment upon him.

7 Then they killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes and put out the eyes of Zedekiah. And they bound him with fetters of bronze and carried him to Babylon.

8 ¶ Then in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, that is the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.

9 And he burned the house of the LORD and all the houses of Jerusalem, and he burned with fire every great house.

10 And all the array of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem.

11 ¶ Now the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives who fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away.

12 But the captain of the guard left some of the poor of the land to be vine dressers and farmers.

13 ¶ And the pillars of bronze that were in the house of the LORD, and the bases and the bronze sea that was in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces and carried the bronze to Babylon.

14 And the pots and the shovels and the snuff bowls and the spoons, and all the vessels of bronze with which they ministered, they took away.

15 And the fire pans and the bowls things that were of gold, in gold and of silver, in silver, the captain of the guard took away.

16 The two pillars, one sea, and the bases that Solomon had made for the house of the LORD, the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weight.

17 The height of one pillar was eighteen cubits and the capital on it was bronze. And the height of the capital was three cubits, with network and pomegranates on the capital all around, all of bronze. And the second pillar was like these with network.

18 ¶ And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door.

19 From the city he took an officer who was set over the men of war, and five men of those who were in the king’s presence, who were found in the city, and the principal scribe of the army who mustered the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the city.

20 And Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, took these and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah.

21 And the king of Babylon struck them. And he killed them at Riblah in the land of Hamath.

22 ¶ And as for the people who remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had left, even over them he made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, ruler.

23 And when all the captains of the armies, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, there came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Careah.
and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

24 And Gedaliah swore to them and to their men. And he said to them, “Do not fear to be the servants of the Chaldeans. Dwell in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will be well with you.”

25 ¶ But it came to pass in the seventh month that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the royal seed, came with ten men and struck Gedaliah so that he died, as well as the Jews and the Chaldeans that were with him at Mizpah.

26 Then all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the armies, arose and came to Egypt, for they were afraid of the Chaldeans.

1 Chronicles 1

Chapter 1

Sons of Adam

1 ¶ aAdam, bSheth, Enosh,
2 Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jered,
3 Hanoch, Methuselah, Lamech,
4 cNoah, Shem, Ham and Japheth.

Sons of Japheth

5 ¶ dThe sons of Japheth were Gomer and Magog and Madai and Javan and Tubal and Meshech and Tiras.
6 And the sons of Gomer were Ashchenaz and Riphas and Togarmah.
7 And the sons of Javan were Elishah and Tarshish Kittim and Dodanim.

Sons of Ham

8 ¶ eThe sons of Ham were Cush and Mizraim, Put and Canaan.
9 And the sons of Cush were Seba and Havilah and Sabta and Raamah and Sabtecha. And the sons of Raamah were Sheba and Dedan.
10 And Cush begot Nimrod. He began to be mighty on the earth.
11 And Mizraim begot Ludim and Anamim and Lehabin and Naphtuhim
12 and Pathrusim and Casluhim (of whom came the Philistines), and eCaphthorim.
13 And fCanaan begot Sidon, his firstborn, and Heth
14 and the Jebusite also, and the Amorite and the Girgashite,
15 and the Hivite and the Arkite and the Sinite
16 and the Arvadite and the Zemarite and the Hamathite.

Sons of Shem

17 ¶ The sons of Shem were Elam and Asshur and Arphaxad and Lud and Aram and Uz and Hul and Gether and Meshech.
18 And Arphaxad begot Shelah and Shelah begot Eber.
19 And to Eber were born two sons. The name of the one was Peleg because in his days the earth was divided. And his brother’s name was Joktan.
20 And gJoktan begot Almodad and Sheleph and Hazarmaveth and Jerah,
21 Hadoram also and Uzal and Diklah
22 and Ebal and Abimael and Sheba
23 and Ophir and Havilah and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan:
24 hShem, Arphaxad, Shelah,
25 iEber, Peleg, Reu,

Jehoiachin Released from Prison

27 ¶ hNow it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin, king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, that Evil-merodach, king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign ireleased Jehoiachin, king of Judah, out of prison.

28 And he spoke kindly to him and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon.

29 And he changed his prison garments. And he ate bread continually before him all the days of his life.

30 And his allowance was a continual allowance given him by the king, a daily ration for every day, all the days of his life.
26 Serug, Nahor, Terah,  
27 † Abram, the same is Abraham.  

Sons of Abraham  
28 ¶ o The sons of Abraham were p Isaac and q Ishmael.  
29 These are their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth, then Kedar and Adbeel and Mibsam,  
30 Mishma and Dumah, Massa, Hadad and Tema,  
31 Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael.  
32 Now the sons of Keturah, Abraham’s concubine were Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan were Sheba and Dedan.  
33 And the sons of Midian were Ephah and Epher and Henoch and Abida and Eldaah. All these are the sons of Keturah.  
34 And † Abraham begot Isaac. The sons of Isaac were Esau and Israel.  

Sons of Esau  
35 ¶ The sons of † Esau were Eliphaz, Reuel and Jeush and Jaalam and Korah.  
36 The sons of Eliphaz were Teman and Omar, Zephi and Gatam, Kenaz and † Timna and Amalek.  
37 The sons of Reuel were Nahas, Zerah, Shammah and Mizzah.  

Sons of Seir  
38 ¶ And the sons of Seir were Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah and Dishon and Ezar and Dishan.  
39 And the sons of Lotan were Horih and Homam. And Timna was Lotan’s sister.  
40 The sons of Shobal were Aliah and Manahas and Ebal, Shephi and Onam. And the sons of Zibeon were Aiah and Anah.  
41 The son of Anah was Dishon. And the sons of † Dishon were Amram and Eshban and Ithran and Cheran.  
42 The sons of Ezer were Bilhan and Zavan and Jaakan. The sons of Dishon were Uz and Aran.  

Kings of Edom  
43 ¶ Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the children of Israel: Bela the son of Beor. And the name of his city was Dinhabah.  
44 And when Bela was dead, Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his place.  
45 And when Jobab was dead, Husham, of the land of the Temanites, reigned in his place.  
46 And when Husham was dead, Hadad the son of Bedad, who struck Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Avith.  
47 And when Hadad was dead, Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place.  
48 † And when Samlah was dead, Saul of Rehoboth by the river, reigned in his place.  
49 And when Saul was dead, Baalhanan the son of Achbor reigned in his place.  
50 And when Baalhanan was dead, Hadad reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Pai. And his wife’s name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab.  
51 Hadad died also. And the chiefs of Edom were chief Timnah, chief Aliah, chief Jetheth, chief Aholibamah, chief Elah, chief Pinon, chief Kenaz, chief Teman, chief Mibzar, chief Magdiel, and chief Iram. These were the chiefs of Edom.  

Chapter 2  
Sons of Israel  
1 ¶ These were the sons of Israel: † Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah, Issachar and Zebulun,  
2 Dan, Joseph and Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad and Asher.  
3 ¶ The sons of Judah were Er and Onan and Shelah. These three were born to him of the daughter of † Shua the Canaanitess. And † Er, the firstborn of Judah, was evil in the sight of the LORD. And He slew him.  
4 And † Tamar his daughter-in-law † bore him Perez and Zerah. All the sons of Judah were five.  
5 The sons of † Perez were Hezron and Hamul.
6 And the sons of Zerah were Zimri and Ethan and Heman and Calcol and Dara, five of them in all.
7 And the son of Carmi were Achar, the troubler of Israel who transgressed in the consecrated thing.
8 And the son of Ethan was Azariah.
9 ¶ The sons also of Hezron who were born to him were Jerahmeel and Ram and Chelubai.
10 And Ram begot Amminadab, and Amminadab begot Nahshon, prince of the children of Judah.
11 And Nahshon begot Salma, and Salma bore Amminadab, and Amminadab begot Nahshon, prince of the children of Judah.
12 And Salma begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed, and Obed begot Jesse.
13 And Jesse begot his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third, Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, Ozem the sixth and David the seventh.
14 Their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruiah were Abishai and Joab and Asahel, three.
15 And Abigail bore Amasa. And the father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmaelite.
16 And Caleb the son of Hezron begot children of Azubah his wife, and of Jerioth. Her sons are these: Jesher and Shobab and Ardon.
17 And Azubah was dead, and Caleb took Ephrath who bore him Hur.
18 And Hur begot Uri, and Uri begot Bezaleel.
19 ¶ And afterward Hezron went in to the daughter of Machir the father of Gilead, whom he married, when he was sixty years old. And she bore him Segub.
20 And Segub begot Jair, who had twenty-three cities in the land of Gilead.
21 ¶ And he took from them Geshur and Syria, with the towns of Jair, with Kenath and its towns, even sixty cities. All these belonged to the sons of Machir the father of Gilead.
22 And after the death of Hezron in Calebephratah, Abiah Hezron’s wife bore him Ashur the father of Tekoa.
23 ¶ And the sons of Jerahmeel, the firstborn of Hezron, were Ram the firstborn, and Bunah and Oren and Ozem and Ahijah.
24 Jerahmeel had also another wife whose name was Atarah. She was the mother of Onam.
25 ¶ Now the sons of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel were Meshach, his firstborn, who was the father of Ziph, and the sons of Mareshah the father of Hebron.
26 And the sons of Ram the firstborn of Jerahmeel were Maaz and Jamin and Eker.
27 And the sons of Onam were Shammi and Jada. And the sons of Shammi were Nadab and Abishur.
28 And the name of the wife of Abishur was Abihail. And she bore him Ahban and Molid.
29 And the sons of Judah were Er, the firstborn, and Onam the second, and Shelah the third, Eglon, and Joshua and Zelophehad, and Shimei, and Shemiramath, and Shobab, and Reek, and Abinadab, and Tencal, and Helon.
30 And the sons of Gad were Ziphion, and Gaal, and Shipión and Baal, and Maacah, and Bethencan, and Ela, and NZon, and Bani, and Sh)$_{2}$aanan.
31 And the sons of Asher were Imnah and Ishpa and Ishvi and Beriah, and the sons of Beriah were Heber and Malchiel, and the sons of Heber were Zeruiah and Jabez.
32 And the sons of Naphtali were Jahziel and Guni, and Gezer and Shilim, and Shemidah, and Elishopheth, and Jersam and Easel, and Shelemiah and Hotham, and Zebul.
33 And the sons of Levi were Gershon and Kohath and Merari.
34 And the sons of Judah were Er the firstborn, and Onam, and Shelah, and Eglon, and Joshua, and Zelophehad, and Shimei, and Shemiramoth, and Shobab, and Reek, and Abinadab, and Tencal, and Helon.
35 And the sons of Gad were Ziphion, and Gaal, and Shipión and Baal, and Maacah, and Bethencan, and Ela, and NZon, and Bani, and Sh$_{2}$aanan.
36 And the sons of Joseph were Manasseh and Ephraim.
37 And the sons of Ephraim were Shuthan and Eron and Abdon and Ezer and Jishue.
38 And the sons of Manasseh were Peron and Gera, and Asher and Bromah, and Gedan and Abdon, and Idan and Ithran.
39 And the sons of Issachar were Tola and Puah and Dekar and Tsael, and Jaoth and Malchiel and Hizki.
40 And the sons of Zebulun were Serah and Prisca and Tola and Zikhron, and Shemuel and Ishuvah, and Yerah and Azriel, and Sheelah, and Ilai.
41 And the sons of Naphtali were Jozai and Shaphan and Jakin and Zohar and Jau and Zelah and Zilpah.
42 ¶ Now the sons of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel were Meshach, his firstborn, who was the father of Ziph, and the sons of Mareshah the father of Hebron.
43 And the sons of Hebron were Korah and Tappuah and Rekem and Shema.
44 And Shema begot Raham, the father of Jorkoam. And Rekem begot Shammai.
45 And the son of Shamni was Maon. And Maon was the father of Bethzur.
46 And Ephah, Caleb’s concubine, bore Haran and Moza and Gazez. And Haran begot Gazez.
47 And the sons of Jahdai were Regem and Jotham and Gesham and Pelet and Ephah and Shaaph.
48 Maachah, Caleb’s concubine, bore Sheber and Tirhanah.
49 She bore also Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Machbenah, and the father of Gibe. And the daughter of Caleb was Achsa.

50 ¶ These were the sons of Caleb the son of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah: Shobal the father of Kirjath Jearim,
51 Salma the father of Bethlehem, Hareph the father of Bethgader.
52 And Shobal the father of Kirjath Jearim had sons: Haroeh, and half of the Manahethites,
53 and the families of Kirjath Jearim were the Ithrites and the Puhites and the Shumathites and the Mishraites. From these came the Zareathites and the Eshtaulites.
54 The sons of Salma: Bethlehem and the Netophasites, Ataroth, the house of Joab, and half of the Manahethites, the Zorites.
55 And the families of the scribes who dwelt at Jabez were the Tirathites, the Shimeathites and Suchasites. These are the Kenites who came from Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab.

Chapter 3

Sons of David

1 ¶ Now these were the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: the firstborn, Amnon of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; the second, Daniel of Abigail the Carmelitess;
2 the third, Absalom the son of Maachah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith;
3 the fifth, Shephatiah of Abital; the sixth, Ithream by Eglah his wife.
4 These six were born to him in Hebron. And there he reigned seven years and six months. And in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years.
5 And these were born to him in Jerusalem: Shimea and Shobab and Nathan and Solomon, four of Bathshua the daughter of Ammiel;
6 Ibhar also and Elishama and Eliphelet
7 and Nogah and Nepheg and Japhia
8 and Elisama and Eliada and Eliphelet, nine.
9 These were all the sons of David, besides the sons of the concubines and Tamar their sister.

Kings of Judah

10 ¶ And Solomon’s son was Rehoboam, Abia his son, Asa his son, Jehoshaphat his son,
11 Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, Joash his son,
12 Amaziah his son, Azariah his son, Jotham his son,
13 Ahaz his son, Hezekiah his son, Manasseh his son,
14 Amon his son, Josiah his son.
15 And the sons of Josiah were Johanan, the firstborn, the second Jehoiakim, the third, Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum.
16 And the sons of Jehoiakim were Jeconiah his son and Zedekiah his son.

Royalty After the Exile

17 ¶ And the sons of Jeconiah were Assir, Salathiel his son,
18 Malchiram also and Pedaiah and Shenazar, Jecamiah, Hoshama and Nedabiah.
19 And the sons of Pedaiah were Zerubbabel and Shimei. And the sons of Zerubbabel were Meshullam and Hananiah, and Shelomith their sister;
20 and Hashubah and Ohel and Berechiah and Hasadiah, Jushabhesed, five.
21 And the sons of Hananiah were Pelatiah and Jesaiah, the sons of Rephaiah, the sons of Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, the sons of Shechaniah.
22 The son of Shecaniah was Shemaiah, and the sons of Shemaiah were Hattush, Igal, Bariah, Neariah and Shaphat, six.
23 And the sons of Neriah were Elioenai and Hezekiah and Azrikam, three.
24 And the sons of Elioenai were Hodaiah and Eliashib and Pelaiah and Akkub and Johanan and Dalaiah and Anani, seven.
Chapter 4

Sons of Judah

1 ¶ The sons of Judah were Perez, Hezron and Carmi and Hur and Shobal.
2 And Reaiah the son of Shobal begot Jahas, and Jahas begot Ahumai and Lahad. These are the families of the Zorathites.
3 And these were the sons of the father of Etam: Jezreel and Ishma and Idbash. And the name of their sister was Hazellepioni.
4 And Penuel was the father of Gedor, and Ezer the father of Hushah. These were the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah, the father of Bethlehem.
5 And Ashur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah.
6 And Naarah bore him Ahuzam and Hepher and Temeni and Haahashtari. These were the sons of Naarah.
7 And the sons of Helah were Zereth and Jezoar and Ethnan.
8 And Coz begot Anub and Zobebah, and the families of Aharhel the son of Harum.
9 ¶ And Jabez was more honorable than his brethren. And his mother called his name Jabez, saying, “Because I bore him with sorrow.”
10 And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my borders, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from evil so that it may not grieve me!” And God granted him what he requested.
11 ¶ And Chelub the brother of Shuah begot Methir who was the father of Eshton.
12 And Eshton begot Bethrapha and Paseah and Tehinnah, the father of Irnahash. These were the men of Rechah.
13 And the sons of Kenaz were Othniel and Seraiah. And the son of Othniel was Hasath
14 and Meonothaeg begot Ophrah. And Seraiah begot Joab, the father of the Ge Harashim, for they were craftsmen.
15 And the sons of Caleb the son of Jephunneh were Iru, Elah and Naam, and the son of Elah was Kenaz.
16 And the sons of Jehallelel were Ziph and Ziphah, Tiria and Asareel.
17 And the sons of Ezra were Jether and Mered and Ephra and Jalon. And she bore Miriam and Shammai and Ishbah, the father of Eshtemoa.
18 And his wife Jehudijah bore Jered the father of Gedor, and Heber the father of Socho, and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah. And these are the sons of Bithiah the daughter of Pharaoh whom Mered took.
19 And the sons of his wife Hodiah the sister of Naham, the father of Keilah the Garmite, and Eshtemoa the Maachasite.
20 And the sons of Shimon were Amnon and Rinnah, Benhanan and Tilon. And the sons of Ishi were Zoheth and Benzoeth.
21 The sons of Shelah the son of Judah were Er the father of Lecah, and Laadah the father of Mareshah, and the families of the house of those who worked fine linen of the house of Ashbea,
22 and Jokim, and the men of Chozeba and Joash and Saraph, who had the dominion in Moab, and Jashubilehem. And these were ancient things.
23 These were the potters and those who dwelt at Netaim and Gederah. They dwelt there with the king for his work.

Sons of Simeon

24 ¶ The sons of Simeon were Nemuel and Jamin, Jarib, Zerah and Saul;
25 Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, Mishma his son.
26 And the sons of Mishma were Hamuel his son, Zacchur his son, Shimei his son.
27 And Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters, but his brethren did not have many children, nor did all their family multiply like the children of Judah.
28 ¶ And they dwelt at Beersheba and Moladah and Hazarshual
29 and at Bilhah and at Ezem and at Tolad
30 and at Bethuel and at Hormah and at Ziklag
31 and at Bethmarcaboth and Hazarsusim and at Bethbirei and at Shaaraim. These were their cities until the reign of David.
32 And their villages were Etam and Ain, Rimmon and Tochen and Ashan, five cities.
33 And all their villages were around the same cities as far as Baal. These were their settle-
ments and their genealogy.

34 And Meshobab and Jamlech and Josah, the son of Amaziah
35 and Joel and Jehu the son of Josibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel,
36 and Elieoenai and Jaakobah and Jeshohaiah and Asaiah and Adiel and Jesimiel and Benaijah
37 and Ziza the son of Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah.
38 These mentioned by their names were princes in their families. And the house of their fathers increased greatly.
39 ¶ And they went to the entrance of Gedor, even to the east side of the valley to seek pasture for their flocks.
40 And they found good pasture, and the land was wide and quiet and peaceful, for those who formerly lived there were Hamites.
41 And these written by name came in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and nattacked their tents and the habitations that were found there. And they utterly destroyed them to this day. And they dwelt in their place because there was pasture there for their flocks.
42 And some of them, even of the sons of Simeon, five hundred men, went to Mount Seir with Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi, as their captains.
43 And they struck the priest of the Amalekites who had escaped. And they dwell there to this day.

Chapter 5

Sons of Reuben

1 ¶ Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel (for he was the firstborn, but because he defiled his father’s bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph the son of Israel, so that he is not enrolled in the genealogy according to the birthright;
2 for Judah prevailed above his brothers, and from him came the chief ruler, though the birthright was Joseph’s),
3 the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel were Hanoch and Pallu, Hezron and Carmi.
4 The sons of Joel were Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son,
5 Micah his son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son,
6 Beerah his son, whom Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria carried away captive. He was prince of the Reubenites.
7 And his relatives by their families, when the genealogy of their generations was enrolled, were Jeiel the chief and Zechariah
8 and Bela the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel, who dwelt in ‘Aroer, even to Nebo and Baal-meon.
9 And eastward he inhabited to the entrance of the wilderness from the River Euphrates, because their livestock had increased in the land of Gilead.
10 And in the days of Saul they made war with the Hagarites who fell by their hand. And they dwelt in their tents throughout all the east land of Gilead.

Sons of Gad

11 ¶ And the sons of Gad dwelt opposite them in the land of Bashan to Salcah.
12 Joel was the chief, and Shapham the second, and Jaanai and Shaphat in Bashan.
13 And their relatives of the house of their fathers were Michael and Meshullam and Sheba and Jorai and Jachan and Zia and Heber, seven.
14 These were the children of Abihail the son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz;
15 Ahi the son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, chief of the house of their fathers.
16 And they dwelt in Gilead in Bashan, and in its towns and in all the pasture lands of Sharon, as far as their borders.
17 All these were enrolled by genealogies in the days of Jotham king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam king of Israel.
18 ¶ The sons of Reuben and the Gadites and half the tribe of Manasseh, of valiant men, men able to bear shield and sword, and to shoot with bow, and skillful in war, were 44,760 who went out to the war.
19 And they made war with the Hagarites,
with Jetur and Nephish and Nodab.

20 And they were helped against them and the Hagarites were delivered into their hand and all who were with them, for they cried out to God in the battle and He answered them because they put their trust in Him.

21 And they took away their livestock, 50,000 camels, 250,000 sheep and 2,000 donkeys and 100,000 men.

22 For there fell down many slain because the war was of God. And they dwelt in their place until the captivity.

Half Tribe of Manasseh

23 ¶ And the children of the half tribe of Manasseh dwelt in the land. They increased from Bashan to Baal-hermon and Senir and to Mount Hermon.

24 And these were the heads of the house of their fathers, even Ephrath and Ishi, and Elieel and Azriel and Jeremiah and Hodaviah and Jahdiel, mighty men of valor, famous men and heads of the house of their fathers.

25 ¶ And they transgressed against the God of their fathers and played the harlot after the gods of the people of the land, whom God destroyed before them.

26 And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, even the spirit of Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria. And he carried them away, even the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh. And he brought them to Halah and Habor and Hara and to the River Gozan to this day.

Chapter 6

Sons of Levi

1 ¶ The sons of Levi were Gershom, Kohas and Merari.

2 And the sons of Kohas were Amram, Izhar and Hebron and Uzziel.

3 And the children of Amram were Aaron and Moses and Miriam. The sons also of Aaron were Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

4 Eleazar begot Phinehas, Phinehas begot Abishua,

5 And Abishua begot Bukki, and Bukki begot Uzzi,

6 And Uzzi begot Zerahiah, and Zerahiah begot Meraioth,

7 Meraioth begot Amariah, and Amariah begot Ahitub,

8 And Ahitub begot Zadok, and Zadok begot Ahimaaz,

9 And Ahimaaz begot Azariah, and Azariah begot Johanan,

10 And Johanan begot Azariah (it was he who executed the priest’s office in the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem).

11 And Azariah begot Amariah, and Amariah begot Ahitub,

12 And Ahitub begot Zadok, and Zadok begot Shallum,

13 And Shallum begot Hilkiyah, and Hilkiyah begot Azariah,

14 And Azariah begot Seraiah, and Seraiah begot Jehozadak,

15 And Jehozadak went into captivity when the LORD carried away Judah and Jerusalem by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

16 ¶ The sons of Levi were Gershom, Kohas and Merari.

17 And these are the names of the sons of Gershom: Libni and Shimei.

18 And the sons of Kohas were Amram and Izhar and Hebron and Uzziel.

19 The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. And these are the families of the Levites according to their fathers.

20 Of Gershom were Libni his son, Jahas his son, Zimmah his son,

21 Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, Jeaterai his son.

22 The sons of Kohas were Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son,

23 Elkanah his son, and Ebiaiah his son, and Assir his son,

24 Tahash his son, Uriel his son, Uzziah his son and Shaul his son,

25 And the sons of Elkanah were Amasai and Ahimoth.

26 As for Elkanah, the sons of Elkanah: Zophai his son and Nahas his son,

27 Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, Elkanah
his son.
28 And the sons of Samuel were the firstborn Vashni, and Abiah.
29 The sons of Merari were Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzza his son,
30 Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, Asaiah his son.

Temple Musicians
31 ¶ And these are those whom David set over the service of song in the house of the LORD. After this the ark had rest.
32 And they ministered before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the assembly with singing until Solomon had built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem. And then they waited on their office according to their order.
33 ¶ And these are those who waited with their children. Of the sons of the Kohasites were Heman a singer, the son of Joel, the son of Shemuel,
34 the son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah,
35 the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahas, the son of Amasai,
36 the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah,
37 the son of Tahas, the son of Assir, the son of Eliaphibaz, the son of Korah,
38 the son of Izhar, the son of Kohas, the son of Levi, the son of Israel.
39 And his brother Asaph who stood on his right hand, even Asaph the son of Berachiah, the son of Shimea,
40 the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchiah,
41 the son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah,
42 the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah, the son of Shimei,
43 the son of Jahas, the son of Gershon, the son of Levi.
44 ¶ And their associates, the sons of Merari, who stood on the left hand, were Ethan the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of Malluch,
45 the son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah,
46 the son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shamer,
47 the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.
48 Their associates, also the Levites, were appointed to all manner of service for the tabernacle of the house of God.
49 ¶ But Aaron and his sons offered on the altar of the burnt offering and on the altar of incense. And they were appointed for all the work of the most holy place, and to make atonement for Israel according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded.
50 And these are the sons of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son,
51 Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son,
52 Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son,
53 Zadok his son, Ahimaaz his son.
54 ¶ Now these are their dwelling places throughout their camps in their borders, of the sons of Aaron, of the families of the Kohasites (for theirs was the lot):
55 and they gave them Hebron in the land of Judah and the pasture lands around it.
56 But the fields of the city and its villages, they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh.
57 And to the sons of Aaron they gave the cities of Judah, namely, Hebron, the city of refuge, and Libnah with its pasture lands, and Jattir and Eshtemoa, with their pasture lands,
58 and Hilen with its pasture lands, Debir with its pasture lands,
59 and Ashan with its pasture lands, and Bethshemesh with its pasture lands;
60 and out of the tribe of Benjamin, Geba with its pasture lands, and Alemeth with its pasture lands, and Anathoth with its pasture lands. All their cities throughout their families were thirteen cities.
61 ¶ And they gave to the sons of Kohas who were left from the family of that tribe, were cities given by lot out of the half tribe, namely, out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities.
62 And they gave to the sons of Gershon throughout their families out of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the tribe of
Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.

63 To the sons of Merari were given by lot, throughout their families, out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.

64 And the children of Israel gave to the Levites these cities with their pasture lands.

65 And they gave by lot out of the tribe of children of Judah, and out of the tribe of children of Simeon, and out of the tribe of children of Benjamin, these cities that are called by their names.

66 ¶ And the remainder of the families of the sons of Kohas were given cities of their territory from the tribe of Ephraim.

67 ¶ And they gave to them, of the cities of refuge, Shechem in Mount Ephraim with its pasture lands. They gave also Gezer with its pasture lands,

68 and Jokmeam with its pasture lands, and Bethhoron with its pasture lands,

69 and Aijalon with its pasture lands, and Gathrimmon with its pasture lands;

70 and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, Aner with its pasture lands, and Bileam with its pasture lands, for the family of the remnant of the sons of Kohas.

71 ¶ To the sons of Gershom were given out of the family of the half tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan with its pasture lands, and Ashtaroth with its pasture lands;

72 and out of the tribe of Issachar, Kedesh with its pasture lands, Daberath with its pasture lands,

73 and Ramoth with its pasture lands, and Anem with its pasture lands;

74 and out of the tribe of Asher, Mashal with its pasture lands, and Abdon with its pasture lands,

75 and Hukok with its pasture lands, and Rehob with its pasture lands;

76 and out of the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with its pasture lands, and Hammon with its pasture lands, and Kirjathaim with its pasture lands.

77 ¶ To the rest of the children of Merari were given from the tribe of Zebulun, Rimmon with its pasture lands, Tabor with its pasture lands;

78 and on the other side of the Jordan by Jericho.

79 Kedemoth also with its pasture lands, and Mephaath with its pasture lands;

80 and out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with its pasture lands, and Mahanaim with its pasture lands,

81 and Heshbon with its pasture lands, and Jazer with its pasture lands.

Chapter 7

Sons of Issachar

1 ¶ Now the sons of Issachar were Tola and Puah, Jashub and Shimrom, four.

2 And the sons of Tola were Uzzi and Rephaiah and Jeriel and Jahmai and Jibsam and Shemuel, heads of their fathers’ households. The sons of Tola were mighty men of valor in their generations, whose number in the days of David was 22,600.

3 And the son of Uzzi was Izrahiah, and the sons of Izrahiah were Michael and Obadiah and Joel, Ishiah, five. All of them were chief men.

4 And with them by their generations, after the house of their fathers, were 36,000 soldiers of the army for war, for they had many wives and sons.

5 And their relatives among all the families of Issachar were valiant men of might, enrolled in all by their genealogies, 87,000.

Sons of Benjamin

6 ¶ The sons of Benjamin were Bela and Becher and Jediael, three.

7 And the sons of Bela were Ezbon and Uzi and Uzziel and Jerimoth and Ir and Jari, five. These were heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valor. And they were enrolled by their genealogies, 22,034.

8 And the sons of Becher were Zemiramah, Joash, Eliezer, Elieoenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth and Alemeth. All these were the sons of Becher.

9 And their number after their genealogy by their generations, heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valor, was 20,200.
10 The son of Jediael was Bilhan. And the sons of Bilhan were Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish and Ahishahar.

11 All these sons of Jediael by the heads of their fathers, mighty men of valor, were 17,200 soldiers, fit to go out for war and battle.

12 Shuppim also, and Huppim, the children of Ir, and Hushim, the sons of Aher.

**Sons of Naphtali**

13 ¶ The sons of Naphtali were Jahziel, Guni, Jezer and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

**Sons of Manasseh**

14 ¶ The descendants of Manasseh: his Syrian concubine bore Machir the father of Gilead, the father of Ashriel.

15 And Machir took to wife the sister of Huppim and Shuppim, whose sister’s name was Maachah. And the name of the second was Zelophehad. And Zelophehad had daughters.

16 And Maachah the wife of Machir bore a son and she called his name Peresh. And his sons were Ulam and Rakem.

17 And the sons of Ulam was Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh.

18 And his sister Hammoleketh bore Ishod and Abiezer and Mahalah.

19 And the sons of Shemidah were Ahian and Shechem and Likhi and Aniam.

**Sons of Ephraim**

20 ¶ And the sons of Ephraim were Shuthelah, and Bered his son, and Tahas his son, and Eladah his son, and Tahas his son,

21 and Zabad his son, and Shuthelah his son, and Ezer and Elead, whom the men of Gath, who were born in that land, slew because they came down to take away their livestock.

22 And Ephraim their father mourned many days, and his relatives came to comfort him.

23 And when he went in to his wife, she conceived and bore a son. And he called his name Beriah because misfortune had come upon his house.

24 And his daughter was Sherah who built lower and upper Bethhoron, and Uzzensherah.

25 And Rephah was his son, also Resheph, and Telah his son, and Taham his son,

26 Laadan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son,

27 Nun his son, Joshua his son.

28 ¶ And their possessions and habitations were Bethel and its towns, and eastward Naaran, and westward Gezer, with its towns, Shechem and its towns, to Gaza and its towns;

29 and by the borders of the children of Manasseh, Bethshean and its towns, Taanach and its towns, Megiddo and its towns, Dor and its towns. In these dwelt the children of Joseph the son of Israel.

**Sons of Asher**

30 ¶ The sons of Asher were Imnah and Isuah and Ishuai and Beriah and Serah their sister.

31 And the sons of Beriah were Heber and Malchiel who is the father of Birzavith.

32 And Heber begot Japhlet and Shomer and Hotham and Shua their sister.

33 And the sons of Japhlet were Pasach and Bimhal and Ashvath. These are the children of Japhlet.

34 And the sons of Shamer were Ahi and Rohgah Jehubbah and Aram.

35 And the sons of his brother Helem were Zophah and Imna and Shelesh and Amal.

36 The sons of Zophah were Suah and Harnepher and Shual and Beri and Imrah, Bezer and Hod and Shamma and Shilshah and Ithran and Beera.

37 And the sons of Jether were Jephunneh and Pispah and Ara.

38 And the sons of Ulla were Arah and Haniel and Rezia.

39 And the sons of Ulphil were Arah and Haniel and Rezia.

40 All these were the children of Asher, heads of their father’s house, choice and mighty men of valor, chief of the princes. And the number throughout the genealogy of those who were able for war and to battle was 26,000.

**Chapter 8**

**Genealogy of Saul**

1 ¶ Now Benjamin begot Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second and Aharah the third,
Nohah the fourth and Rapha the fifth.

And the sons of Bela were Addar and Gera and Abihud

and Abishua and Naaman and Ahoa

and Gera and Shephuphan and Huram.

Now these were the sons of Ehud. These were the heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Geba. And they carried them into captivity to Manahas,

namely, Naaman and Ahiah and Gera; he carried them into captivity, and he became the father of Uzza and Ahihud.

And Shaharaim begot children in the country of Moab after he had sent away Hushim and Baara his wives.

And by Hodesh his wife he became the father of Jobab, Zibia, Mesha and Malcham

and Jeuz and Shachia and Mirma. These were his sons, heads of the fathers.

And of Hushim he begot Abitub and Elpaal.

The sons of Elpaal were Eber and Misham and Shamed, who built Ono and Lod, with its towns;

and Beriah and Shema, who were heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Aijalon who drove away the inhabitants of Gath.

And Ahio, Shashak and Jeremoth

and Zebadiah and Arad and Ader

and Michael and Ispah and Joha, the sons of Beriah.

and Zebadiah and Meshullam and Hezeki and Heber,

Ishmerai also, and Jezliah and Jobab were the sons of Elpaal.

And Jakim and Zichri and Zabdi

and Elienai and Zillthai and Eliel

and Adaiah and Beraiah and Shimrath were the sons of Shimhi.

And Ishpan and Heber and Eliel

and Abdon and Zichri and Hanan

and Hananiah and Elam and Antothijah

and Iphedeiah and Penuel were the sons of Shashak.

And Shamsherai and Shehariah and Athaliah

and Jaresiah and Elia and Zichri were the sons of Jeroham.

These were heads of the fathers by their generations, chief men. These dwelt in Jerusalem.

And at Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon whose wife’s name was Maachah.

And his firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur and Kish and Baal and Nadab

and Gedor and Ahio and Zacher.

And Mikloth begot Shimeah. And these also dwelt with their relatives in Jerusalem opposite their other brethren.

And Ner begot Kish, and Kish begot Saul, and Saul begot Jonathan and Malchishua and Abinadab and Eshbaal.

And the son of Jonathan was Meribbaal. And Meribbaal begot Micah.

And the sons of Micah were Pithon and Melech and Tarea and Ahaz.

And Azel had six sons whose names were Azrikam, Bocheru and Ishmael and Sheariah and Obadiah and Hanan. All these were the sons of Azel.

And the sons of Eshek his brother were Ulam his firstborn, Jehush the second and Eliphelet the third.

And the sons of Ulam were mighty men of valor, archers. And he had many sons and grandsons, 150 of them. All these were of the sons of Benjamin.

Chapter 9
Resettled People

So all Israel was enrolled by genealogies. And behold, they were written in the book of the kings of Israel. And Judah was carried away to Babylon for their transgression.

Now the first inhabitants who dwelt in their possessions in their cities were Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the temple servants.

And in Jerusalem dwelt of the children of Judah and of the children of Benjamin and of the children of Ephraim and Manasseh,
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dren of Perez the son of Judah.
5 And of the Shilonites were Asaiah the first-born and his sons.
6 And of the sons of Zerah were Jeuel and their brethren, 690 of them.
7 And of the sons of Benjamin were Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hassenuah,
8 and Ibneiah the son of Jeroham, and Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Michri, and Meshullam the son of Shephасiah, the son of Reuel, the son of Ibnijah;
9 and their relatives according to their generations, 956. All these men were chiefs of the fathers in the house of their fathers.
10 ¶ And of the priests were Jedaiah and Jehoiarib and Jachin
11 and Azariah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meriaoth, the son of Ahitub, the ruler of the house of God;
12 and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchijah, and Maasiai the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer;
13 and their brethren, heads of the house of their fathers, 1,760 very able men for the work of the service of the house of God.
14 And of the Levites were Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, of the sons of Merari;
15 and Bakbakkar, Heresh and Galal and Mattaniah the son of Micah, the son of Zichri, the son of Asaph,
16 and Obadiah the son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun, and Berechiah the son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, who dwelt in the villages of the Netophasites.
17 ¶ And the gatekeepers were Shallum and Akkub and Talmon and Ahiman and their brethren. Shallum was the chief,
18 who until now, waited in the king’s gate eastward. They were the gatekeepers for the camp of the children of Levi.
19 And Shallum the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his brethren, of the house of his father, the Korahites, were over the work of the service, keepers of the gates of the tabernacle. And their fathers, being over the army of the LORD, were keepers of the entrance.
20 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar was the ruler over them in the past. And the LORD was with him.
21 Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah was gatekeeper of the door of the tabernacle of the assembly.
22 All these who were chosen to be gatekeepers in the gates were 212. These were enrolled by their genealogy in their villages, whom David and Samuel the seer ordained in their trusted office.
23 So they and their children had the oversight of the gates of the house of the LORD, namely, the house of the tabernacle as guards.
24 On four sides were the gatekeepers toward the east, west, north and south.
25 And their brethren who were in their villages were to come after seven days from time to time with them.
26 For these Levites, the four chief gatekeepers, were in their trusted office and were over the chambers and treasuries of the house of God.
27 And they lodged around the house of God because the watch was committed to them. And they were in charge of opening it every morning.
28 ¶ And some of them had charge of the ministering vessels so that they should bring them in and out by count.
29 Some of them also were appointed to oversee the vessels and all the instruments of the sanctuary, and the fine flour and the wine and the oil and the frankincense and the spices.
30 And some of the sons of the priests made the ointment of the spices.
31 And Mattithiah, one of the Levites, who was the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, had responsibility over the things that were made in the pans.
32 And some of their brothers of the sons of the Kohathites were over the showbread, to prepare it every Sabbath.
33 ¶ And these are the singers, chief of the
fathers of the Levites, who dwelt in the chambers and were free from other service, for they were employed in that work day and night.

34 These chief fathers of the Levites were chief throughout their generations. These dwelt at Jerusalem.

Genealogy of Saul

35 ¶ And in Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon, Jehiel, whose wife’s name was Maachah.
36 And his firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur and Kish and Baal and Ner and Nadab
37 and Gedor and Ahio and Zechariah and Mikloth.
38 And Mikloth begot Shimeam. And they also dwelt near their relatives in Jerusalem.
39 And Ner begot Kish, and Kish begot Saul, and Saul begot Jonathan, and Malchishua and Abinadab and Eshbaal.
40 And the son of Jonathan was Meribbaal. And Meribbaal begot Micah.
41 And the sons of Micah were Pithon and Melech and Tahrea and Ahaz.
42 And Ahaz begot Jarah. And Jarah begot Alemeth and Azmaveth and Zimri, and Zimri begot Moza,
43 and Moza begot Binea, and Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son.
44 And Azel had six sons whose names were these: Azrikam, Bocheru and Ishmael and Sheariah and Obadiah and Hanan. These were the sons of Azel.

Chapter 10
Death of Saul

1 ¶ Now the Philistines fought against Israel. And the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines and fell down slain in Mount Gilboa.
2 And the Philistines followed hard after Saul and after his sons. And the Philistines slew Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchishua, the sons of Saul.
3 And the battle went sore against Saul. And the archers hit him and he was wounded by the archers.
4 Then Saul said to his armorbearer, “Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and abuse me.” But his armorbearer would not, for he was very afraid. So Saul took a sword and fell on it.
5 And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise on the sword and died.
6 So Saul died and his three sons, and all his house died together.
7 Now when all the men of Israel who were in the valley saw that they had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook their cities and fled. And the Philistines came and dwelt in them.
8 ¶ Then it came to pass on the next day when the Philistines came to strip the slain that they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.
9 And when they had stripped him they took his head and his armor and sent messengers around the land of the Philistines to carry tidings to their idols and to the people.
10 And they put his armor in the house of their gods and fastened his head on the house of Dagon.
11 ¶ And when all Jabesh Gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul,
12 all the valiant men arose and took away the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons and brought them to Jabesh. And they buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh and fasted seven days.
13 ¶ So Saul died for his transgression that he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD that he did not keep, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance.
14 And he did not inquire of the LORD. Therefore, He slew him and turned the kingdom to David the son of Jesse.

Chapter 11
Reign of David

1 ¶ Then all Israel gathered themselves to David to Hebron, saying, “Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.
2 “Even in the past when Saul was king you were the one who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD your God said to you,
‘You will ‘feed My people Israel and you will be ruler over My people Israel.’”

Therefore, all the elders of Israel came to Hebron to the king. And David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel according to the word of the LORD by Samuel.

David Takes Jebus

Then David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, that is Jebus, where the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, were dwelling.

And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, “You will not come here.” Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David.

And David said, “Whoever strikes the Jebusites first will be chief and captain.” So Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first and was chief.

And David dwelt in the stronghold. Therefore, they called it the city of David.

And he built the city all around, from Millo to the surrounding areas. And Joab repaired the rest of the city.

So David became greater and greater because the LORD of hosts was with him.

Mighty Men of David

These also are the chief of the mighty men whom David had, who strengthened themselves with him in his kingdom, and with all Israel, to make him king according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel.

And this is the number of the mighty men whom David had: Jashobeam, a Hachmonite, the chief of the captains. He lifted up his spear against three hundred who were slain by him at one time.

And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighty men.

He was with David at Pasdam-mim. And there the Philistines were gathered together to battle where there was a parcel of ground full of barley. And the people fled from before the Philistines.

Now they set themselves in the middle of that parcel and delivered it. And they slew the Philistines. And the LORD saved them by a great deliverance.

Now three of the thirty captains went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam. And the army of the Philistines camped in the valley of Rephaim.

And David was then in the stronghold and the Philistines’ garrison was then at Bethlehem.

And David said with longing, “Oh that one would give me a drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem that is at the gate!”

And the three broke through the army of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate. And they took it and brought it to David. But David would not drink of it, but poured it out to the LORD.

Then he said, “Be it far from me before my God that I should do this thing. Will I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy? For with the jeopardy of their lives, they brought it.” Therefore, he would not drink it. These things did the three mighty men.

¶ Abishai the brother of Joab, he was chief of the three for lifting up his spear against three hundred. He slew them and gained a name among the three mighty men. However, he did not attain to the first three.

Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had done many acts, slew two lionlike men of Moab. He also went down and slew a lion in a pit on a snowy day.

And he slew an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits high. And in the Egyptian’s hand was a spear like a weaver’s beam. And he went down to him with a staff and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian’s hand and slew him with his own spear.

These things did Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, and he gained a name among the thirty.

¶ Of the three, he was more honorable than the two, for he was their captain. However, he did not attain to the first three.

Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had done many acts, slew two lionlike men of Moab. He also went down and slew a lion in a pit on a snowy day.

And he slew an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits high. And in the Egyptian’s hand was a spear like a weaver’s beam. And he went down to him with a staff and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian’s hand and slew him with his own spear.

These things did Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, and he gained a name among the three mighty men.

Behold, he was honorable among the thirty, but did not attain to the first three. And David set him over his guard.
Also the valiant men of the armies were 'Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,
Shammoth the Harorite, 'Helez the Pelonite,
'Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, 'Abiezer the Antothite,
Sibbecai the Hushasite, Ilai the Ahohite,
'Maharai the Netophasite, Helez the Pelonite,
'Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, 'Abiezer the Antothite,
Sibbecai the Hushasite, Ilai the Ahohite,
'Maharai the Netophasite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophasite,
Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, who belonged to the children of Benjamin, 'Benaiah the Pirathonite,
Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,
Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite,
The sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shage the Hararite,
Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphal the son of Ur,
Hepher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,
Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai,
Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Haggeri,
Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armorbearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,
Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,
'Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai,
Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a captain of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,
Hanan the son of Maachah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite,
Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jehiel the sons of Hothan the Aroerite,
Jediael the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite,
Elieel the Mahavite, and Jeribai and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite,
Eliel and Obed and Jasiel the Mesobaite.

Chapter 12
David's Army

Now these are those who came to David to Ziklag while he was still restricted because of Saul the son of Kish. And they were among the mighty men, helpers of the war.

They were armed with bows and could use both the right hand and the left in hurling stones and shooting arrows out of a bow. They were of Saul's relatives of Benjamin.

The chief was Abiezer, then Joash, the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite, and Jeziel and Pelet the sons of Azmaveth, and Berachah and Jehu the Antothite,

and Ismaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man among the thirty, and over the thirty, and Jeremiah and Jahaziel and Johanan and Josabad the Gederathite,

Eluzai and Jerimoth and Bealiah and Shemariah and Shephatiah the Haruphite,

Elkanah and Jessiah and Azareel and Joezer and Jashobeam, the Korhites,

and Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham of Gedor.

And from the Gadites there came over to David in the stronghold in the wilderness mighty men of war fit for the battle, who could handle shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions. And they were as swift as the gazelles on the mountains.

Ezer was the first, Obadiah the second, Eliab the third,
Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the fifth,
Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh,
Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the ninth,
Jeremiah the tenth, Machbanai the eleventh.

These were of the sons of Gad, captains of the army. One of the least was over one hundred and the greatest over a thousand.

These those who went over the Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks. And they put to flight all those of the valleys, both toward the east and toward the west.

Then there came some of the children of Benjamin and Judah to the stronghold to David.

And David went out to meet them. And he answered and said to them, “If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you. But if you have come to be-
tray me to my enemies, seeing there is no wrong in my hands, the God of our fathers look on it and decide.”

18 Then the Spirit came on Amasai who was chief of the captains. And he said, “We are yours, David, and on your side, son of Jesse. Peace, peace be to you and peace be to your helpers, for your God helps you.” Then David received them and made them captains of the band.

19 ¶ And of Manasseh defected to David when he was going with the Philistines against Saul to battle. But they did not help them, for after consultation, the lords of the Philistines sent him away, saying, “He will defect to his master Saul to the jeopardy of our heads.”

20 As he went to Ziklag, there defected to him from Manasseh, Adnah and Jozabad and Jediael and Michael and Jozabad and Elihu and Zilthai, captains of the thousands who were of Manasseh.

21 And they helped David against the band of the raiders, for they were all mighty men of valor and were captains in the army.

22 For from day to day men came to David to help him, until it was a great army, like the army of God.

23 ¶ And these are the numbers of the heads of those who were armed for war, who came to David to Hebron, to turn the kingdom of Saul to him according to the word of LORD.

24 The children of Judah who bore shield and spear were 6,800, equipped for the war:

25 of the children of Simeon, mighty men of valor for the war, 7,100;

26 of the children of Levi, 4,600;

27 and Jehoiada was the leader of the Aaronites, and with him were 3,700;

28 and Zadok, a young man mighty of valor, and of his father’s house, twenty-two captains;

29 and of the children of Benjamin, the kinsmen of Saul, 3,000 (for until now the greatest part of them had kept their allegiance to the house of Saul);

30 and of the children of Ephraim, 20,800, mighty men of valor, famous throughout the house of their fathers;

31 and of the half tribe of Manasseh, 18,000, who were designated by name to come and make David king;

32 and of the children of Issachar who were men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel should do, the heads of those who were two hundred. And all their brethren were at their command;

33 of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle, experts in war with all instruments of war, 50,000 who could keep rank; they were not of an undivided heart;

34 and of Naphtali, 1,000 captains, and with them with shield and spear, 37,000;

35 and of the Danites who were experts in war, 28,600;

36 and of Asher, such as went forth to battle, experts in war, 40,000;

37 and on the other side of the Jordan, of the Reubenites and the Gadites, and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all manner of instruments of war for the battle, 120,000.

38 ¶ All these men of war who could keep rank came with a perfect heart to Hebron in order to make David king over all Israel. And all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.

39 And there they were with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brethren had made preparations for them.

40 Futhermore, those who were near them, even to Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, brought bread on donkeys and on camels and on mules and on oxen, with meat, meal, cakes of figs, and bunches of raisins and wine and oil and oxen and sheep abundantly, for there was joy in Israel.

Chapter 13

Return of the Ark

1 ¶ And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds and with every leader.

2 Then David said to all the assembly of Israel, “If it seems good to you, and if it is from the LORD our God, let us send to our brethren every where who are left in all the land of Israel, and with them also to the priests and Levites who are in their cities and pasture lands so that they may gather themselves to us.

2 Sm 17:25 h 1 Sm 29:2 i 1 Sm 29:4 j 1 Sm 30:1:9,10 k Ja 5:13-15 l 2 Sm 2:1-4 m 1 Ch 11:1 n 1 Ch 10:14 o 1 Sm 16:1-4 p 2 Sm 8:17 q 2 Sm 2:8,9 r Et 1:18 s Ps 12:2 t 2 Ch 30:12 Chapter 13: a 1 Ch 11:15; 12:34 b Is 37:4
3 “And let us bring again the ark of our God to us, for we did not seek it in the days of Saul.”

4 And all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

5 ¶ So David gathered all Israel together from Shihor of Egypt even to the entrance of Hemath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjath Jearim.

6 And David and all Israel went up to Baalah, that is, to Kirjath Jearim that belongs to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God who dwells between the cherubims, that is called by the Name.

7 And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab. And Uzza and Ahio drove the cart.

8 And David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing and with harps and with psalteries and with timbrels and with cymbals and with trumpets.

9 ¶ And when they came to the threshing floor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled.

10 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he struck him because he put out his hand to the ark. And there he died before God.

11 And David was displeased because the LORD had burst out upon Uzza. Therefore, that place is called Perezuzza to this day.

12 Now David was afraid of God that day, saying, “How will I bring the ark of God home to me?”

13 ¶ So David did not bring the ark home to himself to the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

14 ¶ And the ark of God remained with the family of Obededom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obededom and all that he had.

Defeat of the Philistines

8 ¶ Now when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek David. And when David heard this he went out against them.

9 And the Philistines came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

10 Then David inquired of God, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? And will You deliver them into my hand?” And the LORD said to him, “Go up, for I will deliver them into your hand.”

11 So they came up to Baal-perazim, and David struck them there. Then David said, “God has broken in on my enemies by my hand like the breaking forth of waters.” Therefore, they called the name of that place Baalperazim.

12 And when they had abandoned their gods there, David gave an order and they were burned with fire.

13 ¶ Then the Philistines again made a raid on the valley.

14 Therefore, David inquired again of God. And God said to him, “Do not go up after them. Turn away from them and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees.

15 “And it will be when you hear a sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you will go out to battle, for God will have gone out before you to strike the army of the Philistines.”

16 David therefore did as God commanded him. And they struck the army of the Philis-
times from Gibeon even to Gazer.
17 So the fame of David went out into all lands. And the LORD brought the fear of him on all nations.

Chapter 15
Ark Brought to Jerusalem

1 ¶ Now David made for himself houses in the city of David and prepared a place for the ark of God. And he pitched a tent for it.
2 Then David said, “No one should carry the ark of God but the Levites. For the LORD chose them to carry the ark of God and to minister to Him forever.
3 So David gathered all Israel together to Jerusalem in order to bring up the ark of the LORD to its place that he had prepared for it.
4 And David assembled the children of Aaron and the Levites:
5 of the sons of Kohas, Uriel the chief, and 120 of his brethren;
6 of the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief, and 220 of his brethren;
7 of the sons of Gershom, Joel the chief, and 130 of his brethren;
8 of the sons of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief, and 200 of his brethren;
9 of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief, and 80 of his brethren;
10 of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the chief, and 112 of his brethren.
11 Then David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah and Joel Shemaiah and Eliel and Amminadab.
12 And he said to them, “You are the chief of the fathers of the Levites. Sanctify yourselves, both you and your brethren so that you may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel to the place that I have prepared for it.
13 “Because you did not carry it at the first, the LORD our God burst out upon us, for we did not consult Him according to the proper order.”
14 So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel.
15 And the children of the Levites bore the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses commanded according to the word of the LORD.
16 ¶ Then David spoke to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers with instruments of music, psalteries and harps and cymbals, by lifting up the voice with resounding joy.
17 So the Levites appointed Heman the son of Joel, and of his brethren, Asaph the son of Berechiah, and of the sons of Merari their brethren, Ethan the son of Kushaiah,
18 and with them their brethren of the second rank, Zechariah, Ben and Jaaziel and Shemiramoth and Jehiel and Unni, Eliab and Benaiyah and Maaseiah and Mattithiah and Elipheleth and Mikneiah and Obededom and Jeiel the gatekeepers.
19 So the singers, Heman, Asaph and Ethan, were appointed to sound with cymbals of bronze,
20 and Zechariah and Aziel and Shemiramoth and Jehiel and Unni and Eliab and Maaseiah and Benaiyah with psalteries according to Almuth,
21 and Mattithiah and Elipheleth and Mikneiah and Obededom and Jeiel and Azaziah with harps on the Sheminith.
22 And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was in charge of the singing. He instructed concerning singing because he was skillful.
23 And Berechiah and Elkanah were gatekeepers for the ark.
24 And Shebaniah and Jehoshaphat and Nethaneel and Amasai and Zechariah and Benaiyah and Eliezer, the priests, blew with the trumpets before the ark of God. And Obededom and Jehia were gatekeepers for the ark.
25 ¶ So David and the elders of Israel and the captains over thousands went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the house of Obededom with joy.
26 Now it came to pass when God helped the Levites who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, that they offered seven bulls and seven rams.
27 And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, as all the Levites who bore the ark and the singers and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers. David also had on him an ephod of linen.
28 Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the ram’s horn and with trumpets and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.
29 ¶ Now it came to pass as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David dancing and playing. And she despised him in her heart.

Chapter 16
1 ¶ So they brought the ark of God and set it inside the tabernacle that David had pitched for it. And they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God.
2 Then when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD.
3 And he distributed to everyone of Israel, both man and woman, to everyone a loaf of bread and a portion of meat and a cake of raisins.
4 ¶ And he appointed some of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD and to commemorate, and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel.
5 Asaph was the chief, and next to him Zechariah, Jeiel and Shemiramoth and Jehiel and Mattithiah and Eliab and Benaiah and Obededom; and Jeiel with psalteries and with harps. But Asaph made a sound with cymbals.
6 Benaiah also and Jahaziel the priests blew trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God.

Song of Thanksgiving
7 ¶ Then on that day David delivered first this psalm to thank the LORD into the hand of Asaph and his brethren:
8 ¶“Give thanks to the LORD. Call on His name. Make known His deeds among the people.
9 ¶“Sing to Him. Sing psalms to Him. Talk of all His wondrous works.
10 ¶“Glory in His holy name. Let the heart of those rejoice who seek the LORD.
11 ¶“Seek the LORD and His strength. Seek His face continually.
12 ¶“Remember His marvellous works that He has done, His wonders and the judgments of His mouth,
13 ¶“O you seed of Israel His servant, you children of Jacob, His chosen ones.
14 ¶“He is the LORD our God. His judgments are in all the earth.
15 ¶“Be mindful always of His covenant, the word that He commanded to a thousand generations,
16 ¶“even of the covenant that He made with Abraham, and of His oath to Isaac,
17 ¶“and confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,
18 ¶“saying, ‘To you I will give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance,’
19 ¶“when you were but few, even a few, and foreigners in it.
20 ¶“And when they went from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people,
21 ¶“He permitted no man to do them wrong. Yes, He reproved kings for their sakes,
22 ¶“saying, ‘Do not touch My anointed, and do not harm My prophets.’
23 ¶“Sing to the LORD, all the earth. Show forth from day to day His salvation.
24 ¶“Declare His glory among the heathen, His marvellous works among all nations.
25 ¶“For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised. He also is to be feared above all gods.
26 ¶“For all the gods of the people are idols. But the LORD made the heavens.
27 ¶“Glory and honor are in His presence. Strength and gladness are in His place.
28 ¶“Give to the LORD, you kindreds of the people. Give to the LORD glory and strength.
29 ¶“Give to the LORD the glory due to His name. Bring an offering and come before Him. Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
30 “Fear before Him, all the earth. The world also will be stable so that it be not moved.
31 “Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice. And let men say among the nations, ‘The LORD reigns.’
32 “Let the sea roar, and all it contains. Let the fields rejoice and all that is in them.
33 “Then will the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD because He comes to judge the earth.
34 “O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.
35 “And say, ‘Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together. And deliver us from the nations so that we may give thanks to Your holy name and glory in Your praise.’
36 “Blessed is the LORD God of Israel forever and ever.” And all the people said, “Amen,” and praised the LORD.
37 ¶ So he left there before the ark of the covenant of the LORD Asaph and his associates, to minister before the ark continually, as every day’s work required,
38 and Obededom with his sixty-eight associates, Obededom also the son of Jeduthun and Hosah to be gatekeepers.
39 And He left Zadok the priest and his fellow priests before the tabernacle of the LORD at the high place that was at Gibeon,
40 to offer burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of the burnt offering continually morning and evening, and to do according to all that is written in the law of the LORD that He commanded Israel.
41 And with them were Heman and Jeduthun, and the rest who were chosen, who were designated by name, to give thanks to the LORD, because His mercy endures forever.
42 And with them were Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those who should make a sound with musical instruments of God. And the sons of Jeduthun were to be at the gate.
43 And all the people departed, each to his house. And David returned to bless his house.

Chapter 17
God’s Promise to David
14 “But I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom forever. And his throne will be established forever.””

15 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

Prayer of David

16 ¶ And David the king came and sat before the LORD and said, “Who am I, O LORD God? And what is my house that You have brought me this far?

17 “And yet this was a small thing in Your eyes, O God, for You have also spoken of your servant’s house for a great while to come, and have regarded me according to the rank of a man of high degree, O LORD God.

18 “What can David speak more to You for the honor of Your servant? For You know Your servant.

19 “O LORD, for Your servant’s sake and according to Your own heart You have done all this greatness in making known all these great things.

20 “O LORD, there is none like You, nor is there any God beside You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

21 “And what one nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem to be His own people, to make You a name of greatness and terribleness, by driving out nations from before Your people whom You have redeemed out of Egypt?

22 “For Your people Israel You made Your own people forever, and You, LORD, became their God.

23 ¶ “Therefore now, LORD, let the thing that You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house be established forever, and do as You have said.

24 “Let it even be established so that Your name may be magnified forever, saying, ‘The LORD of armies is the God of Israel, even a God to Israel. And let the house of David Your servant be established before You.’

25 “For You, O my God, have told Your servant that You will build him a house. Therefore, Your servant has found it in his heart to pray before You.

26 “And now, LORD, You are God, and have promised this goodness to Your servant.

27 “Now therefore let it please You to bless the house of Your servant so that it may be before You. For You, O LORD, have blessed and it is blessed forever.”

Chapter 18

Victories of David

1 ¶ Now after this it came to pass that David attacked the Philistines and subdued them. And he took Gath and its towns out of the hand of the Philistines.

2 He also attacked Moab. And the Moabites became David’s servants and brought tribute.

3 ¶ And David attacked Hadarezer king of Zobah unto Hamath, as he went to establish his dominion by the River Euphrates.

4 Then David took from him 1,000 chariots and 7,000 horsemen and 20,000 foot soldiers. And David hamstrung all the chariot horses, but reserved enough of them for 100 chariots.

5 ¶ And when the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadarezer king of Zobah, David slew 22,000 men of the Syrians.

6 Then David put garrisons among the Syrians of Damascus, and the Syrians became David’s servants and brought tribute. Thus the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

7 Then David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadarezer and brought them to Jerusalem.

8 Likewise from Tibhas and from Chun, cities of Hadarezer, David brought much bronze by which Solomon made the bronze sea and the pillars and the vessels of bronze.

9 ¶ Now when Tou king of Hamath heard how David had smitten all the army of Hadarezer and brought them to Jerusalem.

10 He sent Hadoram his son to King David, to inquire of his welfare and to congratulate him because he had fought against Hadarezer and smote him because Hadarezer had fought with Tou. And he brought with him all kinds of vessels of gold and silver and bronze.

11 Them also King David dedicated to the LORD, with the silver and the gold that he
brought from all these nations, from Edom and from Moab and from the children of Ammon and from the Philistines and from Amalek.  

12 ¶ Furthermore, Abishai the son of Zeruiah slew 18,000 of the Edomites in the valley of salt.  

13 And he put garrisons in Edom, and all the Edomites became David’s servants. Thus the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

Officials of David  

14 ¶ So David reigned over all Israel and executed judgment and justice among all his people.  

15 And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army, and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder.  

16 And Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Abimelech the son of Abiathar, were the priests. And Shavsha was the scribe.  

17 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites. And the sons of David were chief ministers at the king’s side.

Chapter 19  

War with the Ammonites  

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died and his son reigned in his place.  

2 And David said, “I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash because his father showed kindness to me.” And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father.  

3 But the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, “Do you think that David is honoring your father in that he has sent comforters to you? Have not his servants come to you to search and to overthrow and to spy out the land?”  

4 Therefore, Hanun took David’s servants and shaved them. And he cut off their garments in the middle close by their buttocks and sent them away.  

5 Then certain persons went and told David about the men. And he sent to meet them, for the men were greatly humiliated. And the king said, “Stay at Jericho until your beards are grown and then return.”  

6 ¶ Now when the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves repulsive to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent 1,000 talents of silver to hire for themselves chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia and out of Arammaacah and out of Zobah.  

7 So they hired 32,000 chariots and the king of Maachah and his people, who came and pitched before Medeba. And the children of Ammon gathered themselves together from their cities and came to battle.  

8 Then when David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of the mighty men.  

9 And the children of Ammon came out and put the battle in array before the gate of the city. And the kings who had come were by themselves in the field.  

10 ¶ Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose out of all the choice men of Israel and put them in array against the Syrians.  

11 And the rest of the people he delivered to the hand of Abishai his brother. And they set themselves in array against the children of Ammon.  

12 And he said, “If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you will help me. But if the children of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will help you.  

13 “Be of good courage and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people and for the cities of our God. And let the LORD do what is good in His sight.”  

14 So Joab and the people who were with him drew near before the Syrians to the battle. But they fled before him.  

15 Now when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians had fled, they likewise fled before Abishai his brother and entered into the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.  

16 ¶ Now when the Syrians saw that they were defeated before Israel, they sent messengers and brought out the Syrians who were beyond the River. And Shophach the captain of the army of Hadarezer went before them.
17 When it was told David, he gathered all Israel and passed over the Jordan. And he came on them and set the battle in array against them. So when David had put the battle in array against the Syrians, they fought with him.

18 But the Syrians fled before Israel. And David slew of the Syrians 7,000 men who fought in chariots and 40,000 footmen. And he killed Shophach the captain of the army.

19 Now when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they were defeated before Israel, they made peace with David and became his servants. And the Syrians were not willing to help the people of Ammon anymore.

Chapter 20
Conquest of Rabbah

1 ¶ aNow it came to pass that after the year had expired, at the time when kings go out to battle, Joab led forth the power of the army and wasted the country of the children of Ammon. Then he came and besieged Rabbah. But bDavid stayed at Jerusalem. And cJoab struck Rabbah and destroyed it.

2 Then David dtook the crown of their king from off his head and found it to weigh a talent of gold. And there were precious stones in it. And it was set on David’s head. And he brought also a great deal of spoil out of the city.

3 Then he brought out the people who were in it and put them to work with saws and with harrows of iron and with axes. Even so David did thus with all the cities of the children of Ammon. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

War with the Philistines

4 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that there arose war at Gezer with the Philistines. At that time fSibbechai the Hushasite slew Sippai who was from the children of the giant. And they were subdued.

5 Then there was war again with the Philistines. And Elhanan the son of Jair slew Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite, whose spear shaft was like a weaver’s beam.

6 And yet again fthere was war at Gath where there was a man of great stature whose fingers and toes were twenty-four, six on each hand and six on each foot. And he also was the son of the giant.

7 But when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea, David’s brother, slew him.

8 These were born to the giant in Gath, and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

Chapter 21
Confidence in Numbers

1 ¶ Then aSatan stood up against Israel and moved David to number Israel.

2 And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, “Go. Number Israel from Beer-sheba even to Dan, and bbring the number of them to me so that I may know it.”

3 But Joab answered, “The LORD makes His people a hundred times more than they are. But, my lord the king, are they not all my lord’s servants? Why then does my lord require this thing? Why will he be a cause of guilt to Israel?”

4 Nevertheless, the king’s word prevailed against Joab. Therefore, Joab departed and went throughout all Israel and then came to Jerusalem.

5 Then Joab gave the sum of the number of the people to David. And all those of Israel were 1,100,000 men who drew the sword. And Judah was 470,000 men who drew the sword.

6 But he did not number Levi and Benjamin among them, for the king’s word was abhorrent to Joab.

7 Now God was displeased with this thing. Therefore, He struck Israel.

8 Then David said to God, d“I have sinned greatly because I have done this thing. eBut now, I beseech you, do away with the iniquity of your servant, for I have done very foolishly.”

9 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to Gad, David’s seer, saying,

10 “Go and tell David, a saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “I offer you three things. Choose for yourself one of them which I will do to you.”’”

11 So Gad came to David and said to him,
“Thus says the LORD, ‘Choose for yourself
12 either three years’ famine, or three months
to be destroyed before your enemies, while the
sword of your enemies overtakes you, or else
three days of the sword of the LORD, even the
plague in the land and the angel of the LORD
destroying throughout all the borders of Israel.’
Now therefore advise yourself what word I will
bring again to Him who sent me.”
13 Then David said to Gad, “I am in great
distress. Let me fall now into the hand of the
LORD, for great are His mercies. But do not
let me fall into the hand of man.”
14 ¶ So the LORD sent a plague on Israel,
and there fell of Israel 70,000 men.
15 Then God sent an angel to Jerusalem to
destroy it. And as he was destroying, the LORD
restrained from the disaster. And He said to
the angel who destroyed, “It is enough, restrain
now your hand.” And the angel of the LORD
stood by the threshing floor of Ornan the
Jebusite.
16 Then David lifted up his eyes and saw the
angel of the LORD standing between the earth
and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his
hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David
and the elders of Israel who were clothed in
sackcloth, fell on their faces.
17 And David said to God, “Is it not I
who commanded the people to be numbered? Even
I it is who have sinned and done evil indeed.
But as for these sheep, what have they done?
Let Your hand, I beg You, O LORD my God,
be on me and on my father’s house, but not on
Your people that they should be plagued.”
18 ¶ Then the angel of the LORD commanded
Gad to say to David that David should go up
and set up an altar to the LORD on the thresh-
ing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.
19 And David went up at the saying of Gad
that he spoke in the name of the LORD.
20 And Ornan turned back and saw the angel.
And his four sons with him hid themselves.
Now Ornan was threshing wheat.
21 Now as David came to Ornan, Ornan
looked and saw David. And he went out of the
threshing floor and bowed himself to David
with his face to the ground.
22 Then David said to Ornan, “Grant me the
place of this threshing floor so that I may build
an altar on it to the LORD. You will grant it to
me for the full price so that the plague may be
restrained from the people.”
23 Then Ornan said to David, “Take it for
yourself and let my lord the king do what is
good in his eyes. Lo, I give you the oxen also
for burnt offerings and the threshing instru-
ments for wood and the wheat for the grain
offering. I give it all.”
24 And King David said to Ornan, “No. But I
will surely buy it for the full price. For I will
not take for the LORD what is yours, nor offer
burnt offerings without cost.”
25 So David gave to Ornan for the place 600
shekels of gold by weight.
26 Then David built there an altar to the
LORD. And he offered burnt offerings and
peace offerings, and called on the LORD. And
He answered him from heaven by fire on the
altar of burnt offering.
27 ¶ At that time when David saw that the
LORD had answered him on the threshing floor
of Ornan the Jebusite, he sacrificed there.
28 For the tabernacle of the LORD that Moses
made in the wilderness, and the altar of the
burnt offering, were at that time in the high
place at Gibeon.
29 But David could not go before it to inquire
of God, for he was afraid because of the sword
of the angel of the LORD.

Chapter 22
Plans for the Temple
1 ¶ Then David said, “This is the house of the
LORD God and this is the altar of the burnt
offering for Israel.”
2 And David commanded to gather together
the aliens who were in the land of Israel. And
he set stonemasons to cut out stones to build
the house of God.
3 And David prepared iron in abundance for
the nails for the doors of the gates and for the
clamps, and more bronze than could be weighed,
4 also cedar trees in abundance, for the Sidonians and those of Tyre brought much cedar wood to David.

5 And David said, “Solomon my son is young and tender. And the house that is to be built for the LORD must be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all lands. I will now, therefore, make preparation for it.” So David prepared abundantly before his death.

6 ¶ Then he called for Solomon his son and charged him to build a house for the LORD God of Israel.

7 And David said to Solomon, “My son, for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the LORD my God.

8 “But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘You have shed blood abundantly and have made great wars. You will not build a house to My name because you have shed much blood on the earth in My sight.

9 ‘Behold, a son will be born to you who will be a man of peace. And I will give him peace from all his enemies all around, for his name will be Solomon and I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days.

10 ‘He will build a house for My name. And he will be My son and I will be his father. And I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.’

11 “Now, my son, the LORD be with you and prosper you. And you build the house of the LORD your God as He has said of you.

12 “Only the LORD give you wisdom and understanding, and give you charge concerning Israel so that you may keep the law of the LORD your God.

13 “Then you will prosper if you take heed to fulfill the statutes and judgments that the LORD charged Moses concerning Israel. Be strong and of good courage. Do not despair, nor be dismayed.

14 “Now behold, with great pains I have prepared for the house of the LORD 100,000 talents of gold and 1,000,000 talents of silver and of bronze and iron beyond measure, for it is in abundance. I have prepared timber also and stone, and you may add to them.

15 “Furthermore, there are workmen with you in abundance, hewers and workers of stone and timber, and all types of skillful men for every kind of work.

16 “There is no limit of the gold, the silver and the bronze and the iron. Arise therefore and work, and ‘the LORD be with you.”

17 ¶ David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son, saying,

18 “Is not the LORD your God with you? And has He not given you peace on every side? For He has given the inhabitants of the land into my hand. And the land is subdued before the LORD and before His people.

19 “Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God. Arise therefore, and build the sanctuary of the LORD God in order to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built ‘to the name of the LORD.”

Chapter 23
The Levites

1 ¶ So when David was old and full of days he made Solomon his son king over Israel.

2 ¶ And he gathered together all the princes of Israel, with the priests and the Levites.

3 Now the Levites were numbered from the age of thirty years and upward. And the number of individual males was 38,000.

4 Of these, 24,000 were to oversee the work of the house of the LORD. And 6,000 were officers and judges.

5 Furthermore, 4,000 were gatekeepers and 4,000 praised the LORD with the instruments that David made for giving praise.

6 And David divided them into courses among the sons of Levi, namely, Gershon, Kohath and Merari.

The Gershonites

7 ¶ Of the Gershonites were Laadan and Shimei.

8 The sons of Laadan were Jehiel the first and Zetham and Joel, three.

9 The sons of Shimei were Shelomith and
Haziel and Haran, three. These were the heads of the fathers of Laadan.

10 And the sons of Shimei were Jahas, Zina and Jeush and Beriah. These four were the sons of Shimei.

11 And Jahas was the first and Zizah the second. But Jeush and Beriah did not have many sons, therefore they were in one accounting, according to their father’s house.

The Kohathites

12 ¶ The sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel, four.

13 The sons of Amram were Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was separated so that he should sanctify the most holy things, and he and his sons forever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister to Him and to bless in His name forever.

14 Now concerning Moses the man of God, his sons were named among the tribe of Levi.

15 The sons of Moses were Gershom and Eliezer.

16 Of the sons of Gershom, Shebuel was the first.

17 And the sons of Eliezer were Rehabiah the first. And Eliezer had no other sons, but the sons of Rehabiah were many.

18 Of the son of Izhar was Shelomith the first.

19 Of the sons of Hebron were Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth.

20 Of the sons of Uzziel were Micah the first and Jesiah the second.

The Merarites

21 ¶ The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli were Eleazar and Kish.

22 And Eleazar died and had no sons, but daughters. And their relatives, the sons of Kish, took them.

23 The sons of Mushi were Mahli and Eder and Jeremoth, three.

24 ¶ These were the sons of Levi after the house of their fathers, even the chief of the fathers as they were counted by number of names by their polls, who did the work for the service of the house of the LORD from the age of twenty years and upward.

25 For David said, “The LORD God of Israel has given peace to His people so that they may dwell in Jerusalem forever.

26 “And also to the Levites, they will no longer carry the tabernacle, nor any vessels of it for its service.”

27 For by the last words of David the Levites were numbered from twenty years old and above.

28 For their office was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD in the courts and in the chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God;

29 both for the showbread and for the fine flour for grain offerings and for the unleavened cakes, and for what is baked in the pan, and for what is fried, and for all kinds of measure and size;

30 and to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at evening,

31 and to offer all burnt sacrifices to the LORD on the Sabbaths, on the new moons and on the set feasts by number, according to the order commanded to them, continually before the LORD.

32 And that they should attend to the needs of the tabernacle of the assembly and the needs of the holy place and the needs of the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the house of the LORD.

Chapter 24

Divisions of the Priests

1 ¶ Now these are the divisions of the sons of Aaron. The sons of Aaron: Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

2 But Nadab and Abihu died before their father and had no children. Therefore, Eleazar and Ithamar executed the priest’s office.

3 And David, with Zadok of the sons of Eleazar and Ahimelech of the sons of Ithamar, divided them according to their offices for their ministry.
4 And there were more chief men found among the sons of Eleazar than among the sons of Ithamar, and thus they were divided. Among the sons of Eleazar there were sixteen chief men of the house of their fathers, and eight among the sons of Ithamar according to the house of their fathers.

5 Thus they were divided by lot, the one as the other. For the governors of the sanctuary and governors of the house of God were from the sons of Eleazar and from the sons of Ithamar.

6 And Shemaiah the son of Nethaneel the scribe, one of the Levites, recorded them in the presence of the king and the princes and Zadok the priest and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and in the presence of the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites, one principal household taken for Eleazar and one taken for Ithamar.

7 ¶ Now the first lot came out for Jehoiarib, the second for Jedaiah,

8 the third for Harim, the fourth for Seorim,

9 the fifth for Malchijah, the sixth for Mijamin,

10 the seventh for Hakkoz, the eighth for dAbijah,

11 the ninth for Jeshuah, the tenth for Shecaniah,

12 the eleventh for Eliashib, the twelfth for Jakim,

13 the thirteenth for Huppah, the fourteenth for Jeshebeab,

14 the fifteenth for Bilgah, the sixteenth for Immer,

15 the seventeenth for Hezir, the eighteenth for Aphses,

16 the nineteenth for Pethahiah, the twentieth for Jehezekel,

17 the twenty-first for Jachin, the twenty-second for Gamul,

18 the twenty-third for Delaiah, the twenty-fourth for Maaziah.

19 These were the offices of those in their service to come into the house of the LORD, according to the ordinance under Aaron their father as the LORD God of Israel had commanded him.

Rest of the Levites

20 ¶ And the rest of the sons of Levi were these: of the sons of Amram, Shubael; of the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah.

21 Concerning Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, the first was Isshiah;

22 of the Izharites, Shelomoth; of the sons of Shelomoth, Jahas.

23 And the sons of Hebron, Jeriah was the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth.

24 The son of Uziel was Michah; of the sons of Michah, Shamir.

25 The brother of Michah was Isshiah; of the sons of Isshiah, Zechariah.

26 bThe sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi; the son of Jaaziah, Beno.

27 The sons of Merari by Jaaziah were Beno and Shoham and Zaccur and Ibri.

28 Of Mahli came Eleazar, who had no sons.

29 Concerning Kish: the son of Kish was Jerahmeel.

30 The sons also of Mushi were Mahli and Eder and Jerimoth. These were the sons of the Levites after the house of their fathers.

31 These also cast lots just as their brothers the sons of Aaron in the presence of David the king and Zadok and Ahimelech and the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites, even the principal fathers just as their younger brothers.

Chapter 25

Singers of David

1 ¶ Furthermore, David and the captains of the army separated to the service of the sons of Asaph and of Heman and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries and with cymbals. And the number of the workmen according to their service was:

2 Of the sons of Asaph, Zaccur and Joseph and Nethaniah and Asarelah, the sons of Asaph under the hands of Asaph who prophesies according to the order of the king.

3 Of Jeduthun: the sons of Jeduthun, Gedaliah and Zeri and Jeshuaiah, Hashabiah and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father.
Jeduthun who prophesied in giving thanks and praising the LORD.


5 All these were the sons of Heman the king’s seer in the words of God, to lift up the ‘horn. And God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters.

6 All these were under the hands of their father for music in the house of the LORD, with cymbals, psalteries and harps, for the service of the house of God according to the king’s order to Asaph, Jeduthun and Heman.

7 So the number of them with their brethren who were instructed in the songs of the LORD, even all who were skilled, was 288.

8 And they cast lots for their duties, the small as well as the great, the teacher as well as the student.

9 ¶ Now the first lot came out for Asaph to Joseph, the second to Gedaliah, with his brethren and sons were twelve;

10 the third to Zaccur, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

11 the fourth to Izri, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

12 the fifth to Nethaniah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

13 the sixth to Bukkiah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

14 the seventh to Jesharelah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

15 the eighth to Jeshiaiah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

16 the ninth to Mattaniah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

17 the tenth to Shimei, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

18 the eleventh to Azareel, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

19 the twelfth to Hashabiah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

20 the thirteenth to Shubael, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

21 the fourteenth to Mattithiah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

22 the fifteenth to Jeremoth, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

23 the sixteenth to Hananiah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

24 the seventeenth to Joshbekashah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

25 the eighteenth to Hanani, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

26 the nineteenth to Mallothi, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

27 the twentieth to Eliathah, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

28 the twenty-first to Hothir, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

29 The twenty-second to Giddalti, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

30 The twenty-third to Mahazioth, his sons and his brethren were twelve;

31 The twenty-fourth to Romamthiezer, his sons and his brethren were twelve.

Chapter 26
The Gatekeepers

1 ¶ Concerning the divisions of the gatekeepers: of the Korhites was Meshelemiah the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.

2 And the sons of Meshelemiah were Zechariah the firstborn, Jedediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth,

3 Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Elioenai the seventh.

4 Furthermore, the sons of Obededom were Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third and Sacar the fourth and Nethaneel the fifth,

5 Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth; for God blessed him.

6 Also to Shemaiah his son were sons born who ruled throughout the house of their father, for they were mighty men of valor.

7 The sons of Shemaiah: Othni and Raphael and Obed, Elzabad, whose brethren were strong men, Elihu and Semachiah.

8 All these of the sons of Obededom: they and their sons and their brethren, able men for strength for the service, were sixty-two from Obededom.
9 And Meshelemiah had sons and brethren, eighteen strong men.
10 Also Hosah, of the children of Merari, had a son, Simri the chief (though he was not the firstborn, yet his father made him the chief),
11 Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth. All these sons and relatives of Hosah were thirteen.
12 Among these were the divisions of the gatekeepers, even among the chief men were given duties like their relatives to minister in the house of the LORD.
13 And they cast lots, the small as well as the great, according to the house of their fathers, for every gate.
14 And the lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots. And his lot came out northward.
15 To Obededom it fell southward, and to his sons the store house.
16 To Shuppim and Hosah the lot came out westward, with the Shallecheth Gate by the ascending highway. Guard corresponded to guard.
17 Eastward were six Levites, northward four daily, southward four daily, and toward Asuppim two by two.
18 At Parbar westward, four at the highway and two at Parbar.
19 These are the divisions of the gatekeepers among the sons of Kore and among the sons of Merari.

**Government Officials**
20 And of the Levites, Ahijah was over the treasuries of the house of God and over the treasuries of the dedicated things.
21 As concerning the sons of Laadan, the sons of the Gershonite Laadan, chief fathers, even of Laadan the Gershonite, were Jehieli.
22 The sons of Jehieli: Zetham, and Joel his brother, who were over the treasuries of the house of the LORD.
23 As for the Amramites and the Izharites, the Hebronites and the Uzzielites;
24 and Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, was officer of the treasuries.
25 And his relatives by Eliezer were Rehabiah his son and Jeshaijah his son and Joram his son and Zichri his son and Shelomith his son.
26 This Shelomith and his relatives were over all the treasuries of the dedicated things that David the king and the chief fathers, the captains over thousands and hundreds, and the captains of the army, had dedicated.
27 Out of the spoils won in battles they dedicated to maintain the house of the LORD.
28 And all that Samuel the seer, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah had dedicated, and whoever had dedicated anything, it was under the hand of Shelomith and his relatives.
29 Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were officers and judges over Israel outside Jerusalem.
30 And of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his relatives, men of valor, 1,700, who were officers among those of Israel on this side of the Jordan westward in all the business of the LORD and in the service of the king.
31 Among the Hebronites was Jerijah the chief, even among the Hebronites, according to the generations of his fathers. In the fortieth year of the reign of David they were sought, and there were found among them mighty men of valor at Jazer of Gilead.
32 And his brethren, men of valor, were 2,700 chief fathers, whom King David made rulers over the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh, for every matter pertaining to God and the affairs of the king.

**Chapter 27**

**Divisions of the Army**
1 Now this is the numbering of the sons of Israel, the heads of fathers’ houses, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and their officers who served the king in all the affairs of the divisions that came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year, each division numbering 24,000.
2 Over the first division for the first month was Hashubam the son of Zabdiel. And in his division were 24,000.
3 Of the children of Perez, was the chief of all the captains of the army for the first month.
4 And over the division of the second month was Dodai an Ahohite. And of his division Mikloth also was the ruler. And in his division were 24,000.
5 The third captain of the army for the third month was Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, a chief priest. And in his division were 24,000.
6 This is that Benaiah who was ‘mighty among the thirty, and above the thirty. And in his division was Ammizabad his son.
7 The fourth captain for the fourth month was Asahel the brother of Joab, and Zebadiah his son after him. And in his division were 24,000.
8 The fifth captain for the fifth month was Shamhuth the Izrahite. And in his division were 24,000.
9 The sixth captain for the sixth month was Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite. And in his division were 24,000.
10 The seventh captain for the seventh month was Helez the Pelonite, of the children of Ephraim. And in his division were 24,000.
11 The eighth captain for the eighth month was Sibbecai the Hushasite, of the Zarhites. And in his division were 24,000.
12 The ninth captain for the ninth month was Abiezer the Anetothite, of the Benjamites. And in his division were 24,000.
13 The tenth captain for the tenth month was Maharai the Netophasite, of the Zarhites. And in his division were 24,000.
14 The eleventh captain for the eleventh month was Benaiah the Pirathonite, of the children of Ephraim. And in his division were 24,000.
15 The twelfth captain for the twelfth month was Heldai the Netophasite, of Othniel. And in his division were 24,000.

Tribal Officers
16 ¶ Furthermore, over the tribes of Israel: the ruler of the Reubenites was Eliezer the son of Zichri; for the Simeonites, Shephathiah the son of Maachah;
17 for the Levites, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel; for the Aaronites, Zadok;
18 for Judah, Elihu, one of the brothers of David; for Issachar, Omri the son of Michael;
19 for Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah; for Naphtali, Jerimoth the son of Azriel.
20 For the children of Ephraim was Hoshea the son of Azaziah; for the half tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiah;
21 for the half tribe of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah; for Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner;
22 for Dan, Azareel the son of Jeroham. These were the princes of the tribes of Israel.
23 ¶ But David did not number those from twenty years old and under because the LORD had said he would increase Israel like the stars of the heavens.
24 Joab the son of Zeruiah began to number, but he did not finish. Because of this, wrath came upon Israel, and the number was not put in the account of the chronicles of King David.

The King’s Overseers
25 ¶ And over the king’s treasuries was Azmaveth the son of Adiel. And over the storehouses in the fields, in the cities and in the villages and in the castles, was Jehonathan the son of Uzziah.
26 And over those who did the work of the field for cultivation of the ground was Ezri the son of Chelub.
27 And over the vineyards was Shimei the Ramathite. Over the increase of the vineyards for the wine cellars was Zabdi the Shiphmite.
28 And over the olive trees and the sycamore trees that were in the low plains was Baalhanan the Gederite. And over the cellars of oil was Joash.
29 And over the herds that fed in Sharon was Shitrai the Sharonite. And over the herds that were in the valleys was Shaphat the son of Adlai.
30 Over the camels also was Obil the Ishmaelite. And over the donkeys was Jehdeiah the Meronothite.
31 And over the flocks was Jaziz the Hagerite. All these were the rulers of the property that was King David’s.
32 Also Jonathan, David’s uncle, was a counsellor, a wise man and a scribe. And Jehiel the son of Hachmoni was with the king’s sons.
33 And Ahithophel was the king’s counselor. And Hushai the Archite was the king’s companion.

34 And after Ahithophel was Jehoiada the son of Benaiah, and Abiathar. And Joab was the general of the king’s army.

Chapter 28
Plans for the Temple

1 ¶ And David assembled at Jerusalem all the princes of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the captains of the companies that ministered to the king by division, and the captains over the thousands, and captains over the hundreds, and the stews over all the property and possession of the king and of his sons, with the officers, and with the mighty men, and with all the valiant men.

2 Then David the king stood up on his feet and said, “Hear me, my brethren and my people. As for me, I had in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD and for the footstool of our God. And I had made ready for the building.

3 “But God said to me, ‘You will not build a house for My name because you have been a man of war and have shed blood.’

4 “However, the LORD God of Israel chose me before all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever. For he has chosen Judah to be the ruler, and of the house of Judah, the house of my father. And among the sons of my father he favored me to make me king over all Israel.

5 And of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons), He has chosen Solomon my son to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.

6 “And He said to me, ‘Solomon your son will build My house and My courts. For I have chosen him to be My son, and I will be His father.

7 ‘Furthermore, I will establish his kingdom forever if he continues to do My commandments and My judgments, as it is this day.’

8 “Now therefore in the sight of all Israel the assembly of the LORD, and in the audience of our God, keep and seek all the commandments of the LORD your God so that you may possess this good land and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you forever.

9 ¶ “And you, my son, Solomon, know the God of your father and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches all hearts and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts. ‘If you seek Him, He will be found by you. But if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.

10 “Take heed now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary. Be strong and do it.”

11 ¶ Then David gave to Solomon his son the plan for the porch of the temple, its buildings, its storehouses, its upper rooms, its inner rooms and the room for the mercy seat;

12 and the plan for all that he had in his mind, for the courts of the house of the LORD and for all the chambers all around, for the treasury of the house of God and for the treasury of the dedicated things.

13 He gave plans also for the divisions of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD.

14 He gave of gold by weight for the vessels of gold, for all instruments of all manner of service, silver also for all instruments of silver by weight, for all instruments of every kind of service;

15 even the weight for the candlesticks of gold and for their lamps of gold, by weight for every candlestick, and for its lamps; and for the candlesticks of silver by weight, both for the candlestick and also for its lamps, according to the use of every candlestick.

16 And by weight he gave gold for the tables of showbread, for every table and likewise silver for the tables of silver.

17 Also he gave pure gold for the fleshhooks and the bowls and the cups. And for the golden basins he gave gold by weight for every basin, and likewise silver by weight for every basin of silver.

q 2 Sm 15:12 r 2 Sm 15:32-37 s 1 Kg 1:7 t 1 Ch 11:6 Chapter 28: a 1 Ch 27:16 b 1 Ch 27:1,2 c 1 Ch 27:25 d 1 Ch 11:10-47 e 2 Sm 7:2 f Ps 99:5; 132:7 g 2 Sm 7:13 h 1 Ch 17:4; 22:8 i 1 Sm 16:6-13 j Gn 49:8-10 k 1 Sm 16:1 l 1 Sm 13:14; 16:12,13 m 1 Ch 3:1-9; 14:3-7 n 22:9; 29:1 o 2 Sm 7:13,14 p 1 Ch 22:13 q Jn 17:3 r 2 Kg 20:3 s 1 Sm 16:7 t 2 Ch 15:2 u Dt 31:17 v 1 Ch 22:13; 28:6 w 1 Ch 28:19 x Hb 8:5 y 1 Ch 26:20,28 z 1 Ch 23:6 a Ex 25:31-39 b 1 Kg 7:48
18 And he gave for the altar of incense refined gold by weight, and gold for the pattern of the chariot of the cherubim that spread out their wings and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

19 “All this,” David said, “the LORD made me understand in writing by His hand on me, even all the works of this pattern.”

20 ¶ And David said to Solomon his son, “Be strong and of good courage, and do it. Do not fear, nor be dismayed, for the LORD God, even my God, will be with you. He will not fail you, nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

21 “And behold, the divisions of the priests and the Levites, even they will be with you for all the service of the house of God. And there will be with you for all kinds of workmanship every willing skillful man for any kinds of service. Also the princes and all the people will be wholly at your command.”

Chapter 29
Freewill Offerings

1 ¶ Furthermore, David the king said to all the assembly, “Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen, is still young and tender, and the work is great, for the palace is not for man but for the LORD God.

2 “Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for things to be made of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and the bronze for things of bronze, the iron for things of iron, and wood for things of wood; onyx stones and stones to be set, glistening stones, and of different colors, and all kinds of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance.

3 “Furthermore, in my delight in the house of my God, the treasure I have of gold and silver I give to the house of my God over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house,

4 “3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the buildings;

5 “the gold for things of gold and the silver for things of silver, and for all kinds of work to be made by the hands of craftsmen. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day to the LORD?”

6 ¶ Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king’s work, offered willingly.

7 And they gave for the service of the house of God of gold 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics of gold, and 10,000 talents of silver, and 18,000 talents of bronze, and 100,000 talents of iron.

8 And they with whom precious stones were found gave them to the treasury of the house of the LORD by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite.

9 Then the people rejoiced for what they offered willingly, because with a whole heart they offered willingly to the LORD. And David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

10 ¶ Therefore, David blessed the LORD before all the assembly. And David said, “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

11 k“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty. For all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head above all.

12 l“Both riches and honor come from You. And You reign over all. And in Your hand is power and might. And in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

13 ¶ Now therefore, our God, we thank You and praise Your glorious name.

14 “But who am I, and what are my people that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? For all things come from You and from Your hand we have given to You.

15 “For we are aliens before You, and sojourners, as were all our fathers. Our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is no abiding.

16 ¶ “O LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build You a house for Your holy name comes from Your hand and is all Your own.
17 “I know also, my God, that You try the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things. And now I have seen with joy Your people who are present here to offer willingly to You.

18 “O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac and of Israel, our fathers preserve this forever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of Your people and prepare their heart toward You.

19 “And give to Solomon my son a whole heart to keep Your commandments, Your testimonies and Your statutes, and to do all these things, and to build the palace for which I have made provision.”

20 And David said to all the assembly, “Now bless the LORD your God.” And all the assembly blessed the LORD God of their fathers.

And they bowed down their heads and did homage to the LORD and the king.

Designation of Solomon

21 ¶ And on the next day they made sacrifices to the LORD and offered burnt offerings to the LORD, 1,000 bulls, 1,000 rams and 1,000 lambs, with their drink offerings and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel.

22 And they ate and drank before the LORD on that day with great gladness. And they made Solomon the son of David king the second time. And they anointed him to the LORD to be the chief governor, and Zadok to be priest.

23 Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father. And he prospered, and all Israel obeyed him.

24 And all the princes and the mighty men, and also all the sons of King David, submitted themselves to Solomon the king.

25 And the LORD magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel. And He bestowed on him such royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.

Death of David

26 ¶ Now David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel.

27 “And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years. He reigned seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

28 And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches and honor. And Solomon his son reigned in his place.

29 Now the acts of David the king, from first to last, behold, they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, and in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer,

30 with all his reign and his might and the circumstances that came on him and on Israel, and on all the kingdoms of the lands.
And He said to him, “Ask what I will give you.”

8 And Solomon said to God, “You have showed great mercy to David my father and have made me to reign in his place.

9 “Now, O LORD God, let Your promise to David my father be established, for You have made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude.

10 “Give me now wisdom and knowledge so that I may go out and come in before this people. For who can judge this Your people who is so great?”

11 ¶ And God said to Solomon, “Because this was in your heart and you have not asked riches, wealth, honor, or the life of your enemies, nor have asked for long life, but have asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself so that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king,

12 “wisdom and knowledge is granted to you. And I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had that have been before you, nor those who will come after you.”

13 ¶ Then Solomon came from his journey to the high place that was at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the assembly. And he reigned over Israel.

14 ¶ Then Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen. And he had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen that he placed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.

15 ¶ And Solomon had horses brought from Egypt and from Kue. The king's traders procured them from Kue for a price.

16 And they brought out of Egypt a chariot for 600 shekels of silver, and a horse for 150. And by the same means they brought out horses for all the kings of the Hittites and for the kings of Syria.

Chapter 2
Preparations to Build the Temple

1 ¶ Now Solomon determined to build a house for the name of the LORD and a house for his kingdom.

2 And Solomon assigned 70,000 men to bear burdens and 80,000 men to quarry stone in the mountains and 3,600 to supervise them.

3 ¶ Then Hiram sent to Solomon the king of Tyre, saying, “As you dealt with David my father and sent him cedars to build him a house to dwell in, even so deal with me.

4 ¶ Behold, I am building a house to the name of the LORD my God, to dedicate it to Him and to burn before Him sweet incense, and for the continual showbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening on the Sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of the LORD our God. This is an ordinance forever to Israel.

5 ¶ And the house that I am about to build is great, for great is our God above all gods.

6 ¶ But who is able to build Him a house since the heavens and heaven of heavens cannot contain him? Who am I then that I should build Him a house, except only to burn sacrifice before Him?

7 ¶ Therefore, send me a skilled man to work in gold and in silver and in bronze and in iron and in purple and crimson and blue, and who knows how to make engravings, to work with the skilled men whom I have in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father provided.

8 ¶ Send me also cedar trees, fir trees and algum trees out of Lebanon. For I know that your servants know how to cut timber from Lebanon. And behold, my servants will be with your servants,

9 even to prepare for me timber in abundance. For the house that I am about to build will be great and wonderful.

10 ¶ And behold, I will give to your servants, the hewers that cut timber, 20,000 measures of beaten wheat and 20,000 measures of barley and 20,000 baths of wine and 20,000 baths of oil.”

11 ¶ Then Hiram the king of Tyre answered in writing that he sent to Solomon, “Because the LORD has loved His people, He has made you king over them.”
12 Hiram further said, “‘Blessed is the LORD God of Israel who made heaven and earth, who has given to David the king a wise son, endued him with discretion and understanding so that he might build a house for the LORD and a house for his kingdom.

13 “And now I have sent a skillful man endued with understanding, Hiram, my master craftsman,

14 “the son of a woman of the daughters of Dan. And his father was a man of Tyre, skillful to work in gold and in silver, in bronze, in iron, in stone and in timber, in purple, in blue and in fine linen and in crimson. Who also knows how to make all kinds of engravings and to execute any design that may be assigned to him, to work with your skilled men and with those of my lord David your father.

15 “Now therefore the wheat and the barley, the oil and the wine of which my lord has spoken, let him send to his servants.

16 “And we will cut wood out of Lebanon, as much as you will need. And we will bring it to you in floats by sea to Joppa. Then you will carry it up to Jerusalem.”

17 ¶ So Solomon numbered all the foreigners who were in the land of Israel, after the numbering by which David his father had numbered them. And there were found 153,600.

18 And he appointed 70,000 of them to carry loads and 80,000 to quarry stones in the mountains and 3,600 supervisors to make the people work.

Chapter 3

Solomon Builds the Temple

1 ¶ Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah where the Lord appeared to David his father, in the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

2 And he began to build on the second day of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign.

3 ¶ Now these are the things in which Solomon was instructed for the building of the house of God. The length by cubits after the old measure was sixty cubits and the width twenty cubits.

4 And the porch that was in the front of the house, the length of it was according to the width of the house, twenty cubits. And the height was 120. And he overlaid the inside with pure gold.

5 ¶ And the greater house he paneled with fir trees that he overlaid with fine gold. And he carved on it palm trees and chainworks.

6 And he adorned the house with precious stones for beauty. And the gold was gold from Parvaim.

7 He overlaid also the house, the beams, the posts and its walls and its doors with gold. And he carved cherubim on the walls.

8 ¶ And he made the most holy house. Its length was according to the width of the house, twenty cubits, and its width twenty cubits. And he overlaid it with fine gold amounting to 600 talents.

9 And the weight of the nails was fifty shekels of gold. And he overlaid the upper chambers with gold.

10 ¶ And in the most holy house he made two cherubim designed by carving and he overlaid them with gold.

11 And the wings of the cherubim were twenty cubits long. One wing of the one cherub was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house. And the other wing was also five cubits, reaching to the wing of the other cherub.

12 And one wing of the other cherub was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house. And the other wing was five cubits also, joining to the wing of the other cherub.

13 The wings of these cherubim spread themselves twenty cubits. And they stood on their feet with their faces inward.

14 And he made the veil of blue and purple and crimson and fine linen. And he wove cherubim on it.

15 ¶ He also made before the house two pillars thirty-five cubits high. And the capital that was on the top of each of them was five cubits.

16 And he made chains in the inner sanctuary and put them on the heads of the pillars. And
he made "one hundred pomegranates and put them on the chains.
17 And he "set up the pillars in front of the temple, one on the right hand and the other on the left. And he called the name of the one on the right hand, Jachin, and the name of the one on the left, Boaz.

Chapter 4
The Temple Furnishings
1 ¶ Furthermore, he made an "altar of bronze twenty cubits long and twenty cubits wide and ten cubits high.
2 ¶ He also made a molten sea of ten cubits from brim to brim, circular in shape, and five cubits high. And its circumference was thirty cubits.
3 And under it was the likeness of oxen that encircled it all around. Two rows of oxen were cast when it was cast.
4 It stood on twelve "oxen, three looking toward the north and three looking toward the west and three looking toward the south and three looking toward the east. And the sea was set above and on them. And all their hinder parts were inward.
5 And its thickness was a handwidth. And its brim was like the work of the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies. It could hold 3,000 baths.
6 He made also ten lavers to wash in and put five on the right hand and five on the left. They washed in them the things that pertained to the burnt offering. But the sea was only for the priests to wash in.
7 ¶ And he made ten candlesticks of gold according to their form and set them in the temple. Five were on the right hand and five on the left.
8 ¶ He made also ten tables and placed them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left. And he made one hundred "basins of gold.
9 ¶ Furthermore, he made the court of the priests and the 'great court and doors for the court. And he overlaid their doors with bronze.
10 ¶ And he set the sea on the right side of the east end, toward the south.
11 ¶ And "Hiram made the pots and the shovels and the basins. And Hiram finished the work that he was to make for King Solomon for the house of God.
12 These were the two pillars and the "bowls, and the capitals that were on the top of the two pillars, and the two networks to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the pillars.
13 And 400 pomegranates on the two networks, two rows of pomegranates on each network to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the pillars.
14 He also made the "bases and he made the basins on the bases,
15 one sea and twelve oxen under it.
16 ¶ Hiram his master made also for King Solomon for the house of the LORD of bright bronze the pots and the shovels and the fleshhooks and all their instruments.
17 The king cast them in the plain of Jordan, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredathah.
18 ¶ Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance. For the weight of the bronze could not be determined.
19 ¶ And 'Solomon made all the vessels that were for the house of God, the golden altar also and the tables on which the 'showbread was set.
20 Furthermore, he made the candlesticks of pure gold with their lamps that they should burn according to the pattern in front of the inner sanctuary.
21 And he made of gold, that is purest gold, the flowers and the lamps and the tongs and the snuffers and the basins and the spoons and the censers of pure gold. And the entrance of the house, the inner doors for the most holy place, and the doors of the house of the temple were of gold.

Chapter 5
1 ¶ Thus "all the work that Solomon made for the house of the LORD was finished. Then Solomon brought in all the things that David his father had dedicated, the silver and the gold
and all the instruments. And he put them among the treasures of the house of God.

2 ¶ Then Solomon assembled to Jerusalem the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, in order to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, that is Zion.

3 Then all the men of Israel assembled themselves to the king at the feast that was in the seventh month.

4 And all the elders of Israel came. And the Levites took up the ark.

5 So they brought up the ark and the tabernacle of the assembly and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle. These the priests and the Levites brought up.

6 Also King Solomon and all the assembly of Israel who were assembled to him before the ark sacrificed sheep and oxen that could not be counted or numbered.

7 And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubim.

8 For the cherubim spread forth their wings over the place of the ark and the cherubim covered the ark and its poles.

9 And they extended the poles of the ark so that the ends of the poles of the ark were seen from the inner sanctuary. But they were not seen outside. And there it is to this day.

10 There was nothing in the ark except the two tables that Moses put in it at Horeb when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt.

11 ¶ Now it came to pass when the priests came out of the holy place (for all the priests who were present were sanctified and did not then wait by divisions),

12 and all the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being clothed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them 120 priests sounding with trumpets,

13 indeed it came even to pass as the trumpet-ers and singers were in unison to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, “For He is good, for His mercy endures forever,” that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD,

14 so that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud. For the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

Chapter 6

1 ¶ Then Solomon said, “The LORD has said that He would dwell in the dark darkness.

2 “But I have built a house of habitation for You and a place for Your dwelling forever.”

3 ¶ Then the king turned his face and blessed the whole assembly of Israel. And all the assembly of Israel stood.

4 And he said, “Blessed is the LORD God of Israel who has with His hands fulfilled what He spoke with His mouth to my father David, saying,

5 ‘Since the day that I brought forth My people out of the land of Egypt I chose no city among all the tribes of Israel to build a house in order that My name might be there. Neither did I choose any man to be a ruler over My people Israel.

6 ‘But I have chosen Jerusalem so that My name might be there, and I have chosen David to be over My people Israel.’

7 ‘Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

8 ‘But the LORD said to David my father, ‘Forasmuch as it was in your heart to build a house for My name, you did well in that it was in your heart.

9 ‘Nevertheless, you will not build the house, but your son who will come forth out of your loins, he will build the house for My name.’

10 ‘The LORD therefore has performed His word that He has spoken, for I have risen in the place of my father David and sit on the throne of Israel as the LORD promised. And I
have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.
11 “And in it I have placed the ark that is the covenant of the LORD that He made with the children of Israel.”

Solomon’s Prayer of Dedication

12 1And he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread forth his hands.
13 Now Solomon had made a bronze platform five cubits long and five cubits wide and three cubits high. And he had set it in the middle of the court. And he stood on it and kneeled down on his knees before all the assembly of Israel. And he spread forth his hands toward heaven
14 and said, “O LORD God of Israel, there is no God like You in the heaven nor on the earth who keeps Your covenant and shows mercy to Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts.
15 “You who have kept with Your servant David my father that which You have promised him. And You spoke with Your mouth and have fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.
16 “Now therefore, O LORD God of Israel, keep with Your servant David my father that which You have promised him, saying, ‘There will not fail you a man in My sight to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children take heed to their way to walk in My law as You have walked before Me.’
17 “Now then, O LORD God of Israel, let Your word come true that You have spoken to Your servant David.
18 ¶ “But will God indeed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heavens cannot contain You. How much less this house that I have built!
19 “Have respect therefore to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken to the cry and the prayer that Your servant prays before You,
20 “so that Your eyes may be ‘open on this house day and night, toward the place of which You have said that You would put Your name, to hear to the prayer that Your servant prays toward this place.
21 “Hearken therefore to the supplications of Your servant, and of Your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from Your dwelling place, even from heaven. And when You hear, forgive.
22 ¶ “If a man sin against his neighbor, and an oath be laid on him to make him swear, and the oath come before Your altar in this house,
23 “then hear from heaven and act, and judge Your servants by retribution on the wicked, by bringing his way on his own head, and by justifying the righteous, by giving him according to his righteousness.
24 ¶ “And if Your people Israel are defeated before an enemy because they have sinned against You, and will return and confess Your name, and pray and make supplication before You in this house,
25 “then hear from the heavens and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them again to the land that You gave to them and to their fathers.
26 ¶ “When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, yet if they pray toward this place and confess Your name and turn from their sin when You have afflicted them,
27 “then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants and of Your people Israel when You have taught them the good way, wherein they should walk, and send rain on Your land that You have given to Your people for an inheritance.
28 ¶ “If there is famine in the land, if there is pestilence, if there is blight or mildew, if there is locust or grasshopper, if their enemies besiege them in the cities of their land, whatever sore or whatever sickness there is,
29 “then what prayer or whatever supplication will be made by any man, or by all Your people Israel, when everyone will know his own sore and his own grief, and will spread forth his hands in this house,
30 “then hear from heaven Your dwelling place and forgive, and render to every man according to all his ways, whose heart You know, for
You only know the hearts of the children of men,
31 “that they may fear You, to walk in Your ways so long as they live in the land that You gave to our fathers.

32 ¶ Moreover, concerning the foreigner who is not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your great name’s sake and Your mighty hand and Your stretched out arm, if they come and pray in this house,
33 “then hear from the heavens, even from Your dwelling place and do according to all that the foreigner calls to You so that all people of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and may know that this house that I have built is called by Your name.

34 ¶ “If Your people go out to war against their enemies by the way that You will send them, and they pray to You toward this city that You have chosen, and the house that I have built for Your name,
35 “then hear from the heavens their prayer and their supplication and maintain their cause.

36 ¶ “If they sin against You (for there is no man who does not sin), and You are angry with them and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captive to a land far off or near,
37 “yet if they take thought in the land where they are taken captive and turn and pray to You in the land of their captivity, saying, ‘We have sinned. We have committed iniquity and have dealt wickedly,’
38 “if they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, and pray toward their land that You have given to their fathers, and toward the city that You have chosen, and toward the house that I have built for Your name,
39 “then hear from the heavens, even from Your dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause and forgive Your people who have sinned against You.

40 “Now, my God, let, I beseech You, Your eyes be open. And let Your ears attend to the prayer that is made in this place.
41 ¶ “Now therefore arise, O LORD God, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength. Let Your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation and let Your saints rejoice in goodness.
42 “O LORD God, do not turn away the face of Your anointed. Remember the mercies of David Your servant.”

Chapter 7

Dedication of the Temple

1 ¶ Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices. And the glory of the LORD filled the house.
2 d And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD’S house.
3 And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped. And they praised the LORD, saying, “For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.”
4 ¶ Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD.
5 And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.
6 h And the priests stood according to their services, the Levites also with instruments of music of the LORD that David the king had made to praise the LORD because His mercy endures forever, when David praised by their ministry. And the priests sounded trumpets before them and all Israel stood.
7 ¶ Furthermore, J Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD, for there he offered burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings because the bronze altar that Solomon had made was not able to contain the burnt offerings and the grain offerings and the fat.
8 ¶ Also at the same time Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very
great assembly who came from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of Egypt.
9 And on the eighth day they made a solemn assembly. For they kept the dedication of the altar seven days and the feast seven days.
10 And on the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their tents, rejoicing and happy in heart for the goodness that the LORD had showed to David and to Solomon and to Israel His people.
11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king’s house. And he successfully completed all that came into his heart to make in the house of the LORD and in his own house.

The Lord Appears to Solomon
12 ¶ And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night. And He said to him, “I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for Myself for a house of sacrifice.
13 “If I shut up heaven so that there is no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people;
14 “and if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.
15 “Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.
16 “For now I have chosen and sanctified this house so that My name may be there forever. And My eyes and My heart will be there continually;
17 “And as for you, if you will walk before Me as David your father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and will observe My statutes and My judgments,
18 “then I will establish the throne of your kingdom according as I have covenanted with David your father, saying, ‘There will not fail you a man to be ruler in Israel.’
19 ¶ “But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments that I have set before you, and will go and serve other gods and worship them,

20 “then I will pluck them up by the roots out of My land that I have given them, and this house that I have sanctified for My name, I will cast out of My sight and will make it a proverb and a byword among all nations.
21 “And this house that is high will be an astonishment to everyone who passes by it, so that he will say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?’
22 “And it will be answered, ‘Because they forsok the LORD God of their fathers who brought them forth out of the land of Egypt and they laid hold on other gods and worshiped them and served them. Therefore, He has brought all this calamity on them.’”

Chapter 8
Building the Kingdom of Israel
1 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of the twenty years in which Solomon had built the house of the LORD and his own house,
2 that he built the cities that Hiram had given to him. And he settled the sons of Israel there.
3 And Solomon went to Hamath Zobah and captured it.
4 And he built Tadmor in the wilderness and all the storage cities that he built in Hamath.
5 He also built upper Beth-horon and lower Beth-horon, fortified cities with walls, gates and bars;
6 and Baalath, and all the storage cities that Solomon had and all the chariot cities and the cities of the horsemen and all that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem and in Lebanon and throughout all the land of his dominion.
7 ¶ As for all the people who were left of the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites who were not of Israel,
8 but of their children who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel had not destroyed, them Solomon raised as forced laborers to this day.
9 But of the children of Israel Solomon made no servants for his work. But they were men of war and chief of his captains and captains of his chariots and horsemen.
And these were the chief of King Solomon’s officers, even 250 who ruled over the people.

¶ And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David to the house that he had built for her, for he said, “My wife will not dwell in the house of David king of Israel, because the places are holy to which the ark of the LORD has come.”

Then Solomon offered burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of the LORD that he had built before the porch,

according to the daily rate, offering according to the commandment of Moses on the Sabbaths and on the new moons and on the solemn feasts, three times in the year, even on the feast of unleavened bread and on the feast of weeks and on the feast of tabernacles.

And he appointed according to the order of David his father the divisions of the priests to their service and the Levites to their duties, to praise and minister before the priests as the duty of every day required, and the gatekeepers also by their divisions at every gate. For David the man of God had so commanded.

And they did not depart from the commandment of the king to the priests and Levites concerning any matter or concerning the treasuries.

Now all the work of Solomon was carried out from the day of the foundation of the house of the LORD and until it was finished. So the house of the LORD was completed.

Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber and to Eloth, at the sea side in the land of Edom.

And Hiram sent him ships by the hands of his servants, and servants who had knowledge of the sea. And they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir and took from there 450 talents of gold. And they brought them to King Solomon.

Chapter 9
Visit by the Queen of Sheba

¶ Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to test Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem. She came with a very great company and camels that bore spices and gold in abundance and precious stones. And when she had come to Solomon she discussed with him about all that was in her heart.

So Solomon answered all her questions. And there was nothing so difficult for Solomon that he could not explain it to her.

And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon and the house that he had built,

and the food of his table, and the seating of his servants and the attendance of his ministers and their apparel, his cupbearers also and their apparel, and his ascent by which he went up into the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her.

¶ And she said to the king, “It was a true report that I heard in my own land about your acts and about your wisdom.

Nevertheless, I did not believe their words until I came and my eyes have seen it. And behold, the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. For you exceed the fame that I heard.

Happy are your men and happy are these your servants who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom.

Blessed be the LORD your God who delights in you to set you on His throne, to be king for the LORD your God. Because your God loved Israel in order to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do judgment and justice.”

And she gave the king 120 talents of gold and a great amount of spices and precious stones. There had never been spice like that which the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

¶ And the servants also of Hiram, and the servants of Solomon who brought gold from Ophir, brought algum trees and precious stones.

And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba.

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Blessed be the LORD your God who delights in you to set you on His throne, to be king for the LORD your God. Because your God loved Israel in order to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do judgment and justice.”

And she gave the king 120 talents of gold and a great amount of spices and precious stones. There had never been spice like that which the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

¶ And the servants also of Hiram, and the servants of Solomon who brought gold from Ophir, brought algum trees and precious stones.

And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba.
Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked, beside what she had brought to the king. So she turned and went away to her own land, she and her servants.

_Greatness of Solomon_

13 ¶ Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold, besides that which traders and merchants brought. And all the kings of Arabia and governors of the country brought gold and silver to Solomon.

15 And King Solomon made two hundred shields of beaten gold. Six hundred shekels of beaten gold went into one shield.

16 And he made three hundred shields of beaten gold. Three hundred shekels of gold went into one shield. And the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.

17 Furthermore, the king made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with pure gold.

18 And there were six steps to the throne and a footstool in gold attached to the throne, and arms on each side of the sitting place, and two lions standing by the arms.

19 And twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other on the six steps. There was nothing like it made in any kingdom.

20 And all the drinking vessels of King Solomon were of gold. And all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold. Silver was not considered valuable in the days of Solomon.

21 For the king’s ships went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years the ships of Tarshish came bringing gold and silver, ivory and apes and peacocks.

22 ¶ And King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

23 And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom that God had put in his heart.

24 And every man brought his present, vessels of silver and vessels of gold and clothing, armor and spices, horses and mules, so much year by year.

25 And Solomon had 4,000 stalls for horses and chariots and 12,000 horsemen whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.

26 ¶ And he reigned over all the kings from the River even to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt.

27 And the king made silver in Jerusalem as stones. And he made cedar trees as the sycamore trees that are in the low plains in abundance.

28 And they brought to Solomon horses out of Egypt and out of all lands.

_Death of Solomon_

29 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, from the first to the last, are they not written in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat?

30 And Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years.

31 And Solomon slept with his fathers and he was buried in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 10

_Rebellion Against Rehoboam_

1 ¶ Then Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king.

2 Now it came to pass when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was in Egypt where he had fled from the presence of Solomon the king, heard it, that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt.

3 And they sent and called him. So Jeroboam and all Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,

4 “Your father made our yoke grievous. Now therefore lighten the hard servitude of your father and his heavy yoke that he put on us, and we will serve you.”

5 And he said to them, “Return to me after three days.” And the people departed.

6 ¶ Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men who had stood before Solomon his father while he still lived, saying, “What counsel do you give me to answer this people?”

7 And they spoke to him, saying, “If you are kind to this people and please them, and speak
good words to them, they will be your servants forever.”
8 But he forsook the counsel that the old men gave him and took counsel with the young men who were brought up with him and stood before him.
9 And he said to them, “What advice do you give that we may answer this people who have spoken to me, saying, ‘Ease somewhat the yoke that your father put on us’?”
10 And the young men who were brought up with him spoke to him, saying, “Thus will you answer the people who spoke to you, saying, ‘Your father made our yoke heavy, but make it somewhat lighter for us.’ Thus you will say to them, ‘My little finger will be thicker than my father’s waist.
11 For whereas my father put a heavy yoke on you, I will add more to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.’”
12 ¶ So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day as the king directed, saying, “Return to me on the third day.”
13 Then the king answered them harshly, and King Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men.
14 And he answered them after the advice of the young men, saying, “My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to it. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.”
15 So the king did not hearken to the people, “for it was brought about by God so that the LORD might perform His word that He spoke by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
16 ¶ Now when all Israel saw that the king would not hearken to them, the people answered the king, saying, “What share have we in David? And we have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. Every man to your tents, O Israel. And now, David, see to your own house.” So all Israel went to their tents.
17 But as for the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.
18 Then King Rehoboam sent Hadoram who was over the revenue. But the children of Israel stoned him with stones so that he died. Then King Rehoboam made haste to mount his chariot in order to flee to Jerusalem.
19 ¶ Then Israel rebelled against the house of David to this day.

Chapter 11
1 ¶ Now when Rehoboam had returned to Jerusalem, he gathered of the house of Judah and Benjamin 180,000 chosen men who were warriors in order to fight against Israel so that he might bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam.
2 ¶ But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying,
3 “Speak to Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying,
4 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “You will not go up, nor fight against your brethren. Return every man to his house, for this thing is from Me.”” And they obeyed the words of the LORD and returned from going against Jeroboam.

Fortification of Judah
5 ¶ So Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem and built cities for the defence in Judah.
6 He built Bethlehem and Etam and Tekoa
7 and Bethzur and Shoco and Adullam
8 and Gath and Mareshah and Ziph
9 and Adoraim and Lachish and Azekah
10 and Zorah and Aijalon and Hebron, that are fortified cities in Judah and in Benjamin.
11 And he fortified the strongholds and put captains in them, and stored food and oil and wine.
12 And in every city he put shields and spears, and made them exceedingly strong. And Judah and Benjamin belonged to him.
13 ¶ And the priests and the Levites who were in all Israel took their stand with him.
14 For the Levites left their pasture lands and their possessions and came to Judah and Jerusalem, for Jeroboam and his sons had excluded them from serving as priests to the LORD.
15 ¶ He ordained for himself priests for the
high places and for the 'demons, and for the 

calf idols that he had made.

16 And those from all the tribes of Israel who 
set their hearts to seek the LORD God of Is- 

erael followed them to Jerusalem, to sacrifice 

to the LORD God of their fathers.

17 So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah 
and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon 
strong for three years. For three years they 
walked in the way of David and Solomon.

Family of Rehoboam

18 ¶ And Rehoboam married Mahalath the 
daughter of Jerimoth the son of David, and 
Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse, 

19 who bore him children: Jeush and 
Shamariah and Zaham.

20 Then after her he took Maachah the 
dughter of Absalom who bore him Abijah and 
Atta and Ziza and Shelomith.

21 And Rehoboam loved Maachah the daugh-
ter of Absalom above all his wives and his 
concubines. For he took eighteen wives, sixty 
concubines, and begot twenty-eight sons and 
sixty daughters.

22 And Rehoboam made Abijah the son of 
Maachah the chief, to be ruler among his breth-
ren, for he intended to make him king.

23 And he dealt wisely and distributed some 
of his children throughout all the countries of 
Judah and Benjamin, to all the fortified cities.
And he gave them food in abundance. And he 
sought for them many wives.

Chapter 12

Shishak Attacks Jerusalem

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Rehoboam had 
established the kingdom and had strengthened 
himself, he forsook the law of the LORD and 
all Israel with him.

2 ¶ Then it came to pass in the fifth year of 
King Rehoboam that Shishak king of Egypt 
came up against Jerusalem because they had 
trespassed against the LORD.

3 He came with 1,200 chariots and 60,000 
horsemen. And the people out of Egypt could 
not be numbered, the Lubims, the Sukkiims 
and the Ethiopians.

4 And he took the fortified cities of Judah. 
Then he came to Jerusalem.

5 ¶ Then Shemaiah the prophet came to Re-

hoboam and to the princes of Judah who were 
gathered together at Jerusalem because of 

Shishak. And he said to them, “Thus says the 
LORD, ‘You have forsaken Me, therefore I 
have also left you in the hand of Shishak.’”

6 So the princes of Israel and the king hum-
pelled themselves. And they said, “The LORD 
is righteous.”

7 Now when the LORD saw that they humbled 
themselves, the word of the LORD came to 
Shemaiah, saying, “They have humbled them-
selves. Therefore I will not destroy them, but I 
will grant them some deliverance. And My 
wrath will not be poured out on Jerusalem by 
the hand of Shishak.

8 “Nevertheless, they will be his servants so 
that they may know My service and the ser-
vice of the kingdoms of the nations.”

9 ¶ So Shishak king of Egypt came up against 
Jerusalem and took away the treasures of the 
house of the LORD and the treasures of the 
king’s house. He took all. He carried away also 
the shields of gold that Solomon had made.

10 Then King Rehoboam made shields of 
bronze in their place and committed them to 
the hands of the chief of the guard who kept 
the entrance of the king’s house.

11 And when he humbled himself, the wrath 
of the LORD turned from him so that He would 
not completely destroy him. And also in Judah 
things went well.

12 And when he humbled himself, the wrath 
of the LORD turned from him so that He would 
not completely destroy him. And also in Judah 
things went well.

13 ¶ So King Rehoboam strengthened him-
self in Jerusalem and reigned, for Rehoboam 
was forty-one years when he began to reign.

And he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, 
the city that the LORD had chosen out of all 
the tribes of Israel in order to put His name 
there. And his mother’s name was Naamah an 
Ammonitess.
14 And he did evil because he did not prepare his heart to seek the LORD.
15 ¶ Now the acts of Rehoboam, from first to last, are they not written in the book of Shemaiah the prophet, and of Iddo the seer concerning genealogies? And there were wars continually between Rehoboam and Jeroboam.
16 Then Rehoboam slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David, and Abijah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 13
Abijah Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Now in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam, Abijah began to reign over Judah.
2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Michiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.
3 And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, even 400,000 chosen men. Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with 800,000 chosen men who were mighty men of valor.
4 ¶ And Abijah stood up on Mount Zemaraim, that is in Mount Ephraim. And he said, “Hear me, Jeroboam, and all Israel.
5 “Do you not know that the LORD God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David forever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?
6 “Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up and has rebelled against his lord.
7 “And there are gathered to him worthless men, the children of rebellion. And they have strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and timid, and could not withstand them.
8 “And now you think to stand against the kingdom of the LORD in the hand of the sons of David. And you are a great multitude and there are with you golden calves that Jeroboam made you for gods.
9 “Have you not cast out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made for yourselves priests after the manner of the nations of other lands? Whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull and seven rams, even he may be a priest of those that are not gods.
10 “But as for us, the LORD is our God and we have not forsaken Him. And the priests who minister to the LORD are the sons of Aaron, and the Levites attend to their work.
11 “And they burn to the LORD every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense. They also set in order the showbread on the clean table, and the candlestick of gold with its lamps is ready to burn every evening. For we keep the charge of the LORD our God, but you have forsaken Him.
12 “And behold, God Himself is with us as our captain and His priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, do not fight against the LORD God of your fathers, for you will not prosper.”
13 ¶ But Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind them. So they were before Judah and the ambushment was behind them.
14 And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind. And they cried out to the LORD and the priests sounded with the trumpets.
15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout. And as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass that God struck Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.
16 So the children of Israel fled before Judah. And God delivered them into their hand.
17 Then Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter. So there fell down slain of Israel 500,000 chosen men.
18 Thus the sons of Israel were subdued at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed because they relied on the LORD God of their fathers.
19 Then Abijah pursued after Jeroboam. And he took cities from him, Bethel with its towns, and Jeshanah with its towns, and Ephrain with its towns.
20 Jeroboam did not recover strength again in the days of Abijah. And the LORD struck him and he died.
21 ¶ But Abijah waxed mighty and married fourteen wives and begot twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters.

22 And the rest of the acts of Abijah and his ways, and his sayings, are written in the annals of the prophet Iddo.

Chapter 14

1 ¶ So Abijah slept with his fathers and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land was at peace for ten years.

Asa Reigns Over Judah

2 ¶ And Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God.

3 For he took away the altars of the foreign gods and the high places, and broke down the images and cut down the wooden images.

4 And he commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers and to do the law and the commandment.

5 He also took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images. And the kingdom was at peace under him.

6 And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had peace. And he had no war in those years because the LORD had given him rest.

7 Therefore, he said to Judah, “Let us build these cities and make walls around them and towers, gates and bars, while the land is still before us, because we have sought the LORD our God. We have sought Him and He has given us rest on every side.” So they built and prospered.

8 Now Asa had an army of 300,000 from Judah, bearing large shields and spears, and 280,000 from Benjamin, bearing shields and drew bows. All these were mighty men of valor.

9 ¶ And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an army of a million men and 300 chariots. And he came to Mareshah.

10 Then Asa went out against him. And they set the battle in array in the Valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

11 And Asa cried out to the LORD his God and said, “LORD, it is nothing with You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power. Help us, O LORD our God, for we trust in You and in Your name we go against this multitude. O LORD, You are our God. Let no man prevail against You.”

12 ¶ So the LORD struck the Ethiopians before Asa and before Judah. And the Ethiopians fled.

13 And Asa and the people who were with him pursued them to Gerar. And the Ethiopians were overthrown so that they could not recover themselves, for they were destroyed before the LORD and before His army. And they carried away much spoil.

14 Then they struck all the cities around Gerar, for the fear of the LORD came on them. And they plundered all the cities, for there was an exceeding amount of spoil in them.

15 They struck also the tents of cattle and carried away sheep and camels in abundance. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

Chapter 15

Reforms of Asa

1 ¶ Then the Spirit of God came on Azariah the son of Oded.

2 And he went out to meet Asa. And he said to him, "Listen to me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. And if you seek Him, He will let you find Him. But if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.

3 "Now for a long season Israel was without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.

4 "But when they in their trouble turned to the LORD God of Israel and sought Him, He was found by them.

5 "And in those times there was no peace for him who went out, nor to him who came in. But great afflictions were on all the inhabitants of the countries.

6 "And nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city. For God afflicted them with all adversity.

7 "Be strong therefore, and do not let your
hands be weak, for your work will be rewarded.”

8 ¶ And when Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities that he had taken from Mount Ephraim. And he renewed the altar of the LORD that was before the porch of the LORD.

9 And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the foreigners with those from Ephraim and Manasseh and from Simeon, for they defected to him from Israel in great numbers when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.

10 ¶ So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

11 And they offered to the LORD that day of the spoil that they had brought, 700 oxen and 7,000 sheep.

12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul;

13 that whoever would not seek the LORD God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

14 And they swore to the LORD with a loud voice and with shouting and with trumpets and with rams’ horns.

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath. For they had sworn with all their heart and sought Him with their whole desire. And He was found by them. And the LORD gave them rest all around.

16 ¶ Now also concerning Maachah the mother of Asa the king, he removed her from being queen because she had made an idol in a grove. And Asa cut down her idol and crushed it and burned it at the Brook Kidron.

17 But the high places were not taken away out of Israel. Nevertheless the heart of Asa was loyal all his days.

18 ¶ And he brought into the house of God the things that his father had dedicated, and what he himself had dedicated, silver and gold and vessels.

19 And there was no more war until the thirty-fifth year of Asa’s reign.

Chapter 16
End of Asa’s Reign

1 ¶ In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah. And he built Ramah to prevent anyone from going out or coming in to Asa king of Judah.

2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD and from the king’s house. And he sent to Benhadad king of Syria who dwelt at Damascus, saying,

3 “Let there be a treaty between me and you as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent you silver and gold. Go and break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel so that he may depart from me.”

4 So Benhadad hearkened to King Asa. And he sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel. And they struck Ijon and Dan and Abelmaim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali.

5 Now it came to pass when Baasha heard this that he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease.

6 Then Asa the king took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber with what Baasha was building. And he built Geba and Mizpah with it.

7 ¶ And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah. And he said to him, “Because you have relied on the king of Syria and not relied on the LORD your God, therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped out of your hand.

8 “Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a great army, with many chariots and horsemen? But because you relied on the LORD, He delivered them into your hand.

9 “And for the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole world, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. Herein you have done foolishly. Therefore from now on you will have wars.”

10 Then Asa was angry with the seer. And he put him in a prison house, for he was in a rage
with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people at the same time. And behold, the acts of Asa, from first to last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

12 And Asa in the thirty-ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet until his disease was exceedingly great. Yet in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but the physicians.

13 So Asa slept with his fathers and died in the forty-first year of his reign.

14 And they buried him in his own tomb that he had made for himself in the city of David. And they laid him in the bed that was filled with spices and various ingredients prepared in a mixture of ointments. And they made a very great burning for him.

Chapter 17

Jehoshaphat Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Then Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place. And he strengthened himself against Israel.

2 And he placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah and set garrisons in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim that Asa his father had taken.

3 And the LORD was with Jehoshaphat because he walked in the first ways of his father David and did not seek the Baals.

4 But he sought the God of his father and walked in His commandments. He did not do according to the acts of Israel.

5 Therefore, the LORD established the kingdom in his hand. And all Judah brought gifts and tribute of silver. And the Arabians brought him flocks, 7,700 rams and 7,700 male goats.

6 And Jehoshaphat became exceedingly great. And he built in Judah fortresses and storage cities.

7 And he had much business in the cities of Judah. And the men of war, mighty men of valor, were in Jerusalem.

8 And these are their numbers according to the house of their fathers: of Judah, the captains of thousands; Adnah the chief, and with him mighty men of valor, 300,000.

9 And next to him was Jehohanan the captain, and with him 280,000.

10 And next him was Amasiah the son of Zichri, who willingly offered himself to the LORD, and with him 200,000 mighty men of valor.

11 And of Benjamin, Eliada a mighty man of valor, and with him armed men with bow and shield, 200,000.

12 And next him was Jehozabad, and with him 180,000 prepared for the war.

13 These waited on the king, beside those whom the king put in the fortified cities throughout all Judah.

Chapter 18

Micaiah Prophesies Against Ahab

1 ¶ Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honor in abundance. And he allied himself by marriage with Ahab.

2 And after some years he went down to Ahab to Samaria. And Ahab killed sheep and oxen Adonijah and Tobijah and Tobadonijah, the Levites. And with them he sent Elishama and Jehoram, the priests.

3 And they taught in Judah and had the book of the law of the LORD with them. And they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people.

4 ¶ So the fear of the LORD fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were all around Judah, so that they did not make war against Jehoshaphat.

5 Some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat gifts and tribute of silver. And the Arabians brought him flocks, 7,700 rams and 7,700 male goats.
for him in abundance, and for the people whom 
he had with him. And he persuaded him to go 
up with him to Ramoth Gilead.

Then Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat 
king of Judah, “Will you go with me to Ramoth 
Gilead?” And he answered him, “I am as you 
are and my people as your people. So we will 
be with you in the war.”

¶ And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, 
“Please inquire first for the word of the LORD 
today.”

Therefore, the king of Israel gathered to-
gether four hundred men of the prophets and 
said to them, “Will we go to Ramoth Gilead to 
battle or will I refrain?” And they said, “Go 
up, for God will deliver it into the king’s hand.”

¶ But Jehoshaphat said, “Is there not here a 
prophet of the LORD that we might inquire of 
him?”

And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, 
“There is yet one man by whom we may in-
quire of the LORD. But I hate him, for he never 
prophesies good to me, but always evil. The 
same is Micaiah the son of Imla.” And 
Jehoshaphat said, “Do not let the king say such 
things.”

And the king of Israel called for one of his 
officers and said, “Bring quickly Micaiah the 
son of Imla.”

And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king 
of Judah were each sitting on his throne, 
clothed in their robes. And they sat in an open 
place at the entrance of the gate of Samaria. 
And all the prophets prophesied before them.

And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah had 
made for himself horns of iron. And he said, 
“Thus says the LORD, ‘With these you will 
push Syria until they are consumed.’”

And all the prophets prophesied so, say-
ing, “Go up to Ramoth Gilead and prosper, 
for the LORD will deliver it into the hand of 
the king.”

And the messenger who went to call 
Micaiah spoke to him, saying, “Behold, the 
words of the prophets declare good to the king 
with one accord. Therefore, please let your word 
be like one of theirs, and speak good.”

And Micaiah said, “As the LORD lives, 
even what my God says that I will speak.”

¶ And when he came to the king, the king 
said to him, “Micaiah, will we go to Ramoth 
Gilead to battle, or I will refrain?” And he said, 
“Go up and prosper, and they will be deliv-
ered into your hand.”

¶ And the king said to him, “How many times 
will I adjure you that you say nothing but the 
truth to me in the name of the LORD?”

Then he said, “I did see all Israel scattered 
on the mountains, as sheep that have no 
shepherd. And the LORD said, ‘These have no 
master, let them return therefore every man to 
his house in peace.’”

¶ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, 
“Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy 
good to me, but evil?”

¶ Again he said, “Therefore, hear the word 
of the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on His 
throne and all the army of heaven standing on 
His right hand and on His left.

Then the LORD said, ‘Who will entice 
Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall 
at Ramoth Gilead?’ And one spoke saying af-
after this manner and another saying after that 
manner.

Then there came out a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And the 
LORD said, ‘You will entice him, and you will also prevail. Go out and do so.’

Now therefore, behold, “the LORD has 
put a lying spirit in the mouth of these your 
prophets, and the LORD has spoken evil 
against you.”

¶ Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah 
came near and struck Micaiah on the cheek. 
And he said, “How did the Spirit of the LORD 
pass from me to speak to you?”

Then Micaiah said, “Behold, you will see 
on that day when you will go into an inner 
chamber to hide yourself.”

Then the king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah 
and carry him back to Amon the governor of 
the city, and to Joash the king’s son,

and say, ‘Thus says the king, “Put this fif-
low in the prison and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction until I return in peace.”’”

27 And Micaiah said, “If you indeed return in peace, then the LORD has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Take heed, all you people.”

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Ahab Killed at Ramoth Gilead

28 ¶ So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead.

29 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself and will go into the battle. But you put on your robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into the battle.

30 Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of the chariots who were with him, saying, “Do not fight with small or great, except only with the king of Israel.”

31 Now it came to pass when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, “It is the king of Israel.” Therefore, they turned aside to fight against him. But Jehoshaphat cried out and the LORD helped him. And God moved them to depart from him.

32 For it came to pass when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back again from pursuing him.

33 And a certain man drew a bow at random and struck the king of Israel between the joints of the armor. Therefore, he said to his chariot man, “Turn around so that you may carry me out of the battle, for I am wounded.”

34 And the battle increased that day. And the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot in front of the Syrians until the evening. And about the time the sun went down he died.

Chapter 19

1 ¶ Then Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem.

2 And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him. And he said to King Jehoshaphat, “Should you help the ungodly and love those who hate the LORD? For this reason there is wrath on you from before the LORD.

3 “Nevertheless, there are good things found in you, in that you have taken away the wooden images out of the land and have prepared your heart to seek God.”

Jehoshaphat Appoints Judges

4 ¶ So Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem. And he went out again among the people from Beersheba to Mount Ephraim. And he brought them back to the LORD God of their fathers.

5 And he set judges in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city.

6 And he said to the judges, “Take heed to what you do. For you do not judge for man but for the LORD who is with you in the judgment.

7 “Now let the fear of the LORD be upon you. Take heed and do it, for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of bribes.”

8 ¶ Moreover in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat appointed some of the Levites and the priests, and of the chief of the fathers of Israel, for the judgment of the LORD and to judge disputes among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

9 And he charged them saying, “Thus you will do in the fear of the LORD, faithfully and wholeheartedly.

10 “And whatever cause will come to you from your brethren who dwell in their cities, whether of bloodshed or offenses against law and commandment, statutes and judgments, you will warn them so that they may not be guilty before the LORD, and wrath may not come on you and your brethren. Thus you will do and you will not be guilty.

11 “And behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD, and Zebediah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all the king’s matters. The Levites also will be officers before you. Deal courageously and the LORD will be with the good.”

Chapter 20

Defeat of Moab and Ammon

1 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that the
children of Moab and the children of Ammon, and others with them, besides the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

2 Then there came some who told Jehoshaphat, saying, “There comes a great multitude against you from beyond the sea on this side of Syria. And behold, they are in Hazazon Tamar which is Engedi.”

3 And Jehoshaphat feared and set himself to seek the LORD. And he proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4 Then Judah gathered themselves together to ask help from the LORD. Even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

5 ¶ Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD before the new court.

6 And he said, “O LORD God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven? And do You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations? And in Your hand is there not power and might so that no one is able to stand against You?

7 Are You not our God who drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the seed of Abraham Your friend forever?

8 And they dwelt in it and have built You a sanctuary in it for Your name, saying, ‘If calamity comes on us as the sword, judgment or pestilence or famine, we will stand before this house and in Your presence (for Your name is in this house), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and help.’

9 “And they dwelt in it and have built You a sanctuary in it for Your name, saying, ‘If calamity comes on us as the sword, judgment or pestilence or famine, we will stand before this house and in Your presence (for Your name is in this house), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and help.’

10 And now behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom You would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them and did not destroy them,

11 behold, they reward us by coming to cast us out of Your possession that You have given us to inherit.

12 “O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that comes against us. Neither do we know what to do. However, our eyes are on You.”

13 And all Judah stood before the LORD with their little ones, their wives and their children.

14 ¶ Then on Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the middle of the assembly.

15 And he said, “Hearken all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you King Jehoshaphat. Thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not be afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God’s.

16 ‘Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.

17 ‘You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves and stand. And you will see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem.’ Do not fear or be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD will be with you.”

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground. And all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshiping the LORD.

19 And the Levites of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

20 ¶ Then they rose early in the morning and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa. And as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Hear me, O Judah, and you inhabitants of Jerusalem. Believe in the LORD your God so that you will be established. Believe His prophets and you will prosper.”

21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers to the LORD so that they should praise the beauty of holiness as they went out before the army, and to say, “Praise the LORD for His mercy that endures forever.”

22 ¶ And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the children
of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir who had come against Judah. And they were smitten.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly slay and destroy them. And when they had finished with the inhabitants of Seir, everyone helped to destroy one another.

24 Now when Judah came toward the lookout in the wilderness, they looked to the multitude, and behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth. And no one escaped.

25 ¶ Then when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away their spoil, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies and precious jewels that they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away. And they were three days gathering the spoil because there was so much.

26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the Valley of Berachah, for there they blessed the LORD. Therefore, the name of the same place was called to this day, The Valley of Berachah.

27 Then every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in front of them, returned to go again to Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had made them rejoice over their enemies.

28 Then they came to Jerusalem with psalters and harps and trumpets to the house of the LORD.

29 And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries when they heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel.

30 So the realm of Jehoshaphat was at peace. For his God gave him rest all around.

Jehoshaphat’s Reign Ends

31 ¶ And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. He was thirty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

32 And he walked in the way of Asa his father, and did not depart from it, doing what was right in the sight of the LORD.

33 However, the high places were not taken away. The people had not yet directed their hearts to the God of their fathers.

34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, from first to last, behold, they are written in the book of Jehu the son of Hanani who is mentioned in the book of the kings of Israel.

35 ¶ Then after this Jehoshaphat king of Judah joined himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly.

36 And he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish. And they made the ships in Ezion Geber.

37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, “Because you have joined yourself with Ahaziah, the LORD has broken your works.” And the ships were broken so that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

Chapter 21

1 ¶ Now Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram his son reigned in his place.

2 And he had brothers, the sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah and Jehiel and Zechariah and Azariah and Michael and Shephatiah. All these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel.

3 And their father gave them great gifts of silver and of gold and of precious things, with fortified cities in Judah. But the kingdom he gave to Jehoram, because he was the firstborn.

Jehoram Reigns Over Judah

4 ¶ Now when Jehoram had taken over the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself. And he slew all his brothers with the sword and also many of the princes of Israel.

5 Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he began to reign. And he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

6 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel just as the house of Ahab. For he had the daughter of Ahab as a wife. And he did what was evil in the eyes of the LORD.

7 However, the LORD would not destroy the
house of David because of the covenant that He had made with David, and because He promised to give a light to him and to his sons forever.

8 ¶ In his days the Edomites revolted against the rule of Judah and made themselves a king.

9 Then Jehoram went forth with his princes and all his chariots with him. And he rose up by night and struck the Edomites who were surrounding him and the captains of the chariots.

10 So Edom revolted against Judah to this day. At the same time also Libnah revolted because he had forsaken the LORD God of his fathers.

11 Furthermore, he made high places in the mountains of Judah and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the harlot. And he led Judah astray.

12 ¶ And there came a letter to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, “Thus says the LORD God of David your father, ‘Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah,

13 ‘but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the harlot, like the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and have also slain your brothers of your father’s house who were better than yourself,

14 ‘behold, with a great plague the LORD will smite your people and your children and your wives, so that there was never a son left to him, except Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

15 ‘And you will have great sickness by disease of your intestines until your intestines fall out by reason of the sickness day by day.’”

16 ¶ Then the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians who were near the Ethiopians.

17 And they came up into Judah and broke into it. And they carried away all the possessions that were found in the king’s house and his sons also and his wives, so that there was never a son left to him, except Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

18 ¶ Then after all this the LORD struck him in his intestines with an incurable disease.

19 Now it came to pass in the course of time after the end of two years, his intestines fell out by reason of his sickness. So he died of severe pain. And his people made no burning for him like the burning for his fathers.

20 He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign. And he reigned in Jerusalem eight years and departed without anyone’s regret. However, they buried him in the city of David, but not in the tombs of the kings.

### Chapter 22

#### Ahaziah Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Then the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his place, for the raiding parties who came with the Arabians to the camp had slain all the older sons. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah reigned.

2 Ahaziah was forty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Athaliah the daughter of Omri.

3 He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother was his counselor to do wickedly.

4 Therefore, he did evil in the sight of the LORD like the house of Ahab, for to his destruction they were his counselors after the death of his father.

5 He walked also after their counsel and went with Jehoram, the son of Ahab, king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramoth Gilead. And the Syrians wounded Joram.

6 Then he returned to be healed in Jezreel because of the wounds that were inflicted on him at Ramah, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria. And Azariah the son of Jehoram, king of Judah went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab at Jezreel, because he was sick.

7 ¶ Now the downfall of Ahaziah was from God by his going to Joram. For when he came he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab.

8 Now it came to pass when Jehu was executing judgment on the house of Ahab, and he found the princes of Judah and the sons of
the brethren of Ahaziah who ministered to Ahaziah, he slew them.

9 Then he sought Ahaziah. And they caught him (for he was hid in Samaria) and brought him to Jehu. And when they had slain him, they buried him. For they said, “He is the son of Jehoshaphat who sought the LORD with all his heart.” So the house of Ahaziah had no one to assume the power of the kingdom.

Athaliah and Joash

10 ¶ Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal seed of the house of Judah.

11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king’s sons who were slain. And she put him and his nurse in a bedchamber. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him from Athaliah so that she did not slay him.

12 Now he was with them hid in the house of God for six years. And Athaliah reigned over the land.

Chapter 23

1 ¶ Now in the seventh year, Jehoiada strengthened himself and took into covenant with himself the captains of hundreds: Azariah the son of Jeroham, and Ishmael the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah the son of Obed, and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of Zichri.

2 And they went about in Judah and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah and the chief fathers of Israel. And they came to Jerusalem.

3 Then all the assembly made a covenant with the king in the house of God. And he said to them, “Behold, the king’s son will reign as the LORD has said of the sons of David.

4 “This is the thing that you will do: one third of you, of the priests and Levites who come in on the Sabbath, will be gatekeepers,

5 “and one third will be at the king’s house, and one third at the gate of the foundation. And all the people will be in the courts of the house of the LORD.

6 “But let no one come into the house of the LORD except the priests and those who minister of the Levites. They will go in, for they are holy. But all the people will keep the watch of the LORD.

7 “And the Levites will surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand. And whoever comes into the house, he will be put to death. But you be with the king when he comes in and when he goes out.”

8 ¶ So the Levites and all Judah did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest had commanded. And every man took his men who were to come in on the Sabbath, with those who were to go out on the Sabbath, for Jehoiada the priest did not dismiss any of the divisions.

9 Furthermore, Jehoiada the priest gave to the captains of hundreds the spears and the large and small shields that had been King David’s, that were in the house of God.

10 Then he set all the people all around the king, every man having his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the temple to the left side of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.

11 Then they brought out the king’s son and put on him the crown. And he gave him the testimony and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, “Long live the king.”

12 ¶ Now when Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she came to the people into the house of the LORD.

13 And she looked, and behold, the king stood at his pillar at the entrance, and the princes and the trumpets by the king. And all the people of the land rejoiced and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments leading the praise. Then Athaliah tore her clothes and said, “Treason, Treason.”

14 ¶ Then Jehoiada the priest brought out the captains of hundreds who were set over the army. And he said to them, “Bring her out between the ranks. And whoever follows her, put to death with the sword.” For the priest said, “Do not slay her in the house of the LORD.”

15 So they laid hands on her. And when she
had come to the entrance of the Horse Gate by the king’s house, they slew her there.

16 ¶ Then Jehoiada made a covenant between him and between all the people and between the king that they should be the LORD’S people.

17 Then all the people went to the house of Baal and broke it down. And they broke his altars and his images in pieces. And they slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

18 Also Jehoiada appointed the offices of the house of the LORD by the hand of the priests the Levites whom David had assigned over the house of the LORD, to offer the burnt offerings of the LORD, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing as it was ordered by David.

19 And he set the gatekeepers at the gates of the house of the LORD so that no one who was unclean in any thing should enter.

20 ¶ Then he took the captains of hundreds and the nobles and the governors of the people and all the people of the land, and brought down the king from the house of the LORD. And they came through the High Gate into the king’s house and set the king on the throne of the kingdom.

21 Then all the people of the land rejoiced. And the city had peace after they had slain Athaliah with the sword.

Chapter 24

Repairing of the Temple

1 ¶ Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name also was Zibiah of Beersheba.

2 And Joash did what was right in the sight of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

3 And Jehoiada took for himself two wives, and he begot sons and daughters.

4 ¶ Now it came to pass after this that Joash decided to repair the house of the LORD.

5 So he gathered together the priests and the Levites. And he said to them, “Go out to the cities of Judah and gather from all Israel money to repair annually the house of your God, and see that you do this quickly.” However, the Levites did not do it quickly.

6 ¶ Then the king called for Jehoiada the chief. And he said to him, “Why have you not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the contribution fixed by Moses the servant of the LORD on the assembly of Israel for the tabernacle of the testimony?”

7 For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken into the house of God, and had used all the dedicated things of the house of the LORD for the Baals.

8 ¶ So the king commanded and they made a chest. And they set it outside the gate of the house of the LORD.

9 And all the princes and all the people rejoiced. And they brought in and cast into the chest until they had finished.

10 Now it came to pass when the chest was brought to the king’s office by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was much treasure, the king’s scribe and the high priest’s officer came and emptied the chest. And they took it and carried it to its place again. Thus they did day by day, and collected treasure in abundance.

12 Then the king and Jehoiada gave it to those who did the work of the service of the house of the LORD. And they hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the LORD, and also workers in iron and bronze to repair the house of the LORD.

13 So the workmen worked, and the work was completed by them. And they set up the house of God in its original state and reinforced it.

14 Now when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the treasure before the king and Jehoiada. They made from it vessels for the house of the LORD, even vessels for ministering and offering and spoons and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt offerings in the house of the LORD continually all the days.
of Jehoiada.

15 ¶ But Jehoiada became old and was full of days when he died. He was 130 years old when he died.

16 And they buried him in the city of David among the kings because he had done good in Israel, both toward God and toward his house.

**Sins of Joash**

17 ¶ Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah. And they bowed down to the king. Then the king hearkened to them.

18 But they left the house of the LORD God of their fathers and served the wooden images and idols. And wrath came on Judah and Jerusalem for their trespass.

19 Yet He sent prophets to them in order to bring them again to the LORD. And they testified against them. But they would not listen.

20 And the Spirit of God came on Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest who stood above the people. And he said to them, "Thus says God, "Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD and do not prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, He has also forsaken you."

21 So they conspired against him. And at the commandment of the king, they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD.

22 Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada his father had done to him. But he slew his son. And when he died, he said, "May the LORD see and repay!"

23 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of the year that the army of Syria came up against him. And they came to Judah and Jerusalem and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people. And they sent all their spoil to the king of Damascus.

24 Now the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men. But the LORD delivered a very great army into their hand because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers. So they executed judgment against Joash.

25 Now when they had departed from him (for they left him severely wounded), his own servants conspired against him because of the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest. And they slew him on his bed and he died. And they buried him in the city of David. But they did not bury him in the tombs of the kings.

26 ¶ Now these are those who conspired against him: Zabad the son of Shimeath an Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith a Moabitess.

27 Now concerning his sons and the many oracles against him, and the repairing of the house of God, behold, they are written in the story of the book of the kings. And Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

**Chapter 25**

**Amaziah Reigns Over Judah**

1 ¶ Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan from Jerusalem.

2 Now he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a whole heart.

3 ¶ So it came to pass when the kingdom was established for him that he slew his servants who had killed the king his father.

4 However, he did not slay their children, but did as it is written in the law in the book of Moses where the LORD commanded, saying, "The fathers will not die for the children, nor will the children die for the fathers, but every man will die for his own sin."

5 ¶ Furthermore, Amaziah gathered Judah together and made captains over thousands and captains over hundreds, according to the houses of their fathers throughout all Judah and Benjamin. And he numbered them from twenty years old and above. And he found 300,000 choice men able to go forth to war and could handle spear and shield.

6 He also hired 100,000 mighty men of valor out of Israel for one hundred talents of silver.

7 But there came a man of God to him, saying, "O king, do not let the army of Israel go with you, for the LORD is not with Israel, nor with any of the sons of Ephraim."
8 “But if you do go, do it. Be strong for the battle. God will make you fall before the enemy, for God has power to help and to cast down.”

9 And Amaziah said to the man of God, “But what will we do about the hundred talents that I have given to the army of Israel?” And the man of God answered, “The LORD is able to give you much more than this.”

10 Then Amaziah dismissed them, the army that had come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again. Therefore, their anger was greatly kindled against Judah and they returned home in great anger.

11 ¶ Now Amaziah strengthened himself and led forth his people. And he went to the Valley of Salt and struck 10,000 of the children of Seir.

12 Then the sons of Judah also captured 10,000 alive and brought them to the top of the cliff and threw them down from the top of the cliff so that they were all dashed to pieces.

13 ¶ But the soldiers of the army that Amaziah sent back in order that they should not go with him to battle, fell on the cities of Judah, from Samaria even to Bethhoron. And they struck 3,000 of them and took much spoil.

14 ¶ Now it came to pass later when Amaziah had come from the slaughter of the Edomites that he brought the gods of the children of Seir. And he set them up to be his gods and bowed down himself before them. And he burned incense to them.

15 Therefore, the anger of the LORD was kindled against Amaziah. And He sent to him a prophet who said to him, “Why have you gone after the gods of the people that could not deliver their own people out of your hand?”

16 Now it came to pass as he talked with him that the king said to him, “Are you appointed for the king’s counsel? Stop! Why should you be struck down?” Then the prophet stopped and said, “I know that God has determined to destroy you because you have done this, and you have not hearkened to my counsel.”

17 ¶ Then Amaziah king of Judah took counsel. And he sent to Joash the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, “Come, let us see one another in the face.”

18 And Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, “The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, ‘Give your daughter for my son as a wife.’ And there passed by a wild animal that was in Lebanon and trampled down the thistle.

19 “You say, ‘Lo, you have smitten the Edomites.’ And your heart has lifted you up to boast. Stay now at home. Why should you meddle to your harm so that you should fall, even you and Judah with you?”

20 But Amaziah would not listen, for it came from God that he might deliver them into the hand of their enemies because they went after the gods of Edom.

21 So Joash the king of Israel went up. And they saw one another in the face, both he and Amaziah king of Judah at Bethshemesh that belongs to Judah.

22 And Judah was put to the worse before Israel, and every man fled to his tent.

23 Then Joash the king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, at Bethshemesh. And he brought him to Jerusalem. And he broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the Gate of Ephraim to the Corner Gate, 400 cubits.

24 And he took all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with Obededom, and the treasures of the king’s house, the hostages also. Then he returned to Samaria.

25 ¶ Now Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived fifteen years after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel.

26 Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, from first to last, behold, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel?

27 Now from the time that Amaziah turned away from following the LORD they conspired against him in Jerusalem. And he fled to Lachish. But they sent to Lachish after him and slew him there.

28 And they brought him on horses and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.
Chapter 26
Uzziah Reigns Over Judah

¶ Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the place of his father Amaziah.

He built Eloth and restored it to Judah. After this the king slept with his fathers.

Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Jecoliah from Jerusalem.

And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah did.

And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God. And as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.

¶ And he went forth and fought against the Philistines. And he broke down the wall of Gath and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod. And he built cities around Ashdod and among the Philistines.

And God helped him against the Philistines and against the Arabians who dwelt in Gurbaal, and the Meunims.

And the Ammonites gave tribute to Uzziah. And his name spread abroad even to the entrance of Egypt, for he strengthened himself exceedingly.

Uzziah also built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate and at the Valley Gate and at the corner buttress. And he fortified them.

He also built towers in the desert and dug many wells, for he had many cattle, both in the low country and in the plains. He had also tenant farmers and vine dressers in the mountains and in Carmel, for he loved farming.

¶ Uzziah also had an army of fighting men who went out to war by companies, according to the number of their divisions by the reckoning of Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the ruler, under the direction of Hananiah, one of the king’s captains.

The whole number of the chief of the fathers of the mighty men of valor was 2,600.

And under their direction was an army, 307,500 who made war with mighty power to help the king against the enemy.

And Uzziah prepared for all the army shields and spears and helmets and body armor and bows and slings to cast stones.

And he made in Jerusalem machines for war, invented by skillful men to be set on the towers and on the corners, to shoot arrows and great stones. And his name spread far abroad for he was marvellously helped until he was strong.

¶ But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his own destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.

And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him eighty priests of the LORD who were valiant men.

Now they opposed Uzziah the king. And they said to him, “It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the sanctuary, for you have trespassed. You will have no honor from the LORD God.”

Then Uzziah, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was angry. And while he was angry with the priests, the leprosy broke out on his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar.

Then Azariah the chief priest and all the priests, looked on him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead. And they threw him out from there. And he himself also hastened to get out because the LORD had smitten him.

So Uzziah the king was a leper to the day of his death. And he dwelt in a separate house as a leper, for he was cut off from the house of the LORD. And Jotham his son was over the king’s house, judging the people of the land.

¶ Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, from first to last, Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, has written.

So Uzziah slept with his fathers. And they buried him with his fathers in the field of
burial that belonged to the kings, for they said, “He is a leper.” And Jotham his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 27
Jotham Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Jotham was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.

2 And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzziah did. However, he did not enter into the temple of the LORD. But the people continued acting corruptly.

3 He built the High Gate of the house of the LORD and he built extensively the Wall of Ophel.

4 He also built cities in the mountains of Judah and in the forests he built fortresses and watchtowers.

5 He fought also with the king of the Ammonites and prevailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him the same year one hundred talents of silver and 10,000 measures of wheat, and 10,000 of barley. The people of Ammon paid this to him in the second and third years also.

6 So Jotham became mighty because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.

7 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Jotham and all his wars, and his ways, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

8 He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

9 Then Jotham slept with his fathers and they buried him in the city of David. And Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 28
Ahaz Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. But he did not do what was right in the sight of the LORD like David his father.

2 But he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel and made also molten images for the Baals.

3 He also burnt incense in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom. And he burned his children in the fire after the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.

4 He sacrificed also and burned incense in the high places and on the hills and under every green tree.

5 ¶ Therefore, the LORD his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria. And they struck him and carried away a great multitude of captives and brought them to Damascus.

6 For Pekah the son of Remaliah slew in Judah 120,000 in one day who were all valiant men, because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers.

7 And Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, slew Maaseiah the king’s son, and Azrikam the governor of the house, and Elkanah who was next to be the king.

8 And the children of Israel carried away captive of their brethren 200,000, women, sons and daughters. And they took away also much spoil from them and brought the spoil to Samaria.

9 ¶ But a prophet of the LORD was there whose name was Oded. And he went out before the army that came to Samaria and said to them, “Behold, because the LORD your God was angry with Judah, He has delivered them into your hand and you have slain them in a rage that reaches up to heaven.

10 “Now you are proposing to subjugate for yourselves the people of Judah and Jerusalem for male and female slaves. But are there not even with you sins of your own against the LORD your God?

11 “Now hear Me, therefore, and return the captives that you have taken captive of your brethren, for the fierce wrath of the LORD is on you.”

12 Then some of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan,
Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who came from the war.

13 And they said to them, “You will not bring in the captives here. For what you purpose will bring on us a trespass against the LORD, to add to our sins and to our trespass, for our trespass is great and there is fierce wrath against Israel.”

14 So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the assembly.

15 Then the men who were designated by name rose up and took the captives. And with the spoil they clothed all who were naked among them. And they dressed them and put shoes on them, and gave them food to eat and water to drink. And they anointed them and carried all the feeble ones on donkeys and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their brethren. Then they returned to Samaria.

16 ¶ At that time King Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria for help.

17 For again the Edomites came and struck Judah, and carried away captives.

18 The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the low country, and the Negev of Judah. And they had taken Bethshemesh and Ajalon and Gederoth and Shocho with their villages, and Timnah with their villages, Gimzo also and their villages. And they dwelt there.

19 For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had encouraged moral decline in Judah and had been continually unfaithful to the LORD.

20 And Tilgath-pilneser, king of Assyria, came to him and afflicted him instead of strengthening him.

21 For Ahaz took away a portion out of the house of the LORD and out of the house of the king and from the princes, and gave it to the king of Assyria. But he did not help him.

22 ¶ And in the time of his distress this same King Ahaz became even more unfaithful to the LORD.

23 For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus who struck him. And he said, “Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them, therefore I will sacrifice to them so that they may help me.” But they were the ruin of him and of all Israel.

24 Then Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of God and cut in pieces the vessels of the house of God. And he shut up the doors of the house of the LORD and he made altars for himself in every corner of Jerusalem.

25 And in every city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked to anger the LORD God of his fathers.

26 ¶ Now the rest of his acts and all his ways, from first to last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

27 And Ahaz slept with his fathers and they buried him in the city, even in Jerusalem. But they did not bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel. Then Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 29

Hezekiah Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah.

2 And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done.

3 ¶ In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the LORD and repaired them.

4 And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the East Square.

5 And he said to them, “Listen to me, O Levites. Sanctify yourselves and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry the rubbish out of the holy place.

6 ¶ For our fathers have trespassed and done what was evil in the eyes of the LORD our God. And they have forsaken Him and have turned away their faces from the habitation of the LORD, and turned their backs on Him.
7 “They have also shut up the doors of the porch and put out the lamps. And they have not burned incense or offered burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel.
8 “Therefore, the wrath of the LORD was on Judah and Jerusalem. And He has delivered them to trouble, to desolation and to jeering, as you see with your eyes.
9 “For behold, our fathers have fallen by the sword and our sons and our wives are in captivity for this.
10 “Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel so that His fierce wrath may turn away from us.
11 “My sons, do not be negligent now, for the LORD has chosen you to stand before Him, to serve Him and that you should minister to Him and burn incense.”
12 ¶ Then the Levites arose, Mahath the son of Amasai and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites; and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehalelel; and from the Gershonites, Joah the son of Zimmah and Eden the son of Joah;
13 and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeiel; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah;
14 and of the sons of Heman, Jehiel and Shimei; and of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and Uzziel.
15 And they gathered their brethren and sanctified themselves. And they came according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD.
16 Then the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD to cleanse it. And they brought out all the rubbish that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And then the Levites took it in order to carry it out to the Brook Kidron.
17 Now they began on the first day of the first month they finished.
18 Then they went in to Hezekiah the king, and said, “We have cleansed all the house of the LORD, and the altar of burnt offering, with all its vessels and the showbread table, with all its vessels.
19 Furthermore, all the vessels that King Ahaz in his reign discarded during his transgression, we have prepared and sanctified. And behold, they are before the altar of the LORD.
20 ¶ Then Hezekiah the king rose early and gathered the rulers of the city. And they went up to the house of the LORD.
21 And they brought seven bulls and seven rams and seven lambs and seven male goats for a sin offering for the kingdom and for the sanctuary and for Judah. And he commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer them on the altar of the LORD.
22 So they killed the bull, and the priests received the blood and sprinkled it on the altar. Likewise, when they had killed the rams they sprinkled the blood on the altar. They killed also the lambs and they sprinkled the blood on the altar.
23 Then they brought forth the male goats for the sin offering before the king and the assembly. And they laid their hands on them.
24 Then the priests killed them and they made reconciliation with their blood on the altar, to make an atonement for all Israel. For the king commanded that the burnt offering and the sin offering should be made for all Israel.
25 ¶ And he set the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, with psalteries and with harps according to the commandment of David and of Gad the king’s seer and Nathan the prophet. For this was the commandment of the LORD by His prophets.
26 And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets.
27 Then Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering on the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the LORD began also with the trumpets and with the instruments commissioned by David king of Israel.
28 Then all the assembly worshiped and the
singers sang and the trumpeters sounded. And all this continued until the burnt offering was finished.

29 And when they had finished the offering, the king and all who were present with him bowed themselves and worshiped.

30 Furthermore, Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise to the LORD with the words of David and Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness and they bowed their heads and worshiped.

31 ¶ Then Hezekiah answered and said, “Now that you have consecrated yourselves to the LORD, come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the LORD.” And the assembly brought in sacrifices and thank offerings, and all those who were willing brought burnt offerings.

32 And the number of the burnt offerings that the assembly brought was 70 bulls, 100 rams, and 200 lambs. All these were for a burnt offering to the LORD.

33 And the consecrated things were 600 oxen and 3,000 sheep.

34 But the priests were too few so that they could not skin all the burnt offerings. Therefore, their brethren the Levites helped them until the work was finished, and until the other priests had sanctified themselves. For the Levites were more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests.

35 And also the burnt offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace offerings and the drink offerings for every burnt offering. So the service of the house of the LORD was set in order.

36 And Hezekiah and all the people rejoiced that God had prepared the people, for the thing came about suddenly.

Chapter 30
Israel Celebrates the Passover

1 ¶ Now Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh that they should come to the house of the LORD at Jerusalem to keep the Passover to the LORD God of Israel.

2 For the king and his princes and all the assembly in Jerusalem had decided to celebrate the Passover in the second month.

3 for they could not keep it at that time because the priests had not sanctified themselves sufficiently, nor had the people gathered themselves together at Jerusalem.

4 Now the thing pleased the king and all the assembly.

5 So they established a decree to make a proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beersheba even to Dan, that they should come to keep the Passover to the LORD God of Israel at Jerusalem. For they had not celebrated it in great numbers as it was written.

6 So the runners went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah. And according to the commandment of the king, it said, “Children of Israel return to the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel. And He will return to the remnant who have escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria.

7 “Do not be like your fathers and like your brethren who transgressed against the LORD God of their fathers, who therefore gave them up to desolation, as you see.

8 “Now do not be stiffnecked as your fathers, but give yourselves to the LORD and enter into His sanctuary that He has sanctified forever. And serve the LORD your God so that the fierceness of His wrath may turn away from you.

9 “For if you return to the LORD, your brethren and your children will find compassion before those who lead them captive, so that they will come again into this land. For the LORD your God is gracious and merciful. And He will not turn away His face from you if you return to Him.”

10 ¶ So the runners passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh even to Zebulun. But they laughed them to scorn and mocked them.

11 Nevertheless many of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled themselves and came
to Jerusalem.

12 Also on Judah came the hand of God to give them one heart to do the commandment of the king and of the princes by the word of the Lord.

13 ¶ And there assembled at Jerusalem many people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great assembly.

14 And they arose and took away the altars that were in Jerusalem. And all the altars for incense they took away and cast them into the Brook Kidron.

15 Then they killed the Passover lambs on the fourteenth day of the second month. And the priests and the Levites were ashamed. And they sanctified themselves and brought in the burnt offerings into the house of the LORD.

16 Then they stood in their place after their manner according to the law of Moses the man of God. The priests sprinkled the blood that they received from the hand of the Levites.

17 For there were many in the assembly who were not sanctified. Therefore, the Levites had the charge of killing the Passover lambs for everyone who was not clean, to sanctify them unto the LORD.

18 For a multitude of the people, even many from Ephraim and Manasseh, Issachar and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves. However, they ate the Passover lamb contrary to what was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, “May the good LORD pardon everyone who prepares his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though he is not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.”

19 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah and healed the people.

20 And the children of Israel who were present went out to the cities of Judah and broke the images in pieces and cut down the wooden images and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, to their own cities.

Contributions to the Temple

2 ¶ Then Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and the Levites after their divisions, each man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister and to give thanks and to praise in the gates of the camp of the LORD.

3 He appointed also the king’s portion of his substance for the burnt offerings, for the morning and evening burnt offerings, and the burnt

seven days, offering peace offerings and making confession to the LORD God of their fathers.

23 ¶ And the whole assembly agreed to continue another seven days. So they continued another seven days with gladness.

24 For Hezekiah king of Judah gave to the assembly 1,000 bulls and 7,000 sheep. And the princes gave to the assembly 1,000 bulls and 10,000 sheep. And a great number of priests sanctified themselves.

25 Then all the assembly of Judah rejoiced with the priests and the Levites, and all the assembly that came out of Israel, and the aliens who came out of the land of Israel and who dwelt in Judah, rejoiced.

26 So there was great joy in Jerusalem. For there was nothing like this in Jerusalem since the days of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel.

27 Then the priests, the Levites, arose and blessed the people. And their voice was heard and their prayer came up to His holy dwelling place, even to heaven.

Chapter 31

1 ¶ Now when all this was finished, all Israel who were present went out to the cities of Judah and broke the images in pieces and cut down the wooden images and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, to their own cities.

2 ¶ Then Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and the Levites after their divisions, each man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister and to give thanks and to praise in the gates of the camp of the LORD.

3 He appointed also the king’s portion of his substance for the burnt offerings, for the morning and evening burnt offerings, and the burnt
offerings for the Sabbaths, and for the new moons and for the set feasts, as it is written in the law of the LORD.

4 He also commanded the people who dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites so that they might be encouraged in the law of the LORD.

5 ¶ And as soon as the commandment was spread, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of grain, wine and oil and honey, and of all the increase of the field. And they brought in abundantly the tithe of all.

6 Now concerning the children of Israel and Judah who dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithes of oxen and sheep, and the tithe of holy things that were consecrated to the LORD their God. And they laid them by heaps.

7 In the third month they began laying them in heaps. And they finished in the seventh month.

8 Now when Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD and his people Israel.

9 Then Hezekiah questioned the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps.

10 And Azariah the chief priest of the house of Zadok answered him and said, "Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the LORD, we have had enough to eat and have plenty left. For the LORD has blessed His people and what is left is this great store."

11 ¶ Then Hezekiah commanded to prepare rooms in the house of the LORD, and they prepared them.

12 And they faithfully brought in the offerings and the tithes and the dedicated things. And Conaniah the Levite was the officer in charge of them, and his brother Shimei was second.

13 And Jehiel and Azaziah and Nahath and Asahel and Jerimoth and Jozabad and Eliel and Ismachiah and Mahath and Benaiah were overseers under the authority of Conaniah and Shimei his brother by the appointment of King Hezekiah. And Azariah was the chief officer of the house of God.

14 And Kore the son of Imnah the Levite, the gatekeeper on the east, was over the freewill offerings of God, to distribute the contributions for the LORD and the most holy things.

15 And under him were Eden and Miniamin and Jeshua and Shemaiah, Amariah and Shecaniah, in the cities of the priests, in their set office, to give to their brethren by allotments, as well as to the great as to the small,

16 without regard to their genealogical enrollment, to the males from thirty years old and upward—all who entered the house of the LORD, his daily portion for their service in their duties according to their divisions;

17 both to the genealogy of the priests by the house of their fathers, and the Levites from twenty years old and upward, in their duties by their divisions.

18 And the genealogy included all their little ones, their wives and their sons and their daughters, throughout all the assembly. For in their faithfulness they sanctified themselves in holiness.

19 Also of the sons of Aaron the priests who were in the fields of the pasture lands of their cities, in every city, there were men who were designated by name to give portions to all the males among the priests and to all who were enrolled by genealogies among the Levites.

20 ¶ And thus did Hezekiah throughout all Judah. And he did what was good and right and true before the LORD his God.

21 And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart and prospered.

Chapter 32

Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

1 ¶ After these things and this faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and entered into Judah. And he camped against the fortified cities and thougth to win them for himself.

2 Now when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that he was determined to fight against Jerusalem,
mighty men to stop the waters of the fountains that were outside the city. And they helped him. 

4 So there was gathered many people together. And they stopped all the springs and the brook that flowed through the middle of the land, saying, “Why should the kings of Assyria come and find much water?”

5 He also strengthened himself and built up all the wall that was broken. And he raised it up to the towers and another outside wall. And he repaired Millo in the city of David and made weapons and shields in abundance.

6 The he set captains of war over the people. And he gathered them together to him in the street of the gate of the city and spoke encouragingly to them, saying,

7 “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him. For there are more with us than with him.

8 “With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles.” And the people trusted in the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

9 ¶ After this Sennacherib king of Assyria sent his servants to Jerusalem while he was besieging Lachish with all his forces with him, against Hezekiah king of Judah and against all Judah who were at Jerusalem, saying,

10 “Thus says Sennacherib king of Assyria, ‘On what do you trust that you are to remain in Jerusalem under siege?

11 ‘Does not Hezekiah persuade you to give over yourselves to die by famine and by thirst, saying, “The LORD our God will deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria”?

12 ‘Has not the same Hezekiah taken away his high places and his altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, “You will worship before one altar and burn incense on it”?

13 ‘Do you not know what I and my fathers have done to all the people of other lands? Were the gods of the nations of those lands able to deliver their lands out of my hand?

14 ‘Who was there among all the gods of those nations that my fathers utterly destroyed who could deliver his people out of my hand, that your God should be able to deliver you out of my hand?

15 ‘Now therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or persuade you in this manner. And do not believe him. For no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of my hand and out of the hand of my fathers. How much less will your God deliver you out of my hand?”

16 ¶ Then his servants spoke yet more against the LORD God and against His servant Hezekiah.

17 He also wrote letters to revile the LORD God of Israel and to speak against Him, saying, “As the gods of the nations of other lands have not delivered their people out of my hand, so the God of Hezekiah will not deliver His people from my hand.”

18 ‘Then they cried out with a loud voice in the Jews’ language to the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, to frighten and terrify them so that they might take the city.

19 And they spoke against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth who were the work of the hands of man.

20 ¶ And for this reason Hezekiah the king and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, prayed and cried out to heaven.

21 Then the LORD sent an angel that cut off all the mighty men of valor, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned ashamed to his own land. And when he had come into the house of his god, some of his own children slew him there with the sword.

22 Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all others. And He guided them on every side.

23 And many brought gifts to the LORD to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations thereafter.

24 ¶ In those days Hezekiah was sick unto
death. And he prayed to the LORD. And He spoke to him and He gave him a sign. 

**25** However, Hezekiah did not repay according to the benefit done to him, for his heart was lifted up. Therefore, there was wrath on him and on Judah and Jerusalem. 

**26** Hezekiah humbled himself from the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come on them in the days of Hezekiah. 

**27** Now Hezekiah had great riches and honor. And he made himself treasuries for silver and for gold and for precious stones and for spices and for shields and for all kinds of valuable jewels, 

**28** storehouses also for the increase of grain and wine and oil, and stalls for all kinds of livestock and folds for flocks. 

**29** He also provided for himself cities and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance, for God had given him great wealth. 

**30** This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works. 

**31** Concerning the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon who sent to him to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him in order to test him so that He might know all that was in his heart. 

**32** Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah and his goodness, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. 

**33** Then Hezekiah slept with his fathers and they buried him in the upper section of the tombs of the sons of David. And all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem honored him at his death. And Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

### Chapter 33

**Manasseh Reigns Over Judah**

**1** Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. 

**2** But he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel. 

**3** For he built again the high places that Hezekiah his father had broken down. And he erected altars for the Baals and made wooden images. And he worshiped all the hosts of heaven and served them. 

**4** He also built altars in the house of the LORD about which the LORD had said, “In Jerusalem My name will be forever.” 

**5** And he built altars for all the hosts of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. 

**6** And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom. He also observed times and practiced soothsaying. And he used witchcraft and sorcery, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He worked much evil in the sight of the LORD to provoke Him to anger. 

**7** Then he set a carved image, the idol that he had made, in the house of God, about which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, “In this house and in Jerusalem that I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever; 

**8** and I will not again remove the foot of Israel from the land that I have appointed for your fathers, so that they will take heed to do all that I have commanded them according to the whole law and the statutes and the ordinances by the hand of Moses.” 

**9** So Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD had destroyed before the children of Israel. 

**10** And the LORD spoke to Manasseh and to his people. But they would not hearken. 

**11** Therefore, the LORD brought on them the captains of the army of the king of Assyria who took Manasseh with hooks and bound him with fetters and carried him to Babylon. 

**12** And when he was in affliction, he implored the LORD his God. And he humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.
13 And he prayed to Him. And He was moved by him and heard his supplication. And He brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.

14 ¶ Now after this he built a wall outside the city of David, on the west side of Gihon in the valley, even to the entrance at the Fish Gate. And he enclosed Ophel and raised it up to a great height. And he put captains of war in all the fortified cities of Judah.

15 Then he took away the foreign gods and the idol out of the house of the LORD. And all the altars that he had built on the mountain of the house of the LORD and in Jerusalem, he cast them out of the city.

16 And he repaired the altar of the LORD and sacrificed on it peace offerings and thank offerings. And he commanded Judah to serve the LORD God of Israel.

17 Nevertheless, the people continued to sacrifice on the high places, although only to the LORD their God.

18 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh and his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of the LORD God of Israel, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel.

19 His prayer also, and how God was moved by him, and all his sin and his trespass, and the places wherein he built high places and set up the wooden images and carved images before he was humbled, behold, they are written among the sayings of the seers.

20 So Manasseh slept with his fathers and they buried him in his own house. And Amon his son reigned in his place.

Amon Reigns Over Judah

21 ¶ Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem.

22 But he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did Manasseh his father, for Amon sacrificed to all the carved images that Manasseh his father had made and served them.

23 And he did not humble himself before the LORD as Manasseh his father had humbled himself. But Amon transgressed more and more.

24 ¶ And his servants conspired against him and slew him in his own house.

25 But the people of the land slew all those who had conspired against King Amon. Then the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.

Chapter 34
Josiah Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years.

2 And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD and walked in the ways of David his father. And he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

3 For in the eighth year of his reign while he was still young, he began to seek after the God of David his father. And in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places and the wooden images and the carved images and the molten images.

4 ¶ And they broke down the altars of the Baals in his presence. And the images that were on high above them, he cut down. And the wooden images and the carved images and the molten images, he broke in pieces. And he made powder of them and scattered it on the graves of those who had sacrificed to them.

5 And he burned the bones of the priests on their altars and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.

6 And he did the same in the cities of Manasseh and Ephraim and Simeon, even to Naphtali, and their surrounding areas.

7 And when he had broken down the altars and the wooden images, and had beaten the graven images into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.

8 ¶ Now in the eighteenth year of his reign when he had purged the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah and Maaaseiah the governor of the city and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the
LORD his God.
9 And when they came to Hilkiah the high priest they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God that the Levites who kept the doors had gathered from the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and from all the remnant of Israel, and from all Judah and Benjamin. And they returned to Jerusalem.
10 Then they put it in the hand of the workmen who had the oversight of the house of the LORD. And they gave it to the workmen who worked in the house of the LORD to restore and repair the house.
11 They gave it to the carpenters and builders to buy cut stone and timber for beams, and to make floors for the houses that the kings of Judah had destroyed.
12 And the men did the work faithfully. And their supervisors were Jahath and Obadiah, the Levites of the sons of Merari, Zechariah and Meshullam of the sons of the Kohathites, and the Levites, all who were skillful with musical instruments.
13 They were over the bearers of burdens and were supervisors over all who did the work in any kind of service. And of the Levites there were scribes and officers and gatekeepers.

**Discovery of the Book**

14 ¶ And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found a book of the law of the LORD given by Moses.
15 Then Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the scribe, “I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.” And Hilkiah delivered the book to Shaphan.
16 Then Shaphan carried the book to the king. And he brought the king word back again, saying, “They are doing all that was committed to your servants.
17 “And they have gathered together the money that was found in the house of the LORD and have delivered it into the hand of the supervisors and to the hand of the workmen.”
18 Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read it before the king.
19 ¶ Now it came to pass when the king had heard the words of the law, that he tore his clothes.
20 And the king commanded Hilkiah and Ahikam the son of Shaphan and Abdon the son of Micah and Shaphan the scribe and Asaiah a servant of the king, saying,
21 “Go. Inquire of the LORD for me and for those who are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found. For great is the wrath of the LORD that is poured out on us because our fathers have not kept the word of the LORD to do after all that is written in this book.”
22 ¶ And Hilkiah and those whom the king had appointed went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe. Now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter. And they spoke to her regarding this.
23 Then she answered them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel. ‘Tell the man who sent you to Me,
24 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will bring calamity on this place and on its inhabitants, even all the curses that are written in the book that they have read before the king of Judah.
25 ‘Because they have forsaken Me and have burned incense to other gods so that they might provoke Me to anger with all the works of their hands, therefore My wrath will be poured out on this place and it will not be quenched.’”
26 “And as for the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the LORD, so will you say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel concerning the words that you have heard,
27 “Because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before God when you heard His words against this place and against its inhabitants, and humbled yourself before Me and tore your clothes and wept before Me, I have heard you also,’” says the LORD.
28 “Behold, I will gather you to your fathers and you will be gathered to your grave in peace. And your eyes will not see all the calamity that I will

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bring on this place and on its inhabitants.”’’ So they brought the king word again.

29 ¶ Then the king sent and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

30 Then the king went up into the house of the LORD and all the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests and the Levites and all the people, great and small. And he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the LORD.

31 Then the king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all his heart and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant that were written in this book.

32 And he caused all who were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand with him. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers.

33 Then Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the country that belonged to the children of Israel. And he made all who were present in Israel to serve, even to serve the LORD their God. And all his days they did not depart from following the LORD, the God of their fathers.

Chapter 35

Israel Celebrates the Passover

1 ¶ Furthermore, Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem. And they killed the Passover lambs on the fourteenth day of the first month.

2 And he set the priests in their offices and encouraged them for the service of the house of the LORD.

3 And he said to the Levites who taught all Israel, who were holy to the LORD, “Put the holy ark in the house that Solomon the son of David king of Israel built. It will not be a burden on your shoulders. Serve now the LORD your God and His people Israel.

4 ‘And prepare yourselves after your fathers’ houses by your divisions according to the writing of David king of Israel and according to the writing of Solomon his son.

5 “And stand in the holy place according to the divisions of the families of the fathers of your brethren the people and after the division of the families of the Levites.

6 “Now kill the Passover lambs and sanctify yourselves. And prepare your brethren so that they may do according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.”

7 ¶ Then Josiah gave to the people from the flock, lambs and goats, all for the Passover offerings, for all who were present, to the number of 30,000, and 3,000 bulls. These were from the king’s substance.

8 And his princes gave willingly to the people, to the priests and to the Levites. Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel, rulers of the house of God, gave to the priests for the Passover offerings 2,600 from the flock and 300 cattle.

9 Conaniah also, and Shemaiah and Nethaneel his brothers, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, chief of the Levites, gave to the Levites for Passover offerings 5,000 from the flocks and 500 bulls.

10 ¶ So the service was prepared and the priests stood in their place and the Levites in their divisions, according to the king’s commandment.

11 And they killed the Passover offerings and the priests sprinkled the blood from their hands and the Levites skinned them.

12 And they removed the burnt offerings so that they might give according to the divisions of the families of the people, to offer to the LORD as it was written in the book of Moses. And so they did with the oxen.

13 Then they roasted the Passover offerings with fire according to the ordinance. But the other holy offerings they boiled in pots and in caldrons and in pans, and divided them quickly among all the people.

14 And afterward they prepared for themselves and for the priests, because the priests, the sons of Aaron, were busy in offering burnt offerings and the fat until night; therefore the Levites prepared for themselves and for the priests the sons of Aaron.
15 And the singers, the sons of Asaph, were in their place according to the commandment of David and Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, the king’s seer. And the gatekeepers at each gate did not have to depart from their service because the Levites their brethren prepared for them.

16 So all the service of the LORD was prepared the same day in order to keep the Passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD according to the commandment of King Josiah.

17 Then the children of Israel who were present kept the Passover at that time and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.

18 Now there was no Passover like that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet. Nor did all the kings of Israel keep such a Passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept.

Death of Josiah

20 ¶ After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Carchemish on the Euphrates. And Josiah went out against him.

21 But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, “What have I to do with you, you king of Judah? I did not come against you this day, but against the house with which I have war. For God has ordered me to hurry. Stop for your own sake from interfering with God who is with me, so that He will not destroy you.”

22 Nevertheless, Josiah would not turn his face from him. But he disguised himself so that he might fight with him. And he did not hearken to the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and thus came to fight in the Valley of Megiddo.

23 And the archers shot at King Josiah. Then the king said to his servants, “Take me away, for I am badly wounded.”

24 His servants therefore took him out of the chariot and put him in the second chariot that he had. And they brought him to Jerusalem and he died. And he was buried in one of the tombs of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.

25 And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah. And all the singing men and the singing women speak of Josiah in their lamentations to this day. And they made it an ordinance in Israel, and behold, they are written in the Laments.

Chapter 36

Jehoahaz Reigns Over Judah

1 ¶ Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah and made him king in his father’s place in Jerusalem.

2 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.

3 Then the king of Egypt deposed him at Jerusalem and imposed on the land a fine of 100 talents of silver and one talent of gold.

4 Then the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem. And he changed his name to Jehoiakim. Then Necho took Jehoahaz his brother and carried him to Egypt.

Jehoiakim Reigns Over Judah

5 ¶ Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And he did evil in the sight of the LORD his God.

6 Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. And he bound him in chains in order to carry him to Babylon.

7 Nebuchadnezzar also carried off the vessels of the house of the LORD to Babylon and put them in his temple at Babylon.

8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim and his abominations that he did and what was found in him, behold, they are written in the
book of the kings of Israel and Judah. And Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place.

**Jehoiachin Reigns Over Judah**

9 ¶ Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.

10 At the turn of the year, King Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought him to Babylon, with the valuable vessels of the house of the LORD. And he made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

**Zekekiah Reigns Over Judah**

11 ¶ Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.

12 And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. He did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet who spoke for the LORD.

13 And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar who had made him swear allegiance by God. But he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart from turning to the LORD God of Israel.

14 Furthermore, all the chiefs of the priests and the people transgressed greatly after all the abominations of the nations. And they defiled the house of the LORD that he had allowed in Jerusalem.

**The Fall of Jerusalem**

15 ¶ Then the Lord God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up early and sending, because he had compassion on His people and on his dwelling place.

16 But they mocked the messengers of God and despised His words. And they scoffed at His prophets until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

17 ¶ Therefore, He brought on them the king of the Chaldeans who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary. And He had no compassion on young man or maiden, on the aged or the weak. He gave them all into his hand.

18 And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king and of his princes, all these he brought to Babylon.

19 And they burned the house of God and broke down the wall of Jerusalem. And he burned all its palaces with fire and destroyed all its valuable vessels.

20 And those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia,

21 to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths. As long as it lay desolate it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.

**The Decree of Cyrus**

22 ¶ Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and put it also in writing, saying,

23 ¶ Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘All the kingdoms of the earth has the LORD God of heaven given me, and He has charged me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, that is in Judah. Who is there among you of all His people? The LORD his God be with him and let him go up.”

**EZRA**

**Chapter 1**

Cyrus Helps the Exiles

1 ¶ Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, so that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of
Persia b to make a proclamation throughout all his kingdom. And he put it also in writing, saying,
2 “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The LORD God of heaven has given me all the kingdoms of the earth. And He has charged me to build Him a house at Jerusalem, that is in Judah.
3 ‘Who is there among you of all His people? May His God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem that is in Judah and build the house of the LORD God of Israel (dHe is God), that is in Jerusalem.
4 ‘And whoever remains in any place where he sojourns, let the men of his place help him with silver and with gold and with goods and with livestock, besides the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.’”
5 ¶ Then the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin and the priests and the Levites, with all whose spirits eGod had moved, rose up to go build the house of the LORD that is in Jerusalem.
6 And all those who were around them encouraged them with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods and with livestock and with precious things, besides all that was willingly offered.
7 ¶ gCyrus the king also brought forth the vessels of the house of the LORD that Nebuchadnezzar had brought from Jerusalem and had put in the house of his gods.
8 Even these Cyrus king of Persia brought out by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer and counted them out to iSheshbazzar, the prince of Judah.
9 Now this was their number: 30 dishes of gold, 1,000 dishes of silver, 29 knives,
10 30 gold bowls, 410 silver bowls of a second kind and 1,000 other articles.
11 All the vessels of gold and of silver were 5,400. All these Sheshbazzar brought up with the exiles who went up from Babylon to Jerusalem.

Chapter 2

List of the Exiles
1 ¶ Now athese are the children of the province who went up out of the captivity, of those who had been carried away, b whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away to Babylon. And they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, everyone to his city.
2 These came with Zerubbabel: Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mizpar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel:
3 the children of Parosh, 2,172;
4 the children of Shephatiah, 372;
5 the children of Arah, 775;
6 the children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, 2,812;
7 the children of Elam, 1,254;
8 the children of Zattu, 945;
9 the children of Zacci, 760;
10 the children of Bani, 642;
11 the children of Bebai, 623;
12 the children of Azgad, 1,222;
13 the children of Adonikam, 666;
14 the children of Bigvai, 2,056;
15 the children of Adin, 454;
16 the children of Ater of Hezekiah, 98;
17 the children of Bezai, 323;
18 the children of Jorah, 112;
19 the children of Hashum, 223;
20 the children of Gibbar, 95;
21 the children of Bethlehem, 123;
22 the men of Netophah, 56;
23 the men of Anathoth, 128;
24 the children of Azmaveth, 42;
25 the children of Kirjatharim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, 743;
26 the children of Ramah and Gaba, 621;
27 the men of Michmas, 122;
28 the men of Bethel and Ai, 223;
29 the children of Nebo, 52;
30 the children of Magbish, 156;
31 the children of the other Elam, 1,254;
32 the children of Harim, 320;
33 the children of Lod, Hadid and Ono, 725;
34 the children of Jericho, 345;
35 the children of Senah, 3,630.
36 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, 973;
37 the children of Immmer, 1,052;
38 the children of Pashur, 1,247;
39 the children of Harim, 1,017.
¶ The Levites: the children of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah, 74.

¶ The singers: the children of Asaph, 128.

¶ The children of the gatekeepers: the children of Shallum, the children of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, in all 139.

¶ The Nethinims: the children of Ziha, the children of Hasupha, the children of Tabbaoth, the children of Keros, the children of Siaha, the children of Padon, the children of Lebanah, the children of Hagabah, the children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the children of Paseah, the children of Besai, the children of Asnah, the children of Meros, the children of Nephusim, the children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harsha, the children of Bazluth, the children of Me hidah, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the children of Ami.

¶ The children of Solomon’s servants: the children of Soter, the children of Sophereth, the children of Peruda, the children of Jaalah, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel, the children of Shephati-ab, the children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth of Zebaim, the children of Ami.

All the Nethinims and the children of Solomon’s servants were 392.

¶ Now these were those who went up from Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addan and Immer. However, they could not identify their father’s house and their seed, whether they were of Israel:

¶ The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, 652.

¶ And of the children of the priests: the children of Habai, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai, who took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and was called after their name.

¶ These sought their register among those who were registered by genealogy, but they were not found. Therefore they were excluded from the priesthood as defiled.

¶ And the governor said to them that they should not eat of the most holy things until there stood up a priest with the Urim and Thummim.

¶ The whole assembly together was 42,360, besides their servants and their maids, of whom there were 7,337. And there were among them 200 singing men and singing women.

Their horses were 736; their mules, 245; their camels, 435; their donkeys, 6,720.

¶ Some of the fathers, when they came to the house of the LORD that is at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of God to set it up in its place.

They gave after their ability to the treasury for the work 61,000 gold drachmas and 5,000 silver minas and 100 priestly garments.

¶ Some of the priests and the Levites, and some of the people, and the singers and the gatekeepers and the Nethinims, dwelt in their cities and all Israel in their cities.

Chapter 3
Rebuilding the Altar

¶ And when the seventh month had come and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem.

Then Jeshua the son of Jozadak stood up, and his brethren the priests and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and built the altar of the God of Israel in order to offer burnt offerings on it, as is written in the law of Moses the man of God.

And they set the altar upon its bases, for fear was upon them because of the people of the lands. And they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, even burnt offerings morning and evening.
They kept also the feast of tabernacles as it is written. And they offered the daily burnt offerings in the number required by ordinance for each day.

And afterward they offered the continual burnt offering, both for the new moons and for all the set feasts of the LORD that were consecrated, and for everyone who willingly offered a freewill offering to the LORD.

From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid.

They gave money also to the masons and to the carpenters, and food and drink and oil to those of Sidon and to those of Tyre, to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea of Joppa, according to the permission that they had from Cyrus king of Persia.

Now in the second year of their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all those who had come out of the captivity to Jerusalem, began work and appointed the Levites from twenty years and older to supervise the work of the house of the LORD.

Then Jeshua with his sons and brethren stood united with Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah and the sons of Henadad with their sons and brethren the Levites, to supervise those working on the temple of God.

And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks to the LORD because He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers who were older men and who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes. But many shouted aloud for joy

so that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people, for the people shouted with a loud shout and the noise was heard afar off.

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Then Jeshua with his sons and brethren stood united with Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah and the sons of Henadad with their sons and brethren the Levites, to supervise those working on the temple of God.

And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks to the LORD because He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers who were older men and who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes. But many shouted aloud for joy

so that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people, for the people shouted with a loud shout and the noise was heard afar off.

They gave money also to the masons and to the carpenters, and food and drink and oil to those of Sidon and to those of Tyre, to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea of Joppa, according to the permission that they had from Cyrus king of Persia.

Now in the second year of their coming to the house of God at Jerusalem in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all those who had come out of the captivity to Jerusalem, began work and appointed the Levites from twenty years and older to supervise the work of the house of the LORD.

Then Jeshua with his sons and brethren stood united with Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah and the sons of Henadad with their sons and brethren the Levites, to supervise those working on the temple of God.

And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks to the LORD because He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers who were older men and who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes. But many shouted aloud for joy

so that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people, for the people shouted with a loud shout and the noise was heard afar off.
companions, wrote to Artaxerxes king of Persia. And the letter was written in the Aramaic script and translated into the Aramaic language.

8 Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king as follows:

9 “From Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions, the Dinaites, the Apharsathchites, the Tarpelites, the Apharsites, the Archevites, the Babylonians, the Susanchites, the Dehavites, and the Elamites,

10 and the rest of the nations whom the great and noble Osnapper brought over and settled in the cities of Samaria, and the rest who are on this side the River, and so forth.”

11 (This is the copy of the letter that they sent to him.) “To King Artaxerxes from your servants, the men in the region beyond the River.

12 “Let it be known to the king that the Jews who came up from you to us have come to Jerusalem, building the rebellious and evil city. And they are setting up its walls and repairing the foundations.

13 “Let it be known now to the king that if this city is built and the walls set up again, they will not pay tax, tribute and custom, and so it will diminish the revenue of the king.

14 “Now because we receive support from the king’s palace, and it is not fitting for us to see the king’s dishonor, therefore we have sent and informed the king

15 “so that search may be made in the book of the records of your fathers. And you will find in the book of the records and know that this city is a rebellious city and harmful to kings and provinces, and that they have incited sedition within the same in former times. For this reason this city was destroyed.

16 “We inform the king that if this city is built again, and its walls set up, by this means you will have no dominion on this side the River.”

17 ¶ Then the king sent an answer to Rehum and Shimshai the scribe and to the rest of their companions who dwell in Samaria, and to the rest beyond the River, “Greetings:

18 “The letter that you sent to us has been clearly read before me. 19 “And I commanded and search has been made. And it has been found that this city of former times has made insurrection against kings, and that rebellion and sedition have been made in it.

20 “There have been mighty kings also over Jerusalem who have ruled over all countries beyond the River. And tax, tribute and custom was paid to them.

21 “Now give a command to cause these men to cease and that this city not be built until another command is given from me.

22 “Take heed now that you do not fail to do this. Why should damage increase to the harm of the kings?”

23 ¶ Now when the copy of King Artaxerxes’ letter was read before Rehum and Shimshai the scribe and their companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem to the Jews. And they made them cease by force and arms.

24 ¶ Then the work ceased on the house of God that is at Jerusalem. So it ceased until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Chapter 5

Letter to Darius

1 ¶ Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them.

2 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak rose up and began to build the house of God that is at Jerusalem. And the prophets of God were with them supporting them.

3 ¶ At the same time Tattenai, governor on this side the River, and Shethar-boznai and their companions came to them. And they said to them thus, Who has commanded you to build this house and to finish this wall?

4 ¶ Then accordingly, we told them the names of the men who were constructing this building.

5 But the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews so that they could not cause
them to cease until the matter came to Darius. Then a written reply was returned concerning this matter.

6 ¶ This is a copy of the letter that Tattenai, governor on this side the River, and Shethar-boznai and his companions the Persians, who were on this side the River, sent to Darius the king:

7 (They sent a letter to him in which was written thus): “To Darius the king: All peace.

8 “Let it be known to the king that we went into the province of Judea, to the house of the great God that is being built with great stones, and timber is being laid in the walls. And this work goes on diligently and prospers in their hands.

9 “Then we asked those elders and said to them thus, k‘Who commanded you to build this house and to finish these walls?’

10 “We asked their names also, to inform you so that we might write the names of the men who were the leaders among them.

11 “And they answered us, saying, ‘We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth. And we are rebuilding the house that was built many years ago which a great king of Israel built and finished.

12 ‘But nbecause our fathers provoked the God of heaven to wrath, He gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed this house and carried the people away into Babylon.

13 ‘But in the first year of pCyrus the king of Babylon the same King Cyrus made a decree to build this house of God.

14 ‘And the vessels also of qgold and silver of the house of God that Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that was in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, those did Cyrus the king take out of the temple of Babylon and they were delivered to one whose name was Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor.

15 ‘And he said to him, “Take these vessels. Go and carry them to the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be built in its place.”

16 ‘Then the same Sheshbazzar came and laid the foundation of the house of God that is in Jerusalem. And since that time even until now it has been under construction, and yet it is not finished.’

17 “Now therefore, if it seem good to the king, let there be a search made in the king’s treasure house that is there at Babylon, whether it is so that a decree was made by Cyrus the king to build this house of God at Jerusalem. Then let the king send to us his decision concerning this matter.”

Chapter 6
Decrees of Darius

1 ¶ Then Darius the king issued a decree and a search was made in the house of the archives where the treasures were stored in Babylon.

2 And there was found at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of the Medes, a scroll. And in it was a record thus written:

3 “In the first year of Cyrus the king, Cyrus the king issued a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, ‘Let the house be built, the place where they offered sacrifices. And let its foundations be firmly laid, its height being 60 cubits and its width 60 cubits;

4 d‘with three rows of great stones and a row of new timber. And let the expenses be paid for by the king’s house.

5 ‘And also let the gold and silver vessels of the house of God that Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that is at Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and returned to the temple that is at Jerusalem, everything to its place. And place them in the house of God.’

6 ¶ eNow therefore, Tattenai, governor beyond the River, Shethar-boznai and your companions the Persians who are beyond the River, keep yourselves away from there.

7 “Leave the work of this house of God alone. Let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of God in its place.

8 ‘Furthermore, I issue a decree of what you will do for the elders of these Jews for the building of this house of God: the full cost is to be
paid to these people from the royal treasury out of the taxes of the provinces beyond the River, and that without delay.

9 “And whatever they need, both young bulls and rams and lambs for the burnt offerings of the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine and oil, according to the appointment of the priests who are at Jerusalem, let it be given them daily without fail

10 so that they may offer sacrifices of sweet savors to the God of heaven and pray for the life of the king and of his sons.

11 “I have also issued a decree that whoever will alter this word, let timber be taken from his house and erected, and let him be hanged on it. And let his house be made a rubbish heap because of this.

12 “And may the God who has caused His name to dwell there destroy all kings or people who attempt to change it, or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem. I, Darius, have made a decree. Let it be done diligently.”

Completion of Temple

13 ¶ Then Tattenai, governor on this side the River, Shethar-boznai and their companions diligently did according to what King Darius had sent.

14 ¶ And the elders of the Jews built. And they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and finished it according to the commandment of the God of Israel and according to the commandment of Cyrus and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

15 And this house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, that was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.

16 And the children of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy.

17 And they offered at the dedication of this house of God 100 bulls, 200 rams, 400 lambs, and for a sin offering for all Israel, 12 male goats according to the number of the tribes of Israel.

18 And they set the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their divisions, for the service of God that is at Jerusalem, as it is written in the book of Moses.

The Passover

19 ¶ And the children of the captivity kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.

20 For the priests and the Levites were purified together, all of them were pure. And they killed the Passover lamb for all the children of the captivity and for their brethren the priests and for themselves.

21 And the children of Israel who had come again out of captivity ate together with all who had separated themselves to them from the impurity of the nations of the land in order to seek the LORD God of Israel.

22 And they kept with joy the feast of unleavened bread seven days, for the LORD had made them joyful and turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

Chapter 7

Ezra Goes to Jerusalem

1 ¶ Now after these things, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub,

2 the son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub,

3 the son of Amariah, the son of Azariah, the son of Meraioth,

4 the son of Zerahiah, the son of Uzzi, the son of Bukki,

5 the son of Abishua, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief priest,

6 this Ezra went up from Babylon. And he was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses that the LORD God of Israel had given. And the king granted him all his requests according to the hand of the LORD his God upon him.

7 ¶ And there went up some of the children of Israel and some of the priests and the Levites, and the singers and the gatekeepers and the
Nethinims, to Jerusalem in the seventh year
of Artaxerxes the king.

And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month
which was in the seventh year of the king.

For on the first day of the first month he
began to go up from Babylon. And on the first
day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem,
according to the good hand of his God upon
him.

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek
the law of the LORD and to do it, and to teach
in Israel statutes and judgments.

Artaxerxes’ Letter to Ezra

Now this is the copy of the letter that
King Artaxerxes gave to Ezra the priest, the
scribe, even an expert in the words of the com-
mandments of the LORD and of His statutes
to Israel:

Artaxerxes, king of kings, to Ezra the
priest, a scribe of the law of the God of heaven,
perfect peace and so forth.

I issue a decree that all those of the people
of Israel, and their priests and Levites in my
realm who are willing of their own freewill to
go up to Jerusalem, may go with you.

Forasmuch as you are sent by the king
and by his seven counselors to inquire con-
cerning Judah and Jerusalem according to the
law of your God that is in your hand,

and to carry the silver and gold that the
king and his counselors have freely offered to
the God of Israel, whose habitation is in
Jerusalem,

and all the silver and gold that you can
find in all the province of Babylon, with the
freewill offering of the people and of the
priests, offering willingly for the house of their
God that is in Jerusalem;

with this money, therefore, you may di-
gently buy bulls, rams and lambs, with their
grain offerings and their drink offerings, and
offer them on the altar of the house of your
God that is in Jerusalem.

And whatever will seem good to you and
to your brethren to do with the rest of the sil-
ver and the gold, that do after the will of your
God.

“The vessels also that are given to you for
the service of the house of your God, these
you deliver before the God of Jerusalem.

“And whatever more will be needed for
the house of your God that you will have oc-
casion to provide, provide it out of the king’s
treasure house.

“And I, even I Artaxerxes the king, do is-
sue a decree to all the treasurers who are
beyond the River, that whatever Ezra the priest,
the scribe of the law of the God of heaven,
will require of you, it will be done diligently,

to 100 talents of silver, and to 100 mea-
sures of wheat, and to 100 baths of wine, and
to 100 baths of oil, and salt without prescrib-
ing how much.

Whatever is commanded by the God of
heaven, let it be diligently done for the house
of the God of heaven. For why should there be
wrath against the realm of the king and his
sons?

We also inform you that it will not be
lawful to impose tax, tribute or custom on any
of the priests and Levites, singers, gatekeepers,
Nethinims, or ministers of this house of God.

And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom
of your God that you possess, appoint magis-
trates and judges so that they may judge all the
people who are beyond the River, all such as
know the laws of your God. And you teach
those who do not know them.

And whoever will not do the law of your
God and the law of the king, let judgment be
executed speedily upon him, whether by death
or by banishment or by confiscation of goods
or by imprisonment.”

Blessed be the LORD God of our fa-
thers who has put such a thing as this in
the king’s heart, to beautify the house of the LORD
that is in Jerusalem,

and has extended mercy to me before the
king and his counselors and before all the
king’s mighty princes. And I was strengthened
as the hand of the LORD my God was upon
me. And I gathered together out of Israel chief
men to go up with me.
Chapter 8

Returnees with Ezra

1 ¶ These are now the chief of their fathers and this is the genealogy of those who went up with me from Babylon, in the reign of Artaxerxes the king:
2 of the sons of Phinehas, Gershom; of the sons of Ithamar, Daniel; of the sons of David, aHattush;
3 of the sons of Shechaniah, of the sons of bPharosh, Zechariah, and with him were reckoned by genealogy 150 males;
4 of the sons of cPahath-moab, Elihoenai the son of Zerahiah, and with him 200 males;
5 of the sons of Shechaniah, the son of Jahaziel, and with him 300 males;
6 of the sons also of Adin, Ebed the son of Jonathan, and with him 50 males;
7 and of the sons of Elam, Jeshaiah the son of Athaliah, and with him 70 males;
8 of the sons of Joab, Obadiah the son of Jehiel, and with him 218 males;
9 of the sons of Shelomith, the son of Josiphiah, and with him 160 males;
10 and of the sons of Shelomith, the son of Josiphiah, and with him 160 males;
11 and of the sons of dBebai, Zechariah the son of Bebai, and with him 28 males;
12 and of the sons of Azgad, Johanan the son of Hakkatan, and with him 110 males;
13 and of the last sons of Adonikam, whose names are these, Eliphelet, Jeiel, and Shemaiah, and with them 60 males;
14 of the sons also of Bigvai, Uthai, and Zabbud, and with them 70 males.

Return to Jerusalem

15 ¶ And I gathered them together at the river that runs to Ahava. And there we stayed in tents for three days. And I viewed the people and the priests, and found none of the sons of Levi.
16 Then I sent for Eliezer, for Ariel, for Shemaiah and for Elkanah, and for Zebadiah, and with them 60 males;
17 And I sent them with a command for Iddo and to his brethren the Nethinims at the place Casiphia, that they should bring to us ministers for the house of our God.
18 And by the good hand of our God upon us, they brought us a man of understanding from the sons of Mahli, the son of Levi, the son of Israel, and Sherebiah, with his sons and his brothers, 18 men;
19 and Hashabiah, and with him Jeshaiah of the sons of Merari, his brothers and their sons, 20 men;
20 also of the Nethinims whom David and the princes had appointed for the service of the Levites, 220 Nethinims. All of them were designated by name.
21 ¶ Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava in order that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from Him a safe journey for us and for our little ones and for all our possessions.
22 For I was ashamed to request of the king an escort of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy on the way, because we had spoken to the king, saying, “The hand of our God is on all those for good who seek Him, but His power and His wrath is against all those who forsake Him.”
23 So we fasted and entreated our God for this. And He answered our prayer.
24 ¶ Then I separated twelve of the chief of the priests, Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their brethren with them.
25 And I weighed into their hand 650 talents of silver, and 100 talents of silver vessels, and 100 talents of gold,
26 also 20 basins of gold worth 1,000 drachmas, and two vessels of fine copper, precious as gold.
27 And I weighed to them the silver and the gold and the vessels, even the offering of the house of our God that the king and his counselors, and his lords and all Israel who were present, had offered.
28 And I said to them, “You are holy to the LORD. The vessels are also holy. And the silver and the gold are a freewill offering to the
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LORD God of your fathers.

29 “Watch and keep them until you weigh them before the chief of the priests and the Levites and ‘chief of the fathers of Israel at Jerusalem, in the chambers of the house of the LORD.”

30 So the priests and the Levites accepted the weighed out silver and gold and the vessels in order to bring them to Jerusalem to the house of our God.

31 ¶ Then we departed from the river of Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month, to go to Jerusalem. And the hand of our God was on us and He delivered us from the hand of the enemy, and the ambushes by the way.

32 And we came to Jerusalem and remained there three days.

33 ¶ Now on the fourth day the silver and the gold and the vessels were weighed in the house of our God by the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest. And with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas. And with them were Jozabad the son of Jeshua and Noadiah the son of Binnui, Levites.

34 Everything was numbered and weighed, and all the weight was written at that time.

35 The children of those who had been carried away who had come out of the captivity, offered burnt offerings to the God of Israel: twelve bulls for all Israel, 96 rams, 77 lambs, and 12 male goats for a sin offering. All this was a burnt offering to the LORD.

36 ¶ And they delivered the king’s decrees to the king’s lieutenants and to the governors on this side the River. And they supported the people and the house of God.

Chapter 9

Marriage to Foreign Women

1 ¶ Now when these things were done, the princes came to me, saying, “The people of Israel and the priests, and the Levites have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians and the Amorites.

2 “For they have taken their daughters for themselves and for their sons, so that the holy seed has mingled with the people of those lands. Indeed, the hands of the princes and rulers have been foremost in this trespass.”

3 Now when I heard this thing, I tore my garment and my mantle. And I pulled out the hair of my head and my beard, and sat down appalled.

4 Then everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel assembled to me because of the transgression of those who had been carried away. And I sat appalled until the evening sacrifice.

5 ¶ And at the evening sacrifice I rose up from my heaviness, and having torn my garment and my mantle, I fell on my knees and spread out my hands to the LORD my God.

6 Then I said, “O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to You, my God. For our iniquities have increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up to the heavens.

7 “Since the days of our fathers to this day we have been in great guilt, and because of our iniquities, we have, our kings and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity and to a spoil and to humiliation, as it is this day.

8 “And now for a little while grace has been showed from the LORD our God to leave us a remnant to escape and to give us a peg in his holy place so that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a little reviving in our bondage.

9 “For we were slaves. Yet our God has not forsaken us in our bondage, but has extended mercy to us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to revive us in order to set up the house of our God and to repair its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem.

10 “And now, O our God, what will we say after this? For we have forsaken Your commandments

11 “that You have commanded by Your servants the prophets, saying, ‘The land to which you go to possess is an unclean land with the uncleanness of the people of the lands, with...
their abominations that have filled it from one end to another with their impurity.

12 'Now therefore do not give your daughters to their sons, nor take their daughters to your sons, nor seek their peace nor their wealth forever so that you may be strong and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.'

13 “And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that You our God have punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and have given us such deliverance as this,

14 “should we again break Your commandments and intermarry with the peoples who commit these abominations? Would You not be angry with us until You have consumed us, so that there should be no remnant nor escape?

15 O LORD God of Israel, You are righteous, for we have been left an escaped remnant as it is this day. Behold, we are before You in our trespasses, for we cannot stand before You because of this.”

Chapter 10
Confession of Sin

1 ¶ Now when Ezra had prayed and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled to him out of Israel a very great assembly of men and women and children, for the people wept bitterly.

2 And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered and said to Ezra, “We have trespassed against our God and have taken foreign wives of the people of the land. Yet now there is hope in Israel concerning this thing.

3 “Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord, and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God. And let it be done according to the law.

4 “Arise, for this matter belongs to you. We also will be with you. Be courageous and do it.”

5 ¶ Then Ezra arose and made the chief priests, the Levites and all Israel swear that they should do according to this word. And they swore.

6 Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God and went into the chamber of Johanan the son of Eliashib. And when he went there he ate no bread nor drank any water, for he mourned because of the transgression of those who had been carried away.

7 And they made a proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the children of the captivity, that they should gather themselves together to Jerusalem,

8 and that whoever would not come within three days, according to the counsel of the princes and the elders, all his possessions should be forfeited and himself separated from the assembly of those who had been carried away.

9 ¶ Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered themselves together to Jerusalem within three days. It was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the month. And all the people sat in the street of the house of God, trembling because of this matter, and because of the great rain.

10 Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, “You have transgressed and have taken foreign wives to increase the trespass of Israel.

11 “Now therefore make confession to the LORD God of your fathers and do His will. Separate yourselves from the people of the land and from the foreign wives.”

12 Then all the assembly answered and said with a loud voice, “As you have said, so we must do.

13 “But the people are many and it is a time of much rain. And we are not able to stand in the open. Neither is this a work of one day or two, for we are many who have transgressed in this thing.

14 “Let now our rulers of all the assembly stand and let all those who have taken foreign wives in our cities come at appointed times, and with them the elders of every city, and its judges, until the fierce wrath of our God for...
this matter be turned from us.”

15 Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahaziah the son of Tikvah opposed this. And Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite supported them.

16 ¶ And the children of the captivity did so. And Ezra the priest, with certain chiefs of the fathers, after the house of their fathers, and all of them by their names, were separated. And they sat down in the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter.

17 And they finished with all the men who had taken foreign wives by the first day of the first month.

Guilty of Intermarriage

18 ¶ And among the sons of the priests there were found those who had taken foreign wives: namely, of the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren; Maaseiah and Eliezer and Jarib and Gedaliah.

19 And they gave their promise that they would put away their wives. And being guilty, they offered a ram of the flock for their trespass.

20 And also of the sons of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah;

21 and of the sons of Harim: Maaseiah and Elijah and Shemaiah and Jehiel and Uzziah;

22 and of the sons of Pashur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethaneel, Jozabad and Elasah.

23 Also of the Levites there was Jozabad and Shimei and Kelaiah (the same is Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah and Eliezer.

24 Of the singers also: Eliashib; and of the gatekeepers: Shallum and Telem and Uri;

25 moreover of Israel: of the sons of Parosh: Ramiah and Jeziarah and Malchijah and Mieman and Eleazar and Malchijah and Benaiah;

26 and of the sons of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah and Jehiel and Abdi and Jeremoth and Eliah;

27 and of the sons of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah and Jeremoth and Zabad and Aziza;

28 of the sons also of Bebai: Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai and Athlai;

29 and of the sons of Bani: Meshullam, Malluch and Adaiah, Jashub and Sheal and Ramoth;

30 and of the sons of Pahath-moab: Adna and Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezaleel and Binnui and Manasseh;

31 and of the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Ishijah, Malchiah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,

32 Benjamin, Malluch and Shemariah;

33 of the sons of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattathah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh and Shimei;

34 of the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram and Uel,

35 Benaiah, Bedeiah, Chelluh,

36 Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,

37 Mattaniah, Mattenai, and Jaasau

38 and Bani and Binnui, Shimei,

39 and Shelemiah and Nathan and Adaiah,

40 Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,

41 Azareel and Shelemiah, Shemariah,

42 Shallum, Amariah and Joseph;

43 of the sons of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jadan and Joel, Benaiah.

44 All these had taken foreign wives. And some of them had wives by whom they had children.
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International King James Version

Nehemiah 2

4 ¶ Now it came to pass when I heard these words that I sat down and wept. And I mourned many days, and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.

5 Then I said, “I beseech You, O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps Your covenant and mercy for those who love Him and observe His commandments.

6 “Let Your ear now be attentive and Your eyes open so that You may hear the prayer of your servant that I pray before You now day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel that we have sinned against You. Both I and my father’s house have sinned.

7 “We have dealt very corruptly against You and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, that You commanded Your servant Moses.

8 “Remember, I beseech You, the word that You commanded Your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations.

9 “But if you turn to Me and keep My commandments and do them, though your outcasts be in the uttermost part of the heavens, yet I will gather them from there and will bring them to the place that I have chosen to set My name.’

10 “Now these are Your servants and Your people whom You have redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand.

11 “O Lord, I beseech You, let now Your servant and the king’s cupbearer.

Chapter 2

Nehemiah to Jerusalem

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, when wine was before him, that I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad before in his presence.

2 Therefore, the king said to me, “Why is your countenance sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing else but sorrow of heart.” Then I was very afraid.

3 Then I said to the king, “Let the king live forever. Why should not my countenance be sad when the city, the place of my fathers’ tombs, lies in ruins and its gates are consumed by fire?”

4 Then the king said to me, “For what do you make request?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.

5 Then I said to the king, “If it please the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ tombs so that I may build it.”

6 Then the king said to me, “For how long will your journey be? And when will you return?” So it pleased the king to send me. And I gave him a time.

7 Furthermore, I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, let letters be given to me for the governors beyond the River so that they allow me to pass through until I come to Judah, and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king’s forest so that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace that pertains to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I will occupy.” And the king granted me according to the good hand of my God upon me.

8 ¶ Then I came to the governors beyond the River and gave them the king’s letters. Now the king had sent with me captains of the army and horsemen.

9 ¶ Then I came to the governors beyond the River and gave them the king’s letters. Now I did not tell anyone what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem. Neither was there any animal with me, except the animal upon which I rode.

10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the Ammonite official, heard about it, it grieved them exceedingly that there had come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

Nehemiah Inspects Jerusalem

11 ¶ So I came to Jerusalem and was there three days.

12 Then I arose in the night, and some men with me. I did not tell anyone what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem. Neither was there any animal with me, except the animal upon which I rode.

13 Then I went out by night by the Valley
Gate, even before the Serpent Well, and to the Refuse Gate. And I viewed the walls of Jerusalem that were broken down, and its gates that were burned by fire.

14 Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King’s Pool. But there was no place for the animal that was under me to pass.

15 Then went I up in the night by the valley and viewed the wall. And I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned.

16 Now the rulers did not know where I had gone or what I did. Neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest who did the work.

17 ¶ Then I said to them, “You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem so that we no longer be a reproach.”

18 Then I told them of the hand of my God that was good upon me, as well as the king’s words that he had spoken to me. And they said, “Let us rise up and build.” So they strengthened their hands for this good work.

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they mocked us to scorn and despised us. And they said, “What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?”

20 Then I answered them and said to them, “The God of heaven, He will prosper us. Therefore we his servants will arise and build. “But you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem.”

Chapter 3
Builders of the Wall

1 ¶ Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests. And they built the Sheep Gate. They sanctified it and set up its doors. They sanctified it even to the Tower of Meah, even to the Tower of Hananeel.

2 And next to him the men of Jericho built, and next to them Zacceur the son of Imri built.

3 ¶ Now the sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate. They also laid its beams and set up its doors, the locks and the bars.

4 And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkaz made repairs. And next to him Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel made repairs. And next to him Zadok, the son of Baana made repairs.

5 And next to them the Tekoites made repairs. But their nobles did not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.

6 ¶ Furthermore, Joiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah, repaired the Old Gate. They laid its beams and set up its doors and the locks and the bars.

7 And next to them Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah, also made repairs under the official authority of the governor beyond the River.

8 Next to him Uzziel the son of Harhaiah of the goldsmiths made repairs. Next to him also Hananiah the son of one of the perfumers, made repairs. And they fortified Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.

9 And next to them Rephaiah the son of Hur, the ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, made repairs.

10 And next to them Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, made repairs opposite his house. And next to him Hattush the son of Hashabniah made repairs.

11 Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the son of Pahathmoab, repaired the other section and the Tower of the Furnaces.

12 And next to him Shallum the son of Halohesh, the ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, he and his daughters, made repairs.

13 Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the Valley Gate. They built it and set up its doors, with its locks and bars, and a thousand cubits of the wall as far as the Refuse Gate.

14 ¶ Now Malchijah the son of Rechab, the official of the district of Beth Hacerem repaired the Refuse Gate. He built it and set up its doors and locks and bars.

15 ¶ Shallum the son of Colhozeh, the official...
of the district of Mizpah, repaired the fountain gate. He built it and covered it. And he set up its doors, locks and bars, and the wall of the Pool of Shelah by the King’s Garden, as far as the steps that go down from the city of David.

16 After him Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, official of half the district of Bethzur, made repairs as far as the place in front of the tombs of David, and to the man-made pool, and as far as the House of the Mighty.

17 After him the Levites, under Rehum the son of Bani, made repairs. Next to him Hashabiah, the ruler of half the district of Keilah, made repairs for his district.

18 After him their brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the ruler of half the district of Keilah, made repairs.

19 And next to him Ezer the son of Jeshua, the ruler of Mizpah, repaired another section in front of the ascent to the armory at the buttress.

20 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai earnestly repaired the other section, from the buttress to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.

21 After him Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz repaired another section from the door of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib.

22 And after him the priests, the men of the plain made repairs.

23 After him Benjamin and Hashub made repairs in front of their house. After him Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah made repairs by his house.

24 After him Binnui the son of Henadad repaired another section from the house of Azariah to the buttress, even to the corner.

25 Palal the son of Uzai, made repairs opposite the buttress, and the tower that projects from the king’s upper house, that was by the court of the prison. After him Pedaiash the son of Parosh made repairs.

26 Furthermore, the Nethinims dwelling in Water Gate made repairs as far as the front of the Water Gate toward the east and the project tower.

27 After them the Tekoites repaired another section opposite the great tower that projects out even to the wall of Ophel.

28 The priests made repairs from above the Horse Gate, each one in front of his house.

29 After them Zadok the son of Immer made repairs in front of his house. After him also Shemaiah the son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the East Gate, made repairs.

30 After him Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, repaired another section. After him Meshullam the son of Berechiah made repairs in front of his dwelling.

31 After him Malchiah the goldsmith’s son made repairs as far as the place of the Nethinims and of the merchants, in front of the Gate Miphkad and as far as the upper room at the corner.

32 And between the upper room of the corner to the Sheep Gate, the goldsmiths and the merchants made repairs.

Chapter 4

Opposition

1 ¶ But it came to pass when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was furious and very angry and mocked the Jews.

2 Then he spoke before his brethren and the army of Samaria. And he said, “What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they fortify themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they finish in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish that are burned?”

3 Now Tobiah the Ammonite was near him. And he said, “Even what they build, if a fox goes up on it he will break down their stone wall.”

4 ¶ Hear, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their reproach upon their own head and give them up for plunder in the land of captivity.

5 And do not cover their iniquity. And do not let their sin be blotted out from before You. For they have provoked You to anger before the builders.

6 ¶ So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together unto half its height. For the
people had a mind to work.
7 Now it came to pass when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabians and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were repaired and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very furious.
8 And all of them conspired together to come and to fight against Jerusalem and to hinder it.
9 Nevertheless, we made our prayer to our God. And because of them we set a watch against them day and night.
10 ¶ And Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is failing. There is so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall.”
11 And our adversaries said, “They will not know or see until we come into their midst and slay them and cause the work to cease.”
12 Now it came to pass when the Jews who dwelt by them came, they said to us ten times, “From whatever place you turn, they will be upon us.”
13 ¶ Therefore, I stationed men in the lower places behind the wall and on the higher places. I stationed the people after their families with their swords, their spears and their bows.
14 And I looked and rose up and said to the nobles and to the rulers and to the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses.”
15 ¶ Now it came to pass when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and God had brought their counsel to nothing, that all of us returned to the wall, each one to his work.
16 Then it came to pass from that time on that half of my servants carried on in the work and the other half held the spears, the shields and the bows and the breastplates. And the rulers were behind the whole house of Judah.
17 Those who built on the wall and those who carried burdens, loaded themselves, each one with one of his hands doing the work and with the other holding a weapon.
18 For every builder had his sword girded by his side, and so he built. And he who sounded the trumpet was by me.
19 ¶ And I said to the nobles and to the rulers and to the rest of the people, “The work is great and extensive, and we are separated upon the wall one far from another.
20 “In whatever place you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. “Our God will fight for us.”
21 ¶ So we labored in the work. Half of them held the spears from the dawn until the stars appeared.
22 At the same time I said to the people, “Let everyone with his servant spend the night inside Jerusalem so that they may be our guard by night and a working party by day.”
23 So neither I nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard who followed me, none of us put off our clothes, except that everyone put them off for washing.

Chapter 5
Consideration for the Poor
1 ¶ And there was a great outcry from the people and their wives against their brethren the Jews.
2 For there were those who said, “We, our sons and our daughters, are many. Therefore, let us take grain so that we may eat and live.”
3 There were also some who said, “We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards and houses, so that we might buy grain, because of the famine.”
4 There were also those who said, “We have borrowed money for the king’s tax on our lands and vineyards.
5 “Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children. And behold, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants. And some of our daughters are already brought into bondage. Neither is it in our power to redeem them, for other men have our lands and vineyards.”
6 ¶ And I was very angry when I heard their outcry and these words.
7 After I consulted with myself, then I rebuked the nobles and the rulers. And I said to them, “Each of you are exacting usury from your brethren.” And I held a great assembly against them.

f Ne 4:1 g Ne 2:19 h Ps 83:3-5 i Ps 50:15 j Dt 1:29 k Dt 10:17 l 2 Sm 10:12 m Jb 5:12 n Ex 14:14,25 Chapter 5: a Ne 5:7,8 b Dt 15:7 c Is 58:7 d Ex 21:7 e Ex 22:25
Then I said to them, “After our ability we have redeemed our brethren the Jews who were sold to the nations. And now will you sell your brothers? Or, will they be sold to us?” Then they held their peace and found nothing to answer.

Then I said, “It is not good what you do. Ought you not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies?

Likewise I, my brethren and my servants, might exact from them money and grain. Please let us stop this usury.

Please, give back to them this very day their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money and of the grain, the wine and the oil that you are exacting from them.”

Then they said, “We will restore them and will require nothing from them. So we will do as you say.” Then I called the priests and took an oath from them so that they should do according to this promise.

I also shook out the front of my garment and said, “So God shake out every man from his house and from his labor, who does not perform this promise, even thus may he be shaken out and emptied.” And all the assembly said, “Amen!” And they praised the LORD.

Then the people did according to this promise.

Furthermore, from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even to the thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, is, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor. But the former governors who had been before me laid burdens on the people, and had taken from them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver. Even their servants dominated over the people. But I did not because of the fear of God.

I also continued in the work of this wall. We did not buy any land. And all my servants gathered there to the work.

Furthermore, at my table 150 of the Jews and rulers, besides those who came to us from among the nations that were around us.

Now what was prepared for me daily was one ox and six choice sheep, also birds were prepared for me, and once in ten days all sorts of wine. Yet for all this I did not require the bread of the governor because the bondage was heavy on this people.

¶ Remember me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

Chapter 6

Continued Opposition

Now it came to pass when Sanballat, and Tobiah and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had built the wall, and that there was no breach left in it, though at that time I had not set up the doors on the gates,

that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, “Come, let us meet together in one of the villages in the plain of Ono.” But they thought to do harm to me.

And I sent messengers to them, saying, “I am doing a great work so that I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?”

But they sent to me four times after this manner, and I answered them after the same manner.

Then Sanballat sent his servant to me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand.

In it was written, “It is reported among the nations, and Gashmu says, that you and the Jews are planning to rebel. Therefore, you are building the wall so that you may be their king, according to these words.

And you have also appointed prophets to preach in Jerusalem concerning you, saying, ‘There is a king in Judah.’ And now it will be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together.”

Then I sent to him, saying, “There are no such things done as you say, but you are in-
venting them out of your own heart.”

9 For they all were trying to make us afraid, saying, “Their hands will be discouraged with the work and it will not be done.” Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.

10 ¶ Afterward, I came to the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who was a secret informer. And he said, “Let us meet together in the house of God, inside the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple. For they are coming to slay you. Behold, in the night they are coming to slay you.”

11 And I said, “Should such a man as I flee? And who is there such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.”

12 And behold, I perceived that God had not sent him, but that he pronounced this prophecy against me. For Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

13 Therefore he was hired so that I should be afraid, and do accordingly and sin, so that they might have an evil report against me and discredit me.

14 ¶ My God, remember Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, who would have made me afraid.

Completion of the Wall

15 ¶ So the wall was finished in the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days.

16 Now it came to pass when all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations that were around us saw these things, they were very disheartened in their own eyes. For they perceived that this work was done by our God.

17 ¶ Furthermore in those days, the nobles of Judah sent many letters to Tobiah, and letters of Tobiah came to them.

18 For there were many in Judah loyal to him because he was the son-in-law of Shechaniah the son of Arah, and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

19 They also reported his good deeds before me and spoke my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to make me afraid.

Chapter 7

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites were appointed,

2 that I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem, for he was a faithful man and feared God more than many.

3 And I said to them, “Do not let the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot; and while they stand guard, let them shut the doors and bar them. And appoint guards over the inhabitants of Jerusalem, each one at his post and each one to be in front of his house.

List of Exiles

4 ¶ Now the city was large and great. But the people in it were few, and the houses were not built.

5 And my God put into my heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people so that they might be registered by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of those who came up at the first return, and found written therein:

6 These are the children of the province, who went up out of the captivity, of those who had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one to his city;

7 who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel was this:

8 the sons of Parosh, 2,172;

9 the sons of Shephatiah, 372;

10 the sons of Arah, 652;

11 the sons of Pahath-moab of the sons of Jeshua and Joab, 2,818;

12 the sons of Elam, 1,254;

13 the sons of Zattu, 845;

14 the sons of Zaccai, 760;

15 the sons of Binnui, 648;

16 the sons of Bebai, 628;

17 the sons of Azgad, 2,322;
18 the sons of Adonikam, 667;
19 the sons of Bigvai, 2,067;
20 the sons of Adin, 655;
21 the sons of Ater, of Hezekiah, 98;
22 the sons of Hashum, 328;
23 the sons of Bezai, 324;
24 the sons of Hariph, 112;
25 the sons of Gibeon, 95;
26 the men of Bethlehem and Netophah, 188;
27 the men of Anathoth, 128;
28 the men of Bethazmaveth, 42;
29 the men of Kiriath-jearim, Chephirah and Beeroth, 743;
30 the men of Ramah and Geba, 621;
31 the men of Michmas, 122;
32 the men of Bethel and Ai, 123;
33 the men of the other Nebo, 52;
34 the sons of the other bElam, 1,254;
35 the sons of Harim, 320;
36 the men of Jericho, 345;
37 the sons of Lod, Hadid and Ono, 721;
38 the sons of Senaah, 3,930.
39 ¶ The priests: the sons of iJedaiah of the house of Jeshua, 973;
40 the sons of jImmer, 1,052;
41 the sons of kPashhur, 1,247;
42 the sons of lHarim, 1,017.
43 ¶ The Levites: the sons of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, of the sons of Hodevah, 74.
44 The singers: the sons of Asaph, 148.
45 The gatekeepers: the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, the sons of Shobai, 138.
46 ¶ The Nethinims: the sons of Ziha, the children of Hashupha, the children of Tabbaoth,
47 the sons of Keros, the sons of Sia, the sons of Padon,
48 the sons of Lebana, the sons of Hagaba, the sons of Shalmai,
49 the sons of Hanan, the sons of Giddel, the sons of Gahar,
50 the sons of Reaiah, the sons of Rezin, the sons of Nekoda,
51 the sons of Gazzam, the sons of Uzza, the sons of Phaseah,
52 the sons of Besai, the sons of Meunim, the sons of Nephishesim,
53 the sons of Bakbuk, the sons of Hakupha, the sons of Harhur,
54 the sons of Bazlith, the sons of Mehida, the sons of Harsha,
55 the sons of Barkos, the sons of Sisera, the sons of Tamah,
56 the sons of Neziah, the sons of Hatipha.
57 The sons of Solomon’s servants: the sons of Sotai, the sons of Sophereth, the sons of Perida,
58 the sons of Jaala, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel,
59 the sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth of Zebaim, the sons of Amon.
60 All the Nethinims, and the sons of Solomon’s servants, were 392.
61 ¶ And these were they who went up also from Telmelah, Telharesha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer. But they could not show their father’s house, nor their seed, whether they were of Israel.
62 The sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, 642.
63 And of the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Koz, the sons of Barzillai, who took one of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite to wife, and was called after their name.
64 These sought their register among those who were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found. Therefore they were considered unclean and excluded from the priesthood.
65 And the governor said to them that they should not eat of the most holy things until there arose a priest with the Urim and Thummim.
66 ¶ The whole assembly together was 42,360,
67 besides their manservants and their maidservants, of whom there were 7,337. And they had 245 singing men and singing women.
68 Their horses, 736; their mules, 245;
69 their camels, 435; their donkeys, 6,720.
70 ¶ And some of the leaders of the fathers gave to the work. a"The governor gave to the treasury 1,000 gold drachmas, 50 basins, 530 priests’ garments.
71 And some of the leaders of the fathers gave to the treasury of the work a20,000 gold drachmas and 2,200 silver minas.
72 And what the rest of the people gave was
20,000 gold drachmas and 2,000 silver minas and 67 priests’ garments.

73 So the priests and the Levites and the gatekeepers and the singers and some of the people and the Nethinims and all Israel dwelt in their cities. And when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities.

Chapter 8
Ezra Reads the Law

1 ¶ And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the Water Gate. And they spoke to Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses that the LORD had commanded to Israel.

2 And on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly of both men and women, and all who could hear with understanding.

3 And he read from it before the street that was before the Water Gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a platform of wood that they had made for the purpose. And beside him on his right hand stood Mattithiah and Shema and Anaiah and Urijah and Hilkiah and Maaseiah. And on his left hand stood Pedaiah and Mishael and Malchiah and Hashum and Hashbadana, Zechariah and Meshullam.

5 Then Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people. And when he opened it, all the people stood up.

6 Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

7 Also Jeshua and Bani and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law. And the people stood in their place.

8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly. And they gave the sense and helped them to understand the reading.

9 ¶ Then Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn nor weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

11 So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Hold your peace, for the day is holy. Do not be grieved.”

12 And all the people went their way to eat and to drink, and to send portions and to rejoice greatly because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

13 ¶ And on the second day the heads of the fathers of all the people were gathered together, the priests and the Levites, to Ezra the scribe, in order to understand the words of the law.

14 And they found written in the law that the LORD had commanded by Moses that the children of Israel should dwell in booths during the feast of the seventh month,

15 and that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, “Go forth to the mountain and bring olive branches and pine branches and myrtle branches and palm branches and branches of thick trees in order to make booths, as it is written.”

16 So the people went out and brought them. And they made themselves booths, each one on the roof of his house and in their courtyards, and in the courtyard of the house of God, and in the street of the Water Gate, and in the street of the Gate of Ephraim.

17 And all the assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths. And they sat under the booths. Since the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day the children...
of Israel had not done so. And there was great rejoicing.

18 Also day by day, from the first day to the last day, he read in the book of the law of God. And they kept the feast seven days. And on the eighth day was a solemn assembly according to the established manner.

Chapter 9
Confession of Sins

1 ¶ Now in the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting and with sackcloth and dust on them.

2 And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

3 And they stood up in their place and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God one-fourth of the day, and another fourth they confessed and worshiped the LORD their God.

4 Then Jeshua and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani and Chenani, stood on the stairs of the Levites and cried out with a loud voice to the LORD their God.

5 ¶ Then the Levites, Jeshua and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah, said, “Stand up and bless the LORD your God forever and ever. Blessed be Your glorious name that is exalted above all blessing and praise.

6 ¶ “You, even You, are LORD alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, and the earth and all things that are in it, the seas and all that is in them. And You preserve them all. And the host of heaven worship You.

7 ¶ “You are the LORD, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldees and gave him the name of Abraham.

8 ¶ “And You found his heart faithful before You and made a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites and the Girgashites, to his seed. And You have performed Your words, for You are righteous.

9 ¶ “And You saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and heard their cry by the Red Sea.

10 ¶ “And You showed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and against all his servants, and against all the people of his land. For You knew that they acted proudly against them. So You made a name for Yourself as it is this day.

11 ¶ “And You divided the sea before them so that they went through the middle of the sea on the dry land. And You threw their persecutors into the deep, as a stone into the mighty waters.

12 ¶ “Furthermore, You led them in the day by a pillar of cloud and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way in which they were to go.

13 ¶ “You came down also on Mount Sinai and spoke with them from heaven. And You gave them right judgments and true laws, good statutes and commandments.

14 ¶ “And You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, and commanded them precepts, statutes and laws by the hand of Moses Your servant.

15 ¶ “And You gave them bread from heaven for their hunger, and brought forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst. And You promised them that they should go in to possess the land that You had sworn to give them.

16 ¶ “But they and our fathers acted proudly and hardened their necks, and did not hearken to Your commandments.

17 ¶ “And they refused to obey, neither were they mindful of Your wonders that You did among them. But they hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage. But You are a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness. And You did not forsake them.

18 ¶ “Even when they had made for themselves a molten calf, and said, ‘This is your god who brought you up out of Egypt,’ and had committed great blasphemies, yet You in Your manifold mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar...
of the cloud did not depart from them by day, to lead them in the way, neither the pillar of fire by night, to show them light and the way in which they should go.  

20 “You also gave Your <sup>g</sup>good Spirit to instruct them. And You did not withhold Your <sup>m</sup>manna from their mouth, and gave them <sup>o</sup>water for their thirst.  

21 “Yes, for <sup>c</sup>forty years You sustained them in the wilderness <sup>k</sup>so that they lacked nothing. Their <sup>c</sup>clothes did not become old and their feet did not swell.  

22 ¶ “Furthermore, You gave them kingdoms and nations, and divided them into districts. So they possessed the land of <sup>r</sup>Sihon and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.  

23 “Their children also You multiplied as the stars of heaven, and brought them into the land, concerning which You had promised to their fathers that they should go in to possess it.  

24 “So <sup>v</sup>they went in and possessed the land. And <sup>t</sup>You subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites. And You gave them into their hands, with their kings and the people of the land, so that they might do with them as they desired.  

25 “And they took strong cities and <sup>s</sup>a rich land, and possessed <sup>u</sup>houses full of all goods, cisterns already dug, vineyards and oliveyards and fruit trees in abundance. So they ate and were filled. And they <sup>x</sup>became fat and delighted themselves in Your great <sup>y</sup>goodness.  

26 ¶ “Nevertheless, they <sup>z</sup>were disobedient and rebelled against You. And they <sup>h</sup>cast Your law behind their backs and slew Your <sup>o</sup>prophets who testified against them to turn them to You. And they worked great provocations.  

27 “Therefore, You delivered them into the hand of their enemies who vexed them. But in the time of their trouble when they cried out to You, You <sup>j</sup>heard them from heaven. And according to Your manifold mercies <sup>e</sup>You gave them saviors who saved them out of the hand of their enemies.  

28 “But after they had rest, <sup>f</sup>they did evil again before You. Therefore, You left them in the hand of their enemies so that they had dominion over them. Yet when they returned, and cried out to You, You <sup>j</sup>heard them from heaven. And many times <sup>y</sup>You delivered them according to Your mercies.  

29 “And You testified against them so that You might bring them again to Your law. Yet they dealt proudly and did not hearken to Your commandments. But they sinned against Your judgments, <sup>q</sup>that if a man do, he will live in them. And they turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not listen.  

30 “Yet You bore with them for many years and testified <sup>i</sup>against them by Your Spirit <sup>a</sup>in Your prophets. However, they would not give ear. <sup>k</sup>Therefore, You gave them into the hand of the people of the lands.  

31 “Nevertheless for Your great mercies’ sake <sup>j</sup>You did not utterly consume them, nor forsake them, for You <sup>are</sup> a gracious and merciful God.  

32 ¶ “Now therefore, our God, the great, the <sup>c</sup>mighty, and the terrible God, who keeps covenant and mercy, do not let all the trouble seem little before You that has come upon us, on our kings, on our princes and on our priests and on our prophets and on our fathers and on all Your people, <sup>s</sup>since the time of the kings of Assyria to this day.  

33 “Howbeit, <sup>c</sup>You are <sup>c</sup>just in all that is brought upon us, for You have done right, but <sup>v</sup>we have done wickedly.  

34 “Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept Your law, nor hearkened to Your commandments and Your testimonies, by which You testified against them.  

35 “For they have <sup>d</sup>not served You in their kingdom, and in Your great goodness that You gave them. And in the large and fat land that You gave before them, they did not turn from their wicked works.  

36 “Behold, <sup>s</sup>we are servants this day, and <sup>4</sup>for the land that You gave to our fathers to eat its fruit and its bounty, behold, we <sup>e</sup>are servants in it.  

37 “Its <sup>d</sup>abundant produce is for the kings whom You have set over us because of our
sins. Also, they have 'dominion as they please over our bodies and over our livestock. So we are in great distress.

Making a Covenant

38 ¶ “And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it. And our leaders, Levites and priests, ‘seal it.’ ”

Chapter 10

1 ¶ Now those who sealed it were Nehemiah, the Tirshatha, the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah,
2 bSeraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,
3 Pashur, Amariah, Malchijah,
4 Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,
5 Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,
6 Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,
7 Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,
8 Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah: these were the priests.
9 And the Levites: both Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel;
10 and their brethren, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,
11 Micha, Rehob, Hashabiah,
12 Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
13 Hodijah, Bani, Beninu.
14 The leaders of the people: cParosh, Pahathmoab, Elam, Zattu, Bani,
15 Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,
16 Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,
17 Ater, Hizkijah, Azzur,
18 Hodijah, Hashum, Bezai,
19 Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai,
20 Mageash, Meshullam, Hezir,
21 Meshezabeel, Zadok, Jaddua,
22 Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,
23 Hoshea, Hananiah, Hashub,
24 Hallohes, Pileha, Shobek,
25 Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,
26 And Ahijah, Hanan, Anan,
27 Malluch, Harim, Baanah.
28 ¶ dAnd the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the Nethinims, and all those who had separated themselves from the people of the lands to the law of God, their wives, their sons and their daughters, everyone who had knowledge and understanding,
29 are joining to their brethren, their nobles, and are taking on themselves a curse and an oath, to walk in God’s law that was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord and His judgments and His statutes;
30 and that we not give our daughters to the people of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons.
31 ¶ And if the people of the land bring merchandise or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy it from them on the Sabbath, or on the holy day; and that we would forego the crops the seventh year and the exacting of every debt.
32 ¶ We also made ordinances for ourselves to contribute yearly one-third of a shekel for the service of the house of our God:
33 for the mshowbread and for the continual grain offering and for the continual burnt offering of the Sabbaths, the new moons, the set feasts; and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.
34 And we cast the lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God according to the houses of our fathers, at times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of the LORD our God as it is written in the law;
35 and to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, to the house of the LORD;
36 also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstborn of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, to the priests who minister in the house of our God.
37 ¶ And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all kinds of trees, of wine and of oil, to the priests, to the storerooms of the house of our God, and the tithes of our ground to the Lev-

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ites in order that the same Levites might have
the tithes in all the cities of our rural towns.

38 And the priest, the son of Aaron, will be
with the Levites when the Levites take tithes. And the Levites will bring up the tithe of the
tithes to the house of our God, to the rooms, into the treasure house.

39 For the children of Israel and the children of Levi will bring the offering of the grain, of
the new wine and the oil, to the storerooms, where are the vessels of the sanctuary and the
priests who minister and the gatekeepers and the singers. And we will not neglect the house
of our God.

Chapter 11
Residents of Jerusalem

1 ¶ Now the leaders of the people dwelt at Jerusalem. The rest of the people also cast lots
in order to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine parts to dwell in
other cities.

2 And the people blessed all the men who willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

3 ¶ These are the heads of the provinces who dwelt in Jerusalem, but in the cities of
Judah dwelt each one in his possession in their cities—the Israelites, the priests, the Levites,
the temple servants and the descendants of Solomon’s servants.

4 Now some of the children of Judah, and of
the children of Benjamin lived in Jerusalem.
Of the children of Judah: Athaia the son of Uzziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of
Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalealel, of the children of Perez;
and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Colhozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of
Adaijah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of Shiloni.

5 All the sons of Perez who dwelt at Jerusalem were 468 valiant men.

6 ¶ And these are the sons of Benjamin: Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of
Pedaiyah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jesaiyah.

7 And after him Gabbaiah, Sallai, 928.

9 And Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer, and Judah the son of Senuah was second
over the city.

10 ¶ Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin.

11 Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of
Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, was the ruler of the house of God.

12 And their brethren who did the work of the house were 822; and Adaiah the son of
Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashur, the
son of Malchiah,

13 and his brethren, heads of the fathers, 242; and Amashai the son of Azareel, the son of
Ahasai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer,

14 and their brethren, mighty men of valor, 128. And their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of
one of the great men.

15 ¶ Also of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hashub, the son of Azrikam, the son of
Hashabiah, the son of Bunni;

16 and Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the leaders of the Levites, had the oversight of the
outside work of the house of God.

17 And Mattaniah the son of Micha, the son of
Zabdi, the son of Asaph, was the principal
to begin the thanksgiving in prayer, and
Bakbukiah the second among his brethren, and
Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the
son of Jeduthun.

18 All the Levites in the holy city were 284.

19 ¶ Furthermore, the gatekeepers, Akkub,
Talmon, and their brethren who kept the gates,
were 172.

20 And the rest of Israel, of the priests and the
Levites, were in all the cities of Judah, each
one in his inheritance.

21 ¶ But the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel, and
Ziba and Gispa were over the Nethinims.

22 The overseer also of the Levites at Jerusalem was Uzzi the son of Bani, the son of
Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of
Micha. Of the sons of Asaph, the singers were
over the business of the house of God.

23 For it was the king’s commandment con-
cerning them that a certain portion should be for the singers, a quota for every day.

24 And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabeel, of the sons of Zerah the son of Judah, was the king’s deputy in all matters concerning the people.

25 ¶ And for the villages, with their fields, some of the sons of Judah dwelt at Kirjath Arba, and in its villages; and at Dibon, and in its villages; and at Jekabzeel, and in its villages;

26 and at Jeshua, and at Moladah, and at Bethpelet,

27 and at Hazarshual, and at Beersheba, and in its villages;

28 and at Ziklag, and at Mekonah, and in its villages;

29 and at Enrimmon, and at Zareah, and at Jarmuth,

30 Zanoah, Adullam, and in its villages; at Lachish, and its fields; at Azekah, and in its villages. And they dwelt from Beersheba to the valley of Hinnom.

31 ¶ The sons also of Benjamin from Geba dwelt at Michmash, and Aija, and Bethel, and in their villages;

32 and at Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,

33 Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,

34 Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,

35 Lod, and Ono, the Valley of Craftsmen.

36 And of the Levites were divisions in Judah and in Benjamin.

Chapter 12
Priests and Levites

1 ¶ Now these are the priests and the Levites who went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,

2 Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,

3 Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,

4 Iddo, Ginnetho, Abijah,

5 Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,

6 Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah,

7 Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, Jedaiah. These were the leaders of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua.

8 Furthermore, the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah and Mattaniah, who was over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren.

9 ¶ Also Bakbukiah and Unni, their brethren, were opposite them in the watches.

10 ¶ And Jeshua begot Joiakim, Joiakim also begot Eliashib, and Eliashib begot Joiada,

11 and Joiada begot Jonathan, and Jonathan begot Jaddua.

12 ¶ And in the days of Joiakim were priests, the heads of the fathers: of Seraia, Meraia; of Jeremiah, Hanania;

13 of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amaria, Jehohanan;

14 of Melicu, Jonathan; of Shebania, Joseph;

15 of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;

16 of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam;

17 of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadia, Piltai;

18 of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shehaia, Jehonathan;

19 and of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiia, Uzzi;

20 of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;

21 of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiia, Nethaneel.

22 ¶ The Levites in the days of Eliashib, Joiada and Johanan and Jaddua were recorded heads of the fathers; also the priests, to the reign of Darius the Persian.

23 The sons of Levi, the heads of the fathers, were written in the book of the chronicles, even until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib.

24 And the heads of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brethren opposite them, to praise and give thanks according to the commandment of David the man of God, division alternating with division.

25 Mattaniah and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were gatekeepers keeping the watch at the storehouses of the gates.

26 These were in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and of Ezra the priest and the scribe.

Dedication of the Wall

27 ¶ And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem...
lem they sought the Levites out in all their places in order to bring them to Jerusalem to keep the dedication with joy, both with thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries and with harps.

28 And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the countryside around Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites,

29 also from the house of Gilgal and out of the fields of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built themselves villages around Jerusalem.

30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the people and the gates and the wall.

31 ¶ Then I brought up the leaders of Judah upon the wall and appointed two great companies of them who gave thanks. One went on the right hand upon the wall toward the Refuse Gate.

32 And after them went Hoshaiah, and half of the leaders of Judah,

33 and Azariah, Ezra and Meshullam,

34 Judah and Benjamin and Shemaiah and Jeremiah,

35 and some of the priests’ sons with trumpets; and Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Michaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph;

36 and his brethren, Shemaiah and Azariael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel and Judah, Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe before them.

37 ¶ And at the Fountain Gate that was opposite them, they went up by the stairs of the city of David, by the stairway of the wall above the house of David, even to the Water Gate on the east.

38 ¶ And the second choir proceeded to the left, while I followed them with half of the people on the wall, above the Tower of Furnaces, to the Broad Wall,

39 and from above the Gate of Ephraim, and above the Old Gate, and above the Fish Gate,
Balaam against them so that he should curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a blessing.

3 Now it came to pass when they had heard the law that they excluded all aliens from Israel.

4 ¶ And before this, Eliashib the priest, having the oversight of the storeroom of the house of our God, was related to Tobiah.

5 And he had prepared for him a great room, where formerly they laid the grain offerings, the frankincense and the vessels, and the tithes of the grain, the new wine and the oil, that was commanded to be given to the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests.

6 But in all this time I was not at Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had gone to the king. After some time, however, I asked leave from the king.

7 And I came to Jerusalem and discovered the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah in preparing him a room in the courts of the house of God.

8 And it sorely grieved me. Therefore I cast out all the household goods of Tobiah from the room.

9 Then I commanded and they cleansed the rooms. And I brought there again the vessels of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense.

10 ¶ And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given to them, for the Levites and the singers who did the work, each had returned to his field.

11 Then I contended with the rulers. And I said, “Why is the house of God forsaken?” And I gathered them together and restored them to their posts.

12 ¶ Then I brought all Judah the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse.

13 ¶ And I made treasurers over the storehouse, Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah. And next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah, for they were counted faithful and their office was to distribute to their brethren.

14 ¶ Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God and for its offices.

15 ¶ In those days I saw in Judah some treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves and loading donkeys with wine, grapes and figs and all kinds of burdens, that they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned them on the day they sold provisions.

16 There dwelt men of Tyre there also, who brought fish and all kinds of merchandise and sold on the Sabbath to the children ofJudah, and in Jerusalem.

17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah. And I said to them, “What evil thing is this that you do and profane the Sabbath day?

18 Did not your fathers do the same, and did not our God bring all this evil on us, and on this city? Yet you bring more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath.”

19 ¶ Now it came to pass just as it grew dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut. And I charged that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. And I set some of my servants at the gates so that no burdens should be brought in on the Sabbath day.

20 So the merchants and sellers of all kinds of merchandise lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice.

21 Then I warned them. And I said to them, “Why do you lodge about the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you.” From that time forth they came no more on the Sabbath.

22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also. And spare me according to the greatness of Your mercy.

23 ¶ In those days also I saw Jews who had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon and of Moab.
And their children spoke half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews’ language, but according to the language of one or the other people.

And I contended with them and cursed them. And I struck some of them and plucked off their hair. And I made them swear by God, saying, “You will not give your daughters to their sons, nor take their daughters to your sons, or for yourselves.

Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations was there no king like him who was beloved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless, even him did foreign women cause to sin.

Will we then hearken to you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying foreign women?”

One of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son-in-law to Sanballat the Horonite. So I chased him from me.

Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and of the Levites.

Thus I cleansed them from all aliens and appointed the duties to the priests and the Levites, each one in his service, for bringing the wood offering at the appointed times, and for the firstfruits.

Remember me, O my God, for good.

Chapter 1
The King’s Banquet

Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, the Ahasuerus who reigned over 127 provinces from India to Ethiopia, in those days when King Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom that was in Shushan the palace, in the third year of his reign, that he made a feast for all the people who were present in Shushan the palace, both for the great and small, in the court of the garden of the king’s palace.

There were white, green and blue curtains fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble. The couches were of gold and silver on a pavement of red and blue and white and black marble.

And they gave them drink in vessels of gold of various kinds, and royal wine in abundance according to the generosity of the king.

And the drinking was according to the law. The drinking was not compulsory, for the king had appointed to all the officers of his house that they should do according to every man’s desires.

Vashti the queen also made a feast for the women in the royal house that belonged to King Ahasuerus.

Queen Vashti Deposed

On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Menhuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains who served in the presence of Ahasuerus the king, to bring Vashti the queen before the king with the royal crown in order to show the people and the princes her beauty, for she was beautiful to look on.

But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king’s command by his chamberlains. Therefore the king was very angry, and his anger burned in him.

Then the king said to the wise men who knew the times, for so was the king’s manner toward all who knew law and judgment and were next to him: Carshena, Shethar,
Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king’s face and who sat in first place in the kingdom:

15 “What will we do to Queen Vashti according to law, because she has not performed the command of King Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?”

16 Then Memucan answered before the king and the princes, “Vashti the queen has not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes and to all the people who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus.

17 “For this deed of the queen will go abroad to all women so that they will despise their husbands in their eyes when it will be reported, ‘King Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she did not come.’

18 Likewise will the ladies of Persia and Media say this day to all the king’s princes who have heard of the deed of the queen. Thus will there arise much contempt and anger.

19 “If it please the king, let there go out a royal command from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes so that it not be altered, that Vashti come no more before King Ahasuerus. And let the king give her royal estate to another who is better than she.

20 “And when the king’s decree that he will make is published throughout all his empire, for it is great, all the wives will give to their husbands honor, both to great and small.”

21 And the saying pleased the king and the princes. So the king did according to the word of Memucan.

22 So he sent letters into all the king’s provinces, to each province according to its script and to every people according to their language, that every man should be master in his own house, and should speak according to the language of his people.

**Chapter 2**

*Esther Made Queen*

1 ¶ After these things, when the wrath of King Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembered Vashti and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

2 Then the king’s servants who ministered to him, said, “Let beautiful young virgins be sought for the king.

3 “And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom so that they may gather together all the beautiful young virgins to Shushan the palace, to the house of the women, to the custody of Hegai the king’s chamberlain, keeper of the women. And let cosmetics be given them.

4 “And let the maiden who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti.” And the thing pleased the king, and so he did.

5 ¶ Now in Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite,

6 who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity, who had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.

7 And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle’s daughter, for she had neither father nor mother. And the young lady was fair and beautiful. And when her father and her mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter.

8 ¶ So it came to pass when the king’s command and his decree was heard, and when many young women were gathered together to Shushan the palace, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was brought also to the king’s house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women.

9 And the young woman pleased him. And she obtained kindness from him. And he quickly gave her cosmetics, besides her allowance. Then seven maidens were provided for her out of the king’s house. And he transferred her and her maidens to the best place in the house of the women.

10 ¶Esther had not revealed her people nor her kindred, for Mordecai had commanded her that she should not reveal it.

11 And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women’s house, to know how
Esther did and what was happening to her.  
12 ¶ Now when every young woman’s turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus, after she had completed twelve months’ preparation, for the days of their purification were completed as follows: six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices and the cosmetics for women,  
13 then every young woman came to the king. Whatever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women to the king’s house.  
14 In the evening she went, and on the next day she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king’s chamberlain who kept the concubines. She came in to the king no more, unless the king delighted in her and that she was called by name.  
15 ¶ Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, had come to go in to the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king’s chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favor in the sight of all those who looked on her.  
16 So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus into his royal house in the tenth month, that is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.  
17 And the king loved Esther above all the women. And she obtained grace and favor in his sight, more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.  
18 Then the king made a great feast for all his princes and his servants, even Esther’s feast. And he made a holiday for the provinces and gave gifts according to the generosity of the king.  
19 ¶ And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, then Mordecai sat at the king’s gate.  
20 Esther had not yet revealed her kindred nor her people, as Mordecai had commanded her, for Esther followed the command of Mordecai as when she was brought up with him.  
21 ¶ In those days, while Mordecai sat at the king’s gate, two of the king’s chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those who kept the door, were angry. And they sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.  
22 Now the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it to Esther the queen. And Esther informed the king in Mordecai’s name.  
23 And when an inquiry was made of the matter, it was found to be true. Therefore, they were both hanged on a tree. And it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.  

Chapter 3

Plot to Destroy the Jews

1 ¶ After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him. And he set his seat above all the princes who were with him.  
2 Then all the king’s servants who were at the king’s gate bowed and paid homage to Haman, for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai did not bow, nor pay homage.  
3 Then the king’s servants who were at the king’s gate said to Mordecai, “Why do you transgress the king’s command?”  
4 Now it came to pass when they spoke daily to him, and he did not hearken to them, that they told Haman in order to see whether Mordecai’s words would stand, for he had told them that he was a Jew.  
5 So when Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow, nor give homage, then Haman was full of wrath.  
6 But he scorned the idea of laying hands on Mordecai alone, for they had shown him the people of Mordecai. Therefore, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews who were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.  
7 ¶ In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is the lot, before Haman to select a month. And the lot fell on the twelfth month,
that is the month Adar.

8 ¶ And Haman said to King Ahasuerus, “There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of your kingdom. And their laws are different from all people, neither do they keep the king’s laws. Therefore, it is not fitting for the king to allow them to remain.

9 “If it please the king, let it be written that they be destroyed, and I will pay 10,000 talents of silver to the hands of those who carry out the king’s business, to bring it into the king’s treasuries.”

10 And the king took his ring from his hand and gave it to Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews’ enemy.

11 And the king said to Haman, “The silver is given to you, the people also, to do with them as you please.”

12 ¶ Then the king’s scribes were called on the thirteenth day of the first month. And it was written according to all that Haman had commanded the king’s lieutenants and the governors who were over every province, and the rulers of every people of every province according to its script, and to every people after their language. In the name of King Ahasuerus it was written and sealed with the king’s ring.

13 Then the letters were sent by couriers to all the king’s provinces, to destroy, to kill and to cause to perish all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, that is the month Adar, and to seize their possessions as plunder.

14 The copy of the edict to be issued as law in every province was published to all people so that they should be ready for this day.

15 The couriers went out, being hastened by the king’s command. And the edict was given in Shushan the palace. And the king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Shushan was bewildered.

Chapter 4

Esther Acts for the Jews

1 ¶ When Mordecai perceived all that was done, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth with ashes. And he went out into the middle of the city and cried out with a loud and bitter cry.

2 Then he came before the king’s gate, for no one was to enter into the king’s gate clothed with sackcloth.

3 And in every province where the king’s command and decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting and weeping and wailing. And many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4 ¶ So Esther’s maidens and her assistants came and told her. Then the queen was exceedingly grieved. And she sent garments to clothe Mordecai and to take away his sackcloth from him. But he did not accept them.

5 Then Esther called for Hatach, one of the king’s assistants whom he had appointed to attend to her. And she gave him a command concerning Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

6 So Hatach went out to Mordecai to the street of the city that was before the king’s gate.

7 Then Mordecai told him of all that had happened to him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king’s treasuries in order to destroy them.

8 Also he gave him a copy of the text of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, in order to show it to Esther, and explain it to her, and to command her that she should go in to the king in order to implore him and to plead with him for her people.

9 And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

10 ¶ Again Esther spoke to Hatach and gave him a command for Mordecai:

11 “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that whoever, whether man or woman, would come to the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king will hold out the golden sceptre so that he may live. But I
have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days.”

12 And they told Mordecai Esther’s words.

13 ¶ Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, “Do not think that you will escape in the king’s house more than all the Jews.

14 “For if you hold your peace at this time, then relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

15 Then Esther told them to return to Mordecai this answer,

16 “Go. Gather together all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me. And do not eat or drink three days, night or day. I also and my maidens will fast likewise, and so I will go in to the king that is not according to the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

17 So Mordecai went his way and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

Chapter 5

Esther’s Petition to the King

1 ¶ Now it came to pass on the third day that Esther put on her royal apparel and stood in the inner court of the king’s palace across from the king’s house. And the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, across from the gate of the house.

2 Then it was so that when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight. And the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near and touched the top of the sceptre.

3 Then the king said to her, “What is troubling you, Queen Esther? And what is your request? It will be given to you to half of the kingdom.”

4 Then Esther answered, “If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come this day to the banquet that I have prepared for him.”

5 Then the king said, “Cause Haman to make haste so that he may do as Esther has said.” So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

6 ¶ And the king said to Esther at the banquet of wine, “What is your petition? And it will be granted to you. And what is your request? Even to half of the kingdom it will be done.”

7 Then Esther answered and said, “My petition and my request is:

8 “If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and to do what I request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I will prepare for them, and I will do tomorrow as the king has said.”

Chapter 6

Mordecai is Honored

1 ¶ On that night the king could not sleep.

And he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles. And they were read
before the king.
2 And it was found written that Mordecai had
told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king’s
chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who
sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.
3 And the king said, “What honor and dignity
has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?”
Then the king’s servants who ministered to
him, said, “Nothing has been done for him.”
4 ¶ Then the king said, “Who
is
in the court?”
Now Haman had come into the bouter court of
the king’s house in order cto speak to the king
to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had
prepared for him.
5 And the king’s servants said to him, “Be-
hold, Haman stands in the court.” And the king
said, “Allow him to come in.”
6 So Haman came in. And the king said to
him, “What will be done to the man whom the
king desires to honor?” Now Haman thought
in his heart, “To whom would the king delight
to dme?”
7 So Haman answered the king, “For the man
whom the king desires to honor,
8 “let the royal apparel be brought that the
king uses to wear, and the ehorse that the king
rides upon, and the royal crown that is set upon
his head.
9 “And let this apparel and horse be delivered
to the hand of one of the king’s most noble
princes so that they may array the man whom
the king desires to honor. And bring him on
horseback through the street of the city and
proclaim before him, ‘Thus will it be done to
the man whom the king desires to honor.’”
10 Then the king said to Haman, “Make haste
and take the apparel and the horse as you have
said, and do so to Mordecai the Jew who sits
at the king’s gate. Let nothing fail of all that
you have spoken.”
11 Then Haman took the apparel and the horse
and adorned Mordecai. And he brought him on
horseback through the street of the city. And
he proclaimed before him, “Thus will it be done
to the man whom the king desires to honor.”
12 ¶ Then Mordecai came again to the king’s
gate. But Haman gquickly went to his house
mourning, and hhaving his head covered.
13 And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all
his friends every thing that had happened to
him. Then his wise men and Zeresh his wife
said to him, “If Mordecai is the seed of the Jews, before whom you have begun to fall, you
will not prevail against him, but will surely
fall before him.”
14 And while they were still talking with him,
the king’s assistants came and quickly brought
Haman to the banquet that Esther had pre-
pared.

Chapter 7
Haman is Hanged
1 ¶ So the king and Haman came to the ban-
quet with Esther the queen.
2 And the king said again to Esther on the
second day at the banquet of wine, “What is
your petition, Queen Esther? And it will be
granted to you. And what is your request? And
it will be performed, even to half of the king-
dom.”
3 Then Esther the queen answered and said, “If
I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if
it pleases the king, let my life be given to me as
my petition, and my people as my request,
4 “for we are sold, I and my people to be
destroyed, to be slain and to be annihilated.
But if we had been sold for bondmen and
bondwomen, I would have held my tongue,
although the enemy could never compensate
for the king’s damage.”
5 ¶ Then King Ahasuerus answered and said
to Esther the queen, “Who is he, and where is
he, who presumes in his heart to do such a
thing?”
6 And Esther said, “The adversary and enemy
is this wicked Haman.” Then Haman was ter-
rified before the king and the queen.
7 ¶ Then the king, arising from the banquet of
wine in his wrath, went into the palace garden.
And Haman had fallen on the ecouch whereon Esther
was. Then the king said, “Will he force the
queen also before me in the house?” As the word went out of the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face.

9 And Harbonah, one of the assistants said before the king, “Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high that Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, stands at the house of Haman.” Then the king said, “Hang him on it.”

10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king’s wrath was pacified.

Chapter 8
King’s Edict for the Jews

1 ¶ On that day King Ahasuerus gave the house of Haman the Jews’ enemy to Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told what she was to her.

2 Then the king took off his ring that he had taken from Haman and gave it to Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

3 ¶ Then Esther spoke again before the king, and fell down at his feet. And she implored him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his scheme that he had devised against the Jews.

4 Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose and stood before the king.

5 And she said, “If it please the king, and if I have found favor in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I am pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, that he wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all the king’s provinces.

6 “For how can I endure to see the harm that will come to my people? Or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?”

7 ¶ Then King Ahasuerus said to Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, “Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged on the gallows because he laid his hand on the Jews.

8 “Write also for the Jews as you see fit, in the king’s name and seal it with the king’s ring. For the writing that is written in the king’s name and sealed with the king’s ring may not be reversed.”

9 ¶ Then the king’s scribes were called at that time in the third month, that is the month Sivan, on the twenty-third day. And it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded to the Jews and to the lieutenants and the deputies and rulers of the provinces that are from India to Ethiopia, 127 provinces, to every province according to its writing, and to every people according to their language, and to the Jews according to their script and according to their language.

10 ¶ And he wrote in King Ahasuerus’ name and sealed it with the king’s ring. And he sent letters by couriers on horseback, and riders on royal horses bred from swift steeds.

11 In them the king granted the Jews who were in every city to gather themselves together and to stand for their lives, to destroy, to slay and to cause to perish all the power of the people and province who would assail them, both little ones and women, and to plunder their spoil.

12 on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, that is the month Adar.

13 A copy of the document was issued as law in each and every province and was published to all the people that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

14 So the couriers who rode on royal horses went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king’s command. And the decree was issued at Shushan the palace.

15 ¶ And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple. And the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.

16 The Jews had light and gladness and joy and honor.

17 And in every province, and in every city, wherever the king’s command and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a holiday. And many of the people of the
land became Jews, for the fear of the Jews fell on them.

Chapter 9
Victory for the Jews

1 ¶ Now in the twelfth month, that is the month Adar, on the thirteenth day when the king’s command and his decree drew near to be put into execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, though it was turned to the contrary that the Jews had rule over them who hated them,

2 the Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, to lay hands on those who sought their harm. And no man could withstand them, for the fear of them fell on all people.

3 And all the rulers of the provinces, and the lieutenants and the deputies and officers of the king, helped the Jews, because the fear of Mordecai fell on them.

4 For Mordecai was great in the king’s house, and his fame went throughout all the provinces. For this man Mordecai became greater and greater.

5 Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, with slaughter and destruction, and did what they desired to those who hated them.

6 And in Shushan the palace the Jews slew and destroyed 500 men,

7 and Parshandatha and Dalphon and Aspatha

8 and Poratha and Adalia and Aridatha

9 and Parmashta and Arisai and Aridai and Vajezatha,

10 the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews. Them they slew. But they did not lay their hand on the plunder.

11 ¶ On that day the number of those who were slain in Shushan the palace was brought before the king.

12 And the king said to Esther the queen, “The Jews have slain and destroyed 500 men in Shushan the palace, and the ten sons of Haman. What have they done in the rest of the king’s provinces? Now what is your petition? It will be granted to you. Or what is your further request? And it will be done.”

13 Then Esther said, “If it pleases the king, let it be granted to the Jews that are in Shushan to do tomorrow also according to this day’s decree, and let Haman’s ten sons be hanged on the gallows.”

14 And the king commanded it to be done. And the decree was given at Shushan and they hanged Haman’s ten sons.

15 ¶ For the Jews who were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day, also of the month Adar, and slew 300 men at Shushan. But they did not lay their hand on the plunder.

16 ¶ But the other Jews who were in the king’s provinces gathered themselves together and stood for their lives. And they had rest from their enemies, and slew 75,000 of their foes. But they did not lay their hand on the plunder.

17 On the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth day of the same they rested. And they made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

The First Purim

18 ¶ But the Jews who were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day, and on the fourteenth of the same month. And they rested on the fifteenth day and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

19 Therefore, the Jews of the villages who dwelt in the unwalled towns, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of rejoicing and feasting, and a holiday of sending presents to one another.

20 ¶ And Mordecai wrote these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far,

21 obliging this holiday among them so that they should annually keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same,

22 as the days in which the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month that was turned
to them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day, so that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending presents to one another and gifts to the poor.

23 And the Jews undertook to do what they started and as Mordecai had written to them.

24 For Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had schemed against the Jews to destroy them. And he had cast Pur, that is the lot, to consume them and to destroy them.

25 But when Esther came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked scheme that he devised against the Jews should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

26 Therefore, they called these days Purim after the name of Pur. And because of all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter and what had come to them,

27 the Jews ordained and took on them and on their seed, and on all those who joined themselves to them, so that they should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to their writing and according to their appointed time every year.

28 And these days were to be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province and every city. And these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.

29 ¶ Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority to confirm this second letter of Purim.

30 And he sent the letters to all the Jews, to the 127 provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,

31 to confirm these days of Purim in their appointed times, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had established them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their lamenting.

32 And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim, and it was written in the book.

Chapter 10

Greatness of Mordecai

1 ¶ Then King Ahasuerus laid a tribute on the land and upon the islands of the sea.

2 And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai to which the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

3 For Mordecai the Jew was next to King Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews. And he was accepted by the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people and speaking peace to all his seed.

Chapter 1

Prologue

1 ¶ There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. And this man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and turned away from evil.

2 Now there were born to him seven sons and three daughters.

3 His substance also was 7,000 sheep and 3,000 camels and 500 yoke of oxen and 500 female donkeys, and a very great household. And this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

4 ¶ And his sons went and feasted in their houses, each one on his day. And they sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them.

5 Now when the days of their feasting had completed their course, Job sent and sanctified them. And he rose up early in the morning and offered burnt offerings according to the number of all of them, for Job said, “It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.” Thus Job did this continually.
The First Test

6 ¶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

7 Then the LORD said to Satan, “From where do you come?” Then Satan answered the LORD and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking around on it.”

8 Then the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him in the world, a perfect and an upright man, one who fears God and turns away from evil.”

9 Then Satan answered the LORD and said, “Does Job fear God for nothing?

10 “Have You not made a hedge around him and around his house and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

11 ¶ But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has and he will curse You to Your face.”

12 Then the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power, only on himself do not put forth your hand.” So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

13 ¶ Now there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother’s house.

14 Then there came a messenger to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them.

15 Then the Sabeans fell on them and took them away. Yes, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword, and I only have escaped alone to tell you.”

16 While he was still speaking there came also another and said, “The fire of God is fallen from heaven and has burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them. And I only have escaped alone to tell you.”

17 While he was still speaking there came also another and said, “The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and fell on the camels. And they have carried them away, yes, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword. And I only have escaped alone to tell you.”

18 While he was still speaking there came also another and said, “Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother’s house.

19 “And behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house. And it fell on the young men and they are dead, and I only have escaped alone to tell you.”

20 ¶ Then Job arose and tore his robe. And he shaved his head and fell down on the ground and worshiped.

21 And he said, “Naked I came out of my mother’s womb and naked I will return. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed is the name of the LORD.”

22 ¶ In all this Job did not sin, nor foolishly blame God.

Chapter 2

The Second Test

1 ¶ Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD. And Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.

2 And the LORD said to Satan, “From where do you come?” And Satan answered the LORD and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.”

3 Then the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is no one like him in the world, a perfect and an upright man, one who fears God and turns away from evil? And still he holds fast his integrity, though you moved Me against him, to destroy him without cause.”

4 Then Satan answered the LORD and said, “Skin for skin. Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life.

5 ¶ But put forth Your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse You to Your face.”

6 ¶ And the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life.”

7 ¶ So Satan went forth from the presence of
the LORD and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
8 And he took a potsherd to scrape himself while he was sitting among the ashes.
9 ¶ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still retain your integrity? Curse God and die.”
10 But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Will we receive good at the hand of God and will we not receive adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

The Three Friends
11 ¶ Now when Job’s three friends heard of all this adversity that had come on him, each one came from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite, for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him.
12 And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and did not recognize him, they lifted up their voice and wept. And each one tore his robe and they sprinkled dust on their heads toward the sky.
13 So they sat down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his grief was very great.

Chapter 3
Job Laments His Birth
1 ¶ After this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth.
2 And Job spoke and said,
3 “Let the day perish in which I was born and the night when it was said, ‘There is a man child conceived.’
4 “Let that day be darkness. Do not let God regard it from above, nor let the light shine on it.
5 “Let darkness and the shadow of death stain it. Let a cloud dwell on it. Let the blackness of the day terrify it.
6 “As for that night, let darkness seize on it. Do not let it be joined to the days of the year. Do not let it come into the number of the months.
7 “Lo, let that night be solitary. Let no joyful voice come into it.
8 “Let those curse it who curse the day, ‘who are ready to raise up their mourning.
9 “Let the stars of its twilight be dark. Let it look for light, but have none. Neither let it see the dawning of the day,
10 “because it did not shut up the doors of my mother’s womb, nor hide sorrow from my eyes.
11 “Why did I not die at birth? Why did I not give up the spirit when I came out of the womb?
12 “Why did the knees receive me, or why the breasts that I should suck?
13 “For now I would have lain still and been quiet. I should have slept, then I would have been at rest
14 “with kings and counsellors of the earth who built desolate places for themselves,
15 “or with princes who had gold, who filled their houses with silver.
16 “Or like a stillborn child that is discarded, I would not be as infants who never saw light.
17 “There the wicked cease from raging, and there the weary are at rest.
18 “There the prisoners rest together. They do not hear the voice of the oppressor.
19 “The small and great are there, and the slave is free from his master.
20 “Why is light given to him who is in misery, and life to the bitter in soul,
21 “who long for death, but it does not come, and dig for it more than for hidden treasures,
22 “who rejoice exceedingly and are glad when they can find the grave?
23 “Why is light given to a man whose way is hidden, and whom God has hedged in?
24 “For my groaning comes before I eat, and my cries are poured out like the waters.
25 “For the thing that I greatly feared has come on me, and that of which I was afraid has come to me.
26 “I was not at ease, nor had rest, nor was quiet, yet trouble came.”

Chapter 4
Eliphaz Speaks
1 ¶ Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,
If we venture to commune with you, will you be grieved? But who can restrain himself from speaking?

Behold, you have instructed many and you have strengthened the weak hands.

Your words have helped him who was falling. And you have strengthened the feeble knees.

But now it has come on you and you faint. It touches you and you are troubled.

Is not this your fear, your confidence, your hope and the uprightness of your ways?

Remember now, whoever perished being innocent? Or where were the righteous cut off?

Even as I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow wickedness, reap the same.

By the blast of God they perish, and by the breath of His nostrils they are consumed.

The roaring of the lion, and the voice of the fierce lion, and the teeth of the young lions, are broken.

The old lion perishes for lack of prey, and the whelps of the lioness are scattered.

¶ "Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and my ear received a whisper of it.

In thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falls on men,

fear came on me and trembling, that made all my bones shake.

Then a spirit passed before my face. The hair of my flesh stood up.

It stood still, but I could not discern its appearance. An image was before my eyes. There was silence and I heard a voice, saying,

Can mortal man be righteous before God? Can a man be more pure than his maker?

Behold, He did not put trust in His servants, and His angels He charged with folly.

How much more those who dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust,

They are destroyed from morning to evening. They perish forever without any regarding it.

Is not their tent cord plucked up within them? They die, yet without wisdom.'
20 “In famine He will redeem you from death, and in war from the power of the sword.
21 “You will be hidden from the scourge of the tongue. Neither will you be afraid of destruction when it comes.
22 “At destruction and famine you will laugh. Neither will you be afraid of destruction when it comes.
23 “For you will be in league with the stones of the field. And the beasts of the field will be at peace with you.
24 “And you will know that your tent will be in peace. And you will visit your fold and miss nothing.
25 “You will know also that your seed will be great, and your offspring as the grass of the earth.
26 “You will come to your grave in a full age, like the stacking of grain in its season.
27 “Behold, we have investigated it, so it is. Hear it and know yourself for your good.”

Chapter 6
Job Speaks

1 ¶ But Job answered and said,
2 “Oh that my grief were thoroughly weighed and my calamity laid in the balances together!
3 “For now it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. Therefore, my words have been rash.
4 “For the arrows of the Almighty are within me. Their poison drinks up my spirit. b The terrors of God set themselves in array against me.
5 “Does the wild donkey bray when he has grass? Does the ox low over his fodder?
6 “Can that which is unsavory be eaten without salt? Or is there any taste in the white of an egg?
7 “The things that my soul refused to touch are as my loathsome food.
8 ¶ “Oh that I might have my request, and that God would grant me the thing for which I long!
9 “Even that it would please God to destroy me, that He would let loose His hand and cut me off!
10 “Then I would still have comfort. Yes, I would harden myself in sorrow. Do not let Him spare, for I have not concealed the words of the Holy One.
11 “What is my strength that I should hope? And what is my end that I should prolong my life?
12 “Is my strength the strength of stones? Or is my flesh of bronze?
13 “Is not my help in me? And is wisdom driven from me?
14 ¶ “To him b who is afflicted pity should be shown by his friend, even though he forsakes the fear of the Almighty.
15 “My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away,
16 “that are blackish because of the ice, and into which the snow vanishes.
17 “When they become waterless, they cease to flow. When it is hot, they vanish from their place.
18 “The paths of their way are turned aside. They go to nothing and perish.
19 “The caravans of Tema looked. The travelers of Sheba waited for them.
20 “They were disappointed because they had hoped. They came here and were confused.
21 “For now you are nothing. You see my casting down and are afraid.
22 “Did I say, ‘Bring to me?’ Or, ‘Give a reward for me from your substance?’
23 “Or, ‘Deliver me from the enemy’s hand?’ Or, ‘Redeem me from the hand of the mighty’?
24 ¶ “Teach me, and I will hold my tongue. Make me understand wherein I have erred.
25 “How forcible are right words! But what does your arguing prove?
26 “Do you imagine to reprove my words, and the speeches of one who is desperate that are as wind?
27 “You overwhelm the fatherless, and you dig a pit for your friend.
28 “Now therefore be pleased to look at me, for it is evident to you if I lie.
29 ¶ “Relent now and let there be no injustice. Yes, reconsider, for my cause is righteous.
30 “Is there iniquity in my tongue? Cannot my palate discern perverse things?
Chapter 7

1 “Does not man have a hard labor on earth? Are not his days also like the days of a hireling?
2 As a servant earnestly desires the shadow, and as a hireling looks for the reward of his work,
3 so I have been allotted months of futility and wearisome nights are appointed to me.
4 When I lie down, I say, ‘When will I arise and the night be gone?’ I am full of tossings to and fro until the dawn of the day.
5 My flesh is clothed with maggots and a crust of dust. My skin is broken and become loathsome.
6 My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and are spent without hope.
7 Oh remember that my life is wind. My eye will no longer see good.
8 The eye of him who has seen me will see me no more. Your eyes are on me, but I will not be.
9 As the cloud is consumed and vanishes away, so he who goes down to the grave will come up no more.
10 He will return no more to his house, nor will his place know him anymore.
11 Therefore, I will not restrain my mouth. I will speak in the anguish of my spirit. I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.
12 Am I a sea or a whale that You set a watch over me?
13 When I say, ‘My bed will comfort me, my couch will ease my complaint,’
14 then You scare me with dreams and terrify me through visions,
15 so that my soul chooses strangling and death rather than my life.
16 I loathe it. I would not live forever. Leave me alone, for my days are useless.
17 What is man that You should magnify him, and that You should set Your heart on him?
18 And that You should visit him every morning, and try him every moment?
19 How long will You not look away from me, nor leave me alone until I swallow down my spittle?
20 Have I sinned? What have I done to You, You preserver of men? Why have You set me as Your target, so that I am a burden to myself?
21 And why do You not pardon my transgression and take away my iniquity? For now I will sleep in the dust, and You will seek me in the morning, but I will no longer be.”

Chapter 8

Bildad Speaks

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said,
2 “How long will you speak these things? And how long will the words of your mouth be like a strong wind?
3 ‘Does God pervert judgment? Or does the Almighty pervert justice?
4 ‘If your children have sinned against Him, then He has cast them away because of their transgression.
5 ‘If you would diligently seek God and make your supplication to the Almighty,
6 ‘if you were pure and upright, surely now He would awake for you and make the habitation of your righteousness prosperous.
7 ‘Though your beginning was small, yet your latter end should greatly increase.
8 ‘Please inquire of past generations and prepare yourself for the search of their fathers.
9 ‘For we are but of yesterday and know nothing because our days on earth are a shadow.
10 ‘Will not they teach and tell you, and utter words out of their heart?
11 ‘Can the papyrus grow up without a marsh? Can the reeds grow without water?
12 ‘While it is yet in its greenness and not cut down, it withers before any other herb.
13 ‘So are the paths of all who forget God. And the profane person’s hope will perish,
14 whose hope will be cut off and whose trust will be as a spider’s web.
15 ‘He will trust in his house, but it will not stand. He will hold it fast, but it will not endure.
16 ‘He is green before the sun, and his branch shoots forth in his garden.
17 ‘His roots are wrapped around a rock pile, and grasps the heap of stones.
18 “If he is moved from his place, then it will deny him, saying, ‘I have not seen you.’
19 ¶ “Behold, this is the joy of his way, and out of the earth will others grow.
20 “Behold, God will not cast away a perfect man, nor will He help the evil doers.
21 “He will yet fill your mouth with laughing and your lips with rejoicing.
22 “Those who hate you will be clothed with shame, and the dwelling place of the wicked will be no more.”

Chapter 9
Job Speaks
1 ¶ Then Job answered and said,
2 “Of a truth I know that it is so. But how should a man be righteous before God?
3 “If one desired to contend with Him, he cannot answer Him one out of a thousand times.
4 “He is wise in heart and mighty in strength. Who has hardened himself against Him and yet has prospered?
5 “He removes the mountains and they do not know how. He overturns them in His anger.
6 “He shakes the earth out of its place, and its pillars tremble.
7 “He commands the sun, and it does not rise, and He seals up the stars.
8 “He alone spreads out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea.
9 “He makes Arcturus, Orion and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south.
10 “He does great things past finding out; yes, and wonderful things without number.
11 “Lo, He goes by me and I do not see Him. He passes on also, but I do not perceive Him.
12 “Behold, He takes away. Who can hinder Him? Who will say to Him, ‘What are You doing?’
13 “God will not turn back His anger. Beneath Him crouch the helpers of Rahab.
14 ¶ “How much less will I answer Him, and choose out my words to reason with Him?
15 “Though I were righteous, yet I would not answer Him. I would make supplication to my judge.
16 “If I had called and He had answered me, I would not believe that He had hearkened to my voice.
17 “For He breaks me with a tempest and multiplies my wounds without cause.
18 “He will not allow me to take my breath, but fills me with bitterness.
19 “If I speak of strength, lo, He is stronger. And if it is a matter of judgment, who can summon Him?
20 “If I justify myself, my own mouth will condemn me. If I say, ‘I am perfect,’ it will also prove me perverse.
21 “Though I were perfect, yet would I not know my soul. I would despise my life.
22 “This is one thing, therefore, I said, ‘He destroys the perfect and the wicked.’
23 “If the scourge slays suddenly, He will laugh at the trial of the innocent.
24 “The earth is given into the hand of the wicked. He covers the faces of its judges. If it is not He, then who else can it be?
25 “Now my days are swifter than a runner. They flee away. They see no good.
26 “They are passing away as the swift ships, as the eagle that swoops on the prey.
27 “If I say, ‘I will forget my complaint, I will put off my heaviness, and comfort myself,’
28 “I am afraid of all my sorrows. I know that You will not acquit me.
29 “If I am wicked, then why do I labor in vain?
30 “If I wash myself with snow water, and make my hands clean with lye,
31 “yet You will plunge me into the ditch, and my own clothes will abhor me.
32 “For He is not a man as I am, that I should answer Him, that we should come together in judgment.
33 “Neither is there any mediator between us who might lay his hand on us both.
34 “Let Him take His rod away from me and do not let His fear terrify me.
35 “Then I would speak and not fear Him. But it is not so with me.

Chapter 10
1 ¶ “My soul is weary of my life. I will give
free course to my complaint. 'I will speak in
the bitterness of my soul.
2 “I will say to God, ‘Do not condemn me. 
Show me where You contend with me.
3 ‘Is it good to You that You should oppress, 
that You should despise the work of Your hands 
and shine on the counsel of the wicked?
4 ‘Have You eyes of flesh? Or ‘do You see as 
man sees?
5 ‘Are Your days as the days of man? Are Your 
years as man’s days,
6 ‘that You seek after my iniquity and search 
after my sin?
7 ‘You know that I am not wicked, and 
that there is no one who can deliver out of Your 
hand.
8 d‘Your hands have made me and fashioned 
me together, and yet You ‘destroy me.
9 ‘Remember, I beseech You, ‘that You have 
made me as the clay. And will You bring me 
into dust again?
10 g‘Have You not poured me out as milk and 
curdled me as cheese?
11 ‘You have clothed me with skin and flesh, 
and have fenced me with bones and sinews.
12 ‘You have granted me life and favor, and 
Your care has preserved my spirit.
13 ‘And these things You have hidden in Your 
heart. I know that this ‘is within You.
14 ‘If I sin, then b‘You mark me, and You will 
not acquit me from my iniquity.
15 ‘If I am wicked, ‘woe to me. ‘And if I am 
righteous, yet ‘I will not lift up my head. ‘I am 
full of shame and ‘drowned in my affliction,
16 ‘for it increases. ‘You hunt me as a fierce 
lion. And again You show Yourself marvelous 
on me.
17 ‘You renew Your witnesses against me, and 
increase Your indignation against me. Hard-
ship and war ‘are against me.
18 m‘Why then have You brought me forth 
out of the womb? Oh that I had given up the 
spirit and no eye had seen me!
19 ‘I should have been as though I had not 
been. I should have been carried from the 
womb to the grave.’
20 ‘Are not ‘my days few? Cease then and ‘leave
me alone so that I may take comfort a little
21 before I go ‘where I will not return, even 
to the land of darkness and the ‘shadow of 
death,
22 a land of darkness as darkness itself, as 
the shadow of death without any order, and 
where the light is as darkness.’

Chapter 11
Zophar Speaks

1 ¶ Then Zophar the Naamathite answered 
and said,
2 “Should not the multitude of words be an-
swered? And should a man full of talk be jus-
tified?
3 “Should your lies make men hold their 
peace? And when you mock, will no man make 
you ashamed?
4 “For you have said, ‘‘My doctrine is pure, 
and I am innocent in your eyes.’
5 “But would that God speak and open His 
lips against you,
6 “and that He would show you the secrets of 
wisdom, that ‘there are two sides to that which 
is! Know therefore that b‘God exacts from you 
less than your iniquity deserves.
7 “Can you ‘by searching find out God? Can 
you find out the limits of the Almighty?
8 “They are as high as heaven. What can you 
do? They are deeper than Sheol. What can you 
know?
9 “Its measure is longer than the earth and 
broader than the sea.
10 d‘If He cuts off and shuts up, or gathers 
together, then who can hinder Him?
11 “For ‘empty-headed man will be wise when 
man is born like a wild donkey’s colt.
12 “If you g‘prepare your heart and h‘stretch out 
your hands toward Him,
13 “if iniquity ‘is in your hand, put it far 
away, and ‘do not let wickedness dwell in 
your tents.
14 “‘Are not ‘my days few? Cease then and ‘leave
me alone so that I may take comfort a little
21 before I go ‘where I will not return, even 
to the land of darkness and the ‘shadow of 
death,
22 a land of darkness as darkness itself, as 
the shadow of death without any order, and 
where the light is as darkness.’

b Jb 7:11  c 1 Sm 16:7  d Ps 119:73  e Jb 9:22  f Gn 2:7  g Ps 139:14-16  h Ps 139:1  i Is 3:11  j Jb 9:12,15  k Ps 25:18  l Is 38:13
m Jb 3:11-13  n Ps 39:5  o Jb 7:16,19  p Ps 88:12  q Ps 23:4  Chapter 11:  a Jb 6:30  b Er 9:13  c Ec 3:11  d Rev 3:7  e Ps 10:14  f Rm 1:22  g 1 Sm 7:3  h Ps 88:9  i Ps 101:3  j Ps 119:6
16 “because you will forget your misery and remember it as waters that pass by.
17 “And your life will be clearer than the noonday. You will shine forth. You will be as the morning.
18 “And you will be secure because there is hope. Yes, you will dig around you and you will take your rest in safety.
19 “You will also lie down and no one will make you afraid. Yes, many will court you.
20 “But the eyes of the wicked will fail, and they will not escape. And their hope will be as the giving up of the spirit.”

Chapter 12
Job Speaks

1 ¶ Now Job answered and said,
2 “No doubt you are the people and wisdom will die with you.
3 “But I have understanding as well as you. I am not inferior to you. Yes, who does not know such things as these?
4 "I am as one mocked by his neighbor, who calls on God and He answers him. The just and upright man is laughed to scorn.
5 “He who is ready to slip with his feet is as a lamp despised in the thought of him who is at ease.
6 “The tents of robbers prosper, and those who provoke God are secure, into whose hand God brings their power.
7 ¶ “But ask now the beasts and they will teach you, and the birds of the air and they will tell you.
8 “Or speak to the earth and it will teach you. And the fish of the sea will declare to you.
9 “Who does not know in all these that the hand of the LORD has worked this?
10 "In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.
11 "Does not the ear test words as the mouth tastes its food?
12 “With the aged is wisdom, and in length of days understanding.
13 “With him is wisdom and strength. He has counsel and understanding.
14 “Behold, He breaks down and it cannot be built again. He shuts up a man and there can be no opening.
15 “Behold, He withholds the waters and they dry up. He also sends them out and they overturn to the earth.
16 “With Him is strength and wisdom. The deceived and the deceiver are His.
17 “He leads counselors away stripped and makes the judges fools.
18 “He looses the bonds of kings and girds their loins with a belt.
19 “He leads princes away stripped and overturns the mighty.
20 “He removes the speech of the trusted ones and takes away the understanding of the aged.
21 “He pours contempt on princes and weakens the strength of the mighty.
22 “He uncovers deep things out of darkness and brings to light the shadow of death.
23 “He increases the nations and destroys them. He enlarges the nations and leads them captive.
24 “He takes away the heart of the chief of the people of the earth and makes them wander in a wilderness where there is no way.
25 “They grope in the dark without light and He makes them stagger like a drunken man.

Chapter 13

1 ¶ “Lo, my eye has seen all this. My ear has heard and understood it.
2 “What you know I also know. I am not inferior to you.
3 “Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God.
4 “But you are forgers of lies. You are all physicians of no value.
5 “Oh that all of you would hold your peace, and that it should be your wisdom!
6 “Hear now my reasoning and hearken to the pleadings of my lips.
7 “Will you speak wickedly for God and talk deceitfully for Him?
8 “Will you show partiality for Him? Will you contend for God?
9 “Is it good that He should search you out? Or as one man mocks another, do you so mock Him?
10 “He will surely reprove you if you secretly
show partiality.

11 “Will not His excellency make you afraid, and His dread fall on you?
12 “Your memorable sayings are like ashes. Your defenses are defenses of clay.
13 ¶ “Hold your peace. Leave me alone so that I may speak and let come on me what may.
14 “Why do I take my flesh in my teeth and put my life in my hand?
15 “He will slay me. I have no hope. Nevertheless, I will maintain my own ways before Him.
16 “This also will be my salvation, for a hypocrite will not come before Him.
17 “Hear diligently my speech and my declaration with your ears.
18 “Behold now, I have ordered my cause. I know that I will be vindicated.
19 k “Who is he who will plead with me? For now, if I hold my tongue, I will give up the spirit.
20 ¶ “Only do not two things to me, then I will not hide myself from You.
21 m "Withhold Your hand far from me, and do not let Your dread make me afraid.
22 “Then call, and I will answer. Or let me speak, then You answer me.
23 “How many are my iniquities and sins? Make me know my transgression and my sin.
24 “Why do You hide Your face and consider me as Your enemy?
25 q "Will You frighten a leaf driven to and fro? And will You pursue the dry stubble?
26 “For You write bitter things against me and make me inherit the iniquities of my youth.
27 s "You put my feet also in the stocks and watch all my paths. You set a limit on the soles of my feet,
28 “while I am decaying like a rotten thing, like a garment that is moth-eaten.

Chapter 14

1 ¶ “Man who is born of a woman is of few days then full of trouble.
2 “He comes forth like a flower and is cut down. He flees also as a shadow and does not continue.
3 “And do You open your eyes on such a one and bring me into judgment with You?
4 “Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? No one!
5 “Since his days are determined, the number of his months are with You. You have appointed his bounds that he cannot pass.
6 ¶ “Turn from him so that he may rest, until he accomplishes his day as a hireling.
7 “For there is hope for a tree if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its tender branch will not cease.
8 “Though its root becomes old on the earth, and its stock dies in the ground,
9 “yet through the scent of water it will bud and bring forth sprigs like a plant.
10 “But man dies and wastes away. Yes, man gives up the spirit, and where is he?
11 “As the waters fail from the sea and the flood decays and dries up,
12 “so man lies down and does not rise. Until the heavens are no more they will not awake nor be raised out of their sleep.
13 ¶ “Oh that You would hide me in Sheol so that You would conceal me until Your wrath is past, so that You would appoint me a set time and remember me!
14 “If a man die will he live again? All the days of my appointed time I will wait until my change comes.
15 ¶ “You will call and I will answer You. You will long for the work of Your hands.
16 “For now You number my steps. Do You not watch over my sin?
17 ¶ "My transgression is sealed up in a bag and You sew up my iniquity.
18 “But the falling mountain comes to nothing and the rock is removed out of its place.
19 “The waters wear the stones. You wash away the things that grow out of the dust of the earth, and You destroy the hope of man.
20 “You prevail forever against him, and he passes. You change his countenance and send him away.
21 “His sons come to honor and he does not know it. And they are brought low, but he does not perceive it.
Ch 15: Eliphaz Speaks

¶ Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,
1 “Should a wise man utter useless knowledge and fill himself with the east wind?
2 “Should he reason with unprofitable talk, or with speeches with which he can do no good?
3 “Yes, you cast off fear and restrain prayer before God.
4 “For your mouth utters your iniquity and you choose the language of the crafty.
5 b“Your own mouth condemns you and not I. Yes, your own lips testify against you.
6 d“Are you the first man who was born, or were you made before the hills?
7 d“Are the consolations of God small with you? Is there any secret thing with you?
8 “Why does your heart carry you away? And why do your eyes flash,
9 e“What do you know that we do not know? What do you understand that we do not?
10 f“With us are both the grayheaded and very aged men, much older than your father.
11 g“What is man that he should be pure? And he who is born of a woman that he should be righteous?
12 h“Behold, He puts no trust in His saints. Yes, the heavens are not pure in His sight.
13 i“How much more detestable and filthy is man who drinks iniquity like water?
14 j“A dreadful sound is in his ears. In prosperity the destroyer will come upon him.
15 “He does not believe that he will return from darkness, and he is destined for the sword.
16 “He wanders about for bread, saying, ‘Where is it?’ He knows that the day of darkness is at hand.
17 l“They conceive mischief and bring forth vanity. And their mind prepares deception.”

Ch 16: Job Speaks

¶ Then Job answered and said,
1 “I have heard many such things. aMiserable comforters are you all.
2 “Will vain words have an end? Or what emboldens you that you answer?
3 “I also could speak as you do. If your soul were in my soul’s place I could heap up words against you and shake my head at you.
5 “But I would strengthen you with my mouth and the comfort of my lips should lessen your grief.
6 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
7 “But now He has made me weary. You have made desolate all my company.
8 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
9 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
10 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
11 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
12 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
13 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
14 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
15 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
16 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
17 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
18 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
19 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
20 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
21 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?
22 ¶ “Though I speak, my grief is not lessened. And though I forbear, what has left me?

Chapter 17

Bildad Speaks

1 ¶ “Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said,
2 “How long will it be before you make an end of words? Consider, and afterwards we will speak.
3 “Why are we counted as beasts and reputed vile in your sight?
4 “He tears himself in his anger. Will the earth be forsaken for you? And will the rock be moved out of its place?
5 “Yes, the light of the wicked will be put out, and the spark of his fire will not shine.
6 “The light will be dark in his tent and his lamp beside him will be put out.
7 “The steps of his strength will be shortened, and his own counsel will cast him down.
8 “For he is cast into a net by his own feet, and he walks on a snare.
9 “The gin will take him by the heel, and the robber will prevail against him.
10 “The snare is laid for him in the ground, and a trap for him in the way.
11 “Terrors will make him afraid on every side, and will drive him to his feet.
12 “His strength will be famished, and destruction will be ready at his side.
13 “It will devour the strength of his skin. Even the firstborn of death will devour his strength.
14 “His confidence will be rooted out of his tent, and they will bring him to the king of terrors.
15 “They will dwell in his tent who are none of his. Brimstone will be scattered on his habitation.
16 “His roots will be dried up beneath, and above his branch will be cut off.
17 “His remembrance will perish from the earth, and he will have no name in the street.
18 “He will be driven from light into darkness, and chased out of the world.
19 “He will neither have son nor nephew among his people, nor any remaining in his dwellings.
20 “They who come after him will be astonished at his day, as they who went before were seized with horror.
21 “Surely such are the dwellings of the wicked, and this is the place of him who does not know God.”

Chapter 19
Job Speaks

22 “Why do you † persecute me as God, and are not satisfied with my flesh?
23 ¶ “Oh that my words were now written!
Oh that they were printed on a scroll!
24 “Oh that they were engraved with an iron stylus on the rock forever!
25 “For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that He will stand in the end on the earth.
26 “Even after my skin is destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God;
27 whom I will see for myself, and my eyes will behold, and not another. My heart is consumed within me.
28 “But you should say, ‘How will we persecute him,’ seeing the root of the matter is found in me?
29 “Be afraid of the sword. For wrath brings the punishments of the sword so that you may know there is a judgment.”

Chapter 20
Zophar Speaks

1 ¶ Then a Zophar the Naamathite answered and said,
2 “Therefore, my thoughts cause me to answer because I am greatly disturbed.
3 “I have heard the reproval that puts me to shame, and the spirit of my understanding causes me to answer.
4 “Do you know this from b bold, since man was placed on earth,
5 that the triumphing of the wicked is short and the joy of the hypocrite only for a moment?
6 “Though his excellency mounts up to the heavens, and his head reaches to the clouds,
7 yet he will perish forever like his own dung. Those who have seen him will say, ‘Where is he?’
8 “He will fly away as a dream and will not be found. Yes, he will be chased away as a vision of the night.
9 “The eye also that saw him will see him no more, nor will his place any more behold him.
10 “His children will seek to please the poor, and his hands will restore their goods.
11 “His bones are full of the sin of his youth that will lie down with him in the dust.
12 “Though wickedness is sweet in his mouth, though he hide it under his tongue,
13 though he spare it and not forsake it, but keep it still within his mouth,
14 “yet his food in his stomach is turned. It is the venom of serpents within him.
15 “He has swallowed down riches, and he will vomit them up again. God will cast them out of his belly.
16 “He will suck the poison of serpents. The viper’s tongue will slay him.
17 “He will not see the rivers, the floods, the brooks of honey and butter.
18 “That for which he labored he will restore, and will not swallow it down. According to his substance will the restitution be, and he will not rejoice in it.
19 “Because he has oppressed and has forsaken the poor, because he has violently taken away a house that he did not build,
20 surely he will not feel peace in his heart. He will not retain that which he desired.
21 “Nothing is left for him to devour. Therefore, no man will look for his goods.
22 “In the fullness of his plenty he will be in distress. Every hand of the wicked will come on him.
23 “When he is about to fill his belly, God will cast the fury of His wrath on him, and will rain it on him while he is eating.
24 He will flee from the iron weapon, and the bow of steel will strike him through.
25 “It is drawn, and comes out of the body. Terrors are on him.
26 All darkness will be hidden in his secret places. An unfanned fire will consume him. It will consume that which is left in his tent.
27 “The heaven will reveal his iniquity, and the earth will rise up against him.
28 “The increase of his house will depart, and his goods will flow away in the day of his wrath.
29 “This is the wicked man’s portion from God, and the heritage appointed to him by God.
Chapter 21

Job Speaks

1 ¶ But Job answered and said,
2 “Hear diligently my speech and let this be your consolation.
3 “Bear with me so that I may speak, and after I have spoken, you may mock.
4 “As for me, is my complaint to man? And if it were so, why should not my spirit be troubled?
5 “Look at me and be astonished, and blay your hand on your mouth.
6 “Even when I remember, I am afraid, and trembling takes hold of my flesh.
7 c“Why do the wicked live and become old, and become very powerful?
8 “Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes.
9 “Their houses are safe from fear. dNeither is the rod of God on them.
10 “Their bulls mate without fail. Their cows calve, and edo not abort.
11 “They send forth their little ones like a flock and their children dance.
12 “They take the timbrel and harp and rejoice at the sound of the flute.
13 “They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave.
14 g“Therefore, they say to God, ‘Depart from us, for we do not desire the knowledge of Your ways.
15 h‘Who is the Almighty that we should serve Him? And iwhat profit should we have if we pray to Him?’
16 “Lo, their good is not in their hand. The j counsel of the wicked is far from me.
17 ¶ “How often is the candle of the wicked put out? And how often does their destruction come on them! God distributes sorrows in His anger.
18 k“They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carries away.
19 “God stores up His iniquity mfor his children. He rewards him, so that he will know it.
20 “His eyes will see his destruction, and nhe will drink of the wrath of the Almighty.
21 “For what pleasure has he in his house after him, when the number of his months is cut off?
22 ¶ o“Will any teach God knowledge, seeing He judges those who are high.
23 “One dies in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet.
24 “His milk pails are full of milk, and his bones are moistened with marrow.
25 “And another dies in the bitterness of his soul, and never eats with pleasure.
26 “They will lie down alike in the dust, and the worms will cover them.
27 “Behold, I know your thoughts and the devices that you wrongfully imagine against me.
28 “For you say, ‘Where is the house of the prince, and where are the dwelling places of the wicked?’
29 “Have you not asked them who go by the way? And do you not know their witness,
30 q“that the wicked are reserved for the day of destruction? They will be brought forth at the day of wrath.
31 “Who will confront his way to his face? And who will repay him what he has done?
32 “Yet will he be brought to the grave and will remain in the tomb.
33 “The clods of the valley will be sweet to him, and revery man will follow after him, as there were innumerable before him.
34 “How then will you vainly comfort me, seeing in your answers there remains falsehood?”

Chapter 22

Eliphaz Speaks

1 ¶ Then aEliphaz the Temanite answered and said,
2 b“Can a man be profitable to God, as he who is wise may be profitable to himself?
3 “Is it any pleasure to the Almighty that you are righteous? Or is it gain to Him who makes your ways perfect?
4 “Will He not reprove you because you fear Him? Will He enter with you into judgment?
5 “Is not your wickedness great and your iniquities infinite?
6 “For you have ‘taken a pledge from your brother without cause, and stripped the naked of their clothing.
7 “You have not given water to the weary to drink, and you have withheld bread from the hungry.
8 “But as for the mighty man, he had the earth, and the honorable man dwelt in it.
9 “You have sent widows away empty, and the arms of the fatherless have been broken.
10 “Therefore, snares are around you, and sudden fear troubles you,
11 “or darkness, that you cannot see. An abundance of waters covers you.
12 “Is not God in the height of heaven? And behold the height of the stars, how high they are!
13 “And you say, ‘What does God know? Can He judge through the dark cloud?’
14 “Thick clouds are a covering to Him so that He does not see. And He walks in the circuit of heaven.’
15 “Have you marked the old way that wicked men have trodden,
16 “who were cut down before their time, whose foundations were washed away with a flood?
17 “‘They said to God, ‘Depart from us!’ and, ‘What can the Almighty do to them?’
18 “Yet He filled their houses with good things. But the counsel of the wicked is far from me.
19 “The righteous see it and are glad. And the innocent laugh them to scorn.
20 “Whereas our foes are destroyed, and fire devours their wealth.
21 ¶ “Acquaint now yourself with Him and be at peace, thereby good will come to you.
22 “Please receive instruction from His mouth and lay up His words in your heart.
23 “If you return to the Almighty you will be built up. You will put away iniquity far from your tents.
24 “Then you will lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.
25 “Yes, the Almighty will be your defense, and you will have plenty of silver.
26 “For then you will have your delight in the Almighty, and will lift up your face to God.
27 “You will make your prayer to Him and He will hear you, and you will pay your vows.
28 “You will also decree a thing, and it will be established for you. And the light will shine on your ways.
29 “When men are cast down, then you will say, ‘There is lifting up,’ and He will save the humble person.
30 “He will deliver the island of the innocent. And it is delivered by the pureness of your hands.’

Chapter 23
Job Speaks

1 ¶ Then Job answered and said,
2 “Even today my complaint is bitter. His hand is heavy despite my groaning.
3 “Oh that I knew where I might find Him so that I might come even to His seat!
4 “I would order my cause before Him and fill my mouth with arguments.
5 “I would know the words that He would answer me, and understand what He would say to me.
6 “Will He contend against me with His great power? No, but He would put strength in me.
7 “There the righteous might reason with Him, so should I be delivered forever from my Judge.
8 “Behold, I go forward, but He is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive Him;
9 “on the left hand where He works, but I cannot behold Him. He hides Himself on the right hand so that I cannot see Him.
10 “But He knows the way that I take. When He has tried me, I will come forth as gold.
11 “My foot has held fast to His path. His way I have kept and not declined.
12 “Neither have I gone back from the commandment of His lips. I have ‘treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.
13 “But He is unique and who can turn Him? And what His soul desires, even that He does.
14 “For He performs the thing that is
appointed for me; and many such things are with Him.
15 “Therefore, I am troubled at His presence. When I consider, I am afraid of Him.
16 “For God makes my heart soft, and the Almighty troubles me.
17 “I was not cut off from the presence of the darkness, nor has He hidden the darkness from my face.

Chapter 24
1 “Why are times not hidden from the Almighty? And why do those who know Him not see His days?
2 “Some remove the landmarks. They violently take away and devour flocks.
3 “They drive away the donkey of the fatherless. They take the widow’s ox for a pledge.
4 “They turn the needy out of the way. The poor of the earth hide themselves together.
5 “Behold, as wild donkeys in the wilderness they go forth seeking food in their activity, as bread for their children in the wasteland.
6 “They gather fodder in the field. And they glean the vineyard of the wicked.
7 “They cause the naked to lodge without clothing, so that they have no covering in the cold.
8 “They are wet with the showers of the mountains, and huddle around the rock for want of shelter.
9 “They pluck the fatherless from the breast, and take a pledge from the poor.
10 “They cause the poor to go naked without clothing, and they take away the sheaves from the hungry.
11 “Within the walls they produce oil. They tread their winepresses and allow thirst.
12 “Men groan from the city, and the soul of the wounded cries out. Yet God does not pay attention to folly.
13 ¶ “They are of those who rebel against the light. They do not know its ways, nor abide in its paths.
14 “The murderer rising with the light kills the poor and needy, and in the night is as a thief.
15 “The eye also of the adulterer waits for the twilight, saying, ‘No eye will see me.’ And he disguises his face.
16 “In the dark they dig through houses that they had marked for themselves in the daytime. They do not know the light.
17 “For the morning is to them even as the shadow of death. If one knows them, they are in the terrors of the shadow of death.
18 “He is swift as the waters. Their portion is cursed in the earth. He does not behold the way of the vineyards.
19 “Drought and heat consume the snow waters. So does the grave those who have sinned.
20 “The womb will forget him. The maggot will feed sweetly on him. He will be remembered no more, and wickedness will be broken as a tree.
21 “He wrongs the barren woman and does no good for the widow.
22 “He prolongs also the mighty with His power. He rises up and no man is sure of life.
23 “Though it is given him to be in safety, wherein He rests, yet His eyes are on their ways.
24 “They are exalted for a little while, but are gone and brought low. They are taken out of the way as all others, and cut off as the heads of grain.
25 “And if it is not so now, who will make me a liar and make my speech worthless?”

Chapter 25
1 ¶ Then aBildad the Shuhite answered and said,
2 “Dominion and fear are with him. He makes peace in His high places.
3 “Is there any number of His armies? And on whom does not His light arise?
4 “How then can man be justified with God? Or how can he be pure who is born of a woman?
5 “Behold, even the moon has no brightness. Yes, the stars are not pure in His sight.
6 “How much less man who is a maggot, and the son of man, who is a worm?”

Chapter 26

Job Speaks

1 ¶ But Job answered and said,
2 “How have you helped him who is without power? How have you saved the arm without strength?
3 “How have you counseled him who has no wisdom? And how have you abundantly declared the thing as it is?
4 “To whom have you spoken words? And whose spirit came from you?
5 “Dead things are formed from under the waters, and its inhabitants.
6 a“Sheol is naked before Him, and destruction has no covering.
7 bHe stretches out the north over the empty place, and hangs the earth on nothing.
8 He binds up the waters in His thick clouds, and the cloud is not torn under them.
9 He holds back the face of His throne and spreads His cloud on it.
10 He has circled the waters with a boundary until the day and night come to an end.
11 The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at His rebuke.
12 He divides the sea with His power, and by His understanding He smites through the proud.
13 By His Spirit He has garnished the heavens. His hand has formed the fleeing serpent.
14 “Behold, these are parts of His ways. But how little a portion is heard of Him? And the thunder of His power, who can understand?”

Chapter 27

1 ¶ Moreover Job continued his discourse and said,
2 “As God lives, who has taken away my judgment. And the Almighty, who has troubled my soul.
3 “All the while my breath is in me, and the breath of God is in my nostrils.
4 “My lips will not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit.
5 “God forbid that I should justify you. Until I die bI will not put away my integrity from me.
6 “I will hold fast righteousness, and will not let it go. dMy heart will not reproach me so long as I live.
7 “Let my enemy be as the wicked, and he who rises up against me as the unrighteous.
8 “For what is the hope of the hypocrite when he is cut off, when God takes away his soul?
9 “Will God hear his cry when trouble comes on him?
10 “Will he delight himself in the Almighty? Will he always call on God?
11 “I will teach you by the hand of God. That which is with the Almighty, I will not conceal.
12 “Behold, all you have seen it. Why then are you thus acting foolishly?
13 ¶ “This is the portion of a wicked man with God, and the heritage of oppressors that they will receive from the Almighty.
14 “If his children are multiplied, they are destined for the sword. And his offspring will not be satisfied with bread.
15 “Those who remain of him will be buried in death. And his widows will not weep.
16 “Though he heap up silver as the dust, and prepare clothes as the clay,
17 “he may prepare it, but the just will put it on and the innocent will divide the silver.
18 “He builds his house as a moth, and a booth that the keeper makes.
19 “The rich man will lie down wealthy, but never again. He opens his eyes, and it is no more.
20 a“Terrors overtake him as a flood. A tempest steals him away in the night.
21 “The east wind carries him away, and he departs. And as a storm, it hurls him out of his place.
22 “For it will hurl at him and not spare. He would try to flee out of its hand.
23 “Men will clap their hands at him, and will hiss him from his place.

Chapter 28

1 ¶ “Surely there is a mine for the silver and a place for gold where they refine it.
2 “Iron is taken out of the earth, and bronze is

smelted out of the stone.
3 “He sets an end to darkness and searches out all perfection, the stones of dark and the shadow of death.
4 “The flood breaks out from its habitation, even the waters forgotten by the foot. They are dried up. They are gone away from men.
5 “As for the earth, out of it comes bread. And underneath it is turned up as it were fire.
6 “Its stones are the place of sapphires, and it has dust of gold.
7 “There is a path that no bird knows, and that the vulture’s eye has not seen.
8 “The lion’s whelps have not trodden it, nor the fierce lion passed by it.
9 “He puts forth His hand on the rock. He overturns the mountains by the roots.
10 “He cuts out rivers among the rocks, and His eye sees every precious thing.
11 “He binds the streams from overflowing, and the thing that is hidden He brings forth to light.
12 ¶ “But where will wisdom be found, and where is the place of understanding?
13 “Man does not know its value, nor is it found in the land of the living.
14 “The ‘deep says, ‘It is not in me.’ The sea says, ‘It is not with me.’
15 “It cannot be purchased with gold, nor will silver be weighed for its price.
16 “It cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir, with the precious onyx or the sapphire.
17 “The ‘gold and the crystal cannot equal it. And the exchange of it will not be for jewels of fine gold.
18 “No mention will be made of coral or of pearls, for the price of wisdom is above rubies.
19 “The topaz of Ethiopia will not equal it, nor will it be valued with pure gold.
20 “From where then comes wisdom, and where is the place of understanding?
21 “Seeing it is hidden from the eyes of all living and kept close from the birds of the air.
22 “Destruction and death say, ‘We have heard of its fame with our ears.’
23 “God understands its ways and He knows its place.
24 “For He looks to the ends of the earth and sees under the whole heaven
25 “in order to make the weight for the winds, and portion out the waters by measure.
26 “When He made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder,
27 “then He saw it and declared it. He prepared it, yes, and searched it out.
28 “And to man He said, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom. And to depart from evil is understanding.’”

Chapter 29

1 ¶ Moreover Job continued his discourse and said,
2 “Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me,
3 “when His candle shined on my head, and when by His light I walked through darkness;
4 “as I was in the days of my youth when the friendly counsel of God was over my tent;
5 “when the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;
6 “when I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil;
7 “when I went out to the gate through the city, when I prepared my seat in the street!
8 “The young men saw me, and hid themselves. And the aged arose and stood up.
9 “The princes stopped talking and laid their hand on their mouth.
10 “The nobles held their peace and their tongue stuck to the roof of their mouth.
11 “When the ear heard me, then it blessed me. And when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me,
12 “because I delivered the poor who cried out, and the fatherless, and him who had no one to help him.
13 “The blessing of him who was ready to perish came upon me. And I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy.
14 “I put on righteousness, and it clothed me. My judgment was as a robe and a turban.
15 “I was eyes to the blind, and feet I was to the lame.
16 “I was a father to the poor, and I investi-
gated the case that I did not know.
17 “And I broke the jaws of the wicked and plucked the spoil out of his teeth.
18 “Then I said, “I will die in my nest and I will multiply my days as the sand.
19 ‘My root was spread out to the waters, and the dew lay all night on my branch.
20 ‘My glory was fresh in me, and my bow was renewed in my hand.’
21 “To me men gave ear and waited, and kept silence at my counsel.
22 “After my words they did not speak again, and my speech settled on them.
23 “And they waited for me as for the rain, and they opened their mouth wide as for the spring rain.
24 “They were encouraged when I smiled at them, and they did not cast down the light of my countenance.
25 “I chose out their way and sat as a chief. And I dwelt as a king in the army, as one who comforts the mourners.

Chapter 30

1 ¶ “But now those who are younger than I mock me, whose fathers I would have disdained to have put with the dogs of my flock.
2 “Yes, what good was the strength of their hands to me? Their vigor has perished.
3 “For want and famine they are gaunt, fleeing desolate and waste into the wilderness in former time.
4 “Who gathered up salt herbs in the bushes and juniper roots for their food.
5 “They were driven out from among men. They cried out after them as after a thief,
6 “to dwell in the cliffs of the valleys, in caves of the earth and in the rocks.
7 “Among the bushes they cried out. Under the nettles they were gathered together.
8 “They were children of fools, yes, children of base men. They were more vile than the earth.
9 “And now I am their song, yes, I am their byword.
10 “They abhor me. They flee far from me and do not hesitate to spit in my face.
11 “Because He has loosed my cord and afflicted me, they have also let loose the bridle before me.
12 “On my right hand rise the youth. They push away my feet, and they raise up against me the ways of their destruction.
13 “They break up my path. They set forward my calamity. They have no helper.
14 “They came on me as a breach of waters. In the desolation they rolled themselves on me.
15 “Terrors are turned on me. They pursue my soul as the wind, and my welfare passes away as a cloud.
16 “And now my soul is poured out on me. The days of affliction have taken hold on me.
17 “My bones are pierced in me in the night season. And my gnawing pains take no rest.
18 “By the great force of my disease is my garment disfigured. It binds me about as the collar of my coat.
19 “He has cast me into the mire, and I have become like dust and ashes.
20 ¶ “I cry out to You, and You do not hear me. I stand up and You do not regard me.
21 “You have become cruel to me. With Your strong hand You oppose me.
22 “You lift me up to the wind. You cause me to ride on it, and dissolve my substance.
23 “For I know that You will bring me to death, and to the house appointed for all living.
24 ¶ “Surely He would not stretch out His hand against a heap of ruins, though they cry out when He destroys it.
25 “Did not I weep for Him who was in trouble? Was not my soul grieved for the poor?
26 “When I looked for good, then evil came to me. And when I waited for light, there came darkness.
27 “My heart is in turmoil and does not rest. The days of affliction confront me.
28 “I went mourning without the sun. I stood up and I cried out in the assembly.
29 “I am a brother to jackals and a companion to owls.
30 “My skin is black on me and my bones are burned with heat.
31 “My harp also is turned to mourning, and my flute into the voice of those who weep.
Chapter 31

1 ¶ “I made a covenant with my eyes. Why then should I gaze at a young woman?

2 “For what portion of God is there from above, and what inheritance of the Almighty from on high?

3 “Is not destruction for the wicked, and a strange punishment for the workers of iniquity?

4 “Does He not see my ways, and count all my steps?

5 “If I have walked with vanity, or if my foot has hastened to deceit,

6 “let me be weighed in an even balance so that God may know my integrity.

7 “If my step has turned out of the way, and my heart walked after my eyes, or if any blot has cleaved to my hands,

8 “then let me sow and let another eat. Yes, let my offspring be rooted out.

9 “If my heart has been deceived by a woman, or if I have laid wait at my neighbor’s door,

10 “then let my wife grind for another, and let others kneel down over her.

11 “For this is a heinous crime. Yes, it is an iniquity to be punished by the judges.

12 “For it is a fire that consumes to destruction, and would root out all my increase.

13 “If I did despise the cause of my manservant or of my maidservant when they contended with me,

14 “what then will I do when God rises up? And when He visits, what will I answer Him?

15 “Did not He who made me in the womb make him? And did not one fashion us in the womb?

16 “If I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail,

17 “or have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless has not shared it,

18 “(for from my youth he was brought up with me as with a father, and I have guided the widow from my mother’s womb);

19 “if I have seen any perish for want of clothing or any poor without covering,

20 “if his heart has not blessed me, and if he

were not warmed with the fleece of my sheep;

21 “if I have lifted up my hand against the fatherless when I saw my help in the gate;

22 “then let my arm fall from my shoulder blade and my arm be broken from the bone.

23 “For destruction from God was a terror to me, and by reason of His majesty I could not endure.

24 “If I have made gold my hope, or have said to the fine gold, ‘You are my confidence’;

25 “if I rejoiced because my wealth was great and because my hand had acquired much;

26 “if I have rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me, or lifted up myself when evil found him

27 “and my heart has been secretly enticed, or my mouth has kissed my hand;

28 “this also would be an iniquity to be punished by the Judge. For I should have denied the God who is above.

29 “If I rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me, or lifted up myself when evil found him

30 “(neither have I suffered my mouth to sin by wishing a curse to his soul);

31 “if the men of my household have ever said, ‘Who has not had his fill of Job’s meat?’—

32 “but no stranger lodged in the street, for I opened my doors to the traveler—

33 “if I covered my transgressions as Adam by hiding my iniquity in my heart,

34 “did I fear a great multitude, or did the contempt of families terrify me that I kept silent and did not go out the door?

35 “Oh that one would hear me! Behold, my desire is that the Almighty would answer me and that my adversary would put His indictment on a scroll.

36 “Surely I would take it on my shoulder and bind it on me as a crown.

37 “I would declare to him the number of my steps. As a prince I would go near to Him.

38 “If my land cries out against me, or that its furrows likewise complain;

39 “if I have eaten its fruits without money, or have caused its owners to lose their life,

40 “let thistles grow instead of wheat and
Chapter 32
The Friends Cease to Speak
1 ¶ So these three men ceased to answer Job because he was righteous in his own eyes.
2 Then the wrath of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the kindred of Ram was kindled against Job because he justified himself rather than God.
3 Also against his three friends his wrath was kindled because they had found no answer and still had condemned Job.
4 Now Elihu had waited until Job had spoken because they were older than he.
5 When Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, then his wrath was kindled.

Elihu Speaks
6 ¶ Then Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said, “I am young and you are very old, therefore I was afraid and did not show you my opinion.
7 “I thought days should speak and multitude of years should teach wisdom.
8 “But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives them understanding.
9 “Great men are not always wise, nor do the aged understand judgment.
10 “Therefore, I said, ‘Hearken to me. I also will give my opinion.’
11 “Behold, I waited for your words. I gave ear to your reasons while you searched out what to say.
12 “Yes, I paid attention to you, and behold, there was none of you who convinced Job or who answered his words.
13 ¶ “Do not say, ‘We have found him too clever for us. God must put him down, not man.’
14 “Now He has not directed His words against me, nor will I answer him with your speeches.
15 ¶ “They are dismayed. They answered no more. They ceased speaking.
16 “Will I wait because they do not speak, because they stop and no longer answer?

Chapter 33
1 ¶ “Therefore, Job, please hear my speeches and hearken to all my words.
2 “Behold now, I have opened my mouth and my tongue has spoken in my mouth.
3 “My words will be from the uprightness of my heart and my lips will utter knowledge clearly.
4 “The Spirit of God has made me and the breath of the Almighty has given me life.
5 If you can answer me, set your words in order before me. Take your stand.
6 “Behold, I am as your spokesman before God. I also have been formed out of the clay.
7 “Behold, my terror will not make you afraid, nor will my hand be heavy on you.
8 “Surely you have spoken in my hearing, and I have heard the voice of your words, saying,
9 ¶ “I am pure without transgression. I am innocent, nor is there iniquity in me.
10 ¶ “Behold, He finds occasions against me. He counts me as His enemy.
11 ¶ “Behold, in this you are not right. God is greater than man.
12 ¶ “Why do you strive against Him, for He does not give account of any of His matters.
13 ¶ “For God speaks once or twice, but man does not perceive it;
14 ¶ “in a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls on men, in slumberings on the bed,
15 ¶ “then He opens the ears of men and seals
their instruction
17 “so that He may turn man from His deed and hide pride from man.
18 “He keeps back his soul from the pit and his life from perishing by the sword.
19 “He is chastened also with pain on his bed and the multitude of his bones with strong pain
20 “so that his life abhors bread and his soul delicious food.
21 “His flesh wastes away so that it cannot be seen, and his bones that were not seen stick out.
22 “Yes, his soul draws near to the grave and his life to executioners.
23 ¶ “If there is a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand to show to man his uprightness,
24 “then He is gracious to him, and says, ‘Deliver him from going down to the pit. I have found a ransom.’
25 “His flesh will be fresher than a child’s. He will return to the days of his youth.
26 “He will pray to God and He will be favorable to him. And He will see His face with joy,
27 “for the ear tries words as the mouth tastes food.
28 “Let us choose justice for ourselves. Let us know among ourselves what is good.
29 “For Job has said, “I am righteous, and God has taken away my judgment.
30 “Should I lie against my right? My wound is incurable though I am without transgression.’
31 “What man is like Job, who drinks up scorn like water;
32 “who goes in company with the workers of iniquity and walks with wicked men?
33 “For he has said, ‘It profits a man nothing that he should delight himself with God.’
34 ¶ “Therefore, hearken to me you men of understanding. Far be it from God to do wickedness, and from the Almighty, to do iniquity.
35 “He renders to a man according to his work, and causes every man to find a reward according to His ways.
36 “Yes, surely God will not do wickedly, nor will the Almighty pervert judgment.
37 “Who has given him a charge over the earth? Or who has appointed to Him the whole world?
38 “If He set His heart on man, if He gathers to Himself His spirit and His breath,
39 “all flesh will perish together and man will turn again to dust.
40 “If now you have understanding, hear this. Hearken to the voice of my words.
41 ¶ “Will even he who hates right govern? And will you condemn him who is most just?
42 ¶ “Is it fit to say to a king, ‘You are wicked,’ and to princes, ‘You are ungodly’?
43 “How much less to him who does not show partiality to princes, or regards the rich more than the poor, for they all are the work of His hands?
44 “In a moment they will die, and the people will be troubled at midnight and pass away. And the mighty will be taken away without a hand.
45 “For His eyes are on the ways of man and He sees all his steps.
46 “There is no darkness nor shadow of death where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

Chapter 34
1 ¶ Moreover, Elihu answered and said,
2 “Hear my words you wise men, and give ear to me you who have knowledge.
3 “For the ear tries words as the mouth tastes food.
4 ¶ “Let us choose justice for ourselves. Let us know among ourselves what is good.
5 ¶ “For Job has said, “I am righteous, and God has taken away my judgment.
6 ¶ “Should I lie against my right? My wound is incurable though I am without transgression.’
7 ¶ There is no darkness nor shadow of death where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

23 “For He does not need to further consider a man, that he should go before God in judgment.
24 “He will break in pieces mighty men without inquiry, and sets others in their place.
25 “Therefore, He knows their works and He overturns them in the night so that they are destroyed.
26 “He strikes them as wicked men in the open sight of others
27 “because they "turned back from Him and would not consider any of His ways,
28 “so that they "cause the cry of the poor to come to Him, for He hears the cry of the afflicted.
29 “When He remains silent, who then can condemn? And when He hides His face, who then can behold Him?
30 "so that the hypocrite not reign lest the people be ensnared.
31 ¶ "Suppose a man said to God, ‘I have borne chastisement. I will not offend anymore.
32 "Teach me what I do not see. If I have done iniquity, I will do no more.
33 "Should He reward you on your terms when you refuse to repent? For you must choose and not I. Therefore, declare what you know.
34 “Let men of understanding tell me and let a wise man hearken to me.
35 ‘Job has spoken without knowledge and His words were without wisdom.
36 “My desire is that Job may be tried to the end because of His answers for wicked men.
37 ‘For he adds ‘rebellion to his sin. He claps his hands among us and multiplies his words against God.’”

Chapter 35

1 ¶ Elihu continued to speak and said,
2 “Do you think this is right what you said, ‘My righteousness is more than God’s’?”
3 “For ‘you said, ‘What advantage will it be to you?’ and, ‘What profit will I have if I am cleansed from my sin?’
4 ¶ “I will answer you and by your companions with you.

5 “Look to the heavens and see. Behold the clouds that are higher than you.
6 “If you sin, what do you accomplish against Him? Or if your transgressions are multiplied, what do you to Him?
7 “If you are righteous, what do you give to Him? Or what does He receive from your hand?
8 “Your wickedness may hurt a man as you are, and your righteousness may profit the son of man.
9 By reason of the multitude of oppressions they make the oppressed to cry out. They cry out because of the arm of the mighty.
10 “But now one says, “Where is God my maker who gives songs in the night,
11 “who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth, and makes us wiser than the birds of heaven?”
12 “There they cry out, but no one gives an answer because of the pride of evil men.
13 “Surely God will not hear vanity, nor will the Almighty regard it.
14 “Although you say you will not see Him, yet judgment is before Him. Therefore, trust in Him.
15 “But now, because He has not punished in His anger, nor taken much notice of transgression,
16 “so does Job open his mouth in vain and he multiplies words without knowledge.”

Chapter 36

1 ¶ Elihu also continued and said,
2 “Bear with me a little and I will show you what I have yet to speak on God’s behalf.
3 “I will fetch my knowledge from afar and will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.
4 “For truly my words will not be false. He who is perfect in knowledge is with you.
5 “Behold, a God is mighty and does not despise any. He is mighty in strength and wisdom.
6 “He does not preserve the life of the wicked, but gives justice to the oppressed.
7 “He does not withdraw His eyes from the righteous, but with kings on the throne He has

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established them forever and they are exalted.

8 “And if they are bound in fetters, and are caught in the cords of affliction,

9 “then He shows them their work, and their transgressions that they have acted defiantly.

10 “He opens also their ear to discipline, and commands that they turn from iniquity.

11 “If they obey and serve Him, they will spend their days in prosperity and their years in pleasures.

12 “But if they do not obey, they will perish by the sword, and they will die without knowledge.

13 ¶ “But the hypocrites in heart heap up wrath. They do not cry out when He binds them.

14 “They die in youth, and their life is among the unclean.

15 “He delivers the poor in their affliction, and opens their ears in oppression.

16 “Even so would He have moved you out of distress into a broad place where there is no restraint. And what would be set on your table would be full of fatness.

17 “But you have fulfilled the judgment of the wicked. Judgment and justice take hold on you.

18 “Because there is wrath, beware lest He take you away with His stroke. Then a great ransom cannot deliver you.

19 ¶ “Will your riches keep you from distress, or all the forces of your strength?

20 “Do not desire the night when people are cut off in their place.

21 “Take heed and do not regard iniquity, for this you have chosen rather than affliction.

22 “Behold, God exalts by His power. Who teaches like Him?

23 “Who has appointed Him His way? Or who can say, ‘You have worked iniquity?’

24 ¶ “Remember that you should magnify His work of which men have sung.

25 “Every man may see it. Man may behold it from afar.

26 “Behold, God is great and we do not know him, nor can the number of His years be determined.

27 “For He draws up the drops of water that distill as rain from the mist,

28 which the clouds drop and distill on man abundantly.

29 “Can anyone understand the spreading of the clouds, or the noise of His tent?

30 “Behold, He spreads His light on it and covers the depths of the sea.

31 “For by them He sustains the nations. He gives food in abundance.

32 “With clouds He covers the light, and commands it to strike.

33 “His thunder declares it, the cattle also concerning the rising storm.

Chapter 37

1 ¶ “At this also my heart trembles and is moved out of its place.

2 “Hear attentively the noise of His voice and the sound that goes out of His mouth.

3 “He sends it forth under the whole heaven, and His lightning to the ends of the earth.

4 “After it a voice roars. He thunders with the voice of His excellency, and He will not restrain them when His voice is heard.

5 “God thunders marvelously with His voice. He does great things that we cannot comprehend.

6 “For He says to the snow, ‘Be on the earth, likewise to the small rain and to the heavy rain of His strength.’

7 “He seals up the hand of every man so that all men may know His work.

8 “Then the beasts go into dens and remain in their places.

9 “Out of the south comes the whirlwind, and cold out of the north.

10 “By the breath of God frost is given. And the expanse of the waters is frozen.

11 “Also by watering He loads the thick cloud. The clouds scatter His lightning.

12 “And it is turned around by His counsels. He loads it on the thick cloud.

13 “He causes it to come, whether for correction, or for His land, or for mercy.

14 ¶ “Hearken to this, Job. Stand still and
consider the wondrous works of God.
15 “Do you know when God establishes them, and causes the light of His cloud to shine?
16 “Do you know the layers of the clouds, the wondrous works of Him who is perfect in knowledge?
17 “Why are your garments hot when He quies the earth by the south wind?
18 “Have you spread out the sky that is strong and as a molten looking glass?
19 “Teach us what we will say to Him, for we cannot order our speech by reason of darkness.
20 “Will it be told Him that I speak? If a man speak, surely He will be swallowed up.
21 “And now men do not see the bright light that is in the clouds. But the wind passes over and clears them.
22 “Fair weather comes out of the north. Around God is awesome majesty.
23 “Concerning the Almighty, we cannot find Him. He is excellent in power and in judgment, and in abundance of justice. He will not afflict.
24 “Men, therefore, ‘fear Him. He does not regard any who are wise of heart.’

Chapter 38
The Lord Speaks
1 ¶ Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said,
2 “Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
3 “Gird up now your loins like a man, for I will demand of you, and answer Me.
4 ¶ “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if you have understanding.
5 “Who has laid its measurements, if you know? Or who has stretched the line on it?
6 “On what are its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,
7 “when the morning stars sang together and all the ‘sons of God shouted for joy’?
8 “Or who shut up the sea with doors when it broke forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?
9 “When I made the cloud its garment, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it,
10 “and I placed boundaries on it and set a bolt and doors,
11 “and said, ‘To here you will come, but no further; and here will your proud waves be stopped’?
12 ¶ “Have you commanded the morning since your days, and caused the dawn to know its place,
13 “so that it might take hold of the ends of the earth that the wicked might be shaken out of it?
14 “It is turned to clay as under a seal, and they stand as a garment.
15 “And from the wicked their light is withheld, and the uplifted arm will be broken.
16 “Have you entered into the springs of the sea? Or have you walked in search of the depths?
17 “Have the gates of death been opened to you? Or have you seen the doors of the shadow of death?
18 “Have you perceived the breadth of the earth? Declare if you know it all.
19 ¶ “Where is the way where light dwells? And as for darkness, where is its place,
20 “so that you should take it to its territory, and that you should know the paths to its house?
21 “You know it because you were born then? Or because the number of your days is great?
22 “Have you entered into the treasures of the snow? Or have you seen the treasures of the hail
23 “that I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?
24 “By what way is the light parted, or the east wind scattered on the earth?
25 “Who has divided a water channel for overflowing of waters, or a path for the lightning of thunder,
26 “to cause it to rain on the earth where no man is, on the wilderness where there is no man,
27 “to satisfy the desolate and waste land, and to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth?
28 "Does the rain have a father? Or who has begotten the drops of dew?
29 "Out of whose womb came the ice? And the frost of heaven, who has given it birth?
30 "The waters are hardened as a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen.
31 ¶ "Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, or loose the belt of Orion?
32 "Can you bring forth a constellation in its season? Or can you guide the Bear with her satellites?
33 "Do you know the ordinances of heaven? Can you set its dominion over the earth?
34 "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds so that abundance of waters may cover you?
35 "Can you send lightnings so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are?'
36 "Who has put wisdom in the innermost being? Or who has given understanding to the heart?
37 "Who can number the clouds in wisdom? Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven when the dust grows into hardness and the clods cleave fast together?
38 ¶ "Will you hunt the prey for the lion, or fill the appetite of the young lions when they couch in their dens and lie in wait in their lair?
39 "Who provides for the raven his food when his young one cries out to God and wanders for lack of food?

Chapter 39
1 ¶ "Do you know the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth? Can you mark when the deer gives birth?
2 "Can you number the months that they fulfill? Or do you know the time when they bring forth?
3 "They bow themselves. They bring forth their young ones. They cast out their labor pains.
4 "Their young ones become strong. They grow up with grain. They go forth and do not return to them.
5 "Who has sent out the wild donkey free? Or who has loosed the bonds of the wild donkey, whose house I have made the wilderness and the barren land his dwellings?
6 "He scorns the multitude of the city. He does not regard the cries of the driver.
7 "The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searches after every green thing.
8 "Will the wild ox be willing to serve you, or abide by your manger?
9 "Can you bind the wild ox in a furrow with cords? Or will He plow the valleys after you?
10 "Will you trust him because His strength is great? Or will you leave your labor to him?
11 "Will you trust him so that He will bring home your seed and gather it into your barn?
12 "The wings of the ostrich wave proudly, but they cannot compare with the pinions and feathers of the stork.
13 "She leaves her eggs on the earth and warms them in the sand,
14 "unmindful that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them.
15 "She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not hers. Her labor is in vain without fear,
16 "because God has deprived her of wisdom, nor has He imparted to her understanding.
17 "When she lifts up herself to flee, she scorns the horse and his rider.
18 "Have you given the horse strength? Have you clothed his neck with a mane?
19 "Can you make him afraid as a grasshopper? His majestic snorting strikes terror.
20 "He paws in the valley and rejoices in His strength. He goes on to meet the armed men.
21 "He mocks at fear, and is not frightened, nor does he turn back from the sword.
22 "The quiver rattles against him, the flashing spear and the shield.
23 "He devours the distance with fierceness and rage. He does not stand still at the sound of the trumpet.
24 "He says among the trumpets, ‘Aha!’, and He smells the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains and the shouting.
25 "Does the hawk fly by your wisdom and stretch her wings toward the south?
26 "Does the eagle mount up at your command and make her nest on high?
27 "She dwells and abides on the rock, on the
crag of the rock, and the strong place.
29 “From there she seeks the prey, and her eyes see it afar off.
30 “Her young ones also suck up blood. And where the slain are, there she is.”

Chapter 40
1 ¶ Furthermore, the LORD answered Job and said,
2 “Will he who contends with the Almighty instruct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it.”

Job Speaks
3 Then Job answered the LORD and said,
4 “Behold, I am vile. What will I answer You? I will lay my hand on my mouth.
5 “Once I have spoken, and I will not answer. Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.”

The Lord Speaks
6 ¶ Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said,
7 “Now gird up your loins like a man. I will demand of you, and you declare to Me.
8 “Will you also annul My judgment? Will you condemn Me so that you might be righteous?
9 “Have you an arm like God? Or can you thunder with a voice like His?
10 Adorn yourself now with majesty and excellency, and array yourself with glory and beauty.
11 Pour out the rage of your wrath, and behold everyone who is proud, and make him low.
12 “Look on everyone who is proud and bring him low, and tread down the wicked in their place.
13 “Hide them together in the dust and bind their faces in secret.
14 “Then I will also confess to you that your own right hand can save you.
15 ¶ Behold now, Behemoth, which I made as well as you. He eats grass like an ox.
16 “Behold now, his strength is in his loins, and his power is in the muscles of his belly.
17 “He moves his tail like a cedar. The sinews of his thighs are wrapped together.
18 “His bones are as strong pieces of bronze. His bones are like bars of iron.
19 “He is the first of God’s master pieces. Only He who made him can bring His sword to approach him.
20 “Surely the mountains bring him forth food, where all the beasts of the field play.
21 “He lies under the shady trees, in the covert of the reeds and the marsh.
22 “The shady trees cover him with their shadow. The willows of the brook surround him.
23 “If a river rages, he is not disturbed. He trusts that he can draw up the Jordan into his mouth.
24 “He takes it with his eyes. His nose pierces through snares.

Chapter 41
1 ¶ “Can you draw out Leviathan with a hook, or his tongue with a cord that you let down?
2 “Can you put a hook into his nose, or bore his jaw through with a thorn?
3 “Will he make many supplications to you? Will he speak soft words to you?
4 “Will he make a covenant with you? Will you take him for a servant forever?
5 “Will you play with him as with a bird? Or will you bind him for your maidens?
6 “Will traders barter for him? Will they part him among the merchants?
7 “Can you fill his skin with barbed irons, or his head with fish spears?
8 “Lay your hand on him. Remember the battle. You will not do it again.
9 “Behold, any hope of subduing him is useless. Will not one be cast down even at the sight of him?
10 “No one is so fierce who dare stir him up.
11 c“Who has a claim against Me that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine.
12 “I will not conceal his limbs, nor his mighty strength, nor his orderly frame.
13 “Who can discover the face of his garment? Or who can come to him with his double bridle?

14 “Who can open the doors of his face? His teeth are terrible all around.
15 “His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a tight seal.
16 “One is so near to another that no air can come between them.
17 “They are joined one to another. They stick together so that they cannot be separated.
18 “By his sneezings a light does shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning.
19 “Out of his mouth go burning lamps and sparks of fire leap out.
20 “Out of his nostrils goes smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron.
21 “His breath kindles coals, and a flame goes out of his mouth.
22 “In his neck remains strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him.
23 “The flakes of his flesh are joined together. They are firm in themselves. They cannot be moved.
24 “His heart is as firm as a stone, yes, as hard as a piece of the lower millstone.
25 “When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid. By reason of crashing they are beside themselves.
26 “The sword that reaches him cannot avail, nor the spear, the dart, or the javelin.
27 “He regards iron as straw and bronze as rotten wood.
28 “The arrow cannot make him flee. Slingstones are like chaff to him.
29 “Darts are counted as stubble. He laughs at the shaking of a spear.
30 “Sharp stones are under him. He spreads sharp pointed things in the mire.
31 “He makes the depths to boil like a pot. He makes the sea like a pot of ointment.
32 “He makes a path to shine after him; one would think the deep had white hair.
33 “On earth there is nothing like him who is made without fear.
34 “He beholds all high things. He is a king over all the children of pride.”

Chapter 42
Job Speaks

1 ¶ Then Job answered the LORD and said,
And he called the name of the first, Jemima; and the name of the second, Kezia; and the name of the third, Kerenhappuch.

And in all the land no women were found so fair as the daughters of Job. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.

After this Job lived 140 years. And he saw his sons and his sons’ sons, even four generations.

So Job died, being old and full of days.

Psalm 1
Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night.

And he will be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season; its leaf also will not wither. And whatever he does will prosper.

The ungodly are not so. But they are like the chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore, the ungodly will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous. But the way of the ungodly will perish.

Psalm 2
Why do the nations rage and the people imagine a vain thing?

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together against the LORD and against His anointed.

They say, “Let us break their bonds asunder and cast away their cords from us.”

He who sits in the heavens will laugh. The Lord will hold them in derision.

I laid myself down and slept. I awakened, for the Lord sustained me.

I will not be afraid of ten thousand people who have set themselves against me all around.

Arise, O LORD, save me, O my God. For You have smitten all my enemies on the cheek bone. You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.

Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is on Your people.

Psalm 3
A psalm of David when he fled from Absalom his son.

LORD, how are they increased who trouble me! Many are those who rise up against me.

Many there are who say of my soul, “There is no help for him in God.”

But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head.

I cried out to the LORD with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy hill.

I laid myself down and slept. I awakened, for the Lord sustained me.

I will not be afraid of ten thousand people who have set themselves against me all around.

Arise, O LORD, save me, O my God. For You have smitten all my enemies on the cheek bone. You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.

Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is on Your people.

Psalm 4
To the chief musician on Neginoth, a psalm of David

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness, for Your possession.

“You will break them with a rod of iron. You will dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.

Be wise now therefore, O kings. Be instructed you judges of the earth.”

Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest He be angry and you perish from the way when His wrath is kindled but a little. ‘Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

Psalm 5
To the chief musician on Neginoth, a psalm of David

LORD, O Lord, the great and terrible, O Lord, among the counselors of the earth.

They say of me, “There is no help for him in God.”

But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head.

I cried out to the LORD with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy hill.

I laid myself down and slept. I awakened, for the Lord sustained me.

I will not be afraid of ten thousand people who have set themselves against me all around.

Arise, O LORD, save me, O my God. For You have smitten all my enemies on the cheek bone. You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.

Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is on Your people.

Psalm 6
To the chief musician on Neginoth, a psalm of David

LORD, how are they increased who trouble me! Many are those who rise up against me.

Many there are who say of my soul, “There is no help for him in God.”

But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head.

I cried out to the LORD with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy hill.

I laid myself down and slept. I awakened, for the Lord sustained me.

I will not be afraid of ten thousand people who have set themselves against me all around.

Arise, O LORD, save me, O my God. For You have smitten all my enemies on the cheek bone. You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.

Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is on Your people.
teousness. You have relieved me when I was in distress. Have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 O sons of men, how long will you turn my glory into shame? How long will you love vanity and seek after worthlessness?

3 But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly. The LORD will hear when I call to Him.

4 Stand in awe and do not sin. Meditate with your own heart on your bed and be still.

5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put your trust in the LORD.

6 There are many who say, “Who will show us any good?” LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance on us.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, more than in the time when their grain and their wine increased.

8 I will both lay down in peace and sleep. For You only, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 5
To the chief musician on Nehiloth, a psalm of David

1 Give ear to my words, O LORD. Consider my meditation.

2 Hearken to the voice of my cry, my King and my God, for to You I will pray.

3 My voice You will hear in the morning, O LORD. In the morning I will direct my prayer to You and will look up.

4 For You are not a God who has pleasure in wickedness. Neither will evil dwell with You.

5 The foolish will not stand in Your sight. You hate all workers of iniquity.

6 You will destroy those who speak falsehood. The LORD will abhor the man of bloodshed and deceit.

7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy. And in Your fear I will worship toward Your holy temple.

8 Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies. Make Your way straight before my face.

9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth. Their inward part is very wicked. Their throat is an open tomb. They flatter with their tongue.

10 Destroy them, O God. Let them fall by their own counsels. Cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions, for they have rebelled against You.

11 But let all those who put their trust in You rejoice. Let them always shout for joy because You defend them. Let them also who love Your name be joyful in You.

12 For You, LORD, will bless the righteous. With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

Psalm 6
To the chief musician on Neginoth on Sheminith, a psalm of David

1 O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger, nor chastise me in Your hot displeasure.

2 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am weak. O LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled.

3 My soul is also greatly troubled. But You, O LORD, how long?

4 Return, O LORD, deliver my soul. O save me for Your mercies’ sake.

5 For in death there is no remembrance of You. In the grave, who will give You thanks?

6 I am weary with my groaning. All the night I make my bed swim. I drench my couch with my tears.

7 My eye is consumed because of grief. It waxes old because of all my enemies.

8 Depart from me all you workers of iniquity, for the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.

9 The LORD has heard my supplication. The LORD will receive my prayer.

10 Let all my enemies be ashamed and greatly troubled. Let them turn back and be suddenly ashamed.

Psalm 7
Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the LORD, concerning the words of Cush the Benjamite.

1 O LORD my God, in You do I put my trust. Save me from all those who persecute me, and deliver me,

2 blest he tear my soul like a lion, tearing it in
pieces, while there is no one to deliver.

3 O LORD my God, if I have done this, if there is iniquity in my hands,

4 if I have rewarded evil to him who was at peace with me, or have plundered him who without cause was my enemy,

5 let the enemy persecute my soul and take it. Yes, let him tread down my life on the earth and lay my honor in the dust.

6 Arise, O LORD, in Your anger. Lift up Yourself because of the rage of my enemies, and awake for me to the judgment that You have commanded.

7 So will the assembly of the people surround You. For their sakes, therefore, return on high.

8 The LORD will judge the people. Judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness and according to my integrity that is in me.

9 O let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish the just. For the righteous God tries the hearts and minds.

10 My defense is with God who saves the upright in heart.

11 God judges the righteous and God is angry with the wicked every day.

12 If a man does not turn, He will sharpen His sword. He has bent His bow and made it ready.

13 He has also prepared for Himself the instruments of death. He makes His arrows into fiery shafts.

14 Behold, he travailis with iniquity, and has conceived mischief and brought forth falsehood.

15 He made a pit and dug it out. And he has fallen into the ditch that he made.

16 His mischief will return on his own head, and his violent dealings will come down on his own crown.

17 I will praise the LORD according to His righteousness. And I will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

Psalm 8

To the chief musician on Gittith, a psalm of David

1 O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth, who have set Your glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings You have ordained strength because of Your enemies, so that You might quiet the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, that You have ordained,

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?

5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels. And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands. You have put all things under His feet:

7 all sheep and oxen, yes, and the beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, and whatever passes through the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth!

Psalm 9

To the chief musician on Muthlabben, a psalm of David

1 I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart. I will show forth all Your marvellous works.

2 I will be glad and rejoice in You. I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

3 When my enemies have turned back, they will fall and perish at Your presence.

4 For You have maintained my right and my cause. You sat on the throne judging right.

5 You have rebuked the nations. You have destroyed the wicked. You have blotted their name forever and ever.

6 The enemy has come to an end in perpetual ruins. And You have destroyed cities. Their memorial has perished with them.

7 But the LORD will endure forever. He has prepared His throne for judgment.
8 And He will judge the world in righteousness. He will minister judgment to the people in uprightness.
9 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.
10 And they who know Your name will put their trust in You. For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

Psalm 10

1 Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? Why do You hide Yourself in times of trouble?
2 The wicked in His pride persecutes the poor. Let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.
3 For the wicked boasts of his heart’s desire, and blesses the covetous whom the LORD abhors.
4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God. God is not in all his thoughts.
5 His ways are always prospering. Your judgments are out of his sight. As for all his enemies, he sneers at them.
6 He has said in his heart, “I will not be moved, for I will never be in adversity.”
7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and threats. Under his tongue is mischief and vanity.
8 He sits in the lurking places of the villages. In the secret places he murders the innocent. His eyes are secretly set against the poor.
9 He lies in wait secretly as a lion in his den. He lies in wait to catch the poor; he catches the poor when he draws him into his net.
10 He crouches, and humbles himself so that the poor may fall by his strong ones.
11 He has said in his heart, “God has forgot-ten. He hides His face. He will never see it.”
12 Arise, O LORD, O God. Lift up Your hand. Do not forget the humble.
13 Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, “You will not require it.”
14 You have seen it, for You behold mischief and spite, to take it with Your hand. The poor commits himself to You. You are the helper of the fatherless.
15 Break the arm of the wicked and the evil. Seek out his wickedness until You find none.
16 The LORD is King forever and ever. The nations are perished out of His land.
17 LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble. You will prepare their heart. You will cause Your ear to hear,
18 to the justice of the fatherless and the oppressed so that the man of the earth may oppress no more.

Psalm 11

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

1 In the LORD I put my trust. How can you say to my soul, “Flee as a bird to your mountain”?
2 “For behold, the wicked bend their bow. They make ready their arrow on the string so that they may secretly shoot at the upright in heart.
3 “If the foundations are destroyed, what can
the righteous do?”
4 The LORD is in His holy temple. The LORD’S throne is in heaven. His eyes behold. His eyelids test the children of men.
5 The LORD tests the righteous, but His soul hates the wicked and him who loves violence.
6 On the wicked He will rain snares, fire and brimstone, and a horrible tempest. This will be the portion of their cup.
7 For the righteous LORD loves righteousness. Those who are upright will see His face.

Psalm 12
To the chief musician on Sheminith, a psalm of David
1 Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases. For the faithful fail from among the children of men.
2 bEvery one speaks vanity with his neighbor; with flattering lips and with a double heart they speak.
3 The LORD will cut off all flattering lips and the tongue that speaks proud things;
4 who have said, “With our tongue we will prevail; our lips are our own. Who is lord over us?”
5 “For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, I will arise now,” says the LORD. “I will set him in the safety for which he yearns.”
6 The words of the LORD are pure words, as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.
7 You will keep them, O LORD. You will preserve them from this generation forever.
8 The wicked walk on every side when the vilest men are exalted.

Psalm 13
To the chief musician, a psalm of David
1 How long will You forget me, O LORD? Forever? aHow long will You hide Your face from me?
2 How long will I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? How long will my enemy be exalted over me?
3 Consider and hear me, O LORD my God.
4 Lighten my eyes lest I sleep the sleep of death,
4 lest my enemy say, “I have prevailed against him,” and those who trouble me rejoice when I am moved.
5 But I have trusted in Your mercy. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation.
6 I will sing to the LORD because He has dealt bountifully with me.

Psalm 14
To the chief musician, a psalm of David
1 The *fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt. They have done abominable works. There is no one who does good.
2 bThe LORD looked down from heaven on the children of men to see if there were any who understood and sought God.
3 They have all gone aside. They have all together become filthy. There is no one who does good, no, not one.
4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? They eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call on the LORD.
5 There they were in great fear, for God is in the generation of the righteous.
6 You have shamed the counsel of the poor, but the LORD is his refuge.
7 O that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD brings back the captivity of His people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel will be glad.

Psalm 15
A psalm of David
1 LORD, awho will abide in Your tabernacle? Who will dwell in Your holy hill?
2 He who walks uprightly and works righteousness and speaks the truth in his heart.
3 He who does not backbite with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor.
4 He in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the LORD; he who swears to his own hurt, and does not change.
5 He who does not put out his money for in-
terest, nor takes reward against the innocent. He who does these things will never be moved.

Psalm 16
Michtam of David
1 Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust.
2 O my soul, you have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord. I have no goodness beyond You.”
3 But for the saints who are on the earth, they are the excellent ones in whom is all My delight.
4 Their sorrows will be multiplied. I will not offer their drink offerings of blood, nor take up their names into my lips.
5 The LORD is the portion of my inheritance and of my cup. You maintain my lot.
6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places. Yes, I have a goodly heritage.
7 I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel. My heart also instructs me in the night seasons.
8 I have set the LORD always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be moved.
9 Therefore, my heart is glad and my joy no less. My flesh also will rest in hope.
10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You suffer Your Holy One to see corruption.
11 You will show me the path of life. In Your presence is fullness of joy. At Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

Psalm 17
A prayer of David
1 Hear the right, O LORD. Attend to my cry. Give ear to my prayer that does not go out of feigned lips.
2 Let my sentence come forth from Your presence. Let Your eyes behold the things that are equal.
3 You have tested my heart. You have visited me in the night. You have tried me and will find nothing. I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress.
4 Concerning the works of men, by the word of Your lips I have kept myself from the paths of the destroyer.
5 Uphold my steps in Your paths so that my footsteps do not slip.
6 I have called on You, for You will hear me, O God. Incline Your ear to me and hear my speech.
7 Show Your marvellous lovingkindness You who save by Your right hand those who put their trust in You, from those who rise up against them.
8 Keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me under the shadow of Your wings.
9 from the wicked who oppress me, from my deadly enemies who surround me.
10 They have closed up their fat hearts. With their mouth they speak proudly.
11 They have now surrounded us in our steps. They have set their eyes bowing down to the earth,
12 like a lion that is greedy for his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.
13 Arise, O LORD, confront him and cast him down. Deliver my soul from the wicked with Your sword,
14 from men with Your hand, O LORD, from men of the world who have their portion in this life, and whose belly You fill with Your treasure. They are satisfied with children and leave the rest of their substance to their babes.
15 As for me, I will behold Your face in righteousness. I will be satisfied when I awake with Your likeness.

Psalm 18
To the chief musician, a psalm of David, the servant of the LORD, who spoke to the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul
1 And he said, “I will love You, O LORD, my strength.”
2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my strength in whom I will trust, my shield and the horn of my salvation and my high tower.
3 I will call on the LORD who is worthy
to be praised. Thus I will be saved from my enemies.
4 The sorrows of death surrounded me, and
the floods of ungodly men made me afraid.
5 The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me. The
snares of death confronted me.
6 In my distress I called on the LORD and
cried out to my God. He heard my voice out
of His temple and my cry came before Him, 
even into His ears.
7 Then the earth shook and trembled, the
foundations also of the hills moved and were
shaken because He was angry.
8 There went up a smoke out of His nostrils
and fire out of His mouth devoured. Coals were
kindled by it.
9 He bowed the heavens also and came down.
And darkness was under His feet.
10 And He rode on a cherub and flew. Yes,
He flew on the wings of the wind.
11 He made darkness His secret place. His
canopy around Him was dark waters and thick
clouds of the skies.
12 At the brightness that was before Him,
His thick clouds passed, hail stones and coals
of fire.
13 The LORD also thundered in the heavens,
and the Highest gave His voice, hail stones
and coals of fire.
14 Yes, He sent out His arrows and scattered
them, and He shot out lightnings and van-
quished them.
15 Then the channels of waters were seen and
the foundations of the world were discovered
at Your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the
breath of Your nostrils.
16 He sent from above. He took me. He drew
me out of many waters.
17 He delivered me from my strong enemy
and from those who hated me, for they were
too strong for me.
18 They confronted me in the day of my ca-
lamity, but the LORD was my stay.
19 He brought me forth also into a large place.
He delivered me because He delighted in me.
20 The LORD rewarded me according to my
righteousness. According to the cleanness of
my hands He has recompensed me.
21 For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and
have not wickedly departed from my God.
22 For all His judgments were before me and
I did not put away His statutes from me.
23 I was also upright before Him, and I kept
myself from my iniquity.
24 Therefore, the LORD has recompensed me
according to my righteousness, according
to the cleanness of my hands in His eyesight.
25 With the merciful You will show Yourself
merciful. With an upright man You will
show Yourself upright.
26 With the pure You will show Yourself pure.
And with the devious You will show Yourself
shrewd.
27 For You will save the afflicted people, but
will bring down haughty eyes.
28 For You will light my candle. The LORD
my God will illuminate my darkness.
29 For by You I have run against a troop, and
by my God I have leaped over a wall.
30 As for God, His way is perfect. The word
of the LORD is tried. He is a shield to all
those who trust in Him.
31 For who is God but the LORD? Or who is
a rock but our God?
32 It is God who arms me with strength and
makes my way perfect.
33 He makes my feet like the feet of deer and
sets me on my high places.
34 He teaches my hands to make war so that
a bow of bronze is broken by my arms.
35 You have also given me the shield of Your
salvation. And Your right hand has held me
up, and Your gentleness has made me great.
36 You have enlarged my steps under me so
that my feet have not slipped.
37 I have pursued my enemies and overtaken
them. Neither did I turn again until they were
consumed.
38 I have wounded them so that they were not
able to rise. They have fallen under my feet.
39 For You have girded me with strength for
the battle. You have subdued under me those
who rose up against me.
40 You have also given me the necks of my

[References]

Rv 5:12 | Ps 116:3 | e At 4:31 | f Ps 144:5 | g Ps 80:1 | h Ps 104:3 | i Ps 97:2 | j Ps 97:3 | k 140:10 | l Ps 29:3-9 | m 104:7 | n Ps 144:6 | o Ps 144:7 | p Ps 4:1 | q 31:8 | r 118:5 | s 1 Sm 24:19 | t 1 Sm 26:23 | u 1 Kg 8:32 | v Lv 26:23-28 | w Ps 101:5 | x Tb 18:6 | y u Rv 15:3 | z Ps 12:6 | a 119:140 | b 17:7 | c Ps 89:2 | d z Hk 3:19 | e At 32:13 | f 33:29 | g Ps 144:1 | h Pv 4:12
enemies so that I might destroy those who hate me.

41 They cried out, but there was no one to save them; 42 even to the LORD, but He did not answer.

42 Then I beat them small as the dust before the wind. I cast them out as the dirt in the streets.

43 You have delivered me from the strivings of the people, and You have made me the head of the nations. 44 A people whom I have not known will serve me.

44 As soon as they hear of me, they will obey me. The aliens will submit themselves to me.

45 The aliens will fade away and be frightened out of their fortified places.

46 The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock. And let the God of my salvation be exalted.

47 It is God who avenges me, and isubdues the people under me. 48 He delivers me from my enemies. Yes, I will be upright, and I will be innocent of great transgression.

48 He delivers me from my enemies. Yes, You lift me up above those who rise up against me. You have delivered me from the violent man.

49 Therefore, I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the nations, and sing praises to Your name.

50 Great deliverance He gives to His king, and shows mercy to His anointed, to David and to His seed forever.

Psalm 19

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

1 The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows His handiwork.

2 Day to day utters speech and night to night shows knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.

4 Their line is gone out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tent for the sun,

5 which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber. It rejoices as a strong man to run a race.

6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven and his circuit to the ends of it. And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul. The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart. The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever. The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yes, than much fine gold. Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is Your servant warned, and in keeping of them there is great reward.

12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from hidden faults.

13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins. Do not let them have dominion over me. Then I will be upright, and I will be innocent of great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Psalm 20

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

1 May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble, and the name of the God of Jacob defend You.

2 May He send help from the sanctuary and strengthen you from Zion.

3 May He remember all your offerings and accept your burnt sacrifice.

4 May He grant you according to your own heart and fulfill all your counsel.

5 We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners. The LORD fulfill all your petitions.

6 Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed. He will hear him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand.

7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

8 They are brought down and fallen, but we are risen and stand upright.
Psalm 21

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

1 The king will have joy in Your strength, O LORD; and in Your salvation, how greatly he will rejoice!
2 You have given him his heart’s desire and have not withheld the request of his lips.
3 For You meet him with the blessings of goodness. You set a crown of pure gold on his head.
4 He asked life from You and You gave it to him, even length of days forever and ever.
5 His glory is great in Your salvation. Honor and majesty You have laid on him.
6 For You have made him most blessed forever. You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence.
7 For the king trusts in the LORD, and through the mercy of the Most High he will not be moved.
8 Your hand will find out all your enemies. Your right hand will find out those who hate you.
9 You will make them as a fiery oven in the time of your anger. The LORD will swallow them up in His wrath, and the fire will devour them.
10 You will destroy their fruit from the earth, and their seed from among the children of men.
11 For they intended evil against You. They imagined a mischievous plot which they are not able to perform.
12 Therefore, You will make them turn their back when You make ready Your arrows on Your strings against their face.
13 Be exalted, LORD, in Your own strength. We will sing and praise Your power.

Psalm 22

To the chief musician on Aijeleth Shahar, a psalm of David

1 My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from helping me and from the words of my groaning?
2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; and in the night season, and I am not silent.
3 But You are holy, O You who inhabit the praises of Israel.
4 Our fathers trusted in You. They trusted and You delivered them.
5 They cried out to You and were delivered. They trusted in You and were not disappointed.
6 But I am a worm and not a man, a reproach of men and despised by the people.
7 All those who see me laugh me to scorn. They shoot out the lip. They shake the head, saying,
8 “He trusted in the LORD that He would deliver him. Let Him deliver him, seeing He delighted in Him.”
9 But You are the One who took me out of the womb. You made me hope when I was on my mother’s breasts.
10 I was cast on You from the womb. You are my God from my mother’s belly.
11 Do not be far from me, for trouble is near; for there is no one to help.
12 Many bulls have surrounded me. Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.
13 They gaped on me with their mouths, as a ravening and roaring lion.
14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart is like wax. It is melted within me.
15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; and You have brought me into the dust of death.
16 For dogs have surrounded me. The assembly of the wicked have enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet.
17 I may count all my bones. They look and stare at me.
18 They part my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.
19 But You, O LORD, do not be far from me. O You my strength, hasten to help me.
20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog.
21 “Save me from the lion’s mouth, for ‘You have heard me from the horns of the oxen.
22 “I will declare Your name to ‘My brethren. In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.
23 ‘You who fear the LORD, praise Him. All you the seed of Jacob, glorify Him, and fear Him all you seed of Israel.
24 For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, nor has He hidden His face from him; but ‘when he cried out to Him, He heard.
25 My praise will be of You in the great assembly. I will pay my vows before them who fear Him.
26 The meek will eat and be satisfied. They will praise the LORD who seek Him. Your heart will live forever.
27 All the ends of the world will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will worship before You.
28 ‘For the kingdom is the LORD’S, and He is the governor among the nations.
29 ‘All the prosperous on earth will eat and worship. ‘All those who go down to the dust will bow before Him, and no one can keep alive His own soul.
30 A seed will serve Him. It will be accounted to the Lord for a generation.
31 They will come and will declare His righteousness to a people who will be born that He has done this.

Psalm 23

A psalm of David

1 The LORD is ‘my shepherd, ‘I will lack nothing.
2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures. ‘He leads me beside the still waters.
3 He restores my soul. ‘He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.
4 Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, ‘I will fear no evil, ‘for You are with me. Your rod and Your staff they comfort me.
5 You ‘prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You ‘anoint my head with oil. My cup overflows.
6 Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 24

A psalm of David

1 The earth is the LORD’S and its fullness, the world and those who dwell on it.
2 For He has founded it on the seas and established it on the floods.
3 ‘Who will ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who will stand in His holy place?
4 ‘He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up His soul to vanity or sworn deceitfully.
5 ‘He will receive the blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of His salvation.
6 This is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face like Jacob.
7 Lift up your heads, O you gates. And be lifted up you everlasting doors, and the King of glory will come in.
8 ‘Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.
9 Lift up your heads, O you gates, even lift them up you everlasting doors, and the King of glory will come in.
10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of armies, He is the King of glory.

Psalm 25

A psalm of David

1 To ‘You, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.
2 O my God, I ‘trust in You. Do not let me be ashamed. ‘Do not let my enemies triumph over me.
3 ‘Yes, do not let anyone who waits on You be ashamed. Let them be ashamed who transgress without cause.
4 ‘Show me Your ways, O LORD. Teach me Your paths.
5 ‘Lead me in Your truth and teach me. For You are the God of my salvation and on You do I wait all day.
Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, for they have been from old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth, or my transgressions. According to Your mercy remember me for Your goodness’ sake, O LORD.

Good and upright is the LORD. Therefore, He will teach sinners in the way.

The meek He will guide in judgment, and to the meek He will teach His way.

All the paths of the LORD are mercy, and truth to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

For Your name’s sake, O LORD, pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

What man is he who fears the LORD? Him He will teach in the way that He will choose.

His soul will dwell at ease, and His seed will inherit the earth.

The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.

My eyes are always toward the LORD, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am desolate and afflicted.

The troubles of my heart are enlarged. Bring me out of my distresses.

Look on my affliction and my pain, and forgive all my sins.

Consider my enemies, for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.

My foot stands on an even place. In the assemblies I will bless the LORD.

Examine me, O LORD, and test me. Try my mind and my heart.

For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and I have walked in Your truth. I have not sat with vain persons, nor will I go in with pretenders.

I have hated the assembly of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

I will wash my hands in innocency, so I will surround Your altar, O LORD so that I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving and tell of all Your wondrous works.

LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house and the place where Your honor dwells.

I Do not gather my soul with sinners, or my life with bloodthirsty men;

in whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.

But as for me I will walk in my integrity. Redeem me and be merciful to me.

My foot stands on an even place. In the assemblies I will bless the LORD.

Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity. I have trusted also in the LORD, therefore I will not waver.

Examine me, O LORD, and test me. Try my mind and my heart.

Psalm 26

A psalm of David

Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity. I have trusted also in the LORD, therefore I will not waver.

Examine me, O LORD, and test me. Try my mind and my heart.

Psalm 27

A psalm of David

The LORD is my light and my salvation. Whom will I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life. Of whom will I be afraid?

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes, came on me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Though an army should camp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war should rise against me, in this I will be confident.

One thing I have desired from the LORD that I will seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple.

For in the time of trouble He will hide me in His pavilion. In the secret places of His tabernacle He will hide me. He will set me up on a rock.

And now will my head be lifted up above my enemies around me. Therefore, I will offer in His tabernacle sacrifices of joy. I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry out with my
voice. Have mercy also on me and answer me.  

8 When You said, “Seek My face,” my heart said to You, “Your face, LORD, I will seek.”  

9 Do not hide Your face from me. Do not put Your servant away in anger. You have been my help. Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.  

10 When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.  

11 Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me in a level path because of my enemies.  

12 Do not deliver me over to the will of my enemies. For false witnesses have risen up against me and those who breathe out cruelty.  

13 I would have fainted unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.  

14 Wait on the LORD. Be of good courage and He will strengthen Your heart. Wait, I say, on the LORD.

Psalm 28  

A psalm of David  

1 To You I will cry out, O LORD my rock. Do not be silent to me. If You are silent to me, I become like those who go down into the pit.  

2 Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry out to You, when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.  

3 Do not draw me away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity who speak peace to their neighbors, but mischief is in their hearts.  

4 Give to them according to their deeds and according to the wickedness of their endeavors. Give to them after the work of their hands. Render to them their recompense.  

5 Because they do not regard the works of the LORD or the operation of His hands, He will overthrow them and not build them up.  

6 Blessed is the LORD because He has heard the voice of my supplications.  

7 The LORD is my strength and my shield. My heart trusted in Him and I am helped. Therefore, my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him.

8 The LORD is their strength, and He is the saving strength of His anointed.  

9 Save Your people and bless Your inheritance. Feed them also, and lift them up forever.

Psalm 29  

A psalm of David  

1 Give to the LORD you mighty ones. Give to the LORD glory and strength.  

2 Give to the LORD the glory due to His name. Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.  

3 The voice of the LORD is on the waters. The God of glory thunders. The LORD is on many waters.  

4 The voice of the LORD is powerful. The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.  

5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars. Yes, the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  

6 He makes them also to skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.  

7 The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire.  

8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness. The LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  

9 The voice of the LORD makes the deer to give birth and lays bare the forests. And in His temple everyone speaks of His glory.  

10 The LORD sits on the flood. Yes, the LORD sits as King forever.  

11 The LORD will give strength to His people. The LORD will bless His people with peace.

Psalm 30  

A psalm and song at the dedication of the house of David  

1 I will exalt You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up and have not made my foes rejoice over me.  

2 O LORD my God, I cried out to You and You have healed me.  

3 O LORD, You have brought up my soul from the grave. You have kept me alive so that I should not go down to the pit.
Sing to the LORD you saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.

For His anger endures but a moment. In His favor is life. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

And in my prosperity I said, “I will never be dispossessed.”

LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain to stand strong. You hid Your face and I was troubled.

I cried out to You, O LORD. And to the LORD I made supplication.

What profit is there in my blood when I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth?

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy on me. LORD, be my helper.

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing. You have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,

to the end that my glory may sing praise to You, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

Psalm 31

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

In You, O LORD, do I put my trust. Let me never be ashamed. Deliver me in Your righteousness.

Bow down Your ear to me. Deliver me quickly. Be my strong rock, for a house of defense to save me.

For You are my rock and my fortress. Therefore, for Your name’s sake lead me and guide me.

Pull me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me, for You are my strength.

Into Your hand I commit my spirit. You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

I have hated those who regard lying vanities. But I trust in the LORD.

I will be glad and rejoice in Your mercy, for You have considered my trouble. You have known my soul in adversities,

8 and have not shut me up in the hand of the enemy. You have set my feet in a large room.

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble. My eye is consumed with grief, also my soul and my belly.

For my life is spent with grief and my years with sighing. My strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones are consumed.

I was a reproach among all my enemies, but especially among my neighbors. I am repulsive to my acquaintance. Those who see me outside flee from me.

I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind. I am like a broken vessel.

For I have heard the slander of many. Fear was on every side. While they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

But I trusted in You, O LORD. I said, “You are my God.”

My times are in Your hand. Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.

Make Your face shine on Your servant. Save me for Your mercies’ sake.

Let me not be ashamed, O LORD, for I have called on You. Let the wicked be ashamed and let them be silent in the grave.

Let the lying lips be put to silence that speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

O how great is Your goodness that You have laid up for those who fear You, that You have worked for those who trust in You before the sons of men!

You will hide them in the secret of Your presence from the pride of man. You will keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.

Blessed is the LORD, for He has showed me His marvellous kindness in a strong city.

For I said in my haste, “I am cut off from before Your eyes.” Nevertheless, You heard the voice of my supplications when I cried out to You.

O love the LORD, all you His saints. For...
the LORD preserves the faithful and fully repays the proud person.
24 *Be of good courage and He will strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the LORD.*

**Psalm 32**

*A psalm of David, a contemplation*

1 *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*
2 *Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not imput iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.*
3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my groaning all day long.
4 For day and night Your hand was heavy on me. My strength was sapped in the drought of summer.
5 I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. *I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*
6 For this will everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You can be found. Surely in the floods of great waters they will not come near to Him.
7 You are my hiding place. You will preserve me from trouble. You will surround me with songs of deliverance.
8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you will go. I will guide you with My eye.
9 Do not be as the horse, or as the mule, that have no understanding, whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle lest they come near you.
10 Many sorrows will come to the wicked. But he who trusts in the LORD, mercy will surround him.
11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous. And shout for joy all you who are upright in heart.

**Psalm 33**

1 Rejoice *in the LORD, O you righteous, for praise is becoming of the upright.*
2 Praise the LORD with harp. Sing to Him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.
3 Sing to Him a new song. Play skillfully with a loud noise.
4 For the word of the LORD is right, and all His works are done in truth.
5 He loves righteousness and judgment. The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.
6 *By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, and all their host by the breath of His mouth.*
7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap. He lays up the depth in storehouses.
8 Let all the earth fear the LORD. Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.
9 For He spoke and it was done. He commanded and it stood fast.
10 *The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nought. He makes the devices of the people of no effect.*
11 *The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations.*
12 *Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, and the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.*
13 *The LORD looks from heaven. He holds all the sons of men.*
14 From the place of His habitation He looks on all the inhabitants of the earth.
15 He fashions their hearts alike. *He considers all their works.*
16 *The king is not saved by a mighty army. A mighty man is not delivered by much strength.*
17 *A horse is a vain thing for safety. Neither will he deliver any by his great strength.*
18 *Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy,*
19 to deliver their soul from death and *to keep them alive in famine.*
20 Our soul waits for the LORD. He is our help and our shield.
21 For our heart will rejoice in Him because we have trusted in His holy name.
22 Let Your mercy, O LORD, be on us according as we hope in You.

**Psalm 34**

*A psalm of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech; who drove him away, and he departed.*
1 I will bless the LORD at all times. His praise will continually be in my mouth.

2 My soul will make its boast in the LORD. The humble will hear of it and be glad.

3 O magnify the LORD with me and let us exalt His name together.

4 I sought the LORD and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

5 They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed.

6 This poor man cried out and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all His troubles.

7 The angel of the LORD camps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

8 O taste and see that the LORD is good. Blessed is the man who trusts in Him.

9 O fear the LORD you His saints, for there is no lack for those who fear Him.

10 The young lions do lack and suffer hunger. But those who seek the LORD will not lack any good thing.

11 Come you children and hearken to me. I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

12 What man is he who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good?

13 Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

14 Depart from evil and do good. Seek peace and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and His ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry out and the LORD hears. And He delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves those who have a contrite spirit.

19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous. But the LORD delivers him out of them all.

20 He keeps all his bones. Not one of them is broken.

21 Evil will slay the wicked. And those who hate the righteous will be desolate.

22 The LORD redeems the soul of His servants. And none of those who trust in Him will be desolate.

Psalm 35
A psalm of David

1 Plead my cause, O LORD, with those who strive with me. Fight against those who fight against me.

2 Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help.

3 Draw out also the spear, and stop the way against those who persecute me. Say to my soul, "I am Your salvation."

4 Let them be confounded and put to shame who seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and brought to confusion who devise my hurt.

5 Let them be as chaff before the wind. And let the angel of the LORD chase them.

6 Let their way be dark and slippery. And let the angel of the LORD persecute them.

7 For without cause they have hidden for me their net in a pit, that without cause they have digged for my soul.

8 Let destruction come on him unawares, and let His net that he has hidden catch himself. Into that very destruction let him fall.

9 And my soul will be joyful in the LORD. It will rejoice in His salvation.

10 All my bones will say, "LORD, who is like You, who delivers the poor from him who is too strong for him, yes, the poor and the needy from him who plunders him?"

11 False witnesses rose up. They laid to my charge things that I did not know.

12 They rewarded me evil for good to the sorrow of my soul.

13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth. I humbled my soul with fasting, and my prayer returned to me unanswered.

14 I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother. I bowed down heavily as one who mourns for his mother.

15 But in my adversity they rejoiced and gathered themselves together. Yes, the attackers...
gathered themselves together against me, and I did not know it. They tore me, and did not stop.

16 With hypocritical mockers in feasts, they snatched on me with their teeth.

17 Lord, how long will You look on? Rescue my soul from their destructions, my precious life from the lions.

18 I will give You thanks in the great assembly. I will praise You among many people.

19 Do not let those who are my enemies wrongfully rejoice over me. Do not let them wink with the eye who hate me without a cause.

20 For they do not speak peace, but devise deceitful matters against those who are quiet in the land.

21 Yes, they opened their mouth wide against me and said, “Aha, aha! Our eyes have seen it.”

22 This You have seen, O LORD. Do not keep silence. O LORD, do not be far from me.

23 Stir up Yourself and awake to my judgment, even to my cause, my God and my Lord.

24 Judge me, O LORD my God, according to Your righteousness, and do not let them rejoice over me.

25 Do not let them say in their hearts, “Ah, so we would have it.” Do not let them say, “We have swallowed him up.”

26 Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together who rejoice at my hurt. Let those be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves against me.

27 Let them shout for joy and be glad who favor my righteous cause. Yes, let them say continually, “Let the LORD be magnified who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.”

28 And my tongue will speak of Your righteousness and of Your praise all day long.

Psalm 36

To the chief musician, a psalm of David the servant of the LORD

1 An oracle within my heart says that there is no fear of God before the eyes of the wicked.

2 For He flatters himself in his own eyes until his iniquity is found to be hateful.

3 The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit. He has ceased to be wise and to do good.

4 He devises mischief on His bed. He sets himself in a way that is not good. He does not abhor evil.

5 Your mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens and Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

6 Your righteousness is like the great mountains. Your judgments are a great deep. O LORD, You preserve man and beast.

7 How excellent is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore, the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings.

8 They will be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of Your house, and You will make them drink of the river of Your pleasures.

9 For with You is the fountain of life. In Your light we will see light.

10 O continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You, and Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

11 Do not let the foot of pride come against me, and do not let the hand of the wicked remove me.

12 There the workers of iniquity have fallen. They are cast down and will not be able to rise.

Psalm 37

A psalm of David

1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers, nor be envious of the workers of iniquity.

2 For they will soon be cut down like the grass and wither as the green herb.

3 Trust in the LORD and do good. Dwell in the land and surely You will be fed.

4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart.

5 Commit your way to the LORD. Trust also in Him and He will bring it to pass.

6 And He will bring forth your righteousness as the light and your judgment as the noonday.

7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him. Do not fret yourself because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.
8 Cease from anger and forsake wrath. Do not fret yourself, for it leads only to evildoing.
9 For evildoers will be cut off. But those who wait on the LORD will inherit the earth.
10 For yet a little while and the wicked will not exist. Yes, you will carefully consider his place and it will not exist.
11 But the meek will inherit the earth, and will delight themselves in the abundance of peace.
12 The wicked plots against the just, and gnashes on him with his teeth.
13 The Lord will laugh at him, for He sees that his day is coming.
14 The wicked plots against the just, and ognashes on him with his teeth.
15 The Lord will laugh at him, for He sees that his day is coming.
16 A little that a righteous man has is better than the riches of many wicked.
17 For the arms of the wicked will be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.
18 The Lord will laugh at him, for He sees that his day is coming.
19 They will not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they will be satisfied.
20 But the wicked will perish, and the enemies of the LORD will be as the fat of lambs. They will consume, into smoke they will vanish away.
21 The wicked borrows and does not repay. But the righteous shows mercy and gives.
22 For those blessed by Him will inherit the earth. And those who are cursed by Him will be cut off.
23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in His way.
24 Though he fall, he will not be utterly cast down, for the LORD upholds him with His hand.
25 I have been young and now am old, and yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.
26 He is always merciful and lends, and His seed is blessed.
27 Depart from evil and do good, and dwell forever.
28 For the Lord loves judgment and does not forsake His saints. They are preserved forever. But the seed of the wicked will be cut off.
29 The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.
30 The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, and his tongue talks of justice.
31 The law of his God is in his heart. None of his steps will slide.
32 The wicked watches the righteous and seeks to slay him.
33 The Lord will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.
34 Wait on the Lord and keep His way, and He will exalt you to inherit the land. When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.
35 I have seen the wicked in great power, spreading himself like a green tree in its native soil.
36 Yet he passed away, and behold, he was not. Yes, I sought him, but he could not be found.
37 Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace.
38 But the transgressors will be destroyed together. The end of the wicked will be cut off.
39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord. He is their strength in the time of trouble.
40 And the Lord will help them and deliver them. He will deliver them from the wicked and save them because they trust in Him.

Psalm 38
A psalm of David to bring to remembrance
1 O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.
2 For Your arrows stick fast in me, and Your hand presses me down.
3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger. Neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.
For my iniquities are overwhelming me. As a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. I am troubled. I am bowed down greatly. I go mourning all day long. For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease. And there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and greatly broken. I have groaned because of the turmoil of my heart. Lord, all my desire is before You, and my groaning is not hidden from You. My heart throbs. My strength fails me. As for the light of my eyes, it also is gone from me.

Psalm 39

To the chief musician, even to Jeduthun, a psalm of David

I said, “I will take heed to my ways so that I do not sin with my tongue. I will restrain my mouth with a muzzle while the wicked are before me.” I was mute with silence. I held my peace, even from good; and my sorrow was stirred. My heart was hot within me. While I was musing the fire burned. Then I spoke with my tongue, “LORD, make me know my end, and the measure of my days, what it is, so that I may know how frail I am. Behold, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You. Truly, every man in his best state is a mere vapor. Surely every man walks as a shadow. Surely they busy themselves for nothing. He builds up riches, and does not know who will gather them. And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You. Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the reproach of the foolish. "I was mute. I did not open my mouth because You did it. Remove Your plague away from me. I am consumed by the blow of Your hand. When with rebukes You chastize man for iniquity, You make His comeliness melt away like a moth. Surely every man is no better than an empty breath. Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cries. Do not hold Your peace at my tears, for I am an alien with You and a sojourner, as were all my fathers. O spare me so that I may recover strength before I go away and m be no more.”

Psalm 40

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

I waited patiently for the LORD, and He turned to me and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet on a rock and established my goings.
3 And He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God. Many will see it and fear, and will trust in the LORD.
4 Blessed is that man who makes the LORD His trust and does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.
5 Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works that You have done, and Your thoughts that are toward us. They cannot be recounted to You in order. If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.
6 You did not desire sacrifice and offering; my ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required.
7 Then I said, “Behold, I come. In the roll of the scroll it is written of me.
8 I delight to do Your will, O my God. Yes, Your law is within my heart.”
9 I have preached righteousness in the great assembly. Behold, I have not restrained my lips. O LORD, You Yourself know.
10 I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart. I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation. I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth from the great assembly.
11 Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O LORD. Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me.
12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me. My iniquities have taken hold on me so that I am not able to look up. They are more than the hairs of my head. Therefore, my heart fails me.
13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me. O LORD, make haste to help me.
14 Let those be ashamed and confused together who seek after my soul to destroy it. Let them be driven backward and put to shame who wish me evil.
15 Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame who say to me, “Aha, aha!”
16 Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You. Let those who love Your salvation say continually, “The LORD be magnified.”

Psalm 41
To the chief musician, a psalm of David
1 Blessed is He who considers the poor. The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.
2 The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive. He will be blessed on the earth. You will not deliver him to the will of His enemies.
3 The LORD will strengthen him on the bed of sickness. You will sustain him on his bed of sickness.
4 I said, “LORD, be merciful to me. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.”
5 My enemies speak evil of me, “When will he die and his name perish?”
6 And if he comes to see me, he speaks vanity. His heart gathers iniquity to itself. When he goes out, he tells it.
7 All who hate me whisper together against me. Against me they devise my hurt.
8 “An evil disease,” they say, “clings fast to him. And now that he lies he will rise up no more.”
9 Yes, my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.
10 But You, O LORD, be merciful to me and raise me up so that I may repay them.
11 By this I know that You favor me because my enemy does not triumph over me.
12 And as for me, You uphold me in my integrity and set me before Your face forever.
13 Blessed is the LORD God of Israel from everlasting and to everlasting. Amen and Amen.

Psalm 42
To the chief musician, Maschil, for the sons of Korah
1 As the deer pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after You, O God.
2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When will I come and appear before God?
3 My tears have been my food day and night, while they continually say to me, "Where is Your God?"
4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, a multitude that kept a festival.
5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I will still praise Him who is the health of my countenance and my God.

Psalm 44

To the chief musician for the sons of Korah, Maschil
1 We have heard with our ears, O God. Our fathers have told us what work You did in their days, in the times of old.
2 You drove out the nations with Your hand and planted them. You afflicted the people and cast them out.
3 For they did not possess the land by their own sword, nor did their own arm save them. But it was Your right hand and Your arm, and the light of Your countenance, because You favored them.
4 You are my King, O God. Command victories for Jacob.
5 Through You we will push down our enemies. Through Your name we will tread under those who rise up against us.
6 For I will not trust in my bow, nor will my sword save me.
7 But You have saved us from our enemies and have put them to shame who hated us.
8 In God we boast all day long, and praise Your name forever.
9 But You have cast off and put us to shame, and do not go forth with our armies.
10 You make us turn back from the enemy, and those who hate us have taken spoil for themselves.
11 You have given us up like sheep appointed for food, and have scattered us among the nations.
12 You sell Your people for nothing, and do not increase Your wealth by their price.
13 You make us a reproach to our neighbors, a scorn and a derision to those who are around us.
14 You make us a byword among the nations, a shaking of the head among the people.
15 My confusion is continually before me, and the shame of my face has covered me, 16 for the voice of him who reproaches and blasphemes, because of the enemy and avenger. 17 All this has come on us, and yet we have not forgotten You, nor have we dealt falsely with Your covenant. 18 Our heart is not turned back, nor have our steps turned from Your way, 19 though You have greatly broken us in the place of jackals and covered us with the shadow of death. 20 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a foreign god, 21 will not God search this out? For He knows the secrets of the heart. 22 Yes, for Your sake we are killed all day long. We are counted as sheep for the slaughter. 23 Awake! Why do You sleep, O Lord? Arise! Do not cast us off forever. 24 Therefore, why do You hide Your face and forget our affliction and our oppression? 25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust. Our belly cleaves to the earth. 26 Arise for our help and redeem us for Your mercies’ sake.

Psalm 45
To the chief musician on Shoshannim, for the sons of Korah, Maschil, a song of love
1 My heart overflows with a goodly matter. I speak of the things that I have composed concerning the king. My tongue is the pen of a skillful writer. 2 You are fairer than the children of men. Grace is poured into your lips. Therefore, God has blessed you forever. 3 Gird Your sword on your thigh, O Most Mighty, with Your glory and Your majesty. 4 And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness, and Your right hand will teach Your awesome things. 5 Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king’s enemies. The people fall under You. 6 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. 7 You love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore, God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your companions. 8 All Your garments are scented of myrrh and aloes and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad. 9 Kings’ daughters were among Your honorable women. At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir. 10 Hearken, O daughter, and consider and incline your ear. Forget also your own people and your father’s house, so the king will greatly desire your beauty, because He is your Lord, worship him. 11 And the daughter of Tyre will be there with a gift, even the rich among the people will ask for your favor. 12 The king’s daughter is all glorious within the palace. Her clothing is of woven gold. 13 She will be brought to the king in clothing of needlework. The virgins, her companions who follow her, will be brought to you. 14 Instead of your fathers will be your sons whom you may make princes in all the earth. 15 I will make Your name be remembered in all generations. Therefore, the people will praise You forever and ever.

Psalm 46
To the chief musician for the sons of Korah, a song on Alamoth
1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth is removed and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea, 3 though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. 4 There is a river whose streams will make glad the city of God, the holy place of the
in the city of our God, in the mountain of His holiness.
2 *Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion, on the sides of the northern slope, the city of the great King.
3 God has made Himself known in her palaces for a refuge.
4 For behold, the kings were assembled. They passed by together.
5 They saw it and so they marvelled. They were troubled and hurried away.
6 Fear and pain took hold on them there as a woman in labor.
7 You broke the trading ships with an east wind.
8 As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of armies, in the city of our God. God will establish it forever.
9 We have thought of Your lovingkindness, O God, in the city of Your temple.
10 According to Your name, O God, so is Your praise to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is full of righteousness.
11 Let Mount Zion rejoice. Let the daughters of Judah be glad because of Your judgments.
12 Walk about Zion and go around her. Count her towers.
13 Mark well her bulwarks. Consider her palaces so that You may tell it to the following generation.
14 For this God is our God forever and ever. He will be our guide even to death.

Psalms 49

To the chief musician,
a Psalm for the sons of Korah

1 Hear this all you people. Give ear all you inhabitants of the world,
2 both low and high, rich and poor together.
3 My mouth will speak of wisdom, and the meditation of my heart will be understanding.
4 I will incline my ear to a proverb. I will open my dark saying on the harp.
5 Why should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of those who would supplant me surrounds me?
6 They who trust in their wealth and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches,
Psalm 50

A psalm of Asaph

1 The *mighty God, even the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down.

2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, *God has shone forth.

3 Our God will come and will not keep silent. A fire will devour before Him and it will be very tempestuous around Him.

4 He will call to the heavens from above and to the earth so that He may judge His people.

5 “Gather *My holy ones together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

6 And the *heavens will declare His justice, for *God is judge himself.

7 “Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you. *I am God, even your God.

8 *I will not rebuke you *for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings *that are continually before Me.

9 *I will take no bull out of your house, nor male goats out of your folds.

10 *For every beast of the forest *is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.

11 *I know all the birds of the mountains. And *the upright will have dominion over them in the morning. And *their beauty will be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

12 Nevertheless man, *being in honor, does not remain. He is like the beasts *that perish.

13 This their way *is their *folly, and of those after them who approve their words.

14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave. Death will feed on them. And *the upright will have dominion over them in the morning. And *their beauty will be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

15 But *God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, for He will *receive me.

16 Do not be afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of His house is increased.

17 For when he dies he will carry nothing away. His glory will not descend after him.

18 Though while he lives *he blesses his soul (for *men will praise you when you do well for yourself),

19 he will go to the generation of his fathers. They will never see *light.

20 A man *who is *in honor, and yet does not understand, *is like the beasts *that perish.

21 *You sit and speak against your brother. You slander your own mother’s son.

22 “Now consider this, you who *forget God, lest I tear you in pieces and *there is no one to deliver.
Psalm 51
To the chief musician, a psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came to him after he had gone in to Bathsheba

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness. According to the greatness of Your compassion, blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions. And my sin is always before me.

4 Against You, You only, I have sinned, and done this evil in Your sight, so that You might be just when You speak and be blameless when You judge.

5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

6 Behold, You desire truth in the inner parts, and in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I will be clean. Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 Make me hear joy and gladness so that the bones that You have broken may rejoice.

9 Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your willing Spirit.

13 I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will be converted to You.

14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will show forth Your praise.

16 For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it. You do not delight in burnt offering.

Psalm 52
To the chief musician, Maschil, a psalm of David when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul and said to him, “David has come to the house of Ahimelech.”

1 Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man? The goodness of God endures continually.

2 Your tongue devises destruction like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

3 You love evil more than good and lying rather than speaking righteousness.

4 You love all devouring words, O deceitful tongue.

5 God will likewise destroy you forever. He will take you away and pluck you out of your dwelling place, and root you out of the land of the living.

6 The righteous also will see and fear, and will laugh at him.

7 Lo, this is the man who did not make God His strength, but trusted in the abundance of his riches and strengthened himself in his wickedness.

8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.

9 I will praise You forever because You have done it. And I will wait on Your name, for it is good before Your saints.
derstood, who sought God.
3 Every one of them has turned back. They have together become corrupt. There is no one who does good, no, not one.
4 Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge, who eat up My people as they eat bread, who have not called on God?
5 aThere they were in great fear, where no fear was, for God has scattered the bones of him who camps against you. You have put them to shame because God has despised them.
6 bO that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of His people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel will be glad.

Psalm 54
To the chief musician on Neginoth, Maschil, a psalm of David when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, “Does not David hide himself with us?”
1 Save me, O God, by Your name, and judge me by Your strength.
2 Hear my prayer, O God. Give ear to the words of my mouth.
3 For foreigners have risen up against me and oppressors seek after my soul. They have not set God before them.
4 Behold, God is my helper. The Lord is with those who uphold my soul.
5 He will reward evil to my enemies and cut them off in Your truth.
6 I will freely sacrifice to You. I will praise Your name, O LORD, for it is good.
7 For He has delivered me out of all trouble; aand my eye has seen His desire on my enemies.

Psalm 55
To the chief musician on Neginoth, Maschil, a psalm of David
1 Give ear to my prayer, O God, and do not hide Yourself from my supplication.
2 Attend to me and hear me. bI am restless in my complaint and moan,
3 because of the voice of the enemy and because of the oppression of the wicked, bfor they bring trouble upon me, and in wrath they hate me.
4 aMy heart is greatly pained within me. And the terrors of death are fallen on me.
5 Fearfulness and trembling have come on me, and horror has overwhelmed me.
6 And I said, “O that I had wings like a dove, for then I would fly away and be at rest.
7 “Behold, then I would wander far off and remain in the wilderness.
8 “I would hasten my escape from the windy storm and tempest.”
9 Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues, for I have seen violence and strife in the city.
10 They go about on its walls day and night. Iniquity and sorrow are also in the midst of it.
11 Wickedness is in its midst. Oppression and guile do not depart from its streets.
12 aFor it is not an enemy who reproaches me, then I could bear it. Neither is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me, then I could hide myself from him.
13 But it was you, a man my equal, my guide and acquaintance.
14 We took sweet counsel together and walked to the house of God in company.
15 Let death seize on them, and let them go down quick into Sheol, for wickedness is in their dwellings and among them.
16 As for me, I will call on God, and the LORD will save me.
17 aEvening and morning and at noon, I will pray and cry out aloud. And He will hear my voice.
18 He has delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me, afor there were many against me.
19 God will hear and afflict them, aeven He who abides from of old times.
Because they do not change, therefore they do not fear God.
20 He has put forth His hands against those who are at peace with him. He has broken his covenant.
21 aThe words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart. His words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords.
22 ‘Cast your burden on the LORD, and He will sustain you. He will never suffer the righteous to be moved.
23 But You, O God, will bring them down into the pit of destruction. Bloodthirsty and deceitful men will not live out half their days, but I will trust in You.

Psalm 56
To the chief musician on “A Silent Dove in Distant Lands.” A Michtam of David when the Philistines took him in Gath

1 Be merciful to me, O God, for man would swallow me up. His daily fighting oppresses me.
2 My enemies would daily swallow me up, for they are many who fight against me, O Most High.
3 Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.
4 In God I will praise His word. In God I have put my trust. I will not fear what flesh can do to me.
5 Every day they twist my words. All their thoughts are against me for evil.
6 They gather themselves together. They hide themselves. They mark my steps when they wait for my soul.
7 Will they escape with iniquity? In Your anger cast down the people, O God.
8 You have numbered and recorded my wanderings. Put my tears into Your bottle. Are they not in Your scroll?
9 When I cry out to You, then my enemies will turn back. This I know, that God is for me.
10 In God I will praise His word. In the LORD I will praise His word.
11 In God I have put my trust. I will not be afraid of what man can do to me.
12 I am under vows to You, O God. I will render praises to You.
13 For You have delivered my soul from death. Will You not deliver my feet from falling so that I may walk before God in the light of the living?’

Psalm 57
To the chief musician, Altaschith, Michtam of David, when he fled from Saul to the cave.

1 Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me for my soul trusts in You. Yes, in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge until these calamities are past.
2 I will cry out to God Most High, to God who performs all things for me.
3 He will send from heaven and save me from the reproach of him who would swallow me up. God will send forth His mercy and His truth.
4 My soul is among lions. I lie even among those who are set on fire, even the sons of men whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.
5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let Your glory be above all the earth.
6 They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down. They have dug a pit before me, and into the midst of it they have fallen themselves.
7 My heart is steadfast, O God. My heart is fixed. I will sing and give praise.
8 Awake up, my glory. Awake, harp and lyre. I myself will awake early.
9 I will praise You, O Lord, among the people. I will sing to You among the nations.
10 For Your mercy reaches to the heavens, and Your truth to the clouds.
11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let Your glory be above all the earth.

Psalm 58
To the chief musician, Altaschith, Michtam of David

1 Do you indeed speak righteousness, O assembly? Do you judge uprightly, O you sons of men?
2 No, in heart you work wickedness. You weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.
3 The wicked are estranged from the womb. They go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.
4 Their poison is like the poison of a serpent. They are like the deaf adder that stops her ear, which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming always so skillfully.
6 "Break their teeth in their mouth, O God. Break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD.

7 "Let them melt away as waters that run continually. When he bends his bow to shoot his arrows, let them be as if cut in pieces.

8 Let them be as a snail that melts away as it goes along, like the stillborn child of a woman, so that they may not see the sun.

9 Before your pots can feel the burning thorns, He will take them away with a whirlwind, the green and the burning alike. Before your pots can feel the burning thorns, He will take them away with a whirlwind, the green and the burning alike.

10 The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance. He will wash his feet in the blood of the wicked,

11 so that a man will say, "Verily there is a reward for the righteous. Surely He is God who judges on the earth."

Psalm 59

To the chief musician, Altaschith, Michtam of David; when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.

1 Deliver me from my enemies, O my God. Defend me from those who rise up against me.

2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity and save me from bloodthirsty men.

3 For behold, they lie in wait for my soul. The mighty are gathered against me, not because of my transgression, nor because of my sin, O LORD.

4 They run and prepare themselves through no fault of mine. Awake to help me, and behold.

5 You therefore, O LORD God of armies, the God of Israel, awake to punish all the nations. Do not be merciful to any wicked transgressors.

6 They return at evening. They make a noise like a dog and go around the city.

7 Behold, they belch out with their mouth. Swords are in their lips, for they say, "Who hears?"

8 But You, O LORD, will laugh at them. You will have all the nations in derision.

9 O my Strength, I will wait on You, for You, O God are my defense.

10 The God of my mercy will come to meet me. God will let me see my desire on my enemies.

11 Do not slay them, lest my people forget. Scatter them by Your power and bring them down, O Lord, our shield.

12 For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips, let them even be taken in their pride, and for cursing and lying that they speak.

13 Consume them in wrath. Consume them so that they may not be. And let them know that God rules in Jacob to the ends of the earth.

14 And at evening let them return. Let them make a noise like a dog and go around the city.

15 Let them wander up and down for food, and growl if they are not satisfied.

16 But I will sing of Your power, yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning. For You have been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble.

17 To You, O my strength, I will sing. For God is my defense and the God of my mercy.

Psalm 60

To the chief musician on Shushan Eduth, Michtam of David, to teach; and when He strove with Aramnaharaim and with Aramzobah, when Joab returned and smote twelve thousand of Edom in the Valley of Salt.

1 O God, aYou have cast us off. You have scattered us. You have been displeased. O turn Yourself to us again.

2 You have made the land tremble. You have broken it. Heal its breaches, for it shakes.

3 You have showed Your people hard things. You have made us drink the wine of confusion.

4 You have given a banner to those who fear You so that it may be displayed because of the truth.

5 So that Your beloved may be delivered, save with Your right hand and hear me.

6 God has spoken in His holiness, "I will rejoice. I will divide Shechem and measure out the valley of Succoth.

Psalm 61
To the chief musician on Neginah, a psalm of David
1 Hear my cry, O God. Attend to my prayer.
2 From the end of the earth I will cry out to You when my heart is overwhelmed. Lead me to the rock that is too high for me.
3 For You have been a shelter for me and a strong tower from the enemy.
4 I will abide in Your tabernacle forever. I will trust in the shelter of Your wings.
5 For You, O God, have heard my vows. You have given me the heritage of those who fear Your name.
6 You will prolong the king’s life, and his years as many generations.
7 He will abide before God forever. O prepare mercy and truth that may preserve him.
8 So I will sing praise to Your name forever so that I may daily perform my vows.

Psalm 62
To the chief musician, to Jeduthun, a psalm of David
1 Truly my soul is silent before God. From Him comes my salvation.
2 He only is my rock and my salvation. He is my defense. I will not be moved.
3 How long will you imagine mischief against a man? All of you will be slain, as a leaning wall and as a tottering fence.
4 They only consult to cast him down from His excellency. They delight in lies. They bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly.
5 My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my expectation is from Him.
6 He only is my rock and my salvation. He is my defense. I will not be moved.
7 In God is my salvation and my glory. The rock of my strength and my refuge is in God.
8 Trust in Him at all times you people, and pour out your heart before Him. God is a refuge for us.
9 Surely men of low degree are a breath, and men of high degree are a disappointment. In the balances they go up. They are together lighter than a breath.
10 Do not trust in oppression, and do not become vain in robbery. If riches increase, do not set your heart on them.
11 God has spoken once. Twice I have heard this, that power belongs to God.
12 Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy, for You render to every man according to his work.

Psalm 63
A psalm of David when he was in the wilderness of Judah.
1 O God, You are my God. Early I will seek You. My soul thirsts for You. My flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.
2 Thus I have looked for You in the sanctuary in order to see Your power and Your glory.
3 Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips will praise You.
4 So I will sing praise to Your name forever so that I may daily perform my vows.
5 My soul will be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth will praise You with joyful lips
6 when I remember You on my bed and meditate on You in the night watches.
7 Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.
8 My soul follows hard after You. Your right hand upholds me.
9 But those who seek my soul in order to de-
stroy it, will go into the lower parts of the earth. 10 They will fall by the sword. They will be a prey for jackals. 11 But the king will rejoice in God and everyone who swears by Him will glory. But the mouth of those who speak lies will be stopped.

Psalm 64
To the chief musician, a psalm of David
1 Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer. Preserve my life from fear of the enemy. 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked, from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity, 3 who sharpen their tongue like a sword and bend their bows to shoot their arrows, even bitter words, 4 so that they may shoot in secret at the blameless. Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear. 5 They encourage themselves in an evil matter. They scheme about secretly laying snares. "Who will see them?"
6 They work out evil schemes. They are ready with a well-conceived scheme. Both the inward thought of every one of them and the heart are deep.
7 But God will shoot at them with an arrow. Suddenly they will be wounded. 8 So they will make their own tongue to fall on themselves. All who see them will flee away.
9 And all men will fear and will declare the work of God, for they will wisely consider His work.
10 The righteous will be glad in the LORD and will trust in Him. And all the upright in heart will glory.

Psalm 65
To the chief musician, a psalm and song of David
1 Praise waits for You, O God, in Zion. And to You will the vow be performed. 2 O You who hear prayer, to You will all flesh come. 3 Iniquities prevail against me. As for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them. 4 Blessed is the man whom You choose, and cause to approach unto You, so that he may dwell in Your courts. We will be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, even with Your holy temple. 5 By awesome things in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth and of those who are afar off on the sea; 6 who by His strength establishes the mountains, being clothed with power; 7 who calms the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves and the clamor of the people. 8 Those also who dwell in the most distant parts are afraid of Your signs. You make the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice.
9 You visit the earth and water it. You greatly enrich it with the river of God that is full of water. You prepare for them grain when You have provided for it. 10 You water its ridges abundantly. You settle its furrows. You make it soft with showers. You bless its growth.
11 You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drop fatness. 12 They drop on the pastures of the wilderness, and the little hills rejoice on every side. 13 The pastures are clothed with flocks. The valleys also are covered over with grain. They shout for joy. They also sing.

Psalm 66
To the chief musician, a song or psalm
1 Make a joyful noise to God all you lands. 2 Sing forth the honor of His name. Make His praise glorious. 3 Say to God, “How awesome You are in Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies will submit themselves to You. 4 All the earth will worship You and will sing to You. They will sing to Your name.” 5 Come and see the works of God. He is awesome in His actions toward the children of men.
6 He turned the Sea into dry land. They went through the flood on foot. There we rejoiced in Him.
7 He rules by His power forever. His eyes behold the nations. Do not let the rebellious exalt themselves.
8 O bless our God you people. And make the voice of His praise be heard,
9 who keeps our soul alive and does not allow our feet to be moved.
10 For You, O God, have refined us. You have tried us as silver is refined.
11 You brought us into the net. You laid affliction on our backs.
12 You have caused men to ride over our heads. We went through fire and through water, but You brought us out into a wealthy place.
13 I will go into Your house with burnt offerings. I will pay You my vows that my lips have uttered and my mouth has spoken when I was in trouble.
14 For You, O God, have refined us. You have tried us as silver is refined.
15 I will pay You my vows, and make the voice of His praise be heard,
16 O bless our God you people. And make the voice of His praise be heard,
17 who keeps our soul alive and does not allow our feet to be moved.
18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.
19 But surely God has heard me. He has attended to the voice of my prayer.
20 Blessed be God who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me.

Psalm 67
To the chief musician on Neginoth, a psalm or song of David
1 God be merciful to us and bless us, and look upon us with His favor and approval,
2 so that Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations.
3 Let the people praise You, O God. Let all the people praise You.
4 Bring our soul alive and let the voice of His praise be heard,
5 Let the people praise You, O God. Let all the people praise You.
6 Then will the earth yield her increase, and God, even our own God, will bless us.
7 God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear Him.

Psalm 68
To the chief musician, a psalm or song of David
1 Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered. Let them also who hate Him flee before Him.
2 As smoke is driven away, so drive them away. As wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
3 But let the righteous be glad. Let them rejoice before God. Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.
4 Sing to God. Sing praises to His name. Lift up a song to Him who rides on the heavens by His name, and rejoice before Him.
5 A father of the fatherless and a judge of the widows is God in His holy habitation.
6 God gives the desolate a home in which to live. He brings out those who are bound with chains, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.
7 O God, when You went forth before Your people, when You marched through the wilderness,
8 the earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God. Even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
9 You, O God, sent plentiful rain, whereby You confirmed Your inheritance when it was weary.
10 Your assembly has dwelt in it. You, O God, have prepared for the poor from Your goodness.
11 The Lord gave the word. Great was the company of those who proclaimed it:
12 "Kings of armies flee. They flee, and the women who stayed at home divided the spoil.
13 "Though You lie among the sheepfolds, yet You will be as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold."
14 qWhen the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was as snow on Zalmon.
15 The hill of God is the hill of Bashan, a high hill as the hill of Bashan.
16 Why do you look with envy you high hills? 'This is the hill on which God desires to dwell. Yes, the LORD will dwell on it forever.
17 sThe chariots of God are myriads, thousands of thousands. The Lord is among them as on Sinai, on the holy place.
18 tYou have ascended on high. uYou have led captivity captive. vYou have received gifts for men. Yes, for the rebellious also so that the LORD God might dwell among them.
19 Blessed is the Lord who daily bears us up with benefits, even the God of our salvation.
20 He who is our God is the God of salvation, and yto GOD the Lord belong escapes from death.
21 But zGod will wound the head of His enemies, and the hairy scalp of the one who continues in his trespasses.
22 The Lord said, ‘I will bring again from Bashan. I will bring My people again from the depths of the sea,
23 dso that Your foot may be dipped in the blood of your enemies and the tongue of your dogs in the same.’
24 They have seen Your goings, O God, even the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary.
25 tThe singers went before and the players on instruments followed after. Among them were the damsels playing with timbrels.
26 Bless God in the assemblies, even the Lord, from the fountain of Israel.
27 bThere is little Benjamin with their leader, the princes of Judah and their council, the princes of Zebulun and the princes of Naphtali.
28 Your God has commanded your strength. Strengthen, O God, that which You have worked for us.
29 Because of Your temple at Jerusalem kings will bring presents to You.
30 Rebuke the beasts in the reeds and the multitude of the bulls with the calves of the people until every one submits himself with pieces of silver. Scatter the people who delight in war.
31 mPrinces will come out of Egypt. nEthiopia will soon stretch out her hands to God.
32 Sing to God you kingdoms of the earth. O sing praises to the Lord,
33 to Him who rides on the heavens of heavens that were of old. Behold, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice.
34 sAscribe strength to God. His excellency is over Israel, and His strength is in the clouds.
35 O God, tYou are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be God.

Psalm 69
To the chief musician on Shoshannim, a psalm of David
1 Save me, O God, for the waters have come in to my soul.
2 bI sink in deep mire where there is no standing. I have come into deep waters where the floods overflow me.
3 cI am weary because of my outcry. My throat is dried. dMy eyes fail while I wait for my God.
4 Those who hate me without cause are more than the hairs of my head. Those who would destroy me are powerful, being wrongfully my enemies. Though I have stolen nothing, I still must restore it.
5 O God, You know my foolishness, and my sins are not hidden from You.
6 Do not let those who wait on You, O Lord GOD of armies, be ashamed for my sake. Do not let those who seek You be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.
7 Because for Your sake I have borne reproach. Shame has covered my face.
8 eI have become a foreigner to my brethren and an alien to my mother’s children.
9 fFor the zeal of Your house has eaten me up. And the reproaches of those who reproached You are fallen on me.
10 When I chastened my soul with fasting,
men jeered at me.
11 I made sackcloth also my garment, and I became a proverb to them.
12 Those who sit in the gate speak against me, and I was the song of the drunkards.
13 But as for me, my prayer is to You, O LORD, in an acceptable time. O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear me in the truth of Your salvation.
14 Deliver me out of the mire, and do not let me sink. Let me be delivered from those who hate me, and out of the deep waters.
15 Do not let the waterflood overflow me, nor let the pit shut her mouth on me.
16 Hear me, O LORD, for Your lovingkindness is good. Turn to me according to the multitude of Your tender mercies.
17 And do not hide Your face from Your servant, for I am in trouble. Hear me speedily.
18 Draw near to my soul and redeem it. Deliver me because of my enemies.
19 You have known my reproach and my shame and my dishonor. My adversaries are all before You.
20 Reproach has broken my heart, and I am full of heaviness. And I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for Comforters, but I found none.
21 They gave me also gall for my food, and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
22 Let their table become a snare before them, and their well-being a trap.
23 Let their eyes be darkened so that they not see, and make their loins continually shake.
24 Pour out Your indignation on them, and let Your wrathful anger take hold of them.
25 Let their habitation be desolate, and let no one dwell in their tents.
26 For they persecute the ones whom You have smitten, and they gossip about the pain of those whom You have wounded.
27 Add iniquity to their iniquity, and do not let them come into Your righteousness.
28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.
29 But I am poor and sorrowful. Let Your salvation, O God, set me up on high.
30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving.
31 This also will please the LORD better than an ox or bull that has horns and hoofs.
32 The humble will see this and be glad. And you who seek God, let your hearts revive.
33 For the LORD hears the poor, and does not despise His prisoners.
34 Let the heaven and earth praise Him, the seas and everything that moves in them.
35 For God will save Zion and will build the cities of Judah so that they may dwell there and possess it.
36 The seed also of His servants will inherit it. And those who love His name will dwell in it.

Psalm 70
To the chief musician, a psalm of David to bring to remembrance.
1 Make haste, O God, to deliver me. Make haste to help me, O LORD.
2 Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and put to confusion who desire my hurt.
3 Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame who say, “Aha, aha.”
4 Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You. And let such as love Your salvation say continually, “Let God be magnified.”
5 But I am poor and needy. Make haste to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer, O LORD. Do not tarry.

Psalm 71
1 In You, O LORD, do I put my trust. Let me never be put to confusion.
2 Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape. Incline Your ear to me and save me.
3 Be my strong habitation unto which I may continually resort. You have given commandment to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.
4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

5 For You are my hope, O Lord GOD. You are my trust from my youth.

6 By You I have been supported from the womb. You are He who took me out of my mother’s womb. My praise will be continually of You.

7 I am as a wonder to many, but You are my strong refuge.

8 Let my mouth be filled with Your praise and with Your honor all day long.

9 Do not cast me off in the time of old age. Do not forsake me when my strength fails.

10 For my enemies speak against me, and those who lay wait for my soul take counsel together,

11 saying, “God has forsaken him. Persecute and take him, for there is no one to deliver him.”

12 O God, do not be far from me. O my God, make haste for my help.

13 Let them be confounded and consumed who are adversaries to my soul. Let them be covered with reproach and dishonor who seek my hurt.

14 But I will hope continually, and will still praise You more and more.

15 My mouth will show forth Your righteousness and Your salvation all day long, for I do not know their limits.

16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD. I will make mention of Your righteousness, even of You only.

17 O God, You have taught me from my youth. And to now I have declared Your wondrous works.

18 Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, do not forsake me until I have showed Your strength to this generation and Your power to everyone who is to come.

19 Your righteousness also, O God, is very high, who have done great things. O God, who is like You!

20 You, who have showed me great and severe troubles, will receive me again and will bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

21 You will increase my honor and comfort me on every side.

22 I will also praise You with the psaltery, even Your truth, O my God. To You I will sing with the harp, O Holy One of Israel.

23 My lips will greatly rejoice when I sing to You, and my soul that You have redeemed.

24 My tongue also will talk of Your righteousness all the day long. For they are confounded, for they are brought to disgrace, those who seek my hurt.

Psalm 72

A psalm for Solomon

1 Give the king Your judgments, O God, and Your righteousness to the king’s son.

2 He will judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice.

3 The mountains will bring peace to the people, and the little hills by righteousness.

4 He will judge the poor of the people. He will save the children of the needy and will break in pieces the oppressor.

5 They will fear You as long as the sun and moon endure throughout all generations.

6 He will come down like rain on the mown grass, as showers that water the earth.

7 In His days will the righteous flourish, and abundance of peace so long as the moon endures.

8 He will have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth.

9 Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him, and His enemies will lick the dust.

10 The kings of Tarshish and the coastlands will bring presents. The kings of Sheba and Seba will offer gifts.

11 Yes, all kings will fall down before Him. All nations will serve Him.

12 For He will deliver the needy when he cries out, the poor also and the one who has no helper.

13 He will spare the poor and needy, and will save the souls of the needy.

14 He will redeem their soul from deceit and violence. And precious will their blood be in His sight.
15 And He will live, and to Him will be given of the gold of Sheba. Prayer also will be made for Him continually, and daily He will be praised.

16 There will be an abundance of grain on the earth on top of the mountains. Its fruit will shake like Lebanon. And those of the city will flourish like grass of the earth.

17 His name will endure forever. His name will be continued as long as the sun. And men will be blessed in Him. All nations will call Him blessed.

18 Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things.

19 And blessed be His glorious name forever. And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.

20 The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.

Psalm 73

A psalm of Asaph

1 Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a pure heart.

2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone. My steps had nearly slipped.

3 For I was envious at the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

4 For there are no pains in their death. Their body is well nourished.

5 They are not in trouble as other men, nor are they plagued like other men.

6 Therefore, pride is their necklace. Violence covers them as a garment.

7 Their eyes bulge out with fatness. They have more than heart could wish.

8 They are corrupt and speak wickedly concerning oppression. They speak loftily.

9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walks through the earth.

10 Therefore, his people return to this place. And waters of abundance are drunk by them.

11 And they say, "How does God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?"

12 Behold, these are the ungodly who prosper in the world. They increase in riches.

13 Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain and washed my hands in innocence.

14 For all the day long I have been plagued, and chastened every morning.

15 If I say, "I will speak thus," behold, I would offend against the generation of Your children.

16 When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me,

17 until I went into the sanctuary of God, then I understood their end.

18 Surely You set them in slippery places. You cast them down into destruction.

19 How are they brought into desolation, as in a moment! They are utterly consumed with terrors.

20 As a dream when one awakes, so, O Lord, when You awake You will despise their image.

21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my mind.

22 So foolish was I and ignorant. I was as a beast before You.

23 Nevertheless, I am continually with You. You have held me by my right hand.

24 You will guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is no one on earth whom I desire except You.

26 My flesh and my heart fails. But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

27 For behold, those who are far from You will perish. You have destroyed all those who leave You for harlotry.

28 But it is good for me to draw near to God. I have put my trust in the Lord GOD so that I may declare all Your works.

Psalm 74

Maschil of Asaph

1 O God, why have You cast us off forever? Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture?

2 Remember Your assembly that You have purchased of old, the rod of Your inheritance that You have redeemed, this Mount Zion wherein You have dwelt.
Turn Your steps toward the perpetual desolations, even all that the enemy has done wickedly in the sanctuary.

Your enemies roar in the midst of Your assemblies. They set up their banners for signs. They seem as men who had lifted up axes in a forest of trees. But now they break down its carved work at once with axes and hammers. They have cast fire into Your sanctuary. They have defiled by casting down the dwelling place of Your name to the ground.

They said in their hearts, “Let us destroy them together.” They have burned up all the meeting places of God in the land. We do not see our signs. There is no more any prophet, nor is there among us any who knows how long.

O God, how long will the adversary reproach? Will the enemy blaspheme Your name forever?

Why do You withdraw Your hand, even Your right hand? Take it from the folds of your garment and destroy them!

For God my King is from old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

You divided the Sea by Your strength. You broke the heads of the sea monsters in the waters. You broke open the fountain and the flood. You dried up mighty rivers.

The day is Yours. The night also is Yours. You have prepared the light and the sun. You have set all the borders of the earth. You have made summer and winter.

Remember this, that the enemy has reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed Your name.

O do not deliver the soul of Your turtle-dove to the multitude of the wicked. Do not forget the life of Your poor forever.

Have respect for the covenant, for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.

O do not let the oppressed return ashamed. Let the poor and needy praise Your name.

Arise, O God, plead Your own cause. Remember how the foolish man reproaches You daily.

Do not forget the voice of Your enemies. The tumult of those who rise up against You increases continually.

Psalm 75

To the chief musician, Altaschith, a psalm or song of Asaph

To You, O God, we give thanks. To You we give thanks. For Your wondrous works declare that Your name is near.

“When I select an appointed time, it is I who will judge uprightly.

“When the earth and all its inhabitants totter, I will firmly set up its pillars.

“I said to the fools, ‘Do not deal foolishly,’ and to the wicked, “Do not lift up the horn.

‘Do not lift up Your horn on high. Do not speak with a stiff neck.’”

For promotion comes neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.

But God is the judge. He puts down one and sets up another.

For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red. It is fully mixed, and He pours it out. But surely all the wicked of the earth must drain and drink down its dregs.

But I will declare forever. I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

All the horns of the wicked also I will cut off, but the horns of the righteous will be exalted.

Psalm 76

To the chief musician on Neginoth a psalm or song of Asaph

In Judah is God known. His name is great in Israel.

In Salem also is His tabernacle, and His dwelling place in Zion.

There He broke the arrows of the bow, the shield and the sword and the battle.

You are more glorious and excellent than...
the mountains of prey.
5 The stouthearted are spoiled. They have slept their last. And none of the men of might could raise their hands.
6 At Your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.
7 You, even You, are to be feared. And who may stand in Your sight when once You are angry?
8 You caused judgment to be heard from heaven. The earth feared and was still
9 when God arose to judgment to save all the meek of the earth.
10 Surely the wrath of man will praise You. With the remainder of wrath You will gird Yourself.
11 Make vows to the LORD your God and pay them. Let all who are around Him bring presents to Him who ought to be feared.
12 He will cut off the spirit of princes. He is feared by the kings of the earth.

Psalm 77
To the chief musician, to Jeduthun, a psalm of Asaph
1 I cried out to God with my voice, even to God with my voice, and He gave ear to me.
2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord. In the night my hand was stretched out without ceasing. My soul refused to be comforted.
3 When I was troubled, I thought of God. When my spirit was faint, I wondered.
4 You hold my eyelids open. I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.
6 I call to remembrance my song in the night. I commune with my own heart, and my spirit made diligent search.
7 Will the Lord cast off forever? And will He be favorable no more?
8 Is His mercy ceased forever? Does His promise fail forever?
9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies?
10 And I said, “This is my grief, that the right hand of the Most High has changed.”
11 I will remember the works of the LORD.

Psalm 78
Maschil of Asaph
1 Give ear, O my people, to my law. Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable. I will utter dark sayings of old,
3 which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
4 We will not hide them from their children, telling the next generation the praises of the LORD and His strength, and His wonderful works that He has done.
5 For He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel that He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;
6 that the next generation might know them, even the children who should be born, who should arise and declare them to their children;
7 so that they might set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments;
8 and might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that did not set their heart aright, and whose spirit

Surely I will remember Your wonders of old.
12 I will meditate also on all Your work and talk of Your deeds.
13 Your way, O God, is holy. Who is so great a God as our God?
14 You are the God who does wonders. You have declared Your strength among the people.
15 You have with Your arm redeemed Your people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph.
16 The waters saw You, O God, the waters saw You. They were afraid. The depths also were troubled.
17 The clouds poured out water. The skies sent out a sound. Your arrows also went abroad.
18 The voice of Your thunder was in the heaven. The lightnings lightened the world. The earth trembled and shook.
19 Your way is in the sea and Your path in the great waters, and Your footsteps are not known.
20 You lead Your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.
was not steadfast with God.

9 The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.

10 They did not keep the covenant of God. And they refused to walk in His law.

11 And they forgot His works and His wonders that He had shown them,

12 marvellous things He did in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt and in the field of Zoan.

13 He divided the sea and caused them to pass through. And He made the waters to stand as a heap.

14 In the daytime also He led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

15 He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink as out of the great depths.

16 He brought streams also out of the rock and caused waters to run down like rivers.

17 And they still sinned more against Him by provoking the Most High in the wilderness.

18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking food for their lust.

19 "Yes, they spoke against God. They said, "Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?"

20 Behold, He smote the rock so that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed.

"Can He give bread also? Can He provide flesh from above and open the doors of heaven, and by His power He brought in the south wind.

22 because they did not believe in God and did not trust in His salvation.

23 Though He had commanded the clouds from above and opened the doors of heaven,

24 and had rained down manna on them to eat, and had given them of the food from heaven.

25 Man ate the bread of the mighty. He sent them food to the full.

26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven, and by His power He brought in the south wind.

27 He rained flesh also on them as dust, and feathered birds like the sand of the sea.

28 And He let it fall in the midst of their camp, around their dwellings.

29 So they ate and were well filled, for He gave them their own desire.

30 They were not deprived from their lust. But while their food was yet in their mouths,

31 the wrath of God came on them and slew the fattest of them. And He smote down the chosen men of Israel.

32 In spite of all this they still sinned and did not believe because of His wondrous works.

33 Therefore, their days He consumed in futility and their years in terror.

34 When He slew them, then they sought Him; and they returned and inquired earnestly after God.

35 And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer.

36 Nevertheless, they flattered Him with their mouth, and they lied to Him with their tongues.

37 For their heart was not right with Him, nor were they steadfast in His covenant.

38 But He, being full of compassion, for-gave their iniquity and did not destroy them.

39 For He remembered that they were but flesh, a breath that passes away and does not come again.

40 How often they provoked Him in the wilderness and grieved Him in the desert!

41 Yes, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.

42 They did not remember His hand, nor the day when He delivered them from the enemy,

43 when He had worked His signs in Egypt and His wonders in the field of Zoan,

44 and had turned their rivers into blood, and their streams so that they could not drink.

45 He sent different sorts of flies among them that devoured them, and frogs that destroyed them.

46 He gave also their increase to the caterpillar and their labor to the locust.

47 Hedestroyed their vines with hail and their sycamore trees with frost.

48:9 o 1 Kg 21:29 p Jb 10:9 q Jn 3:8 r Jb 7:16 s Hb 3:16 t Nm 14:22 u Ex 7:20 v Ex 8:24 w Ex 8:6 x Ex 10:14 y Ex 9:23-25
48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
49 He cast on them the fierceness of His anger, wrath and indignation and trouble, by sending angels of destruction among them.
50 He made a path for His anger. He did not spare their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence.
51 And He smote all the firstborn in Egypt, the first of their strength in the tents of Ham.
52 But He made His own people go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
53 And He led them on safely so that they did not fear. But the Sea overwhelmed their enemies.
54 And He brought them to the border of His sanctuary, even to this mountain which His right hand had purchased.
55 He cast out the nations also before them, and divided them an inheritance by lot. And He made the tribes of Israel dwell in their tents.
56 Yet they tempted and provoked the Most High God, and did not keep His testimonies.
57 But they turned back and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers. They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.
58 For they provoked Him to anger with their high places, and moved Him to jealousy with their graven images.
59 When God heard this, He was angry and greatly abhorred Israel,
60 so that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent that He placed among men.
61 And He delivered His strength into captivity, and His glory into the enemy’s hand.
62 He gave His people over also to the sword, and was angry with His inheritance.
63 The fire consumed their young men, and their maidens were not given to marriage.
64 Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows made no lamentation.
65 Then the Lord awoke as one out of sleep,
66 And He beat back His enemies. He put them to a perpetual reproach.
67 Furthermore, He refused the tent of Joseph, and did not choose the tribe of Ephraim.
68 But He chose the tribe of Judah, the Mount Zion which He loved.
69 And He built His sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth that He has established forever.
70 He chose David also His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds.
71 From following the ewes that had young He brought him to shepherd Jacob His people and Israel His inheritance.
72 So He fed them according to the integrity of His heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of His hands.

Psalm 79
A psalm of Asaph
1 O God, the nations have come into Your inheritance. They have defiled Your holy temple. They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.
2 The dead bodies of Your servants they have shed like water around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.
3 They have shed their blood like water around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.
4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, a scorn and derision to those who are around us.
5 How long, LORD? Will You be angry forever? Will Your jealousy burn like fire?
6 Pour out Your wrath on the nations that have not known You, and on the kingdoms that have not called on Your name.
7 For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste His dwelling place.
8 O do not remember against us former iniquities. Let Your tender mercies come quickly to meet us, for we are brought very low.
9 Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name. And deliver us, and purge away our sins for Your name’s sake.
10 Why should the nations say, “Where is their God?” Let Him be known among the nations in our sight by the revenging of the blood.
of Your servants that is shed.

11 Let the groaning of the prisoner come before You. According to the greatness of Your power, preserve those who are appointed to die.

12 And render to our neighbors sevenfold into their laps their reproach by which they have reproached You, O Lord.

13 So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture, will give You thanks forever. We will show forth Your praise to all generations.

Psalm 80
To the chief musician on Shoshanim Eduth, a psalm of Asaph

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock, You who dwell above the cherubim. Shine forth.

2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up Your strength and come and save us.

3 Turn us again, O God, and cause Your face to shine, and we will be saved.

4 O LORD God of armies, how long will You be angry against Your people who pray?

5 You feed them with the bread of tears, and give them tears to drink in great measure.

6 You make us a strife to our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

7 Turn us again, O God of armies, and cause Your face to shine, and we will be saved.

8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt. You cast out the nations and planted it.

9 You prepared room before it, and caused it to take deep root, and it filled the land.

10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and its boughs were like the goodly cedars.

11 She sent out her boughs to the Sea, and her branches to the River.

12 Why have You then broken down her hedges so that all those who pass by the way pluck her fruit?

13 The boar out of the forest uproots it, and the wild beast of the field devours it.

14 Return, we beseech You, O God of armies. Look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine

15 and the vineyard that Your right hand has planted, and the branch that You made strong for Yourself.

16 It is burned with fire. It is cut down. They perish at the rebuke of Your countenance.

17 Let Your hand be on the man of Your right hand, on the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself.

18 Then we will not return from You. Revive us and we will call on Your name.

19 Turn us again, O LORD God of armies. Cause Your face to shine and we will be saved.

Psalm 81
To the chief musician on Gittith, a psalm of Asaph

1 Sing aloud to God our strength. Make a joyful noise to the God of Jacob.

2 Make a melody, and bring here the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.

3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon, in the time appointed on our solemn feast day.

4 For this was a statute for Israel and a law of the God of Jacob.

5 This He ordained in Joseph for a testimony when He went throughout the land of Egypt, where I heard a language that I did not understand.

6 I removed his shoulder from the burden. His hands were delivered from the pots.

7 You called in trouble and I delivered you. I answered you in the secret place of thunder.

8 I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

9 In this you would not hear My voice, and Israel would have none of Me.

10 So I gave them up to their own hearts' lust, and they walked in their own counsels.

11 But My people would not hearken to My voice, and Israel would have none of Me.

12 So I gave them up to their own hearts' lust, and they walked in their own counsels.

13 O that My people had hearkened to Me,
and Israel had walked in My ways!
14 I would quickly have subdued their enemies, and turned My hand against their adversaries.
15 "The haters of the LORD would pretend obedience to Him, and their time of punishment would be forever.
16 He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat, and with honey out of the rock I should have satisfied You.

Psalm 82
A psalm of Asaph
1 God stands in the assembly of the mighty. He judges among the gods.
2 How long will you judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked?
3 Defend the poor and fatherless. Do justice to the afflicted and needy.
4 Deliver the poor and needy. Rescue them out of the hand of the wicked.
5 They do not know, nor will they understand. They walk about in darkness. All the foundations of the earth are shaken.
6 I have said, "You are gods, and all of you are children of the Most High.
7 "But you will die like men, and fall like one of the princes."
8 Arise, O God, judge the earth, for You will inherit all nations.

Psalm 83
A song or psalm of Asaph
1 aDo not keep Your silence, O God. Do not hold Your peace, and do not be still, O God.
2 For behold, Your enemies make a tumult. And those who hate You have lifted up the head.
3 They have taken crafty counsel against Your people and consulted against Your treasured ones.
4 They have said, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation so that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance."
5 For they have consulted together with one consent. They have made an alliance against You:
6 the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagarenes,
7 Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre.
8 Assur also has joined with them. They have helped the children of Lot.
9 Do to them as to the Midianites, as to Sisera and as to Jabin, at the Brook Kison,
10 who perished at Endor. "They became as dung for the earth.
11 Make their nobles like Oreb and like Zeeb. Yes, make all their princes as Zebah and as Zalmunna
12 who said, "Let us take for ourselves the pastures of God for a possession."
13 bO my God, make them like a whirling dust, as the stubble before the wind.
14 As the fire burns the forest, and as the flame sets the mountains on fire,
15 so persecute them with Your tempest and make them afraid with Your storm.
16 Fill their faces with shame so that they may seek Your name, O LORD.
17 Let them be confounded and troubled forever. Yes, let them be put to shame and perish,
18 so that men may know that You, whose name alone is the LORD, are the Most High over all the earth.

Psalm 84
To the chief musician on Gittith, a psalm for the sons of Korah
1 How amiable are Your tents, O LORD of armies!
2 aMy soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD. My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.
3 Yes, the sparrow has found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young at Your altars, O LORD of armies, my King and my God.
4 Blessed are those who dwell in Your house. They are always praising You.
5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, in whose heart is the way to Zion.
6 Passing through the valley of Baca they make it a spring. The early rain also covers it with blessings.
They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appears before God.

O LORD God of armies, hear my prayer. Give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our shield, and look on the face of your anointed.

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the LORD God is a sun and a shield. The LORD will give grace and glory. No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

O LORD of armies, blessed is the man who trusts in You.

 LORD, You have been favorable to Your land. You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people. You have covered all their sin.

You have taken away all Your wrath. You have turned Yourself from the fierceness of Your anger.

Deliver us, O God of our salvation, and cause Your anger toward us to cease.

Will You be angry with us forever? Will You draw out Your anger to all generations?

Will You not revive us again so that Your people may rejoice in You?

Show us Your mercy, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

I will hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people and to His saints. But do not let them turn again to folly.

Surely His salvation is near those who fear Him, so that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are united. Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth will spring out of the earth, and righteousness will look down from heaven.

Psalm 85
To the chief musician, a psalm for the sons of Korah

LORD, You have been favorable to Your land. You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people. You have covered all their sin.

You have taken away all Your wrath. You have turned Yourself from the fierceness of Your anger.

Deliver us, O God of our salvation, and cause Your anger toward us to cease.

Will You be angry with us forever? Will You draw out Your anger to all generations?

Will You not revive us again so that Your people may rejoice in You?

Show us Your mercy, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

I will hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people and to His saints. But do not let them turn again to folly.

Surely His salvation is near those who fear Him, so that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are united. Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth will spring out of the earth, and righteousness will look down from heaven.

Psalm 86
A prayer of David

Bow down Your ear, O LORD. Hear me, for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my soul, for I am committed to You. You are my God. Save Your servant who trusts in You.

Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I cry out to You daily.

Make glad the soul of Your servant, for to You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

For You, Lord, are good and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call on You.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplications.

In the day of my trouble I will call on You, for You will answer me.

Among the gods there is no one like You, O Lord, nor are there any works like Your works.

All nations whom You have made will come and worship before You, O Lord, and will glorify Your name.

For You are great and do wondrous things.

You are God alone.

Teach me Your way, O LORD and I will walk in Your truth. Unite my heart to fear Your name.

I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart. And I will glorify Your name forever.

For great is Your mercy toward me, and You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men have sought after my soul. And they have not set You before them.

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

O turn to me and have mercy on me. Give Your strength to Your servant and save the son
of Your handmaid.
17 Show me a sign for good so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed, because You, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Psalm 87

A psalm or song for the sons of Korah
1 His foundation is on the holy mountains.
2 The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
3 Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God.
4 “I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to those who know Me. Behold Philistia and Tyre, with Ethiopia, ‘This one was born there.’”
5 And of Zion it will be said, “This one and that one was born in her. And the Most High Himself will establish her.”
6 The LORD will count when He registers the people, “This one was born there.”
7 Then those who sing as well as those who play on instruments will be there. “All my springs are in You.”

Psalm 88

A song or psalm for the sons of Korah, to the chief musician on Mahalath Leannoth, Maschil of Heman the Ezrahite
1 O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You.
2 Let my prayer come before You. Incline Your ear to my cry,
3 for my soul is full of troubles and my life draws near to the grave.
4 I am counted with those who go down into the pit. I am as a man who has no strength,
5 forsaken among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave whom You remember no more; and they are cut off from Your hand.
6 You have laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness in the depths.
7 Your wrath lies heavily on me and You have afflicted me with all Your waves.
8 You have put away my acquaintance far from me. You have made me an abomination to them. I am shut up and I cannot come forth.
9 My eye mourns by reason of affliction.
10 Will You show wonders to the dead? Will the dead arise and praise You?
11 Will Your lovingkindness be declared in the grave, or Your faithfulness in destruction?
12 Will Your wonders be known in the dark, and Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
13 But to You I have cried out, O LORD, and in the morning my prayer comes before You.
14 LORD, why have You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me?
15 I have been afflicted and ready to die from my youth. I suffer Your terrors. I am distressed.
16 Your fierce wrath goes over me. Your terrors have cut me off.
17 They came around me daily like water. They surrounded me altogether.
18 Lover and friend have You put far from me, and my acquaintance into darkness.

Psalm 89

Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite
1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever. With my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.
2 For I have said, “Mercy will be built up forever. Your faithfulness You will establish in the very heavens.”
3 I have made a covenant with My chosen. I have sworn to David My servant:
4 “Your seed I will establish forever and build up your throne to all generations.”
5 And the heavens will praise Your wonders, O LORD, Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.
6 For who in the heaven can be compared to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the LORD?
7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be reverenced by all those who are around Him.
8 O LORD God of armies, who is a strong LORD like unto You? Your faithfulness also surrounds You.
9 You rule the raging of the sea when its waves arise. You calm them.
10 You have broken Rahab in pieces, as one who is slain. You have scattered Your enemies with Your strong arm.
11 The heavens are You, the earth also is You. As for the world and its fullness, You have founded them.
12 You have a mighty arm. Strong is Your hand and high is Your right hand.
13 You have given help to one who is mighty. I have exalted one chosen out of the people.
14 “I have found David My servant. With My holy oil I have anointed him, with whom My hand will be established. My arm also will strengthen him.
15 “The enemy will not assail him, nor the son of wickedness afflict him. And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague those who hate him.
16 “But My faithfulness and My mercy will be with him, and in My name his horn will be exalted.
17 “And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague those who hate him.
18 “I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.
19 He will cry out to me, ‘You are my Father, my God and the rock of my salvation.’
20 “I will also make him My firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.
49 Lord, where are Your former mercies that You swore to David in Your truth?
50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of Your servants, how I bear in my heart the reproach of all the mighty people,
51 with which Your enemies have reproached, O LORD, with which they have reproached the footsteps of Your anointed.
52 Blessed be the LORD forever. Amen and Amen.

Psalm 90
A prayer of Moses the man of God

1 LORD, aYou have been our dwelling place in all generations.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.
3 You turn man back to dust and say, “Return, you children of men.”
4 For a thousand years in Your sight are as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.
5 You carry them away as a flood. They are as a sleep. In the morning they are like grass that grows up.
6 In the morning it flourishes and grows up. In the evening it is cut down and withers.
7 For we are consumed by Your anger, and by Your wrath we are troubled.
8 You have set our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your countenance.
9 For all our days have passed away under Your wrath. We spend our years as a tale that is told.
10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten, and if by reason of strength they are fourscore years, yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for it is soon cut off and we fly away.
11 Who knows the power of Your anger? Even according to Your fear, so is Your wrath.
12 So teach us to number our days so that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
13 Return, O LORD! How long? And have compassion for Your servants.

Psalm 91

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High will abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
2 I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I will trust.”
3 Surely He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence.
4 He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will trust. His truth will be your shield and buckler.
5 You will not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day,
6 nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noon-day.
7 A thousand will fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand. But it will not come near you.
8 Only with your eyes you will behold and see the reward of the wicked.
9 Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your habitation,
10 no evil will befall you, nor will any plague come near your dwelling.
11 For He will give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.
12 They will bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.
13 You will tread on the lion and the cobra. The young lion and the serpent you will trample under feet.
14 “Because he has set his love on Me, therefore I will deliver him. I will set him on high.
because he has known My name.
15 “He will call on Me and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble. I will deliver him and honor him.
16 “With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation.”

Psalm 92
A psalm or song for the Sabbath day
1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High, to show forth Your lovingkindness in the morning and Your faithfulness every night on an instrument of ten strings and on the psaltery, on the harp with a solemn sound.
4 For You, LORD, have made me glad through Your work. I will triumph in the works of Your hands.
5 O LORD, how great are Your works! Your thoughts are very deep.
6 A senseless man does not know, nor does a fool understand this.
7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity flourish, it is that they may be destroyed forever.
8 But You, LORD, are Most High forever.
9 For behold, Your enemies, O LORD, will be scattered.
10 But my horn You will exalt like the horn of a wild ox. I will be anointed with fresh oil.
11 My eye also will see my desire on my enemies, and my ears will hear my desire on the wicked who rise up against me.
12 The righteous will flourish like the palm tree. He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
13 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD will flourish in the courts of our God.
14 They will still bring forth fruit in old age. They will be fat and flourishing in order to show that the LORD is upright.

Psalm 93
1 The LORD reigns. He is clothed with majesty. The LORD is clothed with strength with which He has girded Himself. The world also is established so that it cannot be moved.
2 Your throne is established from ancient times. You are from everlasting.
3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD. The floods have lifted up their voice. The floods lift up their waves.
4 The LORD on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yes, than the mighty waves of the sea.
5 Your testimonies are very sure. Holiness adorns Your house forever, O LORD.

Psalm 94
1 O Lord, God of vengeance, God of vengeance, shine forth!
2 Rise up O Judge of the earth. Render a reward to the proud.
3 How long will the wicked, LORD, how long will the wicked triumph?
4 How long will they utter and speak hard things, and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?
5 They break in pieces Your people, O LORD, and afflict Your heritage.
6 They slay the widow and the resident alien, and murder the fatherless.
7 Yet they say, “The LORD will not see, nor will the God of Jacob regard it.”
8 Take heed you senseless among the people and you fools. When will you be wise?
9 He who planted the ear, will He not hear? He who formed the eye, will He not see?
10 He who chastises the nations, will He not correct? He who teaches man knowledge, will He not know?
11 The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they are futile.
12 Blessed is the man whom You chasten, O LORD, and teach out of Your law,
13 so that You may give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit is dug for the wicked.
14 For the LORD will not cast off His people, nor will He forsake His inheritance.
15 But judgment will return to righteousness, and all the upright in heart will follow it.
16 Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?
17 Unless the LORD had been my help, my soul would soon have dwelt in silence.
18 When I said, “My foot slips,” Your mercy, O LORD, held me up.
19 When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Your comforts delight my soul.
20 Will the throne of iniquity have fellowship with You, one that devises mischief by law?
21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous and condemn innocent blood.
22 But the LORD is my defense, and my God is the rock of my refuge.
23 And He will bring on them their own iniquity and will cut them off in their own wickedness. The LORD our God will cut them off.

Psalm 95
1 O come and let us sing to the LORD. Let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.
3 For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
4 In His hand are the deep places of the earth. The strength of the hills is His also.
5 The sea is His and He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.
6 O come and let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.
7 For He is our God and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if You will hear His voice,
8 Do not harden Your heart as in the rebellion, as in the day of trial in the wilderness,
9 When your fathers tempted Me, tested Me and saw My work.
10 For forty years I was grievous with that generation. And I said, ‘It is a people who err in their heart, and they have not known My ways,’
11 To whom I swore in My wrath, ‘They would not enter into My rest.’”

Psalm 96
1 O sing to the LORD a new song. Sing to the LORD, all the earth.
2 Sing to the LORD. Bless His name. Show forth His salvation from day to day.
3 Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all people.
4 For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised. He is to be feared above all gods.
5 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
6 Honor and majesty are before Him. Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.
7 Give to the LORD, O you families of the people, give to the LORD glory and strength.
8 Give to the LORD the glory due to His name. Bring an offering and come into His courts.
9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. Tremble before Him, all the earth.
10 Say among the nations that the LORD reigns. The world also will be established so that it will not be moved. He will judge the people righteousness.
11 Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad. Let the sea roar and its fullness.
12 Let the field be joyful and all that is in it. Then will all the trees of the forest rejoice
13 before the LORD, for He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the people with His truth.

Psalm 97
1 The LORD reigns. Let the earth rejoice. Let the multitude of isles be glad.
2 Clouds and darkness are around Him. Righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne.
3 A fire goes before Him and burns up His enemies around about.
4 His lightnings lightened the world. The earth saw and trembled.
5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of
the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
6 **The heavens declare His righteousness, and all the people see His glory.**
7 **Let all those be ashamed who serve graven images and who boast of idols.** Worship Him all you gods.
8 Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of Your judgments, O LORD.
9 For You, LORD, are high above all the earth. You are exalted far above all gods.
10 You who love the LORD, hate evil. He preserves the souls of His saints. He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.
11 Light dawns for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart.
12 Rejoice in the LORD you righteous, and give thanks to His holy name.

**Psalm 98**

* A psalm
1 O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvellous things. His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.
2 The LORD has made known His salvation. He has openly shown His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
3 He has remembered His mercy and His truth toward the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD all the earth. Make a loud noise and rejoice and sing praise.
5 Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of a psalm.
6 With trumpets and the sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King.
7 Let the sea roar and its fullness, the world and those who dwell in it.
8 Let the floods clap their hands. Let the hills be joyful together
9 before the LORD, for He comes to judge the earth. With righteousness He will judge the world and the people with equity.

**Psalm 99**

* A psalm of praise
1 The LORD reigns. Let the people tremble. He sits between the cherubim. Let the earth be moved.
2 The LORD is great in Zion, and He is high above all the people.
3 Let them praise Your great and awesome name, for it is holy.
4 You are a King and love justice. You establish equity. You execute judgment and righteousness in Jacob.
5 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His footstool, for He is holy.
6 Moses and Aaron among His priests, and Samuel among those who call on His name, they called on the LORD and He answered them.
7 He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar. They kept His testimonies and the ordinance that He gave them.
8 You answered them, O LORD our God. You were a God who forgave them, though You took vengeance on their deeds.
9 Exalt the LORD our God and worship at His holy hill, for the LORD our God is holy.

**Psalm 100**

* A psalm of David
1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD all the lands.
2 Serve the LORD with gladness. Come before His presence with singing.
3 Know that the LORD Himself is God. It is He who has made us and not we ourselves.
4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.
5 For the LORD is good. His mercy is everlasting and His truth endures to all generations.

**Psalm 101**

* A psalm of David
1 I will sing of mercy and justice. To You, O LORD, I will sing.
2 I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.
I will set no wicked thing before my eyes. I hate the work of those who turn aside. It will not gain a hold on me.

A perverse heart will depart from me. I will not know a wicked person.

Whoever secretly slanders His neighbor, him I will cut off. The one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart, I will not endure.

My eyes will be on the faithful of the land so that they may dwell with me. He who walks in a perfect way, He will serve me.

He who works deceit will not dwell within my house. He who tells lies will not continue in my presence.

Early I will destroy all the wicked of the land so that I may cut off all evildoers from the city of the LORD.

Psalm 102
A prayer of the afflicted when he is overwhelmed, and pours out his complaint before the LORD.

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come to You.

Do not hide Your face from me in the day when I am in trouble. Incline Your ear to me. In the day when I call, speedily answer me.

For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as a hearth.

My heart is smitten and withered like grass, so that I forget to eat my bread.

Because of the voice of my groaning, my bones cleave to my skin.

I am like a pelican of the wilderness. I am like an owl of the desert.

I watch, and am as a sparrow alone on the house top.

My enemies curse me all day long. Those who deride me swear an oath against me.

For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping because of Your indignation and Your wrath. For You have lifted me up and cast me down.

My days are like a shadow that declines, and I am withered like grass.

But You, O LORD, will endure forever, and Your remembrance to all generations.

Psalm 103
A psalm of David

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

But You, O LORD, will endure forever, and Your remembrance to all generations.

You will arise and have mercy on Zion. For the time to favor her, yes, the set time has come.

For Your servants take pleasure in her stones and favor her dust.

So the nations will fear the name of the LORD and all the kings of the earth Your glory.

For the LORD will build up Zion. He will appear in His glory.

He will regard the prayer of the destitute and not despise their prayer.

This will be written for future generations, that a people who will be born will praise the LORD.

For He has looked down from the height of His sanctuary, from heaven the LORD beheld the earth,

to hear the groaning of the prisoner, to release those who were doomed to death,

to declare the name of the LORD in Zion and His praise in Jerusalem,

when the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

He weakened my strength in the way. He shortened my days.

I said, “O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days. Your years are throughout all generations.

“Of old You have laid the foundation of the earth. And the heavens are the work of Your hands.

“They will perish, but You will endure. Yes, all of them will wax old like a garment. As a vesture You will change them, and they will be changed.

“But You are the same, and Your years will have no end.

“The children of Your servants will continue, and their seed will be established before You.”

Psalm 103
A psalm of David

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all His benefits:
Psalm 104

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, You are very great.

2 You are clothed with honor and majesty,
3 covering Yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a curtain.
4 He lays the beams of His chambers in the waters and makes the clouds His chariot. He walks on the wings of the wind.
5 He makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flaming fire.
6 And He appoints His angels for instruction, and His ministers for an everlasting dwelling.
7 The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats, and the cliffs for the rock badgers.
8 The stork, the fir trees, the cedars of Lebanon that He has planted,
9 makes His voice heard from the sky, His word to man, and His ministers sing among the branches.
10 He waters the hills from His chambers.
11 He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man in order that He may bring forth food out of the earth,
12 and oil to make His face shine, and bread that strengthens man's heart.
13 As for the forest, all the trees of the LORD are full of sap, and the cedars of Lebanon that He has planted,
14 to the mountains and the hills. He gives drink to every beast of the field.
15 They give drink to every beast of the field. By them will the birds of heaven be satisfied, and their song will be filled with gladness.
16 For the wind passes over it and it is gone, so that its place will acknowledge it no more.
17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, lasting to everlasting on those who keep His covenant and to those who remember His commandments to do them.
18 To such as keep His covenant and to those who remember His commandments.
19 The LORD has prepared His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.
20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, mighty in strength, that do His commandments, taking heed to the voice of His word.
21 Bless the LORD, all you His armies, all his ministers of His who do His pleasure.
22 Bless the LORD, all His works in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul.

For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.

Great is His kindness toward them who keep His covenant and to those who remember His commandments.

Bless the LORD, all His works in all places of His dominion.
seek their food from God.
22 The sun rises and they gather themselves together and lie down in their dens.
23 Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.
24 O LORD, how numerous are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your riches.
25 So is this great and wide sea in which are innumerable teeming things, both small and great beasts.
26 There the ships go. There is the leviathan whom You have made to play in it.
27 These all wait on You so that You may give them their food in due season.
28 What You give them they gather in. You open Your hand and they are filled with good.
29 You hide Your face and they are troubled. You take away their breath and they die and return to their dust.
30 You send forth Your Spirit and they are created. And You renew the face of the earth.
31 The glory of the LORD will endure forever. The LORD will rejoice in His works.
32 He looks on the earth and it trembles. He touches the hills and they smoke.
33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live. I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
34 May my meditation be pleasing to Him. I will be glad in the LORD.
35 Let the sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD.

Psalm 105
1 O give thanks to the LORD. Call on His name. Make known His deeds among the people.
2 Sing to Him. Sing psalms to Him. Talk of all His wondrous works.
3 Glory in His holy name. Let the heart of those who rejoice seek the LORD.
4 Seek the LORD and His strength. Seek His face forever.
5 Remember His marvellous works that He has done, His wonders and the judgments of His mouth,
6 O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob His chosen.
7 He is the LORD our God. His judgments are in all the earth.
8 He has remembered His covenant forever, the word that He commanded to a thousand generations.
9 This is the covenant that He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac,
10 and confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,
11 saying, "To You I will give the land of Canaan, the allotment of Your inheritance,"
12 when they were but a few men in number, yes, very few, and aliens in it.
13 And they wandered from one nation to another, from one kingdom to another people.
14 He did not allow any man to do them wrong. Yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes,
15 saying, "Do not touch My anointed and do not harm My prophets."
16 Furthermore, He called for a famine in the land. He broke the whole staff of bread.
17 He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold as a servant.
18 They afflicted his feet with fetters. He was laid in irons.
19 Until the time that His word came to pass, the word of the LORD tested him.
20 The king sent and loosed him, even the ruler of the people. And he let him go free.
21 He made him lord of his house and ruler of all his substance,
22 to bind his princes at his pleasure, and teach his elders wisdom.
23 Israel also came into Egypt, and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.
24 And He increased His people greatly, and made them stronger than their enemies.
25 He turned their heart to hate His people, to deal subtly with His servants.
26 He sent Moses His servant, and Aaron whom He had chosen.
27 They showed His signs among them and
613 wonders in the land of Ham.
28 He sent darkness and made it dark, and they did not rebel against His words.
29 He turned their waters into blood and slew their fish.
30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, even in the rooms of their kings.
31 He spoke and there came different kinds of flies and lice in all their borders.
32 He gave them hail for rain, and flaming fire in their land.
33 His holy promise and Abraham His servant.
34 And He brought forth His people with joy and His chosen with gladness.
35 They made a calf in Horeb and worshiped the molten image.
36 They envied Moses also in the camp, and Aaron the holy one of the LORD.
37 The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan and covered the company of Abiram.
38 And a fire was kindled in their company. The flame burned up the wicked.
39 Then they believed His words. They sang His praise.
40 The people asked and He brought quail, and He satisfied them with the bread of heaven.
41 He opened the rock and the waters gushed out and it ran in the dry places like a river.
42 For He remembered His holy promise and Abraham His servant.
43 And He brought forth His people with joy and His chosen with gladness.
44 And He gave them the lands of the nations and they inherited the labor of the people, so that they might observe His statutes and keep His laws. Praise the LORD.

Psalm 106

1 Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. For His mercy endures forever.
2 Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? Who can show forth all His praise?
3 Blessed are those who observe justice and he who does righteousness at all times.
4 Remember me, O LORD, with the favor that You have toward Your people. O visit me with Your salvation so that I may see the prosperity of Your chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation, that I may glory with Your inheritance.
5 We have sinned with our fathers. We have committed iniquity. We have done wickedly.
6 Our fathers did not understand Your wonders in Egypt. They did not remember the multitude of Your mercies, but rebelled at the Sea, even at the Red Sea.
7 Nevertheless, He saved them for His name’s sake so that He might make His mighty power known.
8 He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it was dried up. So He led them through the depths as through the wilderness.
9 And He saved them from the hand of him who hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
10 And He saved them from the hand of him who hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
11 And the waters covered their enemies. There was not one of them left.
12 Then they believed His words. They sang His praise.
13 They soon forgot His works. They did not wait for His counsel.
14 But they lusted exceedingly in the wilderness and tempted God in the desert.
15 And He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul.
16 They envied Moses also in the camp, and Aaron the holy one of the LORD.
17 The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan and covered the company of Abiram.
18 And a fire was kindled in their company. The flame burned up the wicked.
19 They made a calf in Horeb and worshiped the molten image.
20 Thus they changed their glory into the likeness of an ox that eats grass.
21 They forgot God their savior who had done great things in Egypt, wondrous works in the land of Ham and
awesome things by the Red Sea.
23 Therefore, He said that He would destroy them, had not Moses His chosen stood before Him in the breach to turn away His wrath, lest He should destroy them.
24 Yes, they despised the pleasant land. They did not believe His word.
25 But they murmured in their tents and did not hearken to the voice of the LORD.
26 Therefore, He lifted up His hand against them in order to overthrow them in the wilderness,
27 to overthrow their seed also among the nations and to scatter them in the lands.
28 They joined themselves also to Baal-peor and ate the sacrifices to the dead.
29 Thus they provoked Him to anger with their actions, and the plague broke out on them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and intervened, and so the plague was stopped.
31 And this action was accounted to him for righteousness to all generations thereafter.
32 They angered Him also at the waters of strife, so that it went ill with Moses on their account,
33 because they provoked His spirit so that he spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They did not destroy the nations concerning whom the LORD commanded them.
35 But they were mingled among the nations and learned their works.
36 And they served their idols, which were a snare to them.
37 Yes, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons,
38 and shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan. And the land was polluted with blood.
39 Thus they were defiled with their own works, and went whoring with their own inventions.
40 Therefore, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against His people, so that He abhorred His own inheritance.
41 And He gave them into the hand of the nations, and they hated them who ruled over them.
42 Their enemies also oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their hand.
43 Many times He delivered them, but they provoked Him with their counsel and were brought low because of their iniquity.
44 Nevertheless, He regarded their affliction when He heard their cry.
45 And for their sake He remembered His covenant, and relented according to the multitude of His mercies.
46 He made them also to be pitied by all those who carried them captive.
47 Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations in order to give thanks to Your holy name and to triumph in Your praise.
48 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting. And let all the people say, “Amen.” Praise the LORD.

Psalm 107
1 O give thanks to the LORD for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.
2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
3 and gathered them out of the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
4 They wandered in the wilderness in a desert region. They found no city in which to dwell.
5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.
6 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble and He delivered them out of their distresses.
7 And He led them forth by the right way so that they might go to a city of habitation.
8 O that men would praise the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!
9 For He satisfies the longing soul and fills the hungry soul with good things.
10 There were those who dwelt in darkness
and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron
11 because they rebelled against the words of God and spurned the counsel of the Most High.
12 Therefore, He brought down their heart with labor. They fell down and there was no one to help.
13 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses.
14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their bonds asunder.
15 O that men would praise the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!
16 For He has broken the gates of brass and cut the bars of iron asunder.
17 Fools are afflicted because of their transgression and because of their iniquities.
18 Their soul abhors all manner of food, and they draw near to the gates of death.
19 Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saves them out of their distresses.
20 He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.
21 O that men would praise the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!
22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing.
23 Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business on great waters,
24 these see the works of the LORD and His wonders in the deep.
25 For He commands and raises the stormy wind that lifts up its waves.
26 They mount up to the heaven. They go down again to the depths. Their soul is melted because of trouble.
27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit’s end.
28 Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses.
29 He makes the storm calm so that its waves are still.
30 Then they are glad because they are quiet, and so He brings them to their desired haven.
31 O that men would praise the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!
32 Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people and praise Him in the assembly of the elders.
33 He turns rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground,
34 a fruitful land into barrenness, because of the wickedness of those who dwell in it.
35 He turns the wilderness into a standing water and dry ground into watersprings.
36 And there He makes the hungry dwell so that they may prepare a city for habitation,
37 and sow the fields and plant vineyards that may yield fruits of increase.
38 He also blesses them so that they are multiplied greatly, and does not allow their cattle to decrease.
39 Again, they are diminished and brought low through oppression, affliction and sorrow.
40 He pours contempt on princes, and causes them to wander in the wilderness where there is no way.
41 Yet He sets the poor on high from affliction and makes their families like a flock.
42 The righteous will see it and rejoice, and all iniquity will stop her mouth.
43 Whoever is wise and will observe these things will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

Psalm 108

A song or psalm of David

1 O God, my heart is fixed. I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.
2 Awake, psaltery and harp. I myself will awake early.
3 I will praise You, O LORD, among the people, and I will sing praises to You among the nations.

Psalm 108:  a Ps 57:7-11 b Ps 57:8-11
For Your mercy is great above the heavens, and Your truth reaches to the clouds.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and Your glory above all the earth, so that Your beloved may be delivered. Save with Your right hand and answer me.

God has spoken in His holiness, “I will rejoice. I will divide Shechem and measure out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is Mine. Manasseh is Mine. Ephraim also is the strength of My head. Judah is My lawgiver.

Moab is My washpot. Over Edom I will cast out my shoe. Over Philistia I will triumph.”

Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me into Edom?

Will not You, O God, who cast us off? And will not You, O God, go forth with our armies?

Give us help from trouble, for useless is the help of man.

Through God we will do valiantly, for He it is who will tread down our enemies.

Psalm 109

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

Do not hold Your peace, O God of my praise,

for the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me. They have spoken against me with a lying tongue.

They surrounded me also with words of hatred, and fought against me without a cause.

In return for my love they act as my accusers. But I give myself to prayer.

And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love.

Set a wicked man over him, and let a perverse accuser stand at his right hand.

When he will be judged, let him be condemned, and let his prayer become sin.

Let his days be few, and let another take his place of leadership.

Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.

Let his children be continually vagabonds and beg. Let them seek their bread also out of their desolate places.

Let the extortioner catch all that he has, and let the foreigners plunder his labor.

Let there be not one to extend mercy to him. Neither let there be any to favor his fatherless children.

Let his posterity be cut off, and in the next generation let their name be blotted out.

Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered with the LORD, and do not let the sin of his mother be blotted out.

Let them be before the LORD continually so that He may cut off their memory from the earth.

Because he did not remember to show mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy man in order that he might even slay the broken in heart.

As he loved cursing, so let it come to him. As he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far from him.

As he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment, so let it come into his body like water, and like oil into his bones.

Let it be to him as the garment that covers him, and for a girdle by which he is girded continually.

Let this be the reward of my adversaries from the LORD, and for those who speak evil against my soul.

But You, O GOD, the Lord, deal kindly with me for Your name’s sake. Because Your mercy is good, deliver me.

For I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me.

I am gone like the shadow when it declines. I am tossed up and down as the locust.

My knees are weak through fasting, and my flesh fails of fatness.

When they look on me, they shake their heads.

Help me, O LORD my God. O save me according to Your mercy, so that they may know that this is Your hand, that You, LORD, have done it.

Let them curse, but You bless. When they arise, let them be ashamed, but let Your servant rejoice.
Let my adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle.

I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth. Yes, I will praise Him among the multitude.

For He will stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those who condemn His soul.

Psalm 110
A psalm of David

The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

The LORD will send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies.

Your people will be willing in the day of Your power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning. You have the dew of Your youth.

The LORD has sworn and will not relent. You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Lord at Your right hand will strike through kings in the day of His wrath.

He will judge among the nations. He will fill the places with the dead bodies. He will wound the heads over many countries.

He will drink of the brook in the way. Therefore, He will lift up the head.

Psalm 111

Praise the LORD. I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the assembly.

The works of the LORD are great, studied by all those who have pleasure in them.

His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever.

He has made His wonderful works to be remembered. The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

He has given food to those who fear Him. He will always be mindful of His covenant.

He has shown His people the power of His works so that He might give them the heritage of the nations.

The works of His hands are truth and justice. All His commandments are trustworthy.

They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

He sent redemption to His people. He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

Psalm 112

Praise the LORD. Blessed is the man who fears the LORD and delights greatly in His commandments.

His seed will be mighty on earth. The generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in His house, and His righteousness endures forever.

To the upright there arises light in the darkness. He is gracious and full of compassion and righteous.

A good man shows favor and lends. He will guide his affairs with discretion.

Surely he will not be dispossessed forever. The righteous will be remembered forever.

He has scattered abroad. He has given to the poor. His righteousness endures forever. His horn will be exalted with honor.

The wicked will see it and be grieved. He will gnash with his teeth and melt away. The desire of the wicked will perish.
Psalm 114
1 When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of a foreign language,
2 Judah was His sanctuary and Israel His domain.
3 The Sea saw it and fled. Jordan was driven back.
4 The mountains skipped like rams and the little hills like lambs.
5 What ails you, O Sea, that you fled? O Jordan, why were you driven back?
6 You mountains, why did you skip like rams, and you little hills, like lambs?
7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,
8 who turned the rock into a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

Psalm 115
1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to Your name give glory for Your mercy and for the sake of Your truth.
2 Why should the nations say, “Where is now their God?”
3 But our God is in the heavens. He has done whatever He pleases.
4 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands.
5 They have mouths, but they do not speak. They have eyes, but they do not see.
6 They have ears, but they do not hear. They have noses, but they do not smell.
7 They have hands, but they do not handle. They have feet, but they do not walk. Neither do they speak through their throat.
8 Those who make them are like unto them, as is everyone who trusts in them.
9 O Israel, trust in the LORD. He is their help and their shield.
10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD. He is their help and their shield.
11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD. He is their help and their shield.
12 The LORD has been mindful of us. He will bless us. He will bless the house of Israel.
13 He will bless those who fear the LORD, both small and great.
14 The LORD will increase you more and more, you and your children.
15 You are blessed by the LORD who made heaven and earth.
16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord’s. But the earth He has given to the children of men.
17 The dead do not praise the LORD, nor any who go down into silence.
18 But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forever. Praise the LORD.

Psalm 116
1 I love the LORD because He has heard my voice and my supplications.
2 Because He has inclined His ear to me, therefore, I will call on Him as long as I live.
3 The sorrows of death surrounded me, and the pains of Sheol laid hold on me. I found trouble and sorrow.
4 Then I called on the name of the LORD. “O LORD, I beseech You. Deliver my soul.”
5 Gracious is the LORD and righteous. Yes, our God is merciful.
6 The LORD preserves the innocent. I was brought low and He helped me.
7 Return to rest, O my soul, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.
Psalm 117

1 O praise the LORD, all you nations. Praise Him, all you people.
2 For His merciful kindness is great toward us. And the truth of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD.

Psalm 118

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. For His mercy endures forever.
2 Let Israel now say that His mercy endures forever.
3 Let the house of Aaron now say that His mercy endures forever.
4 Let those who now fear the LORD say that His mercy endures forever.
5 I called on the LORD in distress and the LORD answered me and set me in a large place.
6 The LORD is on my side. I will not fear. What can man do to me?

7 The LORD takes my part with those who help me. Therefore, I will see my desire on those who hate me.
8 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.
9 It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.
10 All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
11 They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me. But in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
12 They surrounded me like bees. They are quenched as the fire of thorns, for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
13 You pushed me violently so that I was falling, but the LORD helped me.
14 The LORD is my strength and song, and has become my salvation.
15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous. The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted. The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
17 I will not die, but live and declare the works of the LORD.
18 The LORD has chastened me greatly, but He has not given me over to death.
19 Open to me the gates of righteousness. I will go into them and I will praise the LORD.
20 This gate of the LORD into which the righteous will enter.
21 I will praise You, for You have heard me and have become my salvation.
22 The stone that the builders refused has become the chief cornerstone.
23 This is the LORD’S doing and it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the LORD has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.
25 Save now, I beseech You, O LORD. O LORD, I beseech You, send now prosperity.
26 Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD. We have blessed You from the house of the LORD.
27 God is the LORD, and He has given us
Bind the sacrifice with cords, even to the horns of the altar.  

You are my God and I will praise You.  

You are my God, I will exalt You.  

O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. For His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 119

1 ¶ Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.  
2 Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, and who seek Him with the whole heart.  
3 They also do no iniquity. They walk in His ways.  
4 You have commanded us to keep Your precepts diligently.  
5 O that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes!  
6 Then I would not be ashamed when I have respect to all Your commandments.  
7 I will praise You with uprightness of heart when I will have learned Your righteous judgments.  
8 I will keep Your statutes. O do not utterly forsake me.  
9 ¶ How will a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.  
10 With my whole heart I have sought You. O do not let me wander from Your commandments.  
11 Your word I have hidden in my heart so that I might not sin against You.  
12 Blessed are You, O LORD. Teach me Your statutes.  
13 With my lips I have declared all the judgments of Your mouth.  
14 I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies as much as in all riches.  
15 I will meditate on Your precepts and have respect to Your ways.  
16 I will delight myself in Your statutes. I will not forget Your word.  
17 ¶ Deal generously with Your servant so that I may live and keep Your word.  
18 Open my eyes so that I may behold wondrous things out of Your law.  
19 I am a foreigner on the earth. Do not hide Your commandments from me.  
20 My soul is crushed with longing after Your judgments at all times.  
21 ¶ You have rebuked the proud who are cursed, who do err from Your commandments.  
22 ¶ Remove from me reproach and contempt, for I have kept Your testimonies.  
23 Princes also sat and spoke against me. But Your servant meditated on Your statutes.  
24 Your testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.  
25 ¶ My soul cleaves to the dust. Revive me according to Your word.  
26 I have declared my ways and You heard me. Teach me Your statutes.  
27 Make me to understand the way of Your precepts, so I will meditate on Your wondrous works.  
28 ¶ My soul melts for heaviness. Strengthen me according to Your word.  
29 Remove from me the way of lying, and grant me Your law graciously.  
30 I have chosen the way of truth. Your judgments I have laid before me.  
31 I cling to Your testimonies. O LORD, do not put me to shame.  
32 I will run the way of Your commandments, for You have set my heart free.  
33 ¶ Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, and I will keep it to the end.  
34 ¶ Give me understanding and I will keep Your law. Yes, I will observe it with my whole heart.  
35 Make me go in the path of Your commandments, for therein I do delight.  
36 Incline my heart to Your testimonies and not to covetousness.  
37 ¶ Turn away my eyes from beholding worthless things, and revive me in Your way.  
38 ¶ Establish Your word to Your servant who is devoted to Your fear.  
39 Turn away my reproach which I fear, for Your judgments are good.  
40 Behold, I have longed after Your precepts. Revive me in Your righteousness.  
41 ¶ Let Your mercies come also to me, O LORD, even Your salvation according to Your word.
Then I will have an answer for him who reproaches me, for I trust in Your word.

And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for I have hoped in Your judgments.

So I will keep Your law continually forever and ever.

And I will walk in freedom, for I seek Your precepts.

I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings and will not be ashamed.

I will delight myself in Your commandments that I have loved.

My hands also I will lift up to Your commandments that I have loved, and I will meditate on Your statutes.

Remember Your word to Your servant, upon which You have caused me to hope.

This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your word has revived me.

The proud utterly deride me, yet I have not turned aside from Your law.

I remembered Your judgments of old, O LORD, and have comforted myself.

Burning indignation has taken hold on me because of the wicked who forsake Your law.

Your statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

I have remembered Your name, O LORD, in the night and have kept Your law.

This has become mine, that I kept Your precepts.

You are my portion, O LORD. I have said that I would keep Your words.

I entreated Your favor with my whole heart. Be merciful to me according to Your word.

I thought on my ways and turned my feet to Your testimonies.

I made haste and did not delay to keep Your commandments.

The raiding parties of the wicked have robbed me. I have not forgotten Your law.

At midnight I will arise to give thanks to You because of Your righteous judgments.

I am a companion of all those who fear You and of those who keep Your precepts.

The earth, O LORD, is full of Your mercy.

Teach me Your statutes.

You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word.

Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I have believed Your commandments.

Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I have kept Your word.

You are good and do good. Teach me Your statutes.

The proud have forged a lie against me. I will keep Your precepts with my whole heart.

Their heart is as fat as grease. I delight in Your law.

It is good for me that I have been afflicted, so that I might learn Your commandments.

The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Your hands have made me and fashioned me. Give me understanding so that I may learn Your commandments.

Those who fear You will be glad when they see me, because I have hoped in Your word.

I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right and that You in faithfulness have afflicted me.

Let, I beseech You, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort according to Your word to Your servant.

Let Your tender mercies come to me so that I may live, for Your law is my delight.

Let those who fear You turn to me, and those who have known Your testimonies.

Let my heart be sound in Your statutes so that I be not ashamed.

My soul faints for Your salvation. I hope in Your word.

My eyes fail for Your word, saying, “When will You comfort me?”

How many are the days of Your servant? When will You execute judgment on those who persecute me?
85 The proud have dug pits for me that are not according to Your law.
86 All Your commandments are faithful. They persecute me wrongfully. Help me.
87 They had almost consumed me on earth, but I did not forsake Your precepts.
88 Revive me after Your lovingkindness, so that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth.
89 ¶ Forever, O LORD, Your word is firmly fixed in heaven.
90 Your faithfulness is to all generations. You have established the earth and it abides.
91 They continue this day according to Your ordinances, for all are Your servants.
92 Unless Your law had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction.
93 I will never forget Your precepts, for with them You have revived me.
94 I am Yours. Save me, for I have sought Your precepts.
95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me, but I will consider Your testimonies.
96 ¶ I understand more than the elders, because I keep Your precepts.
97 I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation.
98 I am afflicted very much. Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.
99 I am Yours. Save me, for I have sought Your precepts.
100 I hate doubtful thoughts, but Your law I do love.
101 You are my hiding place and my shield. I hope in Your word.
102 Uphold me according to Your word so that I may live. And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.
103 How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
104 Through Your precepts I get understanding, therefore I hate every false way.
105 ¶ Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
106 ¶ I have sworn and I will perform it so that I will keep Your righteous judgments.
107 Your faithfulness is to all generations. You have established the earth and it abides.
108 Accept, I beseech You, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me Your judgments.
109 ¶ My soul is continually in my hand, yet I do not forget Your law.
110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, yet I have not erred from Your precepts.
111 ¶ Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever, for they are the rejoicing of my heart.
112 I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes always, even to the end.
113 ¶ I hate doubtful thoughts, but Your law I do love.
114 ¶ You are my hiding place and my shield. I hope in Your word.
115 Depart from me You evildoers, for I will keep the commandments of my God.
116 Hold me up and I will be safe, and I will have respect for Your statutes continually.
117 You put away all the wicked of the earth like dross. Therefore, I love Your testimonies.
118 ¶ My flesh trembles for fear of You, and I am afraid of Your judgments.
119 ¶ I have done justice and righteousness. Do not leave me to my oppressors.
120 Give assurance to Your servant for doing good. Do not let the proud oppress me.
121 ¶ My eyes fail from seeking Your salvation, and for the word of Your righteousness.
122 ¶ Deal with Your servant according to Your mercy and teach me Your statutes.
123 ¶ I am Your servant. Give me understanding so that I may know Your testimonies.
124 ¶ It is time for You, LORD, to work, for they have made void Your law.
125 ¶ I love Your commandments above gold, yes, above fine gold.
126 ¶ Therefore, I love Your commandments concerning all things to be right, and I hate every false way.
Your testimonies are wonderful. Therefore, my soul keeps them.

The opening of Your words gives light. It gives understanding to the simple.

I opened my mouth and panted, for I longed for Your commandments.

Look on me and be merciful to me, as Your manner with those who love Your name.

I opened my mouth and panted, for I longed for Your commandments.

Order my steps in Your word, and do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.

Deliver me from the oppression of man, so I will keep Your precepts.

Make Your face shine on Your servant, and teach me Your statutes.

Rivers of water run down my eyes because they do not keep Your law.

Righteous are You, O LORD, and upright are Your judgments.

Your testimonies that You have commanded are righteous and very faithful.

My zeal has consumed me because my enemies have forgotten Your words.

Your word is very pure, therefore, Your servant loves it.

I am small and despised, and yet I do not forget Your precepts.

Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your law is the truth.

Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me, yet Your commandments are my delights.

The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting. Give me understanding and I will live.

I cried out with my whole heart. Hear me, O LORD. I will keep Your statutes.

I cried out to You. Save me and I will keep Your testimonies.

I rise before the dawning of the morning and cry out. I hope in Your word.

My eyes are awake in the night watches so that I might meditate on Your word.

Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness. O LORD, revive me according to Your judgment.

They draw near who follow after mischief. They are far from Your law.

You are near, O LORD, and all Your commandments are truth.

Concerning Your testimonies, I have known from old that You have founded them forever.

Consider my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget Your law.

Plead my case and deliver me. Revive me according to Your word.

Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek Your statutes.

Great are Your tender mercies, O LORD. Revive me according to Your judgments.

Many are my persecutors and my enemies, yet I do not deviate from Your testimonies.

I beheld the transgressors and was grieved because they did not keep Your word.

Consider how I love Your precepts. Revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness.

I have hoped for Your salvation and obeyed Your commandments.

My soul has kept Your testimonies and I love them exceedingly.

Let my cry come near before You, O LORD. Give me understanding according to Your word.

Let my supplication come before You. Deliver me according to Your word.

My lips will utter praise when You have taught me Your statutes.

My tongue will speak of Your word, for all Your commandments are righteousness.
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173 Let Your hand help me, for "I have chosen Your precepts.
174 I have longed for Your salvation, O LORD, and Your law is my delight.
175 Let my soul live and it will praise You. And let Your judgments help me.
176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep. Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

Psalm 120
A song of ascent
1 In my distress I cried out to the LORD, and He heard me.
2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue.
3 What will be given to you? Or what will be done to you, you false tongue?
4 He will punish you with a warrior’s sharp arrows, with coals of the broom tree.
5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Meshech, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar!
6 My soul has long dwelt with him who hates peace.
7 I am for peace. But when I speak, they are for war.

Psalm 121
A song of ascent
1 I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from where comes my help.
2 My help comes from the LORD who made heaven and earth.
3 He will not suffer your foot to be moved.
4 Behold, He who preserves Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
5 The LORD is your keeper. The LORD is your shade at your right hand.
6 The sun will not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.
7 The LORD will preserve you from all evil. He will preserve your soul.
8 The LORD will preserve your going out and your coming in from this time forth and even forever.

Psalm 122
A song of ascent of David
1 I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go unto the house of the LORD.”
2 Our feet will stand within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3 Jerusalem is built as a city that is compact together;
4 to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, to the testimony of Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
5 For there thrones were established for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They will prosper who love you.
7 Peace be within your walls and prosperity within your palaces.
8 For my brethren and companions’ sakes, I will now say, “Peace be within you.”
9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek your good.

Psalm 123
A song of ascent
1 To You I lift up my eyes, O You who dwell in the heavens.
2 Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes wait on the LORD our God until He has mercy on us.
3 Have mercy on us, O LORD. Have mercy on us, for we are exceedingly filled with contempt.
4 Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorn of those who are at ease and with the contempt of the proud.

Psalm 124
A song of ascent of David
1 “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,” let Israel say;
2 “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side when men rose up against us,
3 then they would have swallowed us up quickly when their wrath was kindled against us;

4 “then the waters would have overwhelmed us, the stream would have gone over our soul;
5 “then the proud waters would have gone over our soul.”
6 Blessed be the LORD who did not give us as a prey to their teeth.
7 dOur soul has escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers. The snare is broken and we have escaped.
8 iOur help is in the name of the LORD who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 125
A song of ascent
1 Those who trust in the LORD will be as Mount Zion that cannot be removed, but abides forever.
2 As the mountains are around Jerusalem, so the LORD is around His people from this time forth and forever.
3 For the scepter of the wicked will not rest on the allotted land of the righteous, lest the righteous put forth their hands to iniquity.
4 Do good, O LORD, to those who are good and to those who are upright in their hearts.
5 As for those who turn aside to their crooked ways, the LORD will lead them forth with the workers of iniquity. But peace will be on Israel.

Psalm 126
A song of ascent
1 When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream.
2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”
3 The LORD has done great things for us, therefore we are glad.
4 Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the Negev.
5 dThose who sow in tears will reap in joy.
6 He who goes forth and weeps, bearing precious seed, will doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Psalm 127
A song of ascent for Solomon
1 Except the LORD build the house, those who build it labor in vain. Except the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.
2 It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows. For He gives to His beloved even in sleep.
3 Behold, children are a heritage of the LORD, and the fruit of the womb is His reward.
4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man, so are the children of one’s youth.
5 iHappy is the man who has his quiver full of them. They will not be ashamed, but they will speak with the enemies in the gate.

Psalm 128
A song of ascent
1 Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, who walks in His ways.
2 iFor you will eat the labor of your hands. Happy you will be, and it will be well with you.
3 Your wife will be as a fruitful vine by the sides of your house, your children like olive plants around your table.
4 Behold, for thus will the man be blessed who fears the LORD.
5 iThe LORD will bless you from Zion, and you will see the welfare of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
6 Yes, you will see your children’s children, and peace on Israel.

Psalm 129
A song of ascent
1 “Many times they have afflicted me from my youth up.” Let Israel now say,
2 “Many times they have afflicted me from my youth up. Yet they have not prevailed against me.
3 “The plowers plowed on my back. They made long their furrows.”
4 The LORD is righteous. He has cut asunder
the cords of the wicked.
5 Let them all be disgraced and dispersed who hate Zion.
6 Let them be as the grass on the housetops that withers before it grows up,
7 with which the reaper does not fill his hand, nor he who binds sheaves fill his arms.
8 Neither let those who go by say, “The blessing of the LORD be on You. We bless you in the name of the LORD.”

Psalm 130
A song of ascent
1 Out of the depths I have cried out to You, O LORD.
2 Lord, hear my voice. Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.
3 bIf You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O LORD, who could stand?
4 But there is forgiveness with You in order that You may be feared.
5 I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word do I hope.
6 hMy soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, yes, more than those who watch for the morning.
7 iLet Israel hope in the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption.
8 And He Himself will redeem Israel from all her iniquities.

Psalm 131
A song of ascent of David
1 LORD, my heart is not arrogant, nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I exercise myself in great matters, nor in things too high for me.
2 Surely I have calmed and quieted myself as a child who is weaned from His mother. My soul is even as a weaned child.
3 cLet Israel hope in the LORD from now and forever.

Psalm 132
A song of ascent
1 LORD, remember David and all his afflictions,
2 how he swore to the LORD and vowed to the mighty God of Jacob.
3 “Surely I will not come into the bedroom of my house, nor go up into my bed;
4 “I will not give sleep to my eyes, nor slumber to my eyelids,
5 “until I find a place for the LORD, a habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.”
6 Behold, we heard of it at Ephratah. We found it in the fields of the wood.
7 We will go into His tabernacles. bWe will worship at His footstool.
8 iArise, O LORD, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength.
9 For Your servant David’s sake do not turn away the face of Your anointed.
10 For Your servant David’s sake do not turn away the face of Your anointed.
11 fThe LORD has sworn in truth to David. He will not turn from it: “I will set on your throne the sons of your body.
12 “If your children will keep My covenant and My testimony that I will teach them, their sons will also sit on your throne forever.”
13 nFor the LORD has chosen Zion. He has desired it for His habitation.
14 oThis is My resting place forever. Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
15 pI will abundantly bless her provision. I will satisfy her poor with bread.
16 qI will also clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints will shout aloud for joy.
17 sThere I will make the horn of David to bud. I have ordained a lamp for My anointed.
18 His enemies I will clothe with shame. But on himself, His crown will flourish.
3 It is as the dew of Hermon and as the dew that descended on the mountains of Zion, for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life forever.

**Psalm 134**

*A song of ascent*

1 Come, bless the LORD all you servants of the LORD, who by night stand in the house of the LORD.
2 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and bless the LORD.
3 The LORD, who made heaven and earth, bless you out of Zion.

**Psalm 135**

*A song of ascent*

1 Praise the LORD. Praise the name of the LORD. Praise Him, O you servants of the LORD.
2 You who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God, praise the LORD, for the LORD is good.
3 He smote the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and beast.
4 For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself and Israel for His own possession.
5 He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth. He makes lightnings for the rain. He brings the wind out of His treasuries.
6 He smote Egypt in their firstborn, both of man and beast.
7 He sent signs and wonders into the midst of you, O Egypt, on Pharaoh and on all his servants.
8 He smote great nations and slew mighty kings,
9 Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan.
10 And He gave their land for a heritage, a heritage to Israel His people.
11 Your name, O LORD, endures forever, and Your memorial, O LORD, throughout all generations.
12 For the LORD will judge His people and He will have compassion on His servants.
13 The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands.
14 They have mouths, but they do not speak. They have eyes, but they do not see.
15 They have ears, but they do not hear. Neither is there any breath in their mouths.
16 They who make them are like unto them. So is everyone who trusts in them.
17 Bless the LORD, O house of Israel. Bless the LORD, O house of Aaron.
18 Bless the LORD, O house of Levi. You who fear the LORD, bless the LORD.
19 Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, who dwells at Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.

**Psalm 136**

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever;
2 O give thanks to the God of gods, for His mercy endures forever;
3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for His mercy endures forever;
4 To Him who alone does great wonders, for His mercy endures forever;
5 To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, for His mercy endures forever;
6 To Him who stretched out the earth above the waters, for His mercy endures forever;
7 To Him who made great lights, for His mercy endures forever;
8 To the sun to rule by day, for His mercy endures forever;
9 To the moon and stars to rule by night, for His mercy endures forever;
10 To Him who smote Egypt in their firstborn, for His mercy endures forever;
11 And brought out Israel from among them, for His mercy endures forever;
12 With a strong hand and with an outstretched arm, for His mercy endures forever.
13 To Him who divided the Red Sea into parts, for His mercy endures forever;
and made Israel to pass through the midst of it, for His mercy endures forever.
but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, for His mercy endures forever;
to Him who led His people through the wilderness, for His mercy endures forever;
to Him who smote great kings, for His mercy endures forever;
who slew famous kings, for His mercy endures forever;
Sihon king of the Amorites, for His mercy endures forever;
and Og the king of Bashan, for His mercy endures forever;
gave their land for a heritage, for His mercy endures forever,
even a heritage to Israel His servant, for His mercy endures forever.
Who remembered us in our humiliated state, for His mercy endures forever;
and has redeemed us from our enemies, for His mercy endures forever;
gives food to all flesh, for His mercy endures forever;
O give thanks to the God of heaven, for His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down. Yes, we wept when we remembered Zion.
We hung our harps on the willows in the middle of it.
For there those who carried us away captive required of us mocking songs. And those who plundered us required of us mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”
How will we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land?
If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill.
If I do not remember you, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I do not prefer Jerusalem above my first joy.
Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem, who said, “Raze it, raze it, even to its foundation.”

Psalm 138

A psalm of David
I will praise You with my whole heart. Before the gods I will sing praise to You.
I will worship toward Your holy temple and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and for Your truth. For You have magnified above everything Your name and Your word.
In the day when I cried out You answered me. You strengthened me with strength in my soul.
All the kings of the earth will praise You, O LORD, when they hear the words of Your mouth.
Yes, they will sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.
Though the LORD is high, yet He has respect for the lowly. But the arrogant He knows from afar.
Though I walk in the middle of trouble, You will revive me. You will stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me.
The LORD will accomplish His destiny for me. Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the works of Your own hands.

Psalm 139

To the chief musician, a psalm of David
O LORD, You have searched me and known me.
If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill.
If I do not remember you, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I do not prefer Jerusalem above my first joy.
Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem, who said, “Raze it, raze it, even to its foundation.”

8 O daughter of Babylon who is to be destroyed, happy he will be who repays you as you have served us.
9 Happy he will be who takes and dashes your little ones against the stones.

Psalm 138

A psalm of David
I will praise You with my whole heart. Before the gods I will sing praise to You.
I will worship toward Your holy temple and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and for Your truth. For You have magnified above everything Your name and Your word.
In the day when I cried out You answered me. You strengthened me with strength in my soul.
All the kings of the earth will praise You, O LORD, when they hear the words of Your mouth.
Yes, they will sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.
Though the LORD is high, yet He has respect for the lowly. But the arrogant He knows from afar.
Though I walk in the middle of trouble, You will revive me. You will stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me.
The LORD will accomplish His destiny for me. Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the works of Your own hands.
is high. I cannot attain to it.
7 Where will I go from Your Spirit? Or where will I flee from Your presence?
8 If I ascend up into heaven, You are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.
9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the innermost parts of the sea,
10 even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will hold me.
11 If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, even the night will be light about me,”
12 even the darkness does not hide from You, but the night shines as the day. The darkness and the light are both alike to You.
13 For You have formed my inward parts. You have watched over me in my mother’s womb.
14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvellous are Your works, and this my soul knows very well.
15 My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in secret, and curiously worked in the lowest parts of the earth.
16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your scroll they were all written, the days that were fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.
17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!
18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.
19 Surely You will slay the wicked, O God. Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men.
20 For they wickedly speak against You, and Your enemies take Your name in vain.
21 Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And am I not grieved with those who rise up against You?
22 I hate them with the utmost hatred. I consider them my enemies.
23 Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me, and know my thoughts.
24 And see if there is any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 140

To the chief musician, a psalm of David

1 Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil men. Preserve me from the violent men who imagine mischiefs in their heart. They are continually gathered together for war.
2 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent. The poison of adders is under their lips.
3 “Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked. Preserve me from violent men who have plotted to trip up my steps.
4 The arrogant have hidden a snare for me and cords. They have spread a net by the wayside. They have set traps for me.
5 I said to the LORD, “You are my God. Hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD.
6 “O GOD, my Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have given me protection in the day of conflict.
7 “Do not grant, O LORD, the desires of the wicked. Do not further his wicked scheme, lest they exalt themselves.
8 “As for the head of those who surround me, let the mischief of their own lips overwhelm them.
9 “Let burning coals fall on them. Let them be cast into the fire, into deep pits so that they do not rise up again.
10 “Do not let an evil speaker be established on the earth. May evil hunt the violent man to overthrow him.”
11 I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and the right of the poor.
12 Surely the righteous will give thanks to Your name. The upright will dwell in Your presence.

Psalm 141

A psalm of David

1 LORD, I cry out to You. Make haste to me. Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You.
2 Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
3 Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth. Keep watch over the door of my lips.
4 Do not let my heart incline to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men who work
iniquity. And do not let me eat of their delicacies.

5 Let the righteous smite me, for it will be a kindness. And let him reprove me, for it will be an excellent oil that will not break my head. For still I will pray always to have their goodwill.

6 When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they will hear my words, for they are sweet.

7 Our bones are scattered at the grave’s mouth, as when one plows and breaks up the earth.

8 But my eyes are to You, O GOD, my Lord. In You is my trust. Do not leave my soul destitute.

9 Keep me from the snares that they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.

10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I escape safely.

Psalm 142

1 I cried out to the LORD with my voice, with my voice to the LORD I made my supplication.

2 I poured out my complaint before Him. I showed before Him my trouble.

3 When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then You knew my path. In the way in which I walked, they have secretly hidden a snare for me.

4 I looked on my right hand and see, but there is no man who would know me. Refuge failed me. No man cared for my soul.

5 I cried out to You, O LORD. I said, “You are my refuge and my very own in the land of the living.

6 Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low. Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

7 Bring my soul out of prison so that I may praise Your name. The righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me.”

Psalm 143

A psalm of David

1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications. In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your justice.

2 And do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight will no living man be justified.

3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul. He has trampled me down to the ground. He has made me dwell in darkness, as those who have been long dead.

4 Therefore, my spirit is overwhelmed within me. My heart within me is desolate.

5 I remember the days of old. I meditate on all Your works. I muse on the work of Your hands.

6 I stretch forth my hands to You. My soul thirsts after You as a thirsty land.

7 Hear me speedily, O LORD. My spirit fails. Do not hide Your face from me lest I be like those who go down into the pit.

8 Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust. Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.

9 Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies. I flee to You to hide myself.

10 Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. Your Spirit is good. Lead me into the land of uprightness.

11 Revive me, O LORD, for Your name’s sake. For Your righteousness’ sake, bring my soul out of trouble.

12 And in Your mercy, cut off my enemies and destroy all those who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

Psalm 144

A psalm of David

1 Blessed be the LORD my strength who teaches my hands to war and my fingers to fight.

2 He is my goodness and my fortress, my high tower and my deliverer, my shield, and the one in whom I trust, who subdues my people under me.

3 LORD, what is man that You take knowledge of him, or the son of man that You take account of him?

4 Man is like a mere breath. His days are as a shadow that passes away.
5 bow down your heavens, o lord, and come down. touch the mountains and they will smoke.
6 cast forth lightning and scatter them. shoot out your arrows and destroy them.
7 stretch forth your hand from on high and deliver me out of great waters, from the hands of foreign children,
8 whose mouths speak deceit, and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.
9 i will sing a new song to you, o god; on a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings i will sing praises to you.
10 it is he who gives salvation to kings, who delivers david his servant from the hurtful sword.
11 rescue me and deliver me from the hands of foreign children, whose mouths speak vanity and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.
12 let our sons be as plants grown up in their youth and our daughters as corner stones, polished after the likeness of a palace.
13 let our barns be full, affording all manner of store. let our sheep bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our fields.
14 let our oxen be strong to labor so that there be no breaking in, nor going out, that there be no complaining in our streets.
15 happy are the people who are so blessed. yes, happy are the people whose god is the lord.

psalm 145

a psalm of david

1 i will extol you, my god, o king, and i will bless your name forever and ever.
2 every day i will bless you, and i will praise your name forever and ever.
3 great is the lord and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.
4 one generation will praise your works to another, and will declare your mighty acts.
5 i will speak of the glorious honor of your majesty, and of your wondrous works.
6 and men will speak of the power of your awesome acts, and i will declare your greatness.
7 they will abundantly utter the memory of your great goodness, and will sing of your righteousness.
8 the lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great mercy.
9 the lord is good to all, and his tender mercies are over all his works.
10 all your works will praise you, o lord, and your saints will bless you.
11 they will speak of the glory of your kingdom and talk of your power,
12 to make known to the sons of men his mighty acts and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.
13 your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
14 the lord upholds all who fall, and raises up all those who are bowed down.
15 the eyes of all wait on you, and you give them their food in due season.
16 you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
17 the lord is righteous in all his ways and holy in all his works.
18 the lord is near to all those who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.
19 he will fulfill the desire of those who fear him. he will also hear their cry and will save them.
20 the lord preserves all those who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.
21 my mouth will speak the praise of the lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

psalm 146

1 praise the lord. praise the lord, o my soul.
2 while i live i will praise the lord. i will sing praises to my god while i have my being.
3 do not put your trust in princes, or in the son of man in whom there is no help.
4 his spirit goes forth and he returns to his earth. in that very day his thoughts perish.
5 happy is he who has the god of jacob for his help, whose hope is in the lord his god
6 who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps truth forever,
Psalm 147

1 Praise the LORD, for it is good to sing praises to our God, for it is pleasant and praise is the right thing to do.
2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem. He gathers together the outcasts of Israel.
3 He heals the broken in heart and binds up their wounds.
4 He determines the number of the stars. He calls them all by their names.
5 Great is our Lord and abundant in power.
6 The LORD lifts up the humble. He casts the wicked down to the ground.
7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving. Sing praise on the harp to our God
8 who covers the heaven with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass to grow on the mountains.
9 He gives to the beast his food, and to the young ravens that cry.
10 He does not delight in the strength of the horse. He does not take pleasure in the legs of a man.
11 The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy.
12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem. Praise God, O Zion.
13 For He has strengthened the bars of your gates. He has blessed your children within you.
14 He makes peace within your borders and fills you with the finest of the wheat.
15 He sends forth His commandment on earth.

Psalm 148

1 Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD from the heavens. Praise Him in the heights.
2 Praise Him all His angels. Praise Him all His armies.
3 Praise Him sun and moon. Praise Him all stars of light.
4 Praise Him heavens of heavens, and waters that are above the heavens.
5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created.
6 He has also established them forever and ever. He has made a decree that will not pass.
7 Praise the LORD from the earth, sea creatures and all the depths;
8 fire and hail, snow and clouds, stormy wind, fulfilling His word;
9 mountains and all hills, fruitful trees and all cedars;
10 beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
11 kings of the earth and all people, princes and all judges of the earth;
12 both young men and maidens, old men and children;
13 let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is excellent. His glory is above the earth and heaven.
14 He also exalts the horn of His people, the praise of all His saints, even of the children of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the LORD.
Psalm 149
1 Praise the LORD. aSing to the LORD a new song and His praise in the assembly of saints.
2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker. Let the children of Zion be joyful in their bKing.
3 Let them praise His name with the dance. Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp.
4 For the cLORD takes pleasure in His people. He will beautify the meek with salvation.
5 Let the saints be joyful in glory. Let them sing aloud on their beds.
6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth and a gtwo-edged sword in their hand;
7 to execute vengeance on the nations and punishments on the people,
8 to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron,
9 bto execute on them the judgment written: this honor have all His saints. Praise the LORD.

Psalm 150
1 aPraise the LORD. Praise God in His sanctuary. Praise Him in His mighty expanse.
2 Praise Him for His mighty acts. Praise Him according to His excellent bgreatness.
3 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet. Praise Him with the psaltery and harp.
4 Praise Him with the timbrel and dance. Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes.
5 Praise Him on the loud cymbals. Praise Him on the high sounding cymbals.
6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD.

PROVERBS

Chapter 1
1 ¶ The aproverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel, given
2 to know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding,
3 to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice and judgment and equity,
4 to give prudence to the bsimple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.
5 cA wise man will hear and will increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain to wise counsels,
6 to understand a proverb and the interpretation, the words of the wise and their driddles.
7 eThe fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. Fools despise wisdom and instruction.
8 ¶ fMy son, hear the instruction of your father and do not forsake the law of your mother.
9 For they will be an ornament of ggrace to your head and chains around your neck.
10 ¶ hMy son, if sinners entice you, kdo not consent.
11 If they say, “Come with us. Let us lie in wait for blood. Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause.
12 “Let us swallow them up alive as the grave, and whole as those who go down into the pit.
13 “We will find all precious substance. We will fill our houses with spoil.
14 “Cast in your lot among us. Let us all have one purse.”
15 My son, kdo not walk in their way. lKeep your foot from their path.
16 mFor their feet run to evil and make haste to shed blood.
17 Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.
18 And they lay wait for their own blood. They lurk secretly for their own lives.
19 wSo are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain, who takes away the life of its owners.
20 ¶ wWisdom cries out aloud outside. She utters her voice in the streets.
21 She cries out from the chief place of the concourse and at the entrance of the gates. In the city she utters her words, saying,
22 “How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For the scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?
23 “Turn yourselves at my rebuke. Behold, aI will pour out my spirit on you. I will make known my words to you,
24 aBecause I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one paid attention,
25 but you have bdisdained all my counsel and would have none of my rebuke.
26 cI also will laugh at your calamity. I will mock when your fear comes,
27 when your c\textit{fear} comes as desolation and your destruction comes as a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come on you.
28 Then a\textit{they} will call on me, but I will not answer. They will seek me early, but they will not find me,
29 because they d\textit{hated} knowledge and did not e\textit{choose} the fear of the LORD.
30 fThey would not accept my counsel. They despised all my rebuke.
31 Therefore, g\textit{they} will eat of the fruit of their own way and be filled with their own devices.
32 For the backsliding of the simple will slay them and the self-assurance of fools will destroy them.
33 But whoever hearkens to me will dwell h\textit{safely} and \textit{will} be secure from fear of evil.”

\textbf{Chapter 2}

1 d¶ My son, if you will receive my words and e\textit{treasure} my commandments within you,
2 so that you incline your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding,
3 yes, if you cry out after knowledge and lift up your voice for understanding,
4 \textit{if} you seek her as silver and search for her as f\textit{hidden treasures},
5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.
6 d¶ For the LORD gives wisdom. Out of His mouth comes knowledge and understanding.
7 He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous.
8 He keeps the paths of judgment and \textit{preserves} the way of His saints.
9 Then you will understand righteousness and judgment and equity, \textit{yes}, every good path.
10 When wisdom enters into your heart and knowledge is pleasant to your soul,
11 discretion will preserve you and \textit{understanding} will keep you,
12 to deliver you from the way of the evil man, from the man who speaks deceitful things,
13 from those who leave the paths of uprightness in order to \textit{walk} in the ways of darkness,
14 \textit{who} rejoice to do evil and \textit{delight} in the perversity of the wicked,
15 whose ways are \textit{crooked}, and who are g\textit{devious} in their paths;
16 to deliver you from the h\textit{immoral} woman, even i\textit{from} the seductress who flatters with her words,
17 who forsakes the guide of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God.
18 For jher house leads to death and her paths to the dead.
19 No one who goes to her returns again, nor do they take hold of the paths of life.
20 ¶ So you will walk in the way of good men and keep the paths of the righteous.
21 For the upright will dwell in the k\textit{land} and the perfect will remain in it.
22 But the wicked will be cut off from the earth and the transgressors will be rooted out of it.

\textbf{Chapter 3}

1 ¶ My son, do not forget my law, but a\textit{let} your heart keep my commandments,
2 for they will add to you length of days and long life and b\textit{peace}.
3 Do not let mercy and truth forsake you. b\textit{Bind} them around your neck. d\textit{Write} them on the table of your heart,
4 so that you will find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
5 c\textit{Trust} in the LORD with all your heart, and d\textit{do not} lean on your own understanding.
6 c\textit{In} all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths.
7 Do not be wise in your own \textit{eyes}. Fear the...
LORD and depart from evil.
8 It will be health to your body and strength to your bones.
9 Honor the LORD with your possessions and with the firstfruits of all your increase,
10 so that your barns will be filled with plenty and your presses will overflow with new wine.
11 ¶ My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be weary of His correction.
12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father corrects the son in whom he delights.
13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gets understanding.
14 For the profit of her is better than the profit of silver and her gain better than fine gold.
15 She is more precious than rubies, and all the things you can desire are not to be compared to her.
16 Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and honor.
17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.
18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold on her, and happy is everyone who retains her.
19 ¶ The LORD by wisdom has founded the earth, by understanding He has established the heavens.
20 By His knowledge the depths were broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.
21 ¶ My son, do not let them depart from your eyes. Keep sound wisdom and discretion,
22 so that they will be life to your soul and adornment to your neck.
23 Then you will walk in your way safely and your foot will not stumble.
24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid. Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.
25 Do not be afraid of sudden fear, nor of the desolation of the wicked when it comes.
26 For the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being taken.
27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it.
28 Do not say to your neighbor, “Go and come again, and tomorrow I will give,” when you have it by you.
29 Do not devise evil against your neighbor, seeing he dwells securely by you.
30 ¶ Do not strive with a man without cause, if he has done you no harm.
31 ¶ Do not envy the oppressor and do not choose any of his ways.
32 For the deceitful person is an abomination to the LORD, but His secret counsel is with the righteous.
33 ¶ The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the habitation of the just.
34 ¶ Surely He scorns the scoffers, but He gives grace to the lowly.
35 The wise will inherit glory, but shame will be the legacy of fools.

Chapter 4
1 ¶ Hear, my children, the instruction of a father and give attention to know understanding.
2 For I give you good teaching. Do not forsake my law.
3 For I was my father’s son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.
4 ¶ He taught me also and said to me, “Let your heart retain my words. Keep my commandments and live.
5 ¶ “Get wisdom. Get understanding. Do not forget it, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.
6 ¶ “Do not forsake her and she will preserve you. Love her and she will keep you.
7 ¶ Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom. And with all your acquiring, get understanding.
8 ¶ Exalt her and she will promote you. She will bring you to honor when you embrace her.
9 ¶ “She will give to your head an ornament of grace. She will deliver to you a crown of glory.”
10 ¶ Hear, O my son and receive my sayings, and the years of your life will be many.
11 I have taught you in the way of wisdom. I have led you in right paths.
12 When you go, your steps will not be im-
And when you run, you will not stumble.  
Take firm hold of instruction. Do not let her go. Keep her, for she is your life.  
¶ Do not enter into the path of the wicked, and do not go in the way of evil men.  
 Avoid it. Do not travel on it. Turn from it and pass on.  
For they do not sleep unless they have done mischief. And their sleep is taken away until they cause someone to fall.  
For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence.  
The path of the wicked is as darkness. They do not know over what they stumble.  
My son, give attention to my words. Incline your ear to my sayings.  
Do not let them depart from your eyes. Keep them in the midst of your heart.  
For they are life to those who find them and health to all their body.  
Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it flows the issues of life.  
Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and perverse lips put far from you.  
Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established.  
Do not turn to the right hand nor to the left. Remove your foot from evil.

Chapter 5  
¶ My son, give attention to my wisdom and bow your ear to my understanding so that you may regard discretion and that your lips may keep knowledge.  
For the lips of an immoral woman drop as a honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil.  
But her end is bitter as wormwood and sharp as a two-edged sword.  
Her feet go down to death. Her steps take hold on Sheol.  
Lest you should ponder the path of life, her ways are unstable and you do not know them.  
¶ Therefore, hear me, O you children and do not depart from the words of my mouth.  
Remove your way far from her and do not come near the door of her house,  
lest you give your honor to others and your years to the cruel,  
lest foreigners be filled with your wealth, and your labors be in the house of a stranger,  
and you at last mourn when your flesh and your body are consumed,  
and say, “How have I hated instruction and my heart despised reproof; “and I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined my ear to those who instructed me!  
“I was almost in total ruin in the midst of the whole assembly.”  
Drink waters out of your own cistern and running waters out of your own well.  
Let your fountains be dispersed abroad and rivers of waters in the streets.  
Let them be only your own and not for aliens with you.  
Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of your youth.  
Let her be as the loving deer and pleasant doe. Let her breasts satisfy you at all times, and be ravished always with her love.  
And why will you, my son, be ravished by an immoral woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?  
For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he ponders all his goings.  
His own iniquities will take the wicked himself, and he will be held with the cords of his sins.  
He will die without instruction, and in the greatness of his folly he will go astray.

Chapter 6  
¶ My son, if you become surety for your friend, if you have shaken your hand with a stranger,  
you are snared with the words of your mouth. You are taken with the words of your mouth.  
Now do this, my son, and deliver yourself. Since you have come into the hand of your
friend, go and humble yourself, and plead with your friend.
4  bGive no sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids.
5 Deliver yourself as a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of theowler.
6 ¶ Go to the ant, you sluggard. Consider her ways and be wise:
7 which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer and gathers her food in the harvest.
9 a deceitful mouth.
10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep—
11 so your poverty will come in like a prowler, and your need as an armed man.
12 ¶ A worthless and wicked man walks with a deceitful mouth.
13 bHe winks with his eyes. He speaks with his feet. He teaches with his fingers.
14 Perversity is in his heart.  dHe devises mischief continually.  hHe sows discord.
15 Therefore, his calamity will come suddenly. He will be broken suddenly without remedy.
16 ¶ These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him:
17 a haughty eyes,  ma lying tongue, and  nhands that shed innocent blood,
18 a heart that devises wicked imaginations, bfeet that are swift in running to mischief,
19 a false witness  who speaks lies, and he who  sows discord among brothers.
20 ¶ My son, keep your father’s commandments and do not forsake the law of your mother.
21 Bind them continually on your heart and tie them around your neck.
22 a When you go about, they will lead you. When you sleep, they will keep you. And when you awake, they will talk with you.
23 a For the commandment is a lamp and the law is light, and reproofs of instruction are the way of life,
24 a to keep you from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of the immoral woman.
25  yDo not lust after her beauty in your heart, nor let her allure you with her eyelids.
26 For  by means of a harlot  a man is brought to a piece of bread, and the  immoral woman will  hunt for the precious life.
27  Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?
28  Can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be burned?
29 a so is he who goes into his neighbor’s wife. Whoever touches her will not be innocent.
30 People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his soul when he is hungry.
31 But  if he is found, he will  repay sevenfold.
32 But whoever commits adultery with a woman  lacks understanding. He  who does it destroys his own soul.
33 Wounds and disgrace he will find, and his reproach will not be wiped away.
34 For  jealousy is the rage of a man. Therefore, he will not spare in the day of vengeance.
35 He will not regard any ransom, nor will he be appeased though you give many gifts.

Chapter 7

1 ¶ My son, keep my words and  lay up my commandments within you.
2 b Keep my commandments and live, and  my law as the apple of your eye.
3  Bind them on your fingers. Write them on the table of your heart.
4 Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,” and call understanding your nearest kin,
5 a so that they may keep you from the immoral woman, from the stranger  who flatters with her words.
6 ¶ For at the window of my house I looked through my lattice
7 and saw among the simple ones. I discerned among the youths a young man  void of understanding,
8 passing through the street near her corner. Then he went the way to her house
9 a in the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night.
And behold, there met him a woman with the attire of a harlot and a subtle heart.

She was loud and stubborn. Her feet did not stay in her house.

So she caught him and kissed him, and with a confident face said to him,

"I have peace offerings with me. This day I have paid my vows.

"So I came forth to meet you, diligently to seek your face. And I have found you.

"I have spread my couch with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen from Egypt.

I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon.

Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning. Let us delight ourselves with love,

for my husband is not at home. He is gone on a long journey.

He has taken a bag of money with him and will come home at an appointed day."

He goes after her immediately, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks,

until an arrow strikes through his liver, as a bird hastens to the snare and does not know that it will cost him his life.

Hearken to me now, therefore, O you children, and give attention to the words of my mouth.

Do not let your heart decline to her ways. Do not go astray in her paths.

For she has cast many down wounded. Yes, many strong men have been slain by her.

"Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.

Chapter 8

Does not wisdom cry out, and understanding put forth her voice?

She stands on the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.

She cries out at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the entrance of the doors.

To you, O men, I call, and my voice is to the sons of man.

"O you simple people, understand wisdom, and you fools, be of an understanding heart.

"Hear, for I will speak of excellent things, and the opening of my lips will reveal right things.

"For my mouth will speak truth, and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

"All the words of my mouth are in righteousness, nothing deceitful or perverted in them.

They are all plain to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge.

Receive my instruction and not silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold.

For wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

The fear of the LORD is to hate evil. I hate pride and arrogance, the evil way, and the perverse mouth.

Counsel is mine and sound wisdom. I am understanding. I have strength.

By me kings reign and princes decree justice.

By me princes and nobles rule, even all the judges of the earth.

I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me.

Riches and honor are with me, yes, enduring riches and righteousness.

My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold, and my revenue better than choice silver.

I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment,

so that I may cause those who love me to inherit substance. And I will fill their treasuries.

"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old.

From everlasting I was established, before there was ever an earth.

When there were no depths, I was brought
forth, when there were no fountains abounding with water.
25 "Before the mountains were settled, before the hills, I was brought forth;
26 "while He had not yet made the earth, or the fields, or the highest part of the dust of the world.
27 "When He prepared the heavens, I was there; when He put a circle on the face of the depth,
28 "when He established the clouds above, when He strengthened the fountains of the deep,
29 "when He gave to the sea its limit, that the waters should not pass His command,
30 "then I was by Him as one brought up with Him. And I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him,
31 "rejoicing in the inhabited world, and my delight was with the sons of men.
32 ¶ "Now therefore hearken to me, O you children, for blessed are those who keep my ways.
33 "Hear instruction and be wise, and do not refuse it.
34 "Blessed is the man who hears me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.
35 "For whoever finds me finds life, and will obtain favor from the LORD.
36 "But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul. All those who hate me love death.”

Chapter 9

1 ¶ Wisdom has built her house. She has hewn out her seven pillars.
2 She has prepared her meat. She has also furnished her table.
3 She has sent forth her maidens. She cries out on the highest places of the city,
4 “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here.” As for him who wants understanding, she says to him,
5 “Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine that I have mixed.

6 “Forsake foolishness and live, and go in the way of understanding.
7 ¶ "He who corrects a scoffer gets dishonor for himself, and he who reproves a wicked man gets insults for himself.
8 ¶ "Do not rebuke a scoffer, lest he hate you. Rebuke a wise man and he will love you.
9 “Give instruction to a wise man and he will be yet wiser. Teach a just man and he will increase in learning.
10 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.
11 ¶ "For by me your days will be multiplied, and the years of your life will be increased.
12 ¶ "If you are wise, you will be wise for yourself. But if you scorn, you alone will bear it.”
13 ¶ "A foolish woman is clamorous. She is simple and knows nothing.
14 For she sits at the door of her house on a seat in the high places of the city,
15 in order to call out to those who pass by on their way,
16 “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here.” And to him who wants understanding, she says to him,
17 “Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.”
18 But he does not know that the dead are there, and that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

Chapter 10

1 ¶ The proverbs of Solomon: A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.
2 "Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, but righteousness delivers from death.
3 ¶ "The LORD will not allow the soul of the righteous to famish, but He casts away the substance of the wicked.
4 ¶ "Poor is the one who works with a slack hand, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.
5 He who gathers in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.
6 Blessings are on the head of the just, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.
7 The memory of the just is blessed, but the name of the wicked will rot.
8 The wise in heart will receive commandments, but a babbling fool will fall.
9 1He who walks uprightly walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will be known.
10 He who winks with the eye causes sorrow, but a babbling fool will fall.
11 The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.
12 Hatred stirs up strifes, but love covers all sins.
13 In the lips of him who has understanding wisdom is found, but a rod is for the back of him who is void of understanding.
14 Wise men lay up knowledge, but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.
15 The rich man’s wealth is his strong city, but the destruction of the poor is their poverty.
16 The labor of the righteous leads to life, but the wages of the wicked to sin.
17 He is in the way of life who keeps instruction, but he who refuses reproof errs.
18 He who hides hatred with lying lips, and who utters slander, is a fool.
19 In the multitude of words there is no lack of sin, but he who restrains his lips is wise.
20 The tongue of the just is as choice silver, but the heart of the wicked is worth little.
21 The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of wisdom.
22 The blessing of the LORD makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.
23 It is as sport to a fool to do mischief, but a man of understanding has wisdom.
24 What the wicked fears will come upon him, but the desire of the righteous will be granted.
25 As the whirlwind passes, so is the wicked no more, but the righteous has an everlasting foundation.
26 As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the sluggard to those who send him.

27 The fear of the LORD prolongs days, but the years of the wicked will be shortened.
28 The hope of the righteous will be gladness, but the expectation of the wicked will perish.
29 The way of the LORD is strength to the upright, but destruction will be to the workers of iniquity.
30 The righteous will never be removed, but the wicked will not inhabit the earth.
31 The mouth of the just brings forth wisdom, but the deceitful tongue will be cut out.
32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked is perverted.

Chapter 11
1 A false balance is an abomination to the LORD, but a just weight is His delight.
2 When pride comes then comes shame, but with the humble is wisdom.
3 The integrity of the upright will guide them, but the perverseness of transgressors will destroy them.
4 Wealth does not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.
5 The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way, but the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.
6 The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, but transgressors will be taken in their own lusts.
7 When a wicked man dies his expectation will perish, and the hope of unjust perishes.
8 The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked takes his place.
9 The godless with his mouth destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the just will be delivered.
10 When it goes well with the righteous the city rejoices, and when the wicked perish there is shouting.
11 Through the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.
12 He who is void of wisdom derides his
neighbor, but a man of understanding holds his peace. 
13 kA talebearer reveals secrets, but he who has a faithful spirit 'conceals the matter.
14 mWhere there is no counsel the people fall, but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.
15 He who is 'surety for another will suffer, and he who hates being surety is secure.
16 A gracious woman gains respect, but ruthless men retain only riches.
17 oThe merciful man does good to his own soul, but he who is cruel troubles his own flesh. 
18 The wicked works a deceitful work, but he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward.
19 As righteousness leads to 'life, so he who pursues evil pursues it to his own 'death.
20 Those who are of a deceitful heart are an abomination to the LORD, but those who are upright in their ways are His delight.
21 'Though they join together the wicked will not be unpunished, but the 'seed of the righteous will be delivered.
22 As a jewel of gold in a swine’s snout, so is a fair woman who is without discretion.
23 The desire of the righteous results in good, but the expectation of the wicked is 'wrath.
24 ¶ There is the one who ‘distributes and yet increases more, and there is the one who withholds unduly, but it leads to poverty.
25 wThe generous soul will be made fat, and he who waters will be watered also himself.
26 The people will curse the 'one who withholds grain, but 'blessing will be on the head of him who sells it.
27 He who diligently seeks good finds favor, but he who seeks mischief, it will come to him.
28 bHe who trusts in his riches will fall, but the 'righteous will flourish as a branch.
29 He who troubles his own house 'will inherit the wind, and the fool will be a 'servant to the wise of heart.
30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.
31 sIf the righteous will be rewarded on the earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner.

Chapter 12
1 ¶ Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates reproach is stupid.
2 A good man obtains favor from the LORD, but He will condemn a man of wicked devices.
3 A man will not be established by wickedness, but the 'root of the righteous will not be moved.
4 bA virtuous woman is a crown to her husband, but she who makes ashamed is 'as rottenness in his bones.
5 The thoughts of the righteous are right, but the counsels of the wicked are deceit.
6 dThe words of the wicked lie in wait for blood, 'but the mouth of the upright will deliver them.
7 'The wicked are overthrown and are not, but the house of the righteous will stand.
8 A man will be commended according to his wisdom, but he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.
9 ¶ q Better is the one who is nobody, but has a servant, than the one who honors himself and lacks bread.
10 A righteous man regards the life of his animal, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
11 bHe who tills his land will be satisfied with 'bread, but he who follows vain persons is 'void of understanding.
12 The wicked desires the plunder of evil men, but the root of the righteous yields fruit.
13 wThe wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips, 'but the righteous will escape trouble.
14 oA man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the 'recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him.
15 ¶ tThe way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who hearkens to counsel is wise.
16 A fool's wrath is presently known, but a prudent man covers shame.
17 sHe who speaks truth shows forth righteous-
ness, but a false witness deceit.
18 'There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise is health.
19 The lip of truth will be established forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.
20 Deceit is in the heart of those who imagine evil, but to the counselors of peace is joy.
21 'No evil will happen to the righteous, but the wicked will be filled with mischief.
22 "Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal truthfully are His delight.
23 "A prudent man conceals knowledge, but the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.
24 "The hand of the diligent will rule, but the slothful will be under tribute.
25 "Anxiety in the heart of man makes it depressed, but a good word makes it glad.
26 The righteous is more excellent than his neighbor, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.
27 The slothful man does not roast that which he took in hunting, but the substance of a diligent man is precious.
28 In the way of righteousness is life, and in its pathway there is no death.

Chapter 13

1 "A wise son hears his father’s instruction, but a scoffer does not hear rebuke.
2 "A man will eat well by the fruit of his mouth, but the soul of the transgressors will eat retribution.
3 'He who keeps his mouth keeps his life, but he who opens wide his lips will have destruction.
4 "The soul of the sluggard desires and has nothing, but the soul of the diligent will be made fat.
5 A righteous man hates lying, but a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.
6 "Righteousness keeps the one who is upright in the way, but wickedness overthrows the sinner.
7 'There is one who makes himself rich and yet has nothing, and one who makes himself poor and yet has great riches.
8 The ransom of a man’s life are his riches, but the poor does not hear rebuke.
9 The light of the righteous shines brightly, but the lamp of the wicked will be put out.
10 Only by pride comes contention, but with the well advised is wisdom.
11 'Wealth obtained by dishonesty will vanish, but he who gathers by labor will increase.
12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when the desire comes it is a tree of life.
13 ¶ Whoever despises instruction will be destroyed, but he who respects the commandment will be rewarded.
14 'The law of the wise is a fountain of life, turning one from the snares of death.
15 Good understanding wins favor, but the way of transgressors is hard.
16 "Every prudent man acts out of knowledge, but a fool reveals his foolishness.
17 A wicked messenger falls into mischief, but a faithful ambassador is health.
18 Poverty and shame will be to him who refuses instruction, but he who heeds correction will be honored.
19 A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul, but it is an abomination to fools to depart from evil.
20 He who walks with wise men will be wise, but a companion of fools will be destroyed.
21 'Evil pursues sinners, but to the righteous good will be repaid.
22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children, but the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.
23 'Much food is in the fallow ground of the poor, but injustice takes it away.
24 "He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him chastens him promptly.
25 "The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul, but the belly of the wicked will be in want.

Chapter 14

1 "A wise woman builds her house, but the foolish pulls it down with her hands.
2 He who walks in his uprightness fears the
LORD, a but he who is pensive in his ways despises him.
3 In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride, b but the lips of the wise will preserve them.
4 Where there are no oxen the manger is empty, but much increase comes by the strength of the oxen.
5 A *truthful witness will not lie, but a false witness will utter lies.
6 A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not find it, but knowledge is easy to him who understands.
7 Go from the presence of a foolish man when you do not perceive in him the lips of knowledge.
8 The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way, but the folly of fools is deceit.
9 Fools mock at making amends for sin, but among the righteous there is favor.
10 The heart knows its own bitterness, and a stranger does not share with his joy.
11 The house of the wicked will be overthrown, but the tent of the upright will flourish.
12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.
13 Even in laughter the heart may sorrow, and the end of joy may be grief.
14 The backslider in heart will be repaid with his own ways, and a good man rewarded for his.
15 The simple believe every word, but the prudent man considers his steps.
16 A wise man fears and departs from evil, but the fool rages and is self-confident.
17 He who is quick-tempered deals foolishly, and a man of wicked devices is hated.
18 The simple inherit folly, but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.
19 The evil bow before the good, and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.
20 The poor is hated even by his own neighbor, but the rich has many friends.
21 He who despises his neighbor sins, but happy is he who has mercy on the poor.
22 Do they not err who devise evil? But mercy and truth will be to those who devise good.
23 In all labor there is profit, but the talk of the lips leads only to poverty.
24 The crown of the wise is their riches, but the foolishness of fools is folly.
25 A true witness delivers souls, but a deceitful witness speaks lies.
26 In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence, and his children will have a place of refuge.
27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.
28 In the multitude of people is the king’s honor, but in the lack of people is the destruction of the prince.
29 He who is slow to wrath is of great understanding, but he who is quick-tempered exalts folly.
30 A sound heart is the life of the body, but envy is rottenness of the bones.
31 He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, but he who honors Him has mercy on the poor.
32 The wicked is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteous has hope in his death.
33 Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding, but what is in the midst of fools is made known.
34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.
35 The king’s favor is toward a wise servant, but his wrath is against him who causes shame.

Chapter 15
1 ¶ A soft answer turns away wrath, but harsh words stir up anger.
2 The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly, but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.
3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.
4 A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
5 A fool despises his father’s instruction, but he who accepts correction is prudent.
6 In the house of the righteous is much treasure, but trouble is the income of the wicked.
The lips of the wise disperse knowledge, but the heart of the foolish does not do so.

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but the prayer of the upright is His delight.

The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but He loves the one who follows after righteousness.

Correction is grievous to him who forsakes the way, and he who hates reproof will die.

Sheol and destruction are before the LORD, how much more then the hearts of the children of men?

A scoffer does not love the one who opposes him, nor will he go to the wise.

A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

All the days of the afflicted are evil, but he who is of a merry heart has a continual feast.

Better is little with the fear of the LORD, than great treasure with trouble.

Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a fattened ox with hatred.

A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger appeases strife.

The way of the slothful man is as a hedge of thorns, but the way of the righteous is a highway.

A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish man despises his mother.

Folly is joy to him who lacks wisdom, but a man of understanding walks uprightly.

Without consultation plans are frustrated, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and how good is a timely word.

The way of life leads upward for the wise, so that he may turn away from Sheol below.

The LORD will destroy the house of the proud, but He will establish the boundary of the widow.

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD, but the words of the pure are pleasant.

He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live.

The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.

The cheerful look rejoices the heart, and a good report makes the bones fat.

The ear that hears the reproof of life abides among the wise.

He who refuses instruction despises his own soul, but he who hears correction receives understanding.

The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and before honor is humility.

Chapter 16

The plans of the heart belong to man, but the reply from the tongue is from the LORD.

All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits.

Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established.

The LORD has made all things for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of evil.

Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD, though they join hand in hand they will not be unpunished.

By mercy and faithfulness sin is purged, and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Better is a little with righteousness, than great revenues without justice.

A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps.

A divine sentence is on the lips of the king, his mouth should not err in judgment.

A just weight and balance are the Lord's. All the weights of the bag are His work.
12 It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness, for the throne is established by righteousness.
13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings, and they love him who speaks right.
14 The wrath of a king is as messengers of death, but a wise man will appease it.
15 In the light of the king’s countenance is life, and his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain.
16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold, and to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.
17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil, and he who keeps his way preserves his soul.
18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
19 Better to be humble in spirit with the poor, than to divide the spoil with the proud.
20 He who handles a matter wisely will find good, and happy is the one who trusts in the LORD.
21 The wise in heart will be called prudent, and the sweetness of the lips increases learning.
22 Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it, but the instruction of fools is folly.
23 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips.
24 Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.
25 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end are the ways of death.
26 He who labors, labors for himself, for his hunger urges him on.
27 An ungodly man digs up evil, and it is on his lips like a burning fire.
28 A perverse man sows strife, and a gossip separates best friends.
29 A violent man entices his neighbor, and he leads him into the way that is not good.
30 He winks his eyes to devise deceitful things, and he purses his lips to bring about evil.
31 The gray head is a crown of glory, if it is attained by the way of righteousness.

32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who controls his spirit than he who takes a city.
33 The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

Chapter 17

1 Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it, than a house full of sacrifices with strife.
2 A wise servant will have rule over a son who causes shame, and will share the inheritance among the brothers.
3 The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the LORD tests the hearts.
4 An evildoer gives heed to false lips, and a liar gives ear to a worthless tongue.
5 Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker, and he who gloats over calamity will not be unpunished.
6 Children’s children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children are their fathers.
7 Excellent speech does not become a fool, much less do lying lips a prince.
8 A bribe is as a precious stone in the eyes of him who has it. It prospers wherever it turns.
9 He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates friends.
10 A rebuke enters more into a wise man than a hundred stripes on a fool.
11 An evil man seeks only rebellion, therefore a merciless messenger will be sent against him.
12 Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, rather than a fool in his folly.
13 Whoever rewards evil for good, evil will not depart from his house.
14 The beginning of strife is as when one lets out water, therefore leave the quarrel before it breaks out.
15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, even both are an abomination to the LORD.
16 Why is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, since he has no heart for it?
17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
18 A man void of understanding shakes hands,
and becomes surety in the presence of his friend.  

19 He loves transgression who loves strife, and he who builds a high gate seeks destruction.  

20 He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, and he who has a perverse tongue falls into mischief.  

21 He who begets a fool does it to his sorrow, and the father of a fool has no joy.  

22 A merry heart does good like a medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones.  

23 A wicked man takes a bribe behind the back to pervert the ways of justice.  

24 Wisdom is before him who has understanding, but the eyes of a fool wander to the ends of the earth.  

25 A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her who bore him.  

26 Also, to punish the righteous is not good, nor to strike princes for their uprightness.  

27 He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.  

28 Even a fool when he holds his peace is counted wise. He who shuts his lips is considered a man of understanding.

Chapter 18  

1 ¶ A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he argues against all sound wisdom.  

2 A fool has no delight in understanding, but only in expressing his own mind.  

3 When the wicked comes, so also comes contempt, and with shame comes disgrace.  

4 The words of a man’s mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.  

5 It is not good to show partiality to the wicked, or to overthrow the righteous in judgment.  

6 A fool’s lips enter into contentions, and his mouth calls for a beating.  

7 A fool’s mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.  

8 The words of a gossip are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the body.  

9 He also who is slothful in his work is a brother to him who is a great waster.  

10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous runs to it and is safe.  

11 The rich man’s wealth is his strong city, and as a high wall in his own esteem.  

12 Before destruction the heart of man is arrogant, and before honor is humility.  

13 He who answers a matter before he listens, it is his folly and shame.  

14 The spirit of a man will sustain his sickness, but who can bear a wounded spirit?  

15 The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.  

16 A man’s gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.  

17 The first to plead his case seems right, until another comes and examines him.  

18 The casting of lots causes contentions to cease, and keeps the mighty apart.  

19 An offended brother is harder to be won than a strong city, and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.  

20 A man’s belly will be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth, and he will be filled with the increase of his lips.  

21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.  

22 Whoever finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the LORD.  

23 The poor pleads for mercy, but the rich answers roughly.  

24 A man who has friends must show himself friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Chapter 19  

1 ¶ Better is the poor man who walks in his integrity, than he who is perverse in his lips and is a fool.  

2 Also, it is not good that the soul be without knowledge, and he who hastens with his feet sins.  

3 The foolishness of man perverts his way, and his heart rages against the LORD.  

4 Wealth makes many friends, but the poor is separated from his neighbor.  

5 A false witness will not be unpunished, and
he who speaks lies will not escape.
6 Many will ask for the favor of the prince, and every man is a friend to him who gives gifts.
7 All the brothers of the poor hate him, how much more do his friends go far from him? He pursues them with words, yet they abandon him.
8 He who acquires wisdom loves his own soul; he who keeps understanding will find good.
9 A false witness will not be unpunished, and he who speaks lies will perish.
10 Luxury is not fitting for a fool, much less for a servant to have rule over princes.
11 The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression.
12 The king’s wrath is as the roaring of a lion, but his favor is as dew on the grass.
13 A foolish son is the calamity of his father, and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.
14 House and riches are inherited from the fathers, and a prudent wife is from the LORD.
15 Laziness casts into a deep sleep, and an idle soul will suffer hunger.
16 He who keeps the commandment keeps his own soul, but he who despises his ways will die.
17 He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, and that which he has given He will pay him again.
18 Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not be a willing party to his destruction.
19 A man of great wrath will suffer punishment, for if you rescue him you must do it again.
20 Hear counsel and receive instruction, so that you may be wise in your latter days.
21 There are many plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s will that will prevail.
22 The desire of a man is the measure of his kindness, and a poor man is better than a liar.
23 The fear of the Lord leads to life, and he who has it will abide in contentment. He will not be visited with evil.
24 A slothful man hides his hand in his bowl, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.
25 Smite a scoffer and the simple will beware. Rebuke one who has understanding and he will understand knowledge.
26 He who mistreats his father and chases away his mother, is a son who causes shame and brings reproach.
27 Cease listening, my son, to instruction and you will stray from the words of knowledge.
28 An ungodly witness mocks judgment, and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity. Judgments are prepared for scoffers, and stripes for the back of fools.

Chapter 20
1 Wine is a mocker and strong drink a brawler, and whoever is deceived by it is not wise.
2 The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion. Whoever provokes him to anger sins against his own soul.
3 It is an honor for a man to cease from strife, but any fool can start an argument.
4 The sluggard will not plow because of the cold, therefore he will beg in harvest and have nothing.
5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out.
6 Most men will proclaim their own goodness, but who can find a faithful man?
7 The just man walks in his integrity, His children are blessed after him.
8 A king who sits on the throne of judgment scatters away all evil with his eyes.
9 Who can say, “I have made my heart clean. I am pure from my sin”?
10 Differing weights and differing measures, both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD.
11 Even a child is known by his actions, whether his conduct is pure and right.
12 The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the LORD has made both of them.
13 kDo not love sleep lest you come to poverty. Open your eyes and you will be satisfied with bread.

14 “It is no good. It is no good,” says the buyer. But when he is gone his way, then he boasts.

15 ¶ There is gold and a multitude of rubies, but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

16 mTake the garment of one who is surety for a stranger, and hold him in pledge if he does it for a wayward woman.

17 Bread of deceit is sweet to a man, but afterwards his mouth will be filled with gravel.

18 oEvery purpose is established by counsel, and with good advice make war.

19 qHe who goes about as a gossip reveals secrets, therefore do not associate with him who flatters with his lips.

20 rWhoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in obscure darkness.

21 sAn inheritance may be received hastily at the beginning, but its end will not be blessed.

22 tDo not say, “I will take revenge,” but wait on the LORD and He will save you.

23 Diverse weights are an abomination to the LORD, and a false balance is not good.

24 A man’s steps are of the LORD. How then can a man understand his own way?

25 It is a snare to the man who devours what is holy, then afterward vows to make inquiry.

26 tA wise king scatters the wicked, and brings the threshing wheel over them.

27 uThe spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the depths of the heart.

28 vMercy and truth preserve the king, and his throne is made secure by mercy.

29 The glory of young men is their strength, and the beauty of old men is the grey head.

30 Blows and wounds cleanse away evil, so do stripes the depths of the heart.

Chapter 21

1 ¶ The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD as the rivers of water. He turns it wherever He desires.

2 wEvery way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the hearts.

3 xTo do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

4 yArrogant eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, is sin.

5 zThe thoughts of the diligent lead only to plenty, but everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty.

6 aThe acquisition of treasures by a lying tongue is a fantasy tossed to and fro by those who seek death.

7 bThe robbery of the wicked will destroy them, because they refuse to do justice.

8 cThe way of the guilty is devious, but as for the pure, his work is right.

9 dIt is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a contentious woman in a wide house.

10 eThe soul of the wicked desires evil. His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.

11 fWhen the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise. And when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.

12 gThe righteous man wisely considers the house of the wicked, but God overthrows the wicked for their wickedness.

13 hWhoever stops his ears at the outcry of the poor, he also will cry out himself, but will not be heard.

14 iA gift given in secret pacifies anger, and a bribe given in concealment, great wrath.

15 jIt is joy to the just to do justly, but destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.

16 kThe man who wanders out of the way of understanding will remain in the assembly of the dead.

17 lHe who loves pleasure will be a poor man. He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

18 mThe wicked will be a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright.

19 nIt is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and angry woman.

20 oThere is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man squanders it.

21 pHe who follows after righteousness and mercy finds life, righteousness and honor.

22 qA wise man scales the city of the mighty, and casts down the stronghold in which they trust.
23 "Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles.
24 A proud and arrogant man: “Scoffer” is his name, who acts in arrogant wrath.
25 The desire of the slothful kills him, for his hands refuse to labor.
26 He covets greedily all the day long, but the righteous gives and does not spare.
27 *The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination, how much more when he brings it with a wicked mind?*
28 A false witness will perish, but the man who listens to the truth will speak forever.
29 A wicked man hardens his face, but as for the upright, he makes his way sure.
30 There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.
31 The horse is prepared against the day of battle, but victory is from the LORD.

### Chapter 22

1 ¶ A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold.
2 The rich and poor meet together. The LORD is the maker of them all.
3 A prudent man foresees the evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.
4 By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honor and life.
5 Thorns and snares are in the way of the deceitful. He who keeps his soul will be far from them.
6 *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.*
7 The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is a servant to the lender.
8 He who sows iniquity will reap trouble, and the rod of his anger will fail.
9 *He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor.*
10 *Cast out the scoffer and contention will leave, yes, strife and reproach will cease.*
11 *He who loves purity of heart and whose speech is with grace, the king will be his friend.*
12 The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, and He overthrows the words of the transgressor.
13 *The slothful man says, “There is a lion outside. I will be slain in the streets.”*
14 *The mouth of an adulterous woman is a deep pit. He who is abhorred of the LORD will fall in it.*
15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but the rod of correction will drive it far from him.
16 He who oppresses the poor to increase his riches, and he who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty.
17 ¶ Bow down your ear and hear the words of the wise. Apply your heart to my knowledge,
18 for it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you, so that they may be ready on your lips,
19 that your trust may be in the LORD. I have instructed you this day, even you.
20 Have I not written to you excellent things in counsels and knowledge,
21 so that I might make you know the certainty of the words of truth, that you might answer the words of truth to those who send to you?
22 ¶ Do not rob the poor because he is poor, nor oppress the afflicted in the gate.
23 *For the LORD will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those who spoiled them.*
24 Make no friend of an angry man, and with a furious man you will not go,
25 lest you learn his ways and set a snare for your soul.
26 *Do not remove the ancient landmark that your fathers have set.*
27 Do you see a man diligent in his business? He will stand before kings. He will not stand before obscure men.

### Chapter 23

1 ¶ When you sit to eat with a ruler, consider
diligently what is before you.
2 And put a knife to your throat if you are a
man given to appetite.
3 Do not crave his delicacies, for they are
deceitful food.
4 Do not labor to be rich. Cease because of
your own wisdom.
5 Will you set your eyes on that which is not?
For riches certainly make themselves wings.
They fly away as an eagle toward heaven.
6 Do not eat the food of a stingy man, nor
desire his delicacies.
7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. “Eat
and drink,” he says to you, but his heart is not
with you.
8 The morsel that you have eaten you will
vomit up, and lose your sweet words.
9 Do not speak in the ears of a fool, for he
will despise the wisdom of your words.
10 Do not remove the old landmark, and do
not enter into the fields of the fatherless,
11 for their Redeemer is mighty. He will plead
their cause with you.
12 Apply your heart to instruction, and your
ears to the words of knowledge.
13 Do not withhold correction from the child,
for if you beat him with a rod he will not die.
14 You will beat him with a rod, and will de-
 deliver his soul from Sheol.
15 ¶ My son, if your heart is wise, my heart
will rejoice, even I myself.
16 Yes, my inner being will rejoice when your
lips speak right things.
17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, but be
in the fear of the LORD throughout the day,
18 for surely there is an end, and your expecta-
tion will not be cut off.
19 Hear, my son, and be wise, and guide your
heart in the way.
20 Do not associate with heavy drinkers of
wine, or with glutinous eaters of meat.
21 For the drunkard and the glutton will come
to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe a man
with rags.
22 Hearken to your father who begat you, and
do not despise your mother when she is old.
23 Buy the truth and do not sell it, also wis-
dom and instruction and understanding.
24 ¶ The father of the righteous will greatly
rejoice, and he who begets a wise child will
have joy in him.
25 Your father and your mother will be glad,
and she who bore you will rejoice.
26 My son, give me your heart and let your
eyes observe my ways.
27 ¶ For a whore is a deep ditch, and an adul-
terous woman is a narrow pit.
28 ¶ She also lies in wait as for a prey, and
increases the transgressors among men.
29 ¶ Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who
has contentions? Who has babbling? Who has
wounds without cause? Who has ‘redness of
eyes?
30 Those who linger long at the wine and
those who go to seek ‘mixed wine.
31 Do not look on the wine when it is red,
when it sparkles in the cup, when it swirls
around smoothly.
32 At the last it bites like a serpent and stings
like an adder.
33 Your eyes will behold strange things and
your heart will utter perverse things.
34 Yes, you will be as he who lies down in the
midst of the sea, or as he who lies on the top of
a mast.
35 ¶ “They have stricken me,” you will say,
“yet I am not hurt. They have beaten me, and
I did not feel it. When I awake I will seek it yet
again.”

Chapter 24

1 ¶ Do not be envious of evil men, nor desire
to be with them,
2 for their heart studies destruction, and their
lips talk of mischief.
3 Through wisdom a house is built, and by
understanding it is established;
4 and by knowledge the chambers will be filled
with all precious and pleasant riches.
5 A wise man is strong, yes, a man of knowl-
edge increases strength.
6 For by wise counsel you will make your
war, and in a multitude of counselors there is
safety.
7 Wisdom is too high for a fool. He does not open his mouth in the gate.
8 He who plots to do evil will be called a mischievous person.
9 The thought of foolishness is sin, and the scoffer is an abomination to men.
10 If you falter in the day of adversity, your strength is small.
11 Rescue those who are drawn to death, and those who are ready to be slain.
12 If you say, “Behold, we did not know it,” does not He who weighs the heart consider it? And He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to every man according to his works?
13 My son, eat honey because it is good, and the honeycomb that is sweet to your taste.
14 So will the knowledge of wisdom be to your soul. When you have found it, then there will be a reward and your hope will not be cut off.
15 Do not lie in wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous. Do not spoil his resting place,
16 for a just man falls seven times and rises up again, but the wicked will fall into mischief.
17 Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles,
18 lest the LORD see and it displease Him, and He turn away His wrath from him.
19 Do not fret yourself because of evil men, nor be envious of the wicked,
20 for there will be no reward for the evil man. The candle of the wicked will be put out.
21 My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not meddle with those who are given to rebellion,
22 for their calamity will rise suddenly, and who knows the ruin of them both?
23 These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have respect of persons in judgment.
24 He who says to the wicked, “You are righteous,” him will the people curse. Nations will abhor him.
25 But for those who rebuke him it will go well and a good blessing will come on them.
26 Every man will kiss the lips of him who gives a right answer.
27 Prepare your outside work and make it fit for yourself in the field, and afterwards build your house.
28 Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, and do not deceive with your lips.
29 Do not say, “I will do so to him as he has done to me. I will render to the man according to his work.”
30 ¶ I went by the field of the slothful and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding,
31 and behold, it was all grown over with thorns and nettles had covered its surface, and its stone wall was broken down.
32 Then I saw and considered it well. I looked on it and received instruction.
33 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep;
34 so will your poverty come as a prowler, and your need as an armed man.

Chapter 25
1 ¶ These are also proverbs of Solomon that the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied.
2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, but the honor of kings is to search out a matter.
3 The heaven for height and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable.
4 Take away the dross from the silver, and there will come forth material for the silversmith.
5 Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness.
6 Do not put forth yourself in the presence of the king, and do not stand in the place of great men;
7 for it is better that it be said to you, “Come up here,” than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince whom your eyes have seen.
8 Do not go forth hastily to argue your case.
lest you not know what to do in the end when your neighbor has put you to shame.

9 §Debate your case with your neighbor alone, and do not disclose a secret to another,

10 lest he who hears it put you to shame and your reputation be ruined.

11 ¶ A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

12 As an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover to a listening ear.

13 † As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to those who send him, for he refreshes the soul of his masters.

14 ¶ Whoever boasts himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.

15 ¶ By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaks the bone.

16 Have you found honey? Eat as much as is sufficient for you, lest you be filled with it and vomit it.

17 Withdraw your foot from your neighbor’s house, lest he be weary of you and so hate you.

18 §A man who bears false witness against his neighbor is like a club and a sword and a sharp arrow.

19 Confidence in an unfaithful man in a time of trouble is like a broken tooth and a foot out of joint.

20 As he who takes away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar on soda, so is he who sings songs to a heavy heart.

21 § If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat. And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink,

22 for you will heap coals of fire on his head and the LORD will reward you.

23 As the north wind brings forth rain, so does a backbiting tongue bring an angry countenance.

24 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop than with a brawling woman in a wide house.

25 As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

26 A righteous man falling down before the wicked is as a muddled spring and a polluted well.

27 It is not good to eat much honey, so for men to seek their own glory is not glory.

28 § He who has no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down and without walls.

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Chapter 26

1 ¶ As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool.

2 As a sparrow in its flying, as a swallow in its flying, so a curse without cause does not alight.

3 § A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the fool’s back.

4 Do not answer a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like him.

5 § Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes.

6 He who sends a message by the hand of a fool cuts off the feet and drinks damage.

7 The legs of the lame are not equal, so is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

8 As he who binds a stone in a sling, so is he who gives honor to a fool.

9 As a thorn goes up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

10 The great God who formed all things, both rewards the fool and rewards transgressors.

11 § As a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool returns to his folly.

12 § Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

13 ¶ The slothful man says, “There is a lion in the way. A lion is in the streets.”

14 As the door turns on its hinges, so does the slothful on his bed.

15 § The slothful buries his hand in his dish. It grieves him to bring it again to his mouth.

16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer discreetly.

17 ¶ He who passes by and meddles in an argument not belonging to him, is like one who takes a dog by the ears.

18 As a mad man who casts firebrands, arrows and death,

19 so is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, “I was only joking.”
20 Where there is no wood, the fire goes out. So where there is no talebearer the strife ceases. 21 As charcoal is to burning coals and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife. 22 The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the body. 23 Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross. 24 He who hates, disguises it with his lips, and lays up deceit within himself. 25 When he speaks fair, do not believe him, for there are seven abominations in his heart. 26 His hatred is covered by deceit. His wickedness will be revealed before the whole assembly. 27 Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, and he who rolls a stone, it will return on him. 28 A lying tongue hates those who are afflicted by it, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

Chapter 27

1 ¶ Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth. 2 ¶ Let another man praise you and not your own mouth, a stranger, and not your own lips. 3 A stone is heavy and the sand weighty, but a fool’s wrath is heavier than them both. 4 Wrath is cruel and anger is outrageous, but who is able to stand before envy? 5 Open rebuke is better than secret love. 6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. 7 The satisfied soul loathes a honeycomb, but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet. 8 As a bird that wanders from her nest, so is a man who wanders from his place. 9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart, so a man’s counsel is sweet to his friend. 10 Do not forsake your own friend and your father’s friend, nor go into your brother’s house in the day of your calamity, for better is a neighbor who is near than a brother far away. 11 My son, be wise and make my heart glad, so that I may answer him who reproaches me. 12 A prudent man foresees the evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished. 13 Take his garment that is surety for a stranger, and take a pledge from him for a wayward woman. 14 He who blesses his friend with a loud voice early in the morning, it will be counted as a curse to him. 15 A continual dropping on a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike. 16 Whoever restrains her restrains the wind, and grasps oil with his right hand. 17 Iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend. 18 Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit, but he who waits on his master will be honored. 19 As in water face reflects face, so a man’s heart reveals the man. 20 Sheol and destruction are never full, so the eyes of man are never satisfied. 21 As the refining pot for silver and the furnace for gold, so each is tested by the praise given to him. 22 Though you crush a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with crushed grain, yet his foolishness will not depart from him. 23 ¶ Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, and look well to your herds. 24 For riches are not forever, nor does the crown endure to every generation. 25 ¶ When the hay is removed, and the new growth shows itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered, 26 the lambs are for your clothing and the goats are the price of the field. 27 And you will have enough goats’ milk for your food, for the food of your household, and for sustenance for your maidservants.

Chapter 28

1 ¶ The wicked man flees when no man pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion. 2 By the transgression of a land there are many princes, but by a man of understanding and knowledge the state will be prolonged. 3 ¶ A ruler who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain that leaves no food.
4 Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, but such as keep the law contend with them.
5 Evil men do not understand judgment, but those who seek the LORD understand all things.
6 Better is the poor who walks in his uprightness, than he who is perverse in his ways, though he is rich.
7 Whoever keeps the law is a wise son, but he who is a companion of riotous men shames his father.
8 He who by usury and unjust gain increases his wealth, will gather it for him who will pity the poor.
9 He who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer will be an abomination.
10 Whoever causes the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he will fall himself into his own pit. But the upright will have good things in possession.
11 The rich man is wise in his own eyes, but the poor who has understanding sees through him.
12 When righteous men rejoice, there is great glory. But when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.
13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.
14 Happy is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart will fall into mischief.
15 As a roaring lion and a raging bear, so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.
16 The prince who lacks understanding is also a great oppressor, but he who hates covetousness will prolong his days.
17 A man who does violence to the blood of any person will flee to the pit. Let no man support him.
18 Whoever walks uprightly will be saved, but he who is perverse in his ways will fall at once.
19 He who tills his land will have plenty of food, but he who follows after useless persons will have poverty in plenty.
20 A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who makes haste to be rich will not be innocent.
21 To have respect of persons is not good, because for a piece of bread a man will transgress.
22 He who hastens to be rich has an evil eye, and does not consider that poverty will come on him.
23 He who rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with the tongue.
24 Whoever robs his father or his mother, and says, “It is no transgression,” the same is the companion of a destroyer.
25 He who has a proud heart stirs up strife, but he who puts his trust in the LORD will be made fat.
26 The king by judgment establishes the land, but he who receives bribes overthrows it.
27 He who gives to the poor will not lack, but he who hides his eyes will have many curses.
28 When the wicked rise men hide themselves, but when they perish the righteous increase.

Chapter 29

1 He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.
2 The people rejoice when the righteous are in authority. But the people mourn when the wicked have control.
3 Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice, but he who keeps company with harlots spends his substance.
4 The king by judgment establishes the land, but he who receives bribes overthrows it.
5 A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet.
6 In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare, but the righteous sings and rejoices.
7 The righteous considers the cause of the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.
8 Scornful men bring a city into a snare, but wise men turn away wrath.
9 If a wise man contends with a foolish man, the  
fool only rages or laughs, and there is no  
peace.
10 The bloodthirsty detest the blameless, but  
the just seek his soul.
11 A fool speaks all his mind, but a wise man  
keeps it in until later.
12 If a ruler hearkens to lies, all his servants  
are wicked.
13 The poor and the deceitful man meet to-  
gether, and the LORD enlightens the eyes of  
both.
14 The king who faithfully judges the poor,  
his throne will be established forever.
15 The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a  
child left to himself brings his mother to  
shame.
16 When the wicked are multiplied transgres-  
sion increases, but the righteous will see their  
fall.
17 Correct your son and he will give you rest,  
yes, he will give delight to your soul.
18 Where there is no vision the people perish,  
but he who keeps the law.
19 A servant will not be corrected by words,  
for though he understands he will not answer.
20 Do you see a man who is hasty in his words?  
There is more hope for a fool than for him.
21 He who pampers his servant from youth  
will in the end find him to be a son.
22 An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious  
man abounds in transgression.
23 A man's pride will bring him low, but honor  
will uphold the humble in spirit.
24 Whoever is a partner with a thief hates his  
own soul; he puts himself under oath and does not  
testify.
25 The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever 
puts his trust in the LORD will be safe.
26 Many seek the ruler's favor, but every man's  
judgment comes from the LORD.
27 An unjust man is an abomination to the  
just, and he who is upright in the way is an  
abomination to the wicked.

**Chapter 30**

1 ¶ The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, the  
oracle. This man spoke to Ithiel, even to Ithiel  
and Ucal:
2 "Surely I am more ignorant than any man,  
and have not the understanding of a man.
3 I neither learned wisdom, nor have the  
knowledge of the holy.
4 Who has ascended up into heaven, or de- 
scedned? Who has gathered the wind in his  
fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment?  
Who has established all the ends of the earth?  
What is His name and what is His Son's name,  
if you can tell?
5 Every word of God is pure. He is a shield  
to those who put their trust in Him.
6 Do not add to his words, lest He rebuke  
you and you are found a liar.
7 Two things I have required from You (do  
not deny me of them before I die):
8 Remove far from me falsehood and lies.  
Give me neither poverty nor riches. Feed me  
with food allotted for me,
9 lest I be full and deny You and say, "Who is  
the LORD?" Or lest I be poor and steal and  
take the name of my God in vain.
10 ¶ Do not slander a servant to his master,  
lest he curse you and you be found guilty.
11 There is a generation that curses their father  
and does not bless their mother.
12 There is a generation that is pure in their  
own eyes, and yet, is not washed from their  
filthiness.
13 There is a generation—O how lofty are  
their eyes! And their eyelids are lifted up.
14 There is a generation whose teeth are as  
swords and their jaw teeth as knives, to de- 
vour the poor from off the earth and the needy  
from among men.
15 The leech has two daughters, crying, "Give!  
Give!" There are three things that will not be  
satisfied, four that will not say, "Enough":
16 The grave, and the barren womb, the earth  
that is not filled with water, and the fire that  
does not say, "It is enough."
17 The eye that mocks at his father and scorns  
obedience to his mother, the ravens of the valley  
will pick it out, and the young eagles will eat it.
18 ¶ There are three things that are too won-
derful for me, yes, four that I do not know:
19 the way of an eagle in the air, the way of a serpent on a rock, the way of a ship in the midst of the sea, and the way of a man with a maiden.
20 ¶ Such is the way of an adulterous woman. She eats and wipes her mouth, and says, “I have done no wickedness.”
21 For three things the earth trembles, and for four it cannot bear:
22 ¶ for a servant when he reigns, and a fool when he is filled with food,
23 for a hateful woman when she is married, and a handmaid who is heir to her mistress.
24 ¶ There are four things that are little on the earth, but they are exceedingly wise:
25 the ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their food in the summer.
26 The rock badgers are but feeble creatures, yet they make their houses in the rocks.
27 The locusts have no king, yet they go forth all of them by ranks.
28 The spider takes hold with her hands and is in kings’ palaces.
29 ¶ There are three things that go well, yes, four are stately in their walk:
30 a lion that is strongest among beasts and does not turn away for any,
31 a greyhound, a male goat also, and a king with his army around him.
32 ¶ If you have done foolishly in lifting up yourself, or if you have thought evil, lay your hand on your mouth.
33 Surely the churning of milk brings forth butter, and the twisting of the nose brings forth blood, so the stirring up of wrath brings forth strife.

Chapter 31
1 ¶ The words of King Lemuel, the oracle that his mother taught him:
2 O my son? O the son of my womb? O the son of my vows?
3 Do not give your strength to women, nor your ways to that which destroys kings.
4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, nor for princes strong drink,
5 lest they drink and forget the law and pervert the judgment of any of the oppressed.
6 ¶ Give strong drink to him who is ready to perish, and wine to those who are of heavy hearts.
7 Let him drink and forget his poverty and remember his misery no more.
8 ¶ Open your mouth for the mute in the cause of all who are left desolate.
9 Open your mouth, judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor and needy.
10 ¶ Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.
11 The heart of her husband safely trusts in her, so that he will have no lack of gain.
12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.
13 She seeks wool and flax, and works willingly with her hands.
14 She is like the merchants’ ships. She brings her food from afar.
15 She rises also while it is still night and gives food to her household, and a portion to her maidens.
16 She considers a field and buys it. With the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
17 She girds her loins with strength and strengthens her arms.
18 She perceives that her merchandise is good. Her candle does not go out at night.
19 She lays her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.
20 She stretches out her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches forth her hands to the needy.
21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household, for all her household are clothed with scarlet.
22 She makes herself coverings of tapestry, her clothing is silk and purple.
23 Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land.
24 She makes fine linen and sells it, and delivers sashes to the merchants.
25 Strength and honor are her clothing, and she will rejoice in time to come.
26 She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.
27 She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.
Her children arise up and call her blessed. 
Her husband praises her. 
Many women have done well, but you surpass them all.

ECCLESIASTES

Chapter 1
All is Vanity

1 ¶ The words of the Teacher, the son of David, a king in Jerusalem.
2 Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities. "All is vanity.
3 What profit does a man have in all his work that he does under the sun?
4 One generation passes away and another generation comes, but the earth abides forever.
5 The sun also rises and the sun goes down, and hastens to its place where it rose.
6 The wind goes toward the south and turns around to the north. It whirls around continually, and the wind returns again according to its circuits.
7 All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full. To the place from where the rivers come, there they return again.
8 All things are unspeakably tiresome. Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.
9 The thing that has been, it is that which will be. And that which is done is that which will be done. And there is no new thing under the sun.
10 Is there anything of which it may be said, “See, this is new”? It has been already from old time that was before us.
11 There is no remembrance of former things, neither will there be any remembrance of things that are to come with those that will come after.

Wisdom is Vanity

12 ¶ I the Teacher was king over Israel in Jerusalem.
13 And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven. This burdensome task God has given to the sons of men by which to be busy.
14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun. And behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.
15 That which is crooked cannot be made straight. And that which is lacking cannot be counted.
16 ¶ I communed with my own heart, saying, “Behold, I have magnified and increased wisdom more than all who were over Jerusalem before me. Yes, my heart has great experience of wisdom and knowledge.”
17 And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is a vexation of spirit.
18 For in much wisdom is much grief. And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

Chapter 2
Pleasures are Vanity

1 ¶ I said in my heart, “Come now, I will test you with pleasure, therefore enjoy good.” And behold, this also was vanity.
2 I said of laughter, “It is madness,” and of pleasure, “What does it accomplish?”
3 I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, until I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives.
4 I made my works great. I built my houses. I planted my vineyards.
5 I made pools of water to irrigate a plantation of growing trees.
6 I made gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits.
7 I made pools of water to irrigate a plantation of growing trees.
8 I bought male and female slaves, and had
slaves born in my house. I also had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me.

8 I gathered also silver and gold, and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces. I acquired men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, as musical instruments of all kinds.

9 So I was great and increased more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My wisdom also remained with me.

10 And whatever my eyes desired, I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any joy, for my heart rejoiced in all my labor. And this was my reward from all my labor.

11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had accomplished, and on the labor that I had labored to do. And behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit. And there was no profit under the sun.

Wisdom and Folly are Vanity

12 And I turned myself to consider wisdom and madness and folly, for what will the man do who comes after the king except what has already been done?

13 Then I saw that wisdom excels folly, as far as light excels darkness.

14 The wise man’s eyes are in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And I myself perceived also that one event happens to them all.

15 Then I said in my heart, “As it happens to the fool, so it happens even to me. Why then have I been extremely wise?” So I said to myself, “This too is vanity.”

16 For there is no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool forever, seeing that which now is in the days to come will all be forgotten. And how does the wise man die? As the fool.

Labor is Vanity

17 Therefore, I hated life because the work that is done under the sun is grievous to me, for all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

18 Yes, I hated all my labor in which I had labored under the sun, because I must leave it to the man who will be after me.

19 And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have rule over all my labor wherein I have labored, and wherein I have showed myself wise under the sun. This is also vanity.

20 Therefore, I turned in my heart to despair of all the labor that I had labored under the sun.

21 For there is a man whose labor is in wisdom and in knowledge and in equity. Yet to a man who has not labored for it, he will leave it for his heritage. This also is vanity and a great evil.

22 For what does man have for all his labor, and for the vexation of his heart, by which he has labored under the sun?

23 For all his days are sorrowful, and his work burdensome. Yes, his heart does not take rest in the night. This is also vanity.

24 There is nothing better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labor. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.

25 For who can eat and who can have enjoyment without Him?

26 For to a person who is good in His sight He has given wisdom and knowledge and joy. But to the sinner He gives the task of toil of gathering and heaping up in order that He may give to him who is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

Chapter 3

A Time for Everything

1 To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven—

2 a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

3 a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up;

4 a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance;

5 a time to cast away stones and a time to
gather stones together; a \textit{time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing};
6 a time to gain and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to cast away;
7 a time to tear apart and a time to sew; a time to keep silence and a time to speak;
8 a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.
9 ¶ What profit has he who works in that wherein he labors?
10 I have seen the travail that God has given to the sons of men with which to occupy themselves.
11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in their hearts so that no man can find out the work that God has done from the beginning to the end.
12 I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and to do good in their lifetimes, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor. It is the gift of God.
13 I know that whatever God does, it will be forever. There is nothing to add to it and there is nothing to take from it, for God has worked so that men should fear Him.
14 Whatever is has already been and what will be has already been, for God seeks what has passed by.
15 And moreover I saw under the sun the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; and the place of righteousness, that iniquity was there.
16 I said in my heart, “God will judge the righteous and the wicked,” for there is a time for every purpose and for every work.
17 I said in my heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, “God has surely tested them in order for them to see that they are but beasts.”
18 For that which happens to the sons of men happens to beasts, even one thing happens to them: as the one dies, so dies the other. Yes, they have all one breath, so that a man has no preeminence above a beast, for all is vanity.
20 All go to one place. All are of the dust and all turn to dust again.
21 ¶ Who knows the spirit of man that goes upward, and the spirit of the beast that goes downward to the earth?
22 Therefore, I perceive that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his own works, for that is his heritage. ¶ For who will bring him to see what will be after him?

Chapter 4
Oppression, Labor, Loneliness
1 ¶ So I returned and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of such as were oppressed and those who had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors there was power. But they had no comforter.
2 ¶ Therefore, I praised the dead that are already dead more than the living that are still alive.
3 ¶ Yes, better is he than both of them is the one who has not yet been, who has not seen the evil work that is done under the sun.
4 ¶ Again, I considered all toil and every skillful work for which a man is envied by his neighbor. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.
5 ¶ The fool folds his hands together and eats his own flesh.
6 ¶ Better is one handful with quietness than both hands full toil and vexation of spirit.
7 ¶ Then I returned and I saw vanity under the sun.
8 There was a certain man without a dependent, having neither a son nor a brother.
9 ¶ Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.
10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he...
falls, for he has no one to help him up.

11 Again, if two lie together, then they have heat. But how can one be warm alone?

12 And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Vanity of Achievement

13 ¶ Better is a poor and a wise youth than an old and foolish king who will no longer be admonished.

14 For he comes out of prison to reign, though he was born poor in his kingdom.

15 I considered all the living who walk under the sun with the second youth who will stand up in his place.

16 There is no end of all the people, even of all who have been before them. They also who come after will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

Chapter 5

Awesomeness of God

1 ¶ Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. And be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not consider that they do evil.

2 Do not be rash with your mouth, and do not let your heart be hasty to utter anything before God. For God is in heaven and you on earth. Therefore, let your words be few.

3 For a dream comes through much work, and a fool’s voice is known by a multitude of words.

4 ¶ When you vow a vow to God, do not be late in paying it, for He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed.

5 ¶ Better that you should not vow, than that you should vow and not pay.

6 Do not allow your mouth to cause your flesh to sin, nor say before the messenger of God that it was an error. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands?

7 For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also different vanities. But fear God.

Riches are Vanity

8 ¶ If you see the oppression of the poor and violent perverting of judgment and justice in a province, do not marvel at the matter, for high official watches over another official, and there are higher officials over them.

9 Furthermore, the profit of the land is for all. The king himself is served by the field.

10 ¶ He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver, nor he who loves abundance with increase. This is also vanity.

11 When goods increase, they are increased who eat them. So what good is there to the owners, except the beholding of them with their eyes?

12 The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, whether he eats little or much. But the abundance of the rich will not allow him to sleep.

13 ¶ There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun, specifically, riches being hoarded by their owner to his hurt.

14 But those riches perish through misfortune. And he begets a son and there is nothing in his hand.

15 ¶ As he came forth from his mother’s womb, naked will he return to go as he came. And he will take nothing from his labor that he may carry it away in his hand.

16 And this also is a grievous evil, that in all points as he came, so will he go. And what profit has he who has labored for the wind?

17 All his days he also eats in darkness, and he has much sorrow and anger with his sickness.

18 ¶ Behold that which I have seen. It is good and fitting for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labor in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life that God gives him, for it is his portion.

19 When God gives any man riches and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labor—this is the gift of God.

20 For he will not often remember the days of his life, because God answers him in the joy of his heart.
Chapter 6

1 ¶ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it is common among men:
2 a man to whom God has given riches, wealth and honor, so that his soul lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to eat of it, but a foreigner eats it. This is vanity and an evil affliction.
3 ¶ If a man beget a hundred children, and live many years, so that the days of his years are many, and his soul is not satisfied with goodness, and also he has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better than he.
4 For he comes in with vanity and departs in darkness, and his name will be covered with darkness.
5 Furthermore, he has not seen the sun, nor known anything. This one has more rest than the other.
6 Yes, though he live a thousand years twice, yet he has seen no good. Do not all go to one place?
7 ¶ All the labor of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled.
8 For what has the wise more than the fool? What does the poor gain who knows what man is, for he cannot dispute with him who is stronger than he.
9 Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the desire. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.
10 ¶ That which exists has already been named, and it is known what man is, for he cannot dispute with him who is stronger than he.
11 Seeing there are many things that increase vanity, how is man the better?
12 For who knows what is good for man in this life, for all the days of his vain life he spends as a shadow? For who can tell a man what will be after him under the sun?

Chapter 7

Wisdom

1 ¶ A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one’s birth.
2 It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men; and the living will take it to heart.
3 Sorrow is better than laughter, for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better.
4 The mind of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the mind of fools is in the house of pleasure.
5 ¶ It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise than for a man to hear the song of fools.
6 ¶ For as the crackling of thorn bushes under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool. This also is vanity.
7 Surely oppression makes a wise man mad, and a bribe destroys the heart.
8 Better is the end of a thing than its beginning. The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.
9 ¶ Do not be hasty in your spirit to be angry, for anger rests in the bosom of fools.
10 Do not say, “Why is it that the former days were better than these?” For you do not inquire wisely concerning this.
11 Wisdom is good as an inheritance, and profitable for those who see the sun.
12 For wisdom is a defense, and money is a defense. But the excellency of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to those who have it.
13 ¶ Consider the work of God. For who is able to straighten what He has bent?
14 ¶ In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: surely God has appointed the one as well as the other, so that man should find nothing that comes after him.
15 ¶ All things I have seen in the days of my vanity. There is a just man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who proclaims his life in his wickedness.
16 ¶ Do not be overly righteous, neither make yourself overly wise. Why should you destroy yourself?
17 Do not be overly wicked, neither be foolish. Why should you die before your time?
18 ¶ It is good that you should take hold of this; yes, also from this do not withdraw your hand, for he who fears God will escape them all.
19 "Wisdom strengthens the wise more than ten mighty men who are in the city.
20 "For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin.
21 ¶ Also take no heed to all words that are spoken, lest you hear your servant curse you.
22 For many times also your own heart knows that you yourself have likewise cursed others.
23 ¶ All this I have proved by wisdom: 'I said, "I will be wise," but it was far from me.
24 "That which is far off and exceedingly deep, who can find it out?
25 I applied my heart to know and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason for things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness.
26 "And I find more bitter than death the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and whose hands are chains. Whoever pleases God will escape from her, but the sinner will be taken by her.
27 ¶ "Behold, this I have found," says the Teacher, "adding one thing to another, to find out the reason,
28 "that I am still seeking but have not found. I have found one man among a thousand, but I have not found a woman among all these.
29 "Behold, this only I have found, 'that God has made man upright. But they have sought out many schemes for evil.'"

Chapter 8
1 ¶ Who is as the wise man? And who knows the interpretation of a thing? A man's wisdom makes his face shine, and the sternness of his face will be changed.

Obedience to the King
2 I counsel you to keep the king's commandment, because of your oath before God.
3 ¶ Do not be hasty to leave his sight. Do not join in an evil thing, for he does whatever pleases him.
4 Where the word of a king is, there is power. And who may say to him, "What are you doing?"
5 Whoever keeps the commandment will experience no evil thing, for a wise man's heart discerns both time and judgment.
6 Because there is a time and judgment for every purpose, therefore the misery of man is great on him.
7 ¶ For if no one knows what will happen, who can tell him when it will happen?
8 "There is no man who has power over the wind to retain the wind, neither has anyone power in the day of death. And there is 'no release in the time of war, neither will wickedness deliver those who practice it.
9 All this I have seen, and applied my heart to every work that is done under the sun. There is a time wherein one man rules over another to injure him.
10 ¶ And so I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy. And they were soon forgotten in the city where they had so done. This is also vanity.
11 ¶ Because sentence against an evil work is not executed quickly, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully established in them to do evil.
12 "Though a sinner do evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet surely I know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him.
13 But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days as a shadow, because he does not fear before God.
14 ¶ There is a vanity that is done on the earth, that is, there are righteous men to whom it happens according to the deeds of the wicked. Again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous. I say that this also is vanity.
15 ¶ Then I commended pleasure because a man has no better thing under the sun than to eat and to drink and to be merry; for this will abide with him in his labor all the days of his life that God gives him under the sun.
16 ¶ When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on the earth, even though one should never sleep day or night,
17 then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. Even though a man labor to discover it, yet he will not find it. Furthermore, though a wise man attempts to know it, yet he will not be able to find it.

Chapter 9
Our Common Destiny
1 ¶ For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this, athat the righteous and the wise and their works, are in the hand of God. No man knows either love or hatred by all that is before them.

2 All things come alike to all. There is one event for the righteous and for the wicked, for the good and for the clean, and for the unclean; for him who sacrifices, and for him who does not sacrifice. As is the good, so is the sinner; and he who swears, as he who fears an oath.

3 This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event to all. Yes, the heart of the sons of men is also full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live. Afterwards they go to the dead.

4 ¶ For to him who is joined to all the living there is hope; for a living dog is better than a dead lion.

5 For the living know that they will die, but the dead do not know anything, neither have they any more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten.

6 Also their love and their hatred and their envy, have now perished. Neither do they have any longer a share in anything that is done under the sun.

7 ¶ Go your way and eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God now accepts your works.

8 Let your garments always be white, and let your head lack no ointment.

9 Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of the life of your vanity that He has given you under the sun, all the days of your vanity; for this is your reward in life and in your toil in which you have labored under the sun.

10 a Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave where you go.

11 ¶ I returned and saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither still bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill. But time and chance happen to them all.

12 For man also does not know his time. As the fish that are taken in a cruel net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare, so are the sons of men snared in an evil time when it falls suddenly on them.

Wisdom over Foolishness
13 ¶ This wisdom I have seen also under the sun, and it seemed great to me.

14 n There was a little city and few men within it. And there came a great king against it and besieged it. And he built great bulwarks against it.

15 Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. However, no man remembered that same poor man.

16 Then I said, “Wisdom is better than strength.” Nevertheless, the poor man’s wisdom is despised and his words are not heard.

17 The words of wise men are heard in quiet more than the cry of him who rules among fools.

18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.

Chapter 10
1 ¶ Dead flies putrefy the perfumer’s ointment, so does a little folly outweigh wisdom and honor.

2 A wise man’s heart is at his right hand, but a fool’s heart at his left.

3 Even when he who is a fool walks by the way, bdo not abandon your position, for conciliation pacifies great offenses.
¶ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as an error that proceeds from the ruler.

Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in humble places.

I have seen servants on horses, and princes walking as servants on the earth.

¶ He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite whoever breaks through a wall.

Whoever removes stones will be hurt by them, and he who splits logs will be endangered by them.

If the axe is blunt, and he does not sharpen the edge, then he must exert more strength. Wisdom has the advantage of giving success.

Surely the serpent will bite when it is not charmed, and a babbler is no better.

The words of a wise man’s mouth are gracious, but the lips of a fool will consume him.

The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness, and the end of his talk is perverse stupidity.

A fool also is full of words. A man cannot tell what will be, and what will be after him. Who can tell him?

The labor of the foolish wearies all of them because he does not know how to go to the city.

Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child and your princes eat in the morning!

Blessed are you, O land, when your king is the son of nobles, and your princes eat at the appropriate time for strength and not for drunkenness!

By much slothfulness the building decays, and through idleness of the hands the house leaks.

A feast is made for merry-making, and wine makes merry, and money does it all.

Do not curse the king, even in your thought. And do not curse the rich in your bedchamber, for a bird of the air will carry the voice. And that which has wings will tell the matter.

Cast your bread on the waters, for you will find it after many days.

Give a portion to seven, and also to eight, for you do not know what evil will be on the earth.

If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves on the earth. And if the tree falls toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falls there it will be.

He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

As you do not know what is the path of the wind, nor how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, even so you do not know the works of God who makes all.

In the morning sow your seed and in the evening do not withhold your hand, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.

Truly, the light is sweet, and it is good for the eyes to see the sun.

But if a man lives many years and rejoices in them all, nevertheless, let him remember the days of darkness, for they will be many. All that comes is nothingness.

¶ Rejoice, O young man, in your youth. And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth, and walk in the ways of your heart and in the sight of your eyes. But know that God will bring you to judgment for all these things.

Therefore, remove sorrow from your heart and put away evil from your flesh, for childhood and youth are vanity.

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”;

before the sun, or the light, or the moon, or
the stars, are darkened and clouds return after the rain;  
3 in the day when the keepers of the house will tremble, and the strong men stoop and the grinders cease because they are few, and those who look through the windows are darkened,  
4 and the doors on the street are shut as the sound of the grinding mill is low, and one will rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music will be brought low.  
5 Also, they will be afraid of that which is high, and fear will be in the way, and the almond tree will flourish, and the grasshopper drags himself along, and desire will fail.  
6 For man goes to his eternal home and the mourners go about in the streets.

6 Remember your Creator before the silver cord is loosed or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

7 Then will the dust return to the earth as it was. And the spirit will return to God who gave it.

8 "Vanity of vanities," says the Teacher, “all is vanity.”

9 ¶ And furthermore, because the Teacher was wise he taught the people knowledge. Yes, he pondered, searched out and arranged many proverbs.

10 The Teacher sought to find out acceptable words. And that which was written was upright, even words of truth.

11 ¶ The words of the wise are as goads, and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails. They are given by one Shepherd.

12 And furthermore, by these, my son, be admonished. In the writing of many books there is no end, and excessive devotion to books is wearying to the body.

13 ¶ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

14 For God will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it is good or whether it is evil.

SONG OF SOLOMON

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The song of songs, which is Solomon’s.

The Shulamite

2 ¶ Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth, for your love is better than wine.

3 Because of the fragrance of your good ointments your name is as ointment poured forth. Therefore, the maidens love you.

4 ¶ Take me away with you.

The Maidens Of Jerusalem

¶ We will run after you

The Shulamite

¶ The king has brought me into his chambers.

The Maidens Of Jerusalem

¶ We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will remember your love more than wine.

The Shulamite

8 ¶ If you do not know, O fairest among women, go your way in the footsteps of the flock and feed your young goats beside the shepherds’ tents.
The King

9 ¶ I have compared you, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh’s chariots.
10 Your cheeks are lovely with rows of jewels, your neck with chains of gold.

The Maidens of Jerusalem

11 ¶ We will make you ornaments of gold studded with silver.

The Shulamite

12 ¶ While the king was at his table, my perfume sent forth its fragrance.
13 A bag of myrrh is my beloved unto me. He will lie all night between my breasts.
14 My beloved is unto me as a cluster of henna blooms in the vineyards of En Gedi.

The King

15 ¶ Behold, how fair you are my love. Behold, how fair you are. You have the eyes of doves.

The Shulamite

16 ¶ Behold, you are handsome, my beloved, yes, pleasant; also our bed is green.
17 The beams of our house are cedar and our rafters of fir.

Chapter 2

1 ¶ I am the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valleys.

The King

2 ¶ As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the maidens.

The Shulamite

3 ¶ As the apple tree among the trees of the forest, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
4 He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.
5 Sustain me with cakes of raisins. Comfort me with apples, for I am faint with love.
6 His left hand is under my head, and his right hand embraces me.
7 ¶ I charge you, O maidens of Jerusalem, by the gazelles and by the does of the field, that you do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires.

The Shulamite

8 ¶ The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.
9 ¶ My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Behold, he stands behind our wall. He looks out through the windows, showing himself through the lattice.
10 ¶ My beloved is about to speak to me. He speaks to me.

The Beloved

¶ “Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.
11 For behold, the winter is past. The rain is over and gone.
12 The flowers appear on the earth. The time of the singing of birds has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.
13 The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.
14 ¶ O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see your face.
15 Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vines, for our vines have tender grapes.
16 ¶ My beloved is mine and I am his. He feeds among the lilies.
17 ¶ Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away, turn my beloved, and be like a gazelle or a young stag upon the mountains of Bether.

Chapter 3

The Shulamite

1 ¶ In the nights on my bed I sought him whom
my soul loves. I sought him, but I did not find him.  
2 I will rise now and go about the city in the streets. In the squares I will seek him whom my soul loves. I sought him, but I did not find him.  
3 *The watchmen who go about the city found me. I asked them, “Have you seen him whom my soul loves?”*  
4 It was but a brief time when I passed from among them that I found him whom my soul loves. I held him and would not let him go until I had brought him into my mother’s house, and into the chamber of her who conceived me.  
5 *I charge you, O you maidens of Jerusalem, by the gazelles and by the does of the field, that you do not stir up, nor awaken love until it pleases. The Shulamite*  
6 ¶ *Who is this who comes out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant?*  
7 Behold, it is the traveling couch of Solomon. Sixty mighty men are around it, of the mighty men of Israel.  
8 They all hold swords, being experts in war. Every man has his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night.  
9 ¶ King Solomon made himself a carriage of the wood of Lebanon.  
10 He made its pillars of silver, its bottom of gold, the covering of it of purple, with its interior lovingly fitted out by the maidens of Jerusalem.  
11 ¶ Go forth, O you maidens of Zion, and behold King Solomon with the crown with which his mother crowned him in the day of his wedding, in the day of the gladness of his heart.  

**Chapter 4**  
**The King**  
1 ¶ Behold, *you are fair, my love. Behold, you are fair. You have the eyes of doves behind your veil. Your hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Mount Gilead.*  
2 *Your teeth are like a flock of shorn sheep that came up from the washing, every one bearing twins, and none is barren among them.*  
3 *Your lips are like a ribbon of scarlet, and your speech is lovely. Your temples are like a piece of a pomegranate behind your veil.*  
4 *Your neck is like the tower of David built for an armory, whereon there hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men.*  
5 *Your two breasts are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle that feed among the lilies.*  
6 ¶ *Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away, I will go my way to the mountain of myrrh and to the hill of frankincense.*  
7 ¶ *You are all fair, my love. There is no spot in you.  
8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride, come with me from Lebanon. Look from the top of Amana, from the top of Shenir and Hermon, from the lions’ dens, from the mountains of the leopards.*  
9 You have ravished my heart, my sister, my bride. You have ravished my heart with one of your eyes, with one chain of your neck.  
10 How fair is your love, my sister, my bride! How much better is your love than wine, and the smell of your ointments than all spices!  
11 Your lips, O my bride, drop as the honeycomb. Honey and milk are under your tongue, and the smell of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.  
12 A garden enclosed is my sister, my bride, a spring shut up and a fountain sealed.  
13 Your plants are an orchard of pomegranates with pleasant fruits, henna blooms with spikenard, spikenard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon with all trees of frankincense, myrrh and aloes with all the chief spices.  
15 You are a garden spring, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon.  

**The Shulamite**  
16 ¶ *Awake, O north wind, and come wind of the south. Blow upon my garden so that its
spices may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden and eat its pleasant fruits.

Chapter 5

The King

1 ¶ I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride. I have gathered my myrrh with my spice. I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey. I have drunk my wine with my milk.

To the Friends

¶ Eat, O friends. Drink. Yes, drink abundantly, O lovers.

The Shulamite

2 ¶ I sleep, but my heart is awake. It is the voice of my beloved who knocks, saying, “Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled. For my head is filled with dew and my locks with the drops of the night.”

3 I have put off my coat. How will I put it on again? I have washed my feet. How will I make them dirty again?

4 My beloved put his hand in the latch opening, and my heart yearned for him.

5 I rose up to open to my beloved, and my hands dripped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh upon the handles of the lock.

6 I opened to my beloved, but my beloved had withdrawn himself and was gone. My soul failed when he turned away. I sought him, but I could not find him. I called him, but he gave me no answer.

7 The watchmen who went about the city found me. They struck me. They wounded me. The keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.

8 I charge you, O maidens of Jerusalem, if you find my beloved tell him that I am lovesick.

The Maidens of Jerusalem

9 ¶ What is your beloved more than another beloved, O you fairest among women? What is your beloved more than another beloved, that you so charge us?

The Shulamite

10 ¶ My beloved is radiant and ruddy, the chief among ten thousand.

11 His head is as the purest gold. His locks are bushy and black as a raven.

12 His eyes are as the eyes of doves by the water streams, washed with milk and reposed in their setting.

13 His cheeks are as a bed of spices, as sweet flowers. His lips are like lilies, dripping sweet smelling myrrh.

14 His hands are as gold rings set with the beryl. His stomach is as bright ivory overlaid with sapphires.

15 His legs are as pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold. His countenance is as Lebanon, excellent as the cedars.

16 His speech is most sweet. Yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O maidens of Jerusalem.

Chapter 6

The Maidens of Jerusalem

1 ¶ Where has your beloved gone, O you fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside so that we may seek him with you?

The Shulamite

2 ¶ My beloved is gone down into his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed in the gardens and to gather lilies.

3 I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine. He feeds among the lilies.

The King

4 ¶ You are beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, lovely as Jerusalem, awesome as an army with banners.

5 Turn away your eyes from me, for they have confused me. Your hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Gilead.

6 Your teeth are as a flock of sheep that go up from washing, all of which bear twins, and not one among them has lost her young.

7 As a piece of a pomegranate are your temples behind your veil.

8 There are sixty queens and eighty concubines, and maidens without number.
9 My dove, my perfect one is but one. She is the only one of her mother. She is the pure child of the one who bore her. The maidens saw her and blessed her. The queens and the concubines, they also praised her, saying.

Friends
10 ¶ Who is this who grows like the dawn, and is as beautiful as the full moon, as pure as the sun, as awesome as an army with banners?

The Shulamite
11 ¶ I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished and the pomegranates budded.
12 Before I was aware, my desire set me among the chariots of my noble people.

The Maidens of Jerusalem
13 ¶ Return, return, O Shulamite. Return, return, so that we may look upon you.

The Shulamite
¶ Why should you gaze at the Shulamite, as at the dance of the two companies?

Chapter 7

The Maidens of Jerusalem
1 ¶ How beautiful are your feet with shoes, O prince’s maiden! The joints of your thighs are like jewels, the work of the hands of a skillful craftsman.
2 Your navel is like a round goblet that never lacks mixed wine. Your waist is like a mound of wheat encircled with lilies.
3 Your two breasts are like two young gazelles that are twins.
4 Your neck is as a tower of ivory and your eyes like the pools in Heshbon by the gate of Bath Rabbim. Your nose is as the tower of Lebanon that looks toward Damascus.
5 Your head upon you is like Carmel, and the hair of your head like purple. The king is captivated by your tresses.

The King
6 ¶ How fair and how pleasant you are, O love, with your delights!
7 This your stature is like a palm tree, and your breasts like its clusters.
8 I said, “I will go up to the palm tree. I will take hold of its branches.” Let now your breasts be as clusters of the vine, and the smell of your nose like apples,
9 and the roof of your mouth like the best wine for my beloved.

The Shulamite
¶ May the wine go straight to my beloved, flowing gently over lips and teeth.
10 ¶ I am my beloved’s, and his desire is toward me.
11 Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field. Let us lodge in the villages.
12 Let us get up early to the vineyards. Let us see if the vine has budded, whether the tender grape appears, and the pomegranates bud forth. There I will give you my love.
13 The mandrakes give a smell, and at our gates are all manner of pleasant fruits, new and old, that I have laid up for you, O my beloved.

Chapter 8

1 ¶ O that you were as my brother who nursed at the breasts of my mother! Then if I would find you outside, I would kiss you. Yes, I would not be despised.
2 I would lead you and bring you into my mother’s house, who would instruct me. I would cause you to drink of spiced wine from the juice of my pomegranate.
3 ¶ His left hand would be under my head and his right hand would embrace me.
4 ¶ I charge you, O maidens of Jerusalem, that you do not stir up, nor awaken love until it pleases.

Friends
5 ¶ Who is this who comes up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved?

The Shulamite
¶ Under the apple tree I awakened you. There
your mother brought you forth. There she brought you forth who bore you.
6 ¶ Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm. For love is as strong as death. Jealousy is as cruel as the grave. Its flames are flames of fire, a most vehement flame of the LORD.
7 Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. ¶ If a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be scorned.

**Brothers of the Shulamite**
8 ¶ We have a little sister, and she has no breasts. What will we do for our sister in the day when she will be spoken for?
9 If she is a wall, we will build upon her towers of silver. And if she is a door, we will enclose her with boards of cedar.

**ISAIAH**

**Chapter 1**

1 ¶ The vision of Isaiah, the son of Amoz, that he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

A Rebellious People

2 ¶ Hear, O heavens and give ear, O earth, for the LORD has spoken, “I have nourished and brought up children and they have rebelled against Me.

3 ¶ “The ox knows his owner and the donkey his master’s crib. But Israel does not know. My people do not understand.”

4 Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of corrupters; children who are evildoers. They have forsaken the LORD. They have provoked the Holy One of Israel to anger. They have gone backward.

5 ¶ Why should you be stricken anymore? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick and the whole heart faint.

6 From the sole of the foot even to the head there is no soundness in it, only wounds and bruises and putrifying sores. They have not been closed, nor bandaged, nor soothed with ointment.

7 ¶ Your country is desolate. Your cities are burned with fire—your land, foreigners devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.

8 And the daughter of Zion is left as a shelter in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

9 ¶ Except the LORD of armies had left to us a very small remnant, we would have been as Sodom. We would have been like Gomorrah.

10 ¶ Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom. Give ear to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah.

11 ¶ To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?” says the LORD. “I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts. And I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of male goats.

12 ¶ When you come to appear before Me, who has required this at your hand, to tread My courts?

13 ¶ Bring no more vain offerings. Incense is an abomination to Me. The new moon and sab-
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bath, the calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly. 14 “My soul hates your new moons and your appointed feasts. They are a trouble to Me. I am weary of bearing them. 15 “And when you spread forth your hands, I will hide My eyes from you. When you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. 16 “Wash yourselves. Make yourselves clean. Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease doing evil. 17 “Learn to do good. Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed. Defend the fatherless. Plead for the widow. 18 ¶ “Come now and let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins be as scarlet, they will be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they will be as wool. 19 “If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land. 20 “But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured with the sword.” For the mouth of the LORD has spoken it. 21 ¶ a How the faithful city has become a harlot! It was full of justice. Righteousness lodged in it, but now murderers. 22 c Your silver has become dross. Your wine is mixed with water. 23 d Your princes are rebellious and companions of thieves. Everyone loves bribes and follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, nor does the cause of the widow come to them. 24 ¶ Therefore says the Lord, the LORD of armies, the Mighty One of Israel, “Ah, I will relieved Myself of My adversaries and avenge Myself on My enemies. 25 “And I will turn My hand upon you, and thoroughly purge away your dross, and will take away all your sin. 26 “And I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counsellors as at the beginning. Afterward you will be called, ‘The city of righteousness, the faithful city.’” 27 ¶ Zion will be redeemed with judgment and her repentant ones with righteousness. 28 And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners will be together. And those who forsake the LORD will be consumed. 29 For they will be ashamed of the oaks that you have desired, and you will be embarrassed at the gardens that you have chosen. 30 For you will be as an oak whose leaf fades, and as a garden that has no water. 31 And the strong will be as tinder, and the maker of it as a spark. And they will both burn together, and no one will quench them.

Chapter 2
The Mountain of the Lord
1 ¶ The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:
2 And it will come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord’s house will be established in top of the mountains, and will be exalted above the hills. And all nations will flow to it. 3 And many people will go and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us His ways and we will walk in His paths.” For out of Zion will go forth the law and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 And He will judge among the nations and will rebuke many people. And they will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore.

The Day of the Lord
5 ¶ O house of Jacob, come and let us walk in the light of the LORD. 6 For You have forsaken Your people, the house of Jacob, because they are filled with influences from the east, and are soothsayers like the Philistines. And they strike bargains with the children of foreigners. 7 ¶ Their land also is full of silver and gold. And there is no end to their treasures. Their land is also full of horses, and there is no end to their chariots. 8 ¶ Their land also is full of idols. They wor-
ship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made.
9 And the common man bows down, and the great man humbles himself. Therefore, do not forgive them.
10 ¶ Enter into the rock and hide yourself in the dust, because of fear of the LORD and the glory of His majesty.
11 The proud look of man will be humbled and the haughtiness of men will be bowed down, and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.
12 For the day of the LORD of armies will come upon everyone who is proud and lofty,
13 and upon all the cedars of Lebanon that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan,
14 and upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up,
15 and upon every high tower, and upon every fortified wall,
16 and upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures.
17 And the loftiness of man will be bowed down and the haughtiness of men will be made low. And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.
18 And He will utterly abolish the idols.
19 And they will go into the holes of the rocks and into the caves of the earth, for the fear of the LORD and for the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake terribly the earth.
20 In that day a man will cast away to the moles and to the bats his idols of silver and his idols of gold that they made each for himself to worship,
21 in order to go into the clefts of the rocks and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for the fear of the LORD, and for the glory of His majesty when He arises to shake terribly the earth.
22 "Sever yourselves from man, whose breath is in his nostrils; for of what account is he?"

Chapter 3
1 ¶ For behold, the Lord, the LORD of armies, "takes away from Jerusalem and from Judah the supply and the support, the whole supply of bread and the whole supply of water.
2 "The mighty man and the man of war, the judge and the prophet and the prudent and the elder,
3 the captain of fifty and the honorable man and the counsellor and the skillful artisan and the eloquent orator.
4 "And I will give children to be their princes, and babes will rule over them.
5 "And the people will be oppressed, everyone by another, and everyone by his neighbor. The child will behave himself proudly toward the elder and the base toward the honorable."
6 When a man takes hold of his brother in the house of his father, saying, "You have clothing, be our ruler and let this ruin be under your power."
7 In that day he will protest, saying, "I will not be a healer, for in my house is neither bread nor clothing. Do not make me a ruler of the people."
8 For Jerusalem is ruined and Judah has fallen because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, defying His glorious presence.
9 The show of their countenance witnesses against them, and they declare their sin as Sodom. They do not hide it. Woe to their soul, for they have brought evil upon themselves.
10 ¶ "Say to the righteous that it will be well with them, for they will eat the fruit of their doings.
11 "Woe to the wicked. It will be ill with him, for the reward of his hands will be given him.
12 As for my people, children are their oppressors and women rule over them. O my people, those who lead you cause you to err and to destroy the way of your paths."
13 ¶ The LORD stands up to plead and stands to judge the people.
14 The LORD will enter into judgment with the elders of His people and His princes. "For you have eaten up the vineyard. The plunder of the poor is in your houses.
15 "What do you mean that you beat My
people to pieces and grind the faces of the poor?” says the Lord GOD of armies.

16 ¶ Furthermore, the LORD says, “Because the daughters of Zion are arrogant and walk with outstretched necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a jingling with their feet.”

17 therefore, the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts.

18 ¶ In that day the Lord will take away the beauty of their anklets and the scarves and the crescents, the chains and the bracelets and the veils, the headdresses and the ornaments of the legs and the sashes and the perfume boxes and the earrings, the rings and nose jewels, the festal apparel and the outer tunics and the cloaks and the money purses, the hand mirrors and the undergarments and the hoods and the robes.

21 and it will come to pass that instead of a sweet smell there will be stench; and instead of a girdle, a rope; and instead of well-set hair, baldness; and instead of fine clothes, a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty.

24 ¶ And it will come to pass that the Lord will wash away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and will have purged the blood of Jerusalem from its midst by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

5 then the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night, for over all the glory will be a canopy.

6 And there will be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for protection from storm and from rain.

Chapter 4

1 ¶ And in that day seven women will take hold of one man, saying, “We will eat our own bread and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by your name, to take away our reproach.”

2 In that day will the Branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth will be excellent and appealing for those of Israel who have escaped.

3 And it will come to pass that he who is left in Zion, and he who remains in Jerusalem, will be called holy, even everyone who is written among the living in Jerusalem.

4 When the Lord will have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and will have purged the blood of Jerusalem from its midst by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning,

5 then the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night, for over all the glory will be a canopy.

6 And there will be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for protection from storm and from rain.

Chapter 5

Song of the Vineyard

1 ¶ Now I will sing to my well-beloved a song of my Beloved concerning His vineyard. My well-beloved has a vineyard on a very fruitful hill.

2 He fenced it and removed its stones and planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it, and also made a winepress in it. And He expected that it would bring forth good grapes, but it brought forth wild grapes.

3 ¶ “And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I ask you, between Me and My vineyard.

4 “What could have been done more to My vineyard, that I have not done in it? Why, when I expected it to produce good grapes, did it produce wild ones?

5 ¶ And now let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard. I will take away its hedge and it will be eaten up. I will break down its wall and it will be trodden down.

6 Then I will lay it waste. It will not be pruned or hoed, but there will come up briers and thorns. I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain on it.”

7 For the vineyard of the LORD of armies is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah His pleasant plant. And He looked for justice, but behold, oppression; for righteousness, but behold, a cry.
Woes and Judgments

8 ¶ Woe to those who join house to house, who lay field to field until there is no place, so that they may be placed alone in the midst of the land!

9 ¶ In my ears the LORD of armies said, “Of a truth many houses will be desolate, even great and fair, and without occupants.

10 “Yes, ten acres of vineyard will yield one bath, and ten bushels of seed will produce but one bushel.”

11 ¶ Woe to those who rise up early in the morning so that they may follow strong drink, who continue until night, until wine inflames them!

12 And the harp and the viol, the tabret and pipe and wine, are in their feasts. But they do not regard the work of the LORD, nor consider the operation of His hands.

13 ¶ Therefore, My people have gone into captivity because they have no knowledge. And their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.

14 Therefore, sheol has enlarged herself and opened her mouth without measure. And their glory and their multitude and their pomp and he who rejoices, will descend into it.

15 And the common man will be brought down, and the mighty man will be humbled. And the eyes of the lofty will be humbled.

16 But the LORD of armies will be exalted in judgment, and God who is holy will be sanctified in righteousness.

17 Then the lambs will graze as in their pasture, and foreigners will eat the waste places of the fat ones.

18 ¶ Woe to those who draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as if it were with cart ropes;

19 who say, “Let Him make speed, and hasten His work, so that we may see it. And let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw near and come, so that we may know it!”

20 ¶ Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter, who say to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight!

21 ¶ Woe to those who are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink,

22 who justify the wicked for reward and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

23 Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble and the flame consumes the chaff, so their root will be as rottenness and their blossom will go up as dust, because they have cast away the law of the LORD of armies and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

24 ¶ Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against His people, and He has stretched forth His hand against them, and has smitten them. And the hills trembled, and their carcasses were torn in the middle of the streets.

25 For all this His anger is not turned away, but His hand is still stretched out.

26 ¶ He will lift up a banner to the nations from afar, and will whistle to them from the end of the earth. And behold, they will come with speed swiftly.

27 No one will be weary or stumble among them. No one will slumber or sleep, nor will the belt of their loins be loosed, nor the strap of their shoes be broken.

28 ¶ Whose arrows are sharp and all their bows bent. Their horses’ hoofs will be counted like flint and their wheels like a whirlwind.

29 Their roaring will be like a lion. They will roar like young lions. Yes, they will roar and lay hold of the prey and will carry it away safe, and no one will deliver it.

30 And in that day they will roar against them like the roaring of the sea. And if one looks to the land, behold, darkness and sorrow, and the light is darkened by its clouds.

Chapter 6
Calling of Isaiah

1 ¶ In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, and His train filled the temple.

2 Above it stood the seraphim, each one had
six wings. With two He covered His face, and with two He covered His feet, and with two He flew.

3 And one cried out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of armies. The whole earth is full of His glory."

4 And the foundations of the door moved at the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am undone because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell among a people of unclean lips, for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of armies."

6 ¶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having a live coal in his hand that he had taken with the tongs from off the altar.

7 And he laid it upon my mouth and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips and your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged."

8 ¶ I also heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom will I send and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me."

9 ¶ And He said, "Go and tell this people, 'Keep on listening, but do not perceive. Keep on looking, but do not understand.'

10 "Make the heart of this people fat and make their ears heavy. And shut their eyes lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart, and return and be healed."

11 ¶ Then I said, "Lord, how long?" And He answered, "‘Until the cities are wasted without inhabitant and the houses without man, and the land is utterly desolate,

12 and the LORD has removed men far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

13 "But if there is yet a tenth in it, it also will in turn be eaten up; as a terebinth and as an oak whose stump remains when they are felled, so the holy seed is its stock.”

Chapter 7

Sign of Immanuel

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it. However, they could not prevail against it.

2 Then it was told to the house of David saying, “Syria is camped in Ephraim.” And his heart and the heart of his people were moved as the trees of the forest are moved by the wind.

3 ¶ Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go forth now to meet Ahaz, you and Shearjashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller’s field.

4 "Then say to him, ‘Take heed and be quiet. Do no fear nor be faint-hearted because of the two stubs of these smoking firebrands, account of the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria and of the son of Remaliah.

5 ‘Because Syria, Ephraim and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against you, saying,

6 “Let us go up against Judah and terrorize it. And let us make a breach in the wall for us and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal."

7 Thus says the Lord GOD, "It will not stand, nor will it come to pass.

8 “For the head of Syria is Damascus and the head of Damascus is Rezin. And within 65 years Ephraim will be broken so that it is no longer a people.

9 “And the head of Ephraim is Samaria and the head of Samaria is Remaliah’s son. If you will not believe, surely you will not be established."

10 ¶ Furthermore, the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying,

11 "Ask a sign from the LORD your God. Ask it either in the depth or in the height above."

12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I tempt the LORD."

13 And he said, "Hear now, O house of David. Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?

14 “Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, a virgin will conceive and bear a son, and she will call his name Immanuel.

15 “Curds and honey he will eat so that he
may know to refuse the evil and choose the good.

16 k“For before the child will know to refuse evil and choose good, the land that you abhor will be forsaken by 1both of her kings.

17 m“The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people, and upon your father’s house, days that have not come from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah, even the king of Assyria.”

18 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day 1that the LORD 2will whistle for the fly that is in the remotest part of the rivers of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.

19 And they will come and settle on the steep ravines, and on the ledges of the rocks, and upon all thorn bushes, and on all the watering places.

20 In the same day the Lord will shave with a hired razor with those beyond the River, by the king of Assyria, the head and the hair of the feet. And it will also consume the beard.

21 And it will come to pass in that day 1that a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep.

22 And it will come to pass, for the abundance of milk 1that they will give he will eat butter, for butter and honey will everyone eat who is left in the land.

23 ¶ Then it will come to pass in that day that every place where there used to be a thousand vines valued at a thousand shekels of silver, 1will become briars and thorns.

24 With arrows and with bows will men come here, because all the land will become briers and thorns.

25 And on all hills that used to be cultivated with the hoe, there you will not go for fear of briers and thorns. But they will become a place for wandering cattle and for sheep to trample.

Chapter 8

Assyria, the Lord’s Instrument

1 ¶ Furthermore, the LORD said to me, “Take for yourself a large tablet and 2write on it with a man’s stylist concerning Mahershalaalhashbaz.

2 “And I will take for Myself faithful witnesses to record, 3Uriah, the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jekerechiah.”

3 Then I went into the prophetess and she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said to me, “Call his name Mahershalaalhashbaz.

4 “‘For before the child will have knowledge to cry, ’My father and my mother,’ the riches of Damascus and the plunder of Samaria will be taken away before the king of Assyria.”

5 ¶ The LORD spoke also to me again, saying,

6 “Forasmuch as this people refuses the waters of Shiloah that flow gently, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah’s son,

7 “now therefore, behold, the Lord brings upon them the waters of the River, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory. And it will come up over all its channels and go over all its banks.

8 “And it will pass through Judah. It will overflow and pass over. 8It will reach even to the neck. And the stretching out of its wings will fill the breadth of your land, O 9Immanuel.

9 “Be shattered, O you people, and be broken in pieces. And give ear all you from far off countries. Gird yourselves and you will be broken in pieces.

10 ¶ Take counsel together, 1and it will come to nought. Speak the word, and it will not stand, 2for God is with us.”

The Fear of God

11 ¶ For the LORD spoke thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying,

12 “Do not say, ‘It is a conspiracy,’ concerning all those to whom this people will say, ‘A conspiracy.’ Do not fear their fear or be afraid.

13 “Sanctify the LORD of armies Himself, and let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread.

14 m“And He will be for a sanctuary, but to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
15 “And many among them will stumble and fall, and be broken and be snared, and be taken.”

16 ¶ Bind up the testimony. Seal the law among My disciples.

17 And I will wait upon the LORD who hides His face from the house of Jacob. And I will look for Him.

18 ¶ Behold, I and the children whom the LORD has given, are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of armies who dwells in Mount Zion.

19 ¶ And when they will say to you, “Consult those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,” should not a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living?

20 ¶ To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

21 And they will pass through the land hardpressed and famished. And it will come to pass that when they are famished they will fret themselves and curse their king and their God, and look upward.

22 Then they will look to the earth, and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish. And they will be driven to darkness.

Chapter 9

A Child is Born

1 ¶ Nevertheless, the dimness will not be such as was in her anguish, when at the first He lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and ‘afterward more grievously afflicted her by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

2 ¶ The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. They who dwell in the land of Zebulun and the lightly afflicted the land of Naphtali, and afterward more grievously afflicted her by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

3 You have multiplied the nation and not increased the joy. They rejoice before You according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the plunder.

4 For You have broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise and garments rolled in blood, but this will be with burning and fuel for fire.

6 ¶ For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given. And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of armies will perform this.

God’s Anger against Israel

8 ¶ The Lord sent a word against Jacob and it has fallen on Israel.

9 And all the people will know, even Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who say in the pride and arrogance of their heart,

10 ¶ The bricks have fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones. The sycamores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars.”

11 Therefore, the LORD will set up the adversaries of Rezin against him, and join his enemies together,

12 the Syrians before and the Philistines behind. And they will devour Israel with open mouth. For all this His anger is not turned away, but His hand is stretched out still.

13 ¶ For the people do not turn to Him who smites them, nor do they seek the LORD of armies.

14 Therefore, the LORD will cut off from Israel in one day head and tail, branch and rush.

15 The head is the elder and honorable man. And the prophet who teaches lies, he is the tail.

16 For the leaders of this people cause them to err, and they who are led by them are destroyed.

17 Therefore, the Lord will have no joy in their young men, nor will He have mercy on their fatherless and widows. For everyone is a hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth
speaks folly. For all this His anger is not turned away, but His hand is stretched out still.
18 ¶ For wickedness burns as the fire. It will devour the briers and thorns, and will kindle in the thickets of the forest, and they roll upward in a column of smoke.
19 Through the wrath of the LORD of armies is the land darkened, and the people will be as the fuel of the fire. No man will spare his brother.
20 And he will slice off the right hand, and be hungry. And he will eat on the left hand, and they will not be satisfied. Every man will eat the flesh of his own arm.
21 Manasseh will devour Ephraim and Ephraim will devour Manasseh. Together they will be against Judah. For all this His anger is not turned away, but His hand is stretched out still.

Chapter 10
1 ¶ Woe to those who enact unrighteous decrees, and who write misfortune that they have prescribed,
2 in order to turn aside the needy from justice and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey and that they may rob the fatherless!
3 And what will you do in the day of visitation and in the desolation that will come from afar? To whom will you flee for help? And where will you leave your glory?
4 Without Me they will bow down among the prisoners and they will fall among the slain. For all this His anger is not turned away, but His hand is still stretched out.
5 ¶ O Assyria, the rod of My anger. And the staff in their hand is My indignation.
6 I will send him against an ungodly nation. And against the people of My wrath I will give him a charge, to take the plunder and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.
7 Yet he does not so intend, nor does his heart think so. But it is in his heart to destroy and cut off many nations.
8 ¶ For he says, “Are not my princes all kings?
9 “Is not Calno as Carchemish? Is not Hamath as Arpad? Is not Samaria as Damascus?
10 “As my hand has found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven images did excel those of Jerusalem and of Samaria,
11 “will I not, as I have done to Samaria and her idols, do so to Jerusalem and her idols?”
12 ¶ Therefore, it will come to pass when the Lord has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, “I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and the pomp of his haughtiness.”
13 ¶ For he says, “By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom, for I am wise. And I have removed the bounds of the people and have robbed their treasures. And I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man.
14 “And my hand reached to the riches of the peoples as to a nest. And as one gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the earth. And there was no one who moved the wing or opened the mouth or chirped.”
15 ¶ Will the ax boast itself over the one who hews with it? Or will the saw magnify itself over the one who saws with it? That would be like a club wielding those who lift it, or like a rod lifting him who is not wood.
16 Therefore will the Lord, the Lord of armies, send among His fat ones leanness, and under his glory He will kindle a burning like the burning of a fire.
17 And the light of Israel will be for a fire and his Holy One for a flame. And he will consume the glory of his forest and his fruitful field, both soul and body. And they will be as when a sick man wastes away.
18 And the rest of the trees of his forest will be few, that a child could write them down.

Remnant of Israel
20 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that the remnant of Israel, and those of the house of Jacob who have escaped, will never again
rely on the one who smote them. But in truth they will rely on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.

21 The remnant will return, even the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God.

22 “For though your people Israel are as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them will return. The destruction determined will overflow with righteousness.

23 “For the Lord GOD of armies will make a determined end in the midst of all the land.

24 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD of armies, “O My people who dwell in Zion, do not be afraid of the Assyrian. He will smite you with a rod and will lift up his staff against you after the manner of Egypt.

25 “For in a very little while My indignation will cease, and My anger directed to their destruction.”

26 And the LORD of armies will stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb. And as his rod was upon the sea, so will he lift it up after the manner of Egypt.

27 And it will come to pass in that day that his burden will be taken away from off your shoulder, and his yoke from off your neck. And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing.

28 ¶ He has come to Aiath. He has passed to Migron. At Michmash he has laid up his carriages.

29 They have gone over the passage. They have taken up their lodging at Geba. Ramah is afraid. Gibeah of Saul has fled.

30 Lift up your voice, O daughter of Gallim. Cause it to be heard as far as Laish, O poor Anathoth.

31 Madmenah is removed. The inhabitants of Gebim gather themselves to flee.

32 Yet today he will remain at Nob. He will shake his hand against the mount of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

33 ¶ Behold, the Lord, the LORD of armies, will lop off the bough with terror. And the high ones of stature will be hewn down, and the arrogant will be humbled.

34 And He will cut down the thickets of the forest with iron, and Lebanon will fall by a Mighty One.

Chapter 11
A Branch from Jesse

1 ¶ And there will come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch will grow out of his roots.

2 And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD. And He will not judge after the sight of His eyes, nor reprove after the hearing of His ears.

4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor and reprove with equity for the afflicted of the earth. And He will smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

5 And righteousness will be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist.

6 ¶ The wolf also will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together. And a little child will lead them.

7 And the cow and the bear will feed. Their young ones will lie down together. And the lion will eat straw like the ox.

8 And the nursing child will play on the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den.

9 They will not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain. For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

10 ¶ And in that day there will be a root of Jesse that will stand as a banner for the people. The Gentiles will seek Him, and His rest will be glorious.

11 And it will come to pass in that day that the Lord will set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people, that will be left from Assyria and from Egypt and from Pathros and from Cush and from Elam and from Shinar and from Hamath and from the coastslands of the sea.
12 And He will set up a banner for the nations and will assemble the outcasts of Israel. And He will gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.
13 The envy also of Ephraim will depart, and the adversaries of Judah will be cut off. Ephraim will not envy Judah and Judah will not harass Ephraim.
14 But they will fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west. They will together plunder those of the east. They will lay their hand upon Edom and Moab, and the children of Ammon will obey them.
15 And the LORD will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt. And with His mighty wind He will shake His hand over the River and will smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod.
16 And there will be a highway for the remnant of His people that will be left from Assyria, like it was for Israel in the day that they came up out of the land of Egypt.

Chapter 12
Songs of Praise
1 ¶ And in that day you will say, “O LORD, I will praise You. Though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away and You comforted me.
2 “Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust and not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song. He also has become my salvation.”
3 Therefore with joy you will draw water out of the wells of salvation.
4 ¶ And in that day you will say, “Praise the LORD. Call upon His name. Declare His works among the people. Make them remember that His name is exalted.”
5 Sing to the LORD for He has done excellent things. Let this be known in all the earth.
6 Cry out and shout you inhabitant of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst.

Chapter 13
Prophecy Against Babylon
1 ¶ The burden of Babylon that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw:
2 Lift up a banner on the high mountain. Exalt your voice to them. Shake the hand so that they may go into the gates of the nobles.
3 I have commanded My sanctified ones. I have also called My mighty ones for My anger, even those who rejoice in My exaltation.
4 The noise of a multitude in the mountains like a great people, the uproar of the kingdoms of nations gathered together. The LORD of armies musters the armies for the battle.
5 They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the LORD and His weapons of indignation, to destroy the whole land.
6 ¶ Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand. It will come as destruction from the Almighty.
7 Therefore, all hands will be faint, and every man’s heart will melt.
8 And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them. They will be in pain as a woman who is in labor. They will be amazed at one another. Their faces will be as flames.
9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger in order to lay the land desolate. And He will destroy its sinners out of it.
10 For the stars of heaven and its constellations will not give their light. The sun will be darkened in its going forth, and the moon will not cause its light to shine.
11 And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity. And I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.
12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold, even mankind than the golden wedge of Ophir.
13 Therefore, I will shake the heavens and the earth will move out of its place at the wrath of the LORD of armies, and in the day of His fierce anger.
14 And it will be as the hunted gazelle and as a sheep that no man takes up. Every man will turn to his own people and everyone will flee into his own land.
15 Everyone who is found will be thrust through, and everyone who is joined to them.
will fall by the sword.

16 Their children also will be dashed to pieces before their eyes. Their houses will be plundered and their wives ravished.

17 ¶ Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them who will not value silver. And as for gold, they will not delight in it.

18 Their bows also will dash the young men to pieces. And they will have no pity on the fruit of the womb. Their eye will not spare children.

19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

20 It will never be inhabited, nor will it be dwelt in from generation to generation. Nor will the Arabian pitch tent there. Neither will the shepherds make their fold there.

21 But wild beasts of the desert will lie there, and their houses will be full of owls. And ostriches will dwell there, and wild goats will dance there.

22 And the wild beasts will howl in their desolate houses, and jackals in their luxurious palaces. And her time is coming soon, and her days will not be prolonged.

Chapter 14

1 ¶ For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob and will again choose Israel, and set them in their own land. And the foreigners will be joined with them and they will cleave to the house of Jacob.

2 And the people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them as an inheritance in the land of the LORD as male servants and female servants. And they will take their captors captive and will rule over their oppressors.

3 ¶ And it will come to pass in the day that the LORD will give you rest from your sorrow and from your fear, and from the hard bondage wherein you were made to serve,

4 so that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon and say, “How has the oppressor ceased! And how the golden city has ceased!

5 “The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked and the sceptre of the rulers.

6 “He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he who ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted and no one intercessors.

7 “The whole earth is at rest and is quiet. They break forth into singing.

8 “Yes, the fir trees rejoice over you and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, ‘Since you were laid down, no tree cutter comes up against us.’

9 “Sheol from beneath is moved for you to meet you at your coming. It stirs up the dead for you, even all the chief ones of the earth. It has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

10 “All will speak and say to you, ‘Have you also become weak as we? Have you become like us?’

11 ‘Your pomp is brought down to the grave and the noise of your stringed instruments. The worm is spread under you and the worms cover you.’

12 ¶ “How have you fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the morning! How have you been cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!

13 “For you said in your heart, ‘I will ascend into heaven. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. I will sit also upon the mount of the assembly in the recesses of the north.

14 ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. I will be like the Most High.’

15 “However, you will be brought down to sheol, to the recesses of the pit.

16 “Those who see you will gaze at you and will say to you, ‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble and who shook kingdoms,

17 ‘who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners?’

18 “All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, everyone in his own house.

19 “But you are cast out of your grave like an abominable branch and the garment of those who are slain, thrust through with a sword, who go down to the stones of the pit as a carcass
trodden under feet.
20 “You will not be joined with them in burial because you have destroyed your land and slain your people. May the seed of evildoers never be renowned.
21 “Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers, so that they do not rise nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.”
22 ¶ “For I will rise up against them,” says the LORD of armies. “And I will cut off from Babylon the name and remnant and son and nephew,” says the LORD.
23 “I will also make it a possession for the hedgehog and pools of water. And I will sweep it with the broom of destruction,” says the LORD of armies.

**Prophecy Against Assyria**

24 ¶ The LORD of armies has sworn, saying, “Surely as I have thought, so will it come to pass. And as I have purposed, so will it stand,
25 “that I will break the Assyrian in my land and upon My mountains tread him under foot. Then his yoke will depart from off them and his burden depart from off their shoulders.
26 “This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth. And this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.
27 “For the LORD of armies has purposed, and who will disannul it? And his hand is stretched out, and who will turn it back?”

**Prophecy Against the Philistines**

28 ¶ In the year that King Ahaz died was this burden:
29 “Do not rejoice all of you of Philistia because the rod of him who smote you is broken. For out of the serpent’s root will come forth a viper, and his fruit will be a flying serpent.
30 “And the firstborn of the poor will feed, and the needy will lie down in safety. And I will kill your root with famine and he will slay your remnant.
31 “Wail, O gate. Cry, O city. Melt away, O Philistia, all of you. For there will come from the north a smoke and no one will be alone in his appointed ranks.”
32 ¶ What will one then answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD has founded Zion, and the poor of his people will seek refuge in it.

**Chapter 15**

**Prophecy Against Moab**

1 ¶ The burden of Moab: Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste and brought to silence, because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste and brought to silence,
2 he has gone up to Bajith and to Dibon, the high places, to weep. Moab will wail over Nebo and over Medeba. On all their heads will be baldness and every beard cut off.
3 In their streets they will gird themselves with sackcloth. On the tops of their houses and in their streets, everyone will wail, weeping abundantly.
4 And Heshbon and Elealeh will cry out. Their voice will be heard even to Jahaz. Therefore, the armed soldiers of Moab will cry out. His life will be grievous to him.
5 My heart will cry out for Moab. His fugitives will flee to Zoar, as far as Eglath Shelishiyah. For by the mounting up of Luhith with weeping they will go up to it, for in the way of Horonaim they will raise up a cry of destruction.
6 For the waters of Nimrim will be desolate. For the hay is withered away, the grass fails, and there is nothing green.
7 Therefore, the abundance they have gained and that which they have stored up they will carry away to the Brook of the Willows.
8 For the cry has gone throughout the borders of Moab, its wailing to Eglaim and its lamentation to Beerelim.
9 For the waters of Dimon will be full of blood. For I will bring more upon Dimon, lions upon him who escapes from Moab and upon the remnant of the land.

**Chapter 16**

1 ¶ Send the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela across the wilderness to the mount
of the daughter of Zion.
2 For it will be that as a wandering bird casts out of the nest, so the daughters of Moab will be at the fords of Arnon.
3 Take counsel. Execute judgment. Make your shadow as the night in the midst of the noontide. Hide the outcasts. Do not betray the fugitive.
4 Let my outcast Moabites dwell with you. Be a shelter to them from the face of the destroyer. For the extortioner is at an end and destruction ceases. The oppressors are consumed out of the land.
5 And in mercy the throne will be established. And He will sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging and seeking judgment, and hastening righteousness.
6 ¶ We have heard of the pride of Moab. He is very proud, even of his haughtiness and his pride, and his wrath. But his lies will not be so.
7 Therefore, Moab will wail for Moab. Everyone will wail. For the foundations of Kirhareseth, you will mourn. Surely they are stricken.
8 For the fields of Heshbon languish, and the vine of Sibmah. The lords of the heathen have broken down its principal plants. They have come even to Jazer. They wandered through the wilderness. Her branches are stretched out. They went out over the sea.
9 Therefore, I will bewail with the weeping of Jazer the vine of Sibmah. I will water you with my tears, O Heshbon and Elealeh, for the shouting for your summer fruits and your harvest has fallen.
10 For gladness is taken away, and joy out of the plentiful field. And in the vineyards there will be no singing, nor will there be shouting. The treaders will tread out no wine in their presses. I have made their vintage shouting to cease.
11 Therefore, my heart will sound like a harp for Moab and my inward feelings for Kirharesh.
12 Then it will come to pass when it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, that he will come to his sanctuary to pray. But he will not prevail.
13 ¶ This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning Moab since that time.
14 But now the LORD has spoken, saying, ‘Within three years, as the years of a hireling, the glory of Moab will be degraded with all that great multitude. And the remnant will be very small and feeble.

Chapter 17

Prophecy Against Damascus

1 ¶ The burden of Damascus: Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it will be a ruinous heap.
2 The cities of Aroer are forsaken. They will be for flocks that will lie down, and no one will make them afraid.
3 ¶ The fortress also will cease from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Syria. They will be as the glory of the children of Israel, says the LORD of armies.
4 ¶ And in that day it will come to pass that the glory of Jacob will be made thin, and the fatness of his flesh will wax lean.
5 And it will be as when the reaper gathers the grain and reaps the grain with his arm. And it will be as he who gathers grain in the valley of Rephaim.
6 Yet gleaning grapes will be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three olives on the topmost bough, four or five on its outmost fruitful branches, says the LORD God of Israel.
7 ¶ At that day will a man look to his Maker and his eyes will have respect for the Holy One of Israel.
8 And he will not look to the altars, the work of his hands, nor will he respect that which his fingers have made, nor the Asherah groves, nor the images.
9 ¶ In that day his strong cities will be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, that they left because of the children of Israel. And there will be desolation.
10 Because you have forgotten the God of your salvation, and have not been mindful of
the rock of your strength, therefore you will plant pleasant plants and will set them with vine slips of a foreign god.

11 In the day you will make your plant to grow, and in the morning you will make your seed to flourish. But the harvest will be a heap in the day of grief and of desperate sorrow.

12 ¶ Woe to the multitude of many people who make a noise like the noise of the seas, and to the rushing of nations that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

13 The nations will rush like the rushing of many waters. But God will rebuke them and they will flee afar off, and will be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.

14 And behold, at evening time, trouble. Before the morning he is no more. This is the portion of those who plunder us, and the lot of those who rob us.

Chapter 18

Prophecy Against Ethiopia

1 ¶ Woe to the land shadowing with wings that is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia,

2 who sends ambassadors by the sea, even in papyrus vessels upon the waters. Go, you swift messengers, to a tall and bronze nation, to a people terrible from their beginning unto now, a powerful and oppressive nation whose land the rivers divide.

3 All you inhabitants of the world and dwellers on the earth, when he lifts up a banner on the mountains, see it. And when he blows a trumpet, hear.

4 ¶ For so the LORD said to me, “I will take My rest and I will consider in My dwelling place like a dazzling heat upon herbs and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.”

5 For before the harvest when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he will both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks and take away and cut down the branches.

6 ¶ They will be left together to the birds of the mountains and to the beasts of the earth. And the birds will spend the summer feeding on them, and all the beasts of the earth will spend harvest time on them.

7 ¶ In that time the gift of homage will be brought to the LORD of armies from a tall and bronze people, and from a people terrible from their beginning unto now, a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers divide, to the place of the name of the LORD of armies, even Mount Zion.

Chapter 19

Prophecy Against Egypt

1 ¶ The burden of Egypt: Behold, the LORD rides on a swift cloud and will come into Egypt. And the idols of Egypt will tremble at His presence, and the heart of Egypt will melt in the midst of it.

2 “I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians. And everyone will fight against his brother, and everyone against his neighbor, city against city and kingdom against kingdom.

3 “And the spirit of Egypt will fail in its midst. And I will destroy its counsel. And they will consult the idols and the charmers, the mediums and the sorcerers.

4 “And I will give the Egyptians over into the hand of a cruel lord. And a fierce king will rule over them,” says the Lord, the LORD of armies.

5 ¶ And the waters will fail from the sea, and the River will be wasted and dried up.

6 And they will turn foul. The brooks of defense will be emptied and dried up. The reeds and rushes will wither.

7 The papyrus reeds by the River, by the mouth of the River, and everything sown by the River, will wither, be driven away and be no more.

8 The fishermen also will mourn, and all those who cast a line into the River will lament. And those who spread nets upon the waters will pine away.

9 Furthermore, those who work in fine flax, and those who weave networks, will be confounded.

10 And the pillars of Egypt will be broken in pieces. All those who work for hire will be grievous in soul.

11 ¶ Surely the princes of Zaan are fools. The counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh has
become brutish. How can you say to Pharaoh, “I am the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings?”

12 Where are they? Where are your wise men? And let them tell you now, and let them understand what the LORD of armies has purposed against Egypt.

13 The princes of Zoan have become fools. The princes of Noph are deceived. They have also seduced Egypt, even those who are the mainstay of its tribes.

14 The LORD has mingled a perverse spirit in its midst. And they have caused Egypt to err in all their work as a drunken man staggerers in his vomit.

15 Neither will there be any work for Egypt that the head or tail, branch or rush, may do.

16 In that day Egypt will be like to women. And it will be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the LORD of armies, that He shakes over it.

17 And the land of Judah will be a terror to Egypt. Everyone who makes mention of it will be afraid in himself because of the counsel of the LORD of armies, that He has determined against it.

18 In that day five cities in the land of Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear to the LORD of armies. One will be called The City of Righteousness.

19 In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD at its border.

20 And it will be for a sign and for a witness to the LORD of armies in the land of Egypt. For they will cry out to the LORD because of the oppressors, and He will send them a savior and a great one. And He will deliver them.

21 And the LORD will be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day. And they will make sacrifice and oblation. Yes, they will vow a vow to the LORD and perform it.

22 And the LORD will smite Egypt. He will smite and heal it. And they will return even to the LORD, and He will respond to them and will heal them.

23 In that day there will be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria. And the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians.

24 In that day Israel will be the third party with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land.

25 whom the LORD of armies will bless, saying, “Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance.”

Chapter 20

Prophecy Against Egypt and Ethiopia

1 In the year that Tartan came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him, and fought against Ashdod and took it.

2 At the same time the LORD spoke by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, “Go and loosen the sackcloth from off your loins and take off your sandals from your feet.” And he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

3 And the LORD said, “Even as my servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia,

4 so will the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

5 Then they will be afraid and ashamed of Ethiopia their hope and of Egypt their glory.

6 And the inhabitants of this coastland will say in that day, ‘Behold, such is our hope, where we fled for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria. And how will we escape?’”

Chapter 21

Prophecy Against Babylon

1 The burden of the Wilderness of the Sea: As whirlwinds in the south pass through, so it comes from the desert, from a terrible land.

2 A grievous vision is declared to me. The treacherous dealer deals treacherously and the plunderer still plunders. Go up, O Elam. besiege, O Media. All its sighing I have caused to cease.
3 Therefore, 4 my loins are filled with pain. 
5 Pains have taken hold of me as the pains of a woman in labor. I was bowed down at the hearing of it. I was dismayed at the seeing of it.
6 My heart panted. Fearfulness terrified me.
7 The night of my pleasure he has turned into fear for me.

8 Prepare the table. Watch in the watchtower. Eat. Drink. Arise you princes and anoint the shield.

9 For thus has the Lord said to me, “Go, set a watchman. Let him declare what he sees.”
10 And he saw a chariot with a pair of horsemen, a chariot of donkeys and a chariot of camels. And he listened diligently with great care.
11 And he cried, “A lion, My lord! I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime and I am stationed every night at my guard post.
12 And behold, here comes a chariot of men with a pair of horsemen.” And he answered and said, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen. And all the graven images of her gods He has broken to the ground.”

13 Oh my threshing and the grain of my floor. That which I have heard from the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, I have declared to you.

Prophecy Against Edom

14 The burden of Dumah: He calls to me out of Seir, “Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?”
15 The watchman said, “The morning comes and also the night. If you will inquire, inquire. Return. Come again.”

Prophecy Against Arabia

16 The burden upon Arabia: In the forest in Arabia you will lodge, 0 you caravans of Dedanim.
17 The inhabitants of the land of Tema brought water to him who was thirsty. They met the fugitive with bread.
18 For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, and from the bent bow and from the grievousness of war.
12 ¶ And in that day the Lord GOD of armies called to weeping and to mourning and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth.
13 And behold, joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating meat and drinking wine. Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we will die.
14 And it was revealed in my ears by the LORD of armies, “Surely this iniquity will not be purged from you until you die,” says the Lord GOD of armies.
15 Thus says the Lord GOD of armies, “Go. Proceed to this steward, even to Shebna, who is over the house,
16 ‘What have you here, and whom have you here, that you have hewed out your sepulchre here, as he who hews himself out a sepulchre on high and who carves a habitation for himself in a rock?
17 ‘Behold, the LORD will carry you away with a mighty captivity and will surely seize you.
18 ‘He will surely violently turn and toss you like a ball into a vast country. There you will die and there the chariots of your glory will be the shame of your lord’s house.’
19 “And I will drive you from your office, and from your state he will pull you down.
20 “And it will come to pass in that day that I will call My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah.
21 “And I will clothe him with your robe and strengthen him with your girdle. And I will commit your government into his hand. And he will be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.
22 “Then the key of the house of David I will lay upon his shoulder so that he will open and none will shut. And he will shut and none will open.
23 “And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place, and he will be for a glorious throne to his father’s house.
24 “And they will hang upon him all the glory of his father’s house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of pitchers.
25 “In that day,” says the LORD of armies, “will the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed and be cut down, and fall. And the burden that was upon it will be cut off, for the LORD has spoken it.”

Chapter 23
Prophecy Against Tyre
1 ¶ The burden of Tyre: Wail, you ships of Tarshish, for it is laid waste so that there is no house, no harbor. From the land of Chittim, it is revealed to them.
2 Be still you inhabitants of the coastland, you merchants of Sidon. Your messengers crossed the sea
3 and were on many waters. The grain of the River, the harvest of the River was her revenue. And she was the market of nations.
4 Be ashamed, O Sidon, for the sea has spoken, even the strength of the sea, saying, “I do not travail, nor bring forth children, nor have I brought up young men, nor bring up virgins.”
5 ‘As at the report concerning Egypt, so will they sorely anguish at the report of Tyre.
6 Pass over to Tarshish. Wail, you inhabitants of the coastland.
7 Is this your joyous city, whose antiquity is from ancient days, whose feet used to carry her far off to dwell?
8 ¶ Who has taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, whose merchants are princes, whose traders are the honorable of the earth?
9 The LORD of armies has purposed it, to defile the pride of all glory and to bring into contempt all the honorable of the earth.
10 Pass through your land as a river, O daughter of Tarshish. There is no more restraint.
11 He stretched out his hand over the sea. He shook the kingdoms. The LORD has given a commandment against the merchant city, to destroy its strongholds.
12 And He said, “You will no more rejoice, O you oppressed virgin, daughter of Sidon. Arise, pass over to Chittim. There also you will have no rest.”
13 Behold the land of the Chaldeans. This
people was not until the Assyrian appointed it for those who dwell in the wilderness. They set up its towers. They raised up its palaces. He then brought it to ruin.

14 ¶ Wail, you ships of Tarshish, for your strength is laid waste.

15 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that Tyre will be forgotten for 70 years, according to the days of one king. After the end of 70 years Tyre will sing as a harlot.

16 “Take a harp. Go about the city, you harlot who was forgotten. Make sweet melody. Sing many songs so that you may be remembered.”

17 Then it will come to pass after the end of 70 years that the LORD will visit Tyre and she will return to her hire. And she will commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.

18 And her merchandise and her hire will be holiness to the LORD. It will not be treasured nor laid up, for her merchandise will be for those who dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently and for choice clothing.

Chapter 24
God’s Devastation of the Earth

1 ¶ Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and waste. And He turns it upside down and scatters abroad its inhabitants.

2 And it will be that as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the creditor, so with the debtor.

3 The earth will be utterly emptied and utterly plundered, for the LORD has spoken this word.

4 The earth mourns and fades away. The world languishes and fades away. The arrogant people of the earth languish.

5 The earth also is defiled by its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, and broken the everlasting covenant.

6 Therefore, the curse has devoured the earth, and few men are left.

7 ¶ The new wine fails. The vine languishes. All the merry-hearted sigh.

8 The mirth of the tambourine ceases. The sound of those who rejoice ends. The joy of the harp ceases.

9 They will not drink wine with a song. Strong drink will be bitter to those who drink it.

10 The city of confusion is broken down. Every house is shut up so that no man may come in.

11 There is a lamentation for wine in the fields. All joy is darkened. The mirth of the land is gone.

12 In the city is left desolation, and the gate is smitten with destruction.

13 For so it will be in the midst of the land among the people. It will be as the shaking of an olive tree, and as the gleaning grapes when the vintage is done.

14 ¶ They will lift up their voice. They will sing for the majesty of the LORD. They will cry aloud from the sea.

15 Therefore, glorify the LORD in the dawning light, even the name of the LORD God of Israel in the coastlands of the sea.

16 From the ends of the earth we have heard songs, even glory to the righteous. But I said, “My leanness. My leanness. Woe to me! The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously. Yes, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously.”

17 ¶ Fear and the pit and the snare are upon you, Oh inhabitant of the earth.

18 And it will come to pass that he who flees from the noise of the fear will fall into the pit. And he who comes up out of the midst of the pit will be taken in the snare. For the windows from on high are open and the foundations of the earth shake.

19 ¶ The earth is utterly broken assunder. The earth is split open. The earth is shaken.

20 The earth will reel to and fro like a drunkard, and will be removed like a cottage. And its transgression will be heavy upon it. And it will fall and not rise again.

21 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that...
the LORD will punish the host of the exalted ones who are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth. 22 And they will be gathered together as prisoners are gathered in the pit. And they will be shut up in the prison. Then after many days they will be visited. 23 Then the moon will be disgraced and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of armies reigns gloriously on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before His elders.

Chapter 25
Praise the Lord
1 ¶ O LORD, you are my God. I will exalt You. I will praise Your name, for You have done wonderful things. Your plans of old are faithfulness and truth.
2 For You have made a heap of a city, a ruin of a fortified city, a palace of foreigners to be no city. It will never be rebuilt.
3 Therefore, the strong people will glorify You. The city of the terrible nations will fear You.
4 For You have been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, for the breath of the ruthless is like a rain storm against a wall.
5 You will bring down the noise of foreigners as the heat in a dry place, even the heat with the shadow of a cloud. The branch of the ruthless ones will be brought low.
6 ¶ And in this mountain the LORD of armies will make all people a feast of choice pieces, a feast of aged wines, of fat things full of marrow, of aged wines well refined.
7 And He will destroy in this mountain the surface of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations.
8 He will swallow up death in victory, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces. And the rebuke of His people He will take away from off all the earth, for the LORD has spoken it.
9 ¶ And it will be said in that day, “Lo, this is our God. We have waited for Him and He will save us. This is the LORD. We have waited for Him. We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.”
10 For in this mountain the hand of the LORD will rest, and Moab will be trodden down under him, even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.
11 And He will spread forth His hands in the midst of them, as he who swims spreads forth his hands to swim. And He will bring down their pride together with the plunder of their hands.
12 And the fortress of the high fort of your walls He will bring down, lay low and bring to the ground, even to the dust.

Chapter 26
Song of Praise
1 ¶ In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: “We have a strong city. God will appoint salvation for walls and bulwarks.
2 “Open the gates so that the righteous nation that keeps the truth may enter in.
3 “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is focused on You, because he trusts in You.
4 “Trust in the LORD forever, for in GOD the LORD is everlasting strength.
5 “For He brings down those who dwell on high. The lofty city He lays low. He lays it low, even to the ground. He brings it even to the dust.
6 “The foot will tread it down, even the feet of the poor and the steps of the needy.”
7 ¶ The way of the righteous is level, O Most Upright. You weight the path of the just.
8 Yes, in the way of Your judgments, O LORD, we have waited for You. The desire of our soul is to Your name and to Your remembrance.
9 With my soul I have desired You in the night. Yes, with my spirit within me I will seek You early. For when Your judgments are on the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.
10 Let grace be shown to the wicked, and still he will not learn righteousness. In the land...
of uprightness he will deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the LORD.
11 LORD, when Your hand is lifted up, they will not see. But they will see to their shame Your jealousy for Your people. Yes, the fire will devour Your adversaries.
12 ¶ LORD, You will ordain peace for us, since You have also performed for us all our works.
13 O LORD our God, other lords beside You have had dominion over us. But by You only will we make mention of Your name.
14 They are dead. They will not live. They are deceased. They will not rise. Therefore, You have visited and destroyed them and made all their memory perish.
15 You have increased the nation, O LORD. You have increased the nation. You are glorified. You have extended all the borders of the land.
16 LORD, in trouble they have visited You. They poured out a whispered prayer when Your chastening was upon them.
17 Like a woman with child who draws near to the time of her delivery is in pain and cries out in her pain, so we have been in Your sight, O LORD.
18 We have been with child. We have been in pain. We gave birth, as it seems, only of wind. We have not worked any deliverance on the earth, nor have the inhabitants of the world fallen.
19 Your dead will live. Together with my dead body they will arise. Awake and sing you who dwell in dust, for your dew is as the dew of herbs and the earth will cast out the dead.
20 ¶ Come, My people. Enter into your chambers and shut your doors behind you. Hide yourself as if it were for a little moment, until the indignation is past.
21 For behold, the LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity. The earth also will disclose her blood and will no longer cover her slain.

Chapter 27
Deliverance of Israel

1 ¶ In that day the LORD with His sore and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, even Leviathan that twisted serpent. And he will slay the reptile that lives in the sea.
2 In that day sing to her, A vineyard of red wine.
3 ¶ I the LORD keep it. I will water it every moment. Lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.
4 ¶ Fury is not in Me. Who would set the briers and thorns against Me in battle? I would go through them. I would burn them together.
5 ¶ Or let him take hold of My strength so that he may make peace with Me. He will make peace with Me.”
6 He will cause those who come from Jacob to take root. Israel will blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.
7 ¶ Has He struck him as He struck those who struck him? Has He been slain according to the slaughter of those who were slain by Him? You contended with them by banishing them, by driving them away. With His fierce wind He has removed them on the day of the east wind.
9 By this, therefore, the iniquity of Jacob will be purged. And this is all the fruit of taking away his sin, when he makes all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten to dust. The groves and images will not stand up.
10 Yet the fortified city will be desolate and the habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness. There the calf will feed, and there he will lie down and consume its branches.
11 When its boughs are withered, they will be broken off. The women come and set them on fire. For it is a people of no understanding, therefore He who made them will not have mercy on them, and He who formed them will show them no favor.
12 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that the LORD will thresh from the flowing stream of the River to the Brook of Egypt, and you will be gathered one by one, O you children of Israel.
13 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that
the great trumpet will be blown, and they will come who were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and will worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

Chapter 28

Woe to Ephraim

1 ¶ Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, who are on the head of the fertile valleys of those who are overcome with wine!

2 Behold, the Lord has a mighty and strong one, who as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, will cast down to the earth with the hand.

3 The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim, will be trodden underfoot.

4 And the glorious beauty that is on the head of the fertile valley will be a fading flower, as the first fruit before the summer that an observer sees. While it is yet in his hand he eats it up.

5 ¶ In that day the LORD of armies will be for a crown of glory and for a diadem of beauty to the remnant of His people,

6 and for a spirit of judgment to him who sits in judgment, and for strength to those who turn the battle at the gate.

7 ¶ But they also b have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way. The priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink. They are swallowed up by wine. They are out of the way through strong drink. They err in vision. They stumble in judgment.

8 For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean.

9 ¶ Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those who are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts.

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little and there a little.

11 ¶ For with stammering lips and a foreign language He will speak to this people.

12 To whom He said, “This is the rest with which you may cause the weary to rest, and this is the refreshing.” And yet, they would not hear.

13 But the word of the LORD was to them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little and there a little; so that they might go and fall backward and be broken and snared and taken.

14 ¶ Therefore, hear the word of the LORD you scornful men who rule this people who are in Jerusalem.

15 Because you have said, “We have made a covenant with death, and with sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge will pass through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves”

16 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation. He who believes will not act hastily.

17 “I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the plummet. And the hail will sweep away the refuge of lies and the waters will overflow the hiding place.

18 “And your covenant with death will be disannulled, and your agreement with sheol will not stand. When the overflowing scourge passes through, then you will be trodden down by it.

19 “From the time that it goes forth it will take you. For morning by morning it will pass by day and by night. And it will be a vexation only to understand the report.”

20 ¶ For the bed is too short for a man to stretch himself on it, and the covering is too narrow to wrap oneself in.

21 For the LORD will rise up as in Mount Perazim. He will be stirred up as in the Valley of Gibeon, so that He may do His work, His awesome work, and bring to pass His act, His extraordinary act.

22 Now therefore do not be mockers, lest your bonds be made strong. For I have heard from the Lord GOD of armies of decisive destruction on all the earth.

23 ¶ Give ear and hear my voice. Hearken
and hear my speech.

24 Does the plowman plow all day in order to sow? Does he open and break the clods of his ground?

25 Does he not level its surface and sow dill and scatter cummin, and plant wheat in rows, barley in its place and rye within its area?

26 For his God instructs him in right judgment and teaches him.

27 For the dill is not threshed with athreshing instrument, nor is a cart wheel rolled upon the cummin. But the dill is beaten out with a staff and the cummin with a rod.

28 Bread floor is crushed. He does not continue to thresh it forever. Because the wheel of his cart and his horses eventually damage it, he does not thresh too long.

29 This also comes forth from the LORD of armies, whose wonderful in counsel and excellent in working.

Chapter 29

Woe to Jerusalem

1 ¶ Woe to Ariel, to Ariel, the city where David dwelt! Add year to year. Let them kill sacrifices.

2 Yet I will distress Ariel, and there will be heaviness and sorrow. And it will be to Me as Ariel.

3 And I will camp against you all around and will lay siege against you with a mound. And I will raise forts against you.

4 So you will be brought down and will speak out of the ground. And your voice will be low out of the dust. Your voice will also be like that of a spirit from the ground. And your speech will whisper from the dust.

5 ¶ Furthermore, the multitude of your enemies will become like fine dust, and the multitude of the terrible ones will be as chaff that passes away. Yes, it will be in an instant, suddenly.

6 ¶ You will be visited from the LORD of armies with thunder and with earthquake and great noise, with storm and tempest and the flame of a devouring fire.

7 And the multitude of all the nations who fight against Ariel, even all who fight against her and her stronghold, and who distress her, will be as a dream of a night vision.

8 It will even be as when a hungry man dreams, and behold, he eats. But he awakens and his hunger is not satisfied. Or as when a thirsty man dreams, and behold, he drinks. But he awakens, and behold, he is faint and his thirst is not quenched. So will the multitude of all the nations be who fight against Mount Zion.

9 ¶ Pause and wonder. Blind yourselves and be blind. They are drunken, but not with wine. They stagger, but not with strong drink.

10 For the LORD has poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep. He has shut your eyes, the prophets. And He has covered your heads, the seers.

11 ¶ And the vision of all has become to you as the words of a scroll that is sealed, that men deliver to one who is learned, saying, “Please, read this.” And he says, “I cannot, for it is sealed.” And he says, “I am not literate.”

12 And the scroll is delivered to him who is not literate, saying, “Please, read this.” And he says, “I am not literate.”

13 ¶ Therefore, the Lord said, “Forasmuch as this people draw near Me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor Me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men,

14 therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder. “For the wisdom of their wise men will perish and the understanding of their prudent men will be hidden.”

15 ¶ “Woe to those who seek deep to hide their counsel far from the LORD, and their works are in the dark. “And they say, “Who sees us?” and, “Who knows us?”

16 Surely your turning of things upside down will be esteemed as the potter’s clay. Will the thing made say to him who made it, “He did not make me?” Or will the thing framed say of him who framed it, “He had no understanding?”

n Ps 92:5  Chapter 29: a Ez 24:6,9  b 2 Sm 5:9  c Is 8:19  d Is 25:5  e Jb 21:18  f Is 30:13; 47:11  g Is 28:2; 30:30  h Rv 16:18,19  i Mc 4:11,12  j Jb 20:8  k Ps 73:20  l Is 28:7,8  m Is 51:21  n Rm 11:8  o Ps 69:23  p Is 44:18  q Is 8:16  r Dn 12:4,9  s Ez 33:31; Mt 18:8,9; Mk 7:6,7  t Cl 2:22  u Hk 1:5  v Jn 49:7  w Is 30:1  x Ps 10:11; 94:7  y Is 45:9
17 ¶ Is it not yet a very little time until Lebanon will be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field will be esteemed as a forest?
18 And in that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll, and the eyes of the blind will see out of obscurity and out of darkness.
19 The meek also will increase their joy in the LORD, and the poor among men will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.
20 For the terrible one is brought to nought and the scorner is consumed. And all who have intent to do evil are cut off,
21 who cause a person to be indicted by a word, and flay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and turn aside the just with empty words.
22 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD who redeemed Abraham concerning the house of Jacob, “Jacob will not now be ashamed, nor will his face now wax pale.
23 But when he sees his children, the work of My hands in the midst of him, they will sanctify My name and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob. And they will fear the God of Israel.
24 They also who erred in spirit will come to understanding, and those who murmured will accept instruction.”

Chapter 30

Alliance with Egypt

1 ¶ “Woe to the rebellious children,” says the LORD, as who take counsel, but not from Me; and who cover with a covering, but not from My Spirit, so that they may add sin to sin;
2 as who walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at My mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!
3 asTherefore, the strength of Pharaoh will be your shame, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion.
4 “For his princes were at Zoan and his ambassadors came to Hanes.
5 asThey were all ashamed of a people who could not profit them, nor be a help or profit, but a shame and also a reproach.”

6 ¶ The burden of the beasts of the Negev: Into the land of trouble and anguish, from where the young and old lion come, ‘the viper and fiery flying serpent, they will carry their riches upon the shoulders of young donkeys and their treasures upon the humps of camels to a people who will not profit them.
7 For the Egyptians will help in vain and for no purpose. Therefore, I have cried out concerning this, “Rahab who does nothing.”

8 ¶ Now go. Write it before them on a tablet, and note it on a scroll, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever.
9 This is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the law of the LORD.
10 They say to the seers, “Do not see,” and to the prophets, “Do not prophesy to us right things. Speak to us smooth things. Prophesy deceits.
11 “Get out of the way. Turn aside out of the path. Cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.”
12 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Holy One of Israel, “Because you despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and have relied on them,
13 therefore this iniquity will be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly at an instant.
14 “And He will break it as the breaking of the potters’ vessel that is broken in pieces. He will not spare, so that there will not be found in the shattering of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water with it out of the pit.”
15 ¶ For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, “By returning and remaining quiet you will be saved. In stillness and in confidence your strength will lie.” But you were not willing.
16 But you said, “No, for we will flee upon horses.” Therefore, you will flee. And, “We will ride upon swift horses.” Therefore, those who pursue you will be swift.
17 One thousand will flee at the rebuke of
1 Therefore, the LORD will wait so that He may be gracious to you. Therefore, He will be exalted so that He may have mercy on you, for the LORD is a God of justice. *Blessed are all those who wait for Him.

18 For the people will dwell in Zion at Jerusalem. You will weep no more. He will be very gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When He will hear it, He will answer you.

19 And your ears will hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way. Walk in it,” whenever you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left.

20 “You will defile also the covering of your graven images of silver and the ornament of your molten images of gold. You will cast them away as an unclean thing. ‘You will say to it, ‘Get away.’”

21 ¶ Then He will give the rain for your seed so that you will sow the ground with it, and bread from the increase of the earth. And it will be fat and plenteous. In that day your cattle will feed in large pastures.

22 The oxen likewise and the young donkeys that plow the ground will eat savory fodder that has been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan.

23 ¶ The light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD binds up the breach of His people and heals the stroke of their wound.

24 And His breath, as an overflowing stream, will reach to the middle of the neck to sift the nations with the sieve of futility. And there will be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err.

25 You will have a song as in the night when a holy festival is kept, and gladness of heart as when one goes with a flute to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the Mighty One of Israel.

26 And though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide in a corner anymore, but your eyes will see your Teacher.

27 ¶ Behold, the name of the LORD comes from afar, burning with the flame of a devouring fire, scattering and tempest and hailstones.

28 For through the voice of the LORD will the Assyrian be beaten down who smote with a rod.

29 And in every place where the staff of punishment will pass that the LORD lays upon him, it will be with tambourines and harps. And in battles, brandishing weapons, He will fight them.

30 ¶ For Tophet is ordained from old. Yes, for the king it is prepared. He has made it deep and large, with an abundance of fire and wood. The breath of the LORD kindles it like a stream of brimstone.

Chapter 31

Woe to Alliances with Egypt

1 ¶ Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, and rely on horses and trust in chariots because they are many, and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, ‘nor seek the LORD!’

2 Yet He also is wise and will bring evil, and will not take back His words. But He will arise against the house of the evildoers and against the help of those who work iniquity.

3 Now the Egyptians are men and not God, and their horses flesh and not spirit. When the LORD will stretch out His hand, both he who helps will fall and he who is helped will fall down. And they will all fail together.

4 ¶ For thus has the LORD spoken to me,
Like the lion and the young lion roaring over his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor disturb himself because of their noise. So will the LORD of armies come down to fight for Mount Zion and for its hill. 

As birds flying, so will the LORD of armies defend Jerusalem, and defending He will also deliver it. And passing over, He will preserve it.

Turn to Him from whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted. For in that day every man will cast away his idols of silver and his idols of gold that your sinful hands have made for you as a sin.

Then the Assyrian will fall by a sword not of man, and a sword not of man will devour him. But he will flee from the sword, and his young men will become forced laborers.

And he will pass over to his stronghold for fear, and his princes will be afraid of the banner,” says the LORD, whose fire is in Zion and His furnace in Jerusalem.

Behold, a king will reign in righteousness and princes will rule in judgment. And a man will be as a refuge from the wind and a shelter from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

And the eyes of those who see will not be dim and the ears of those who hear will listen. The heart also of the rash will understand knowledge and the tongue of the stammerers will hasten to speak clearly.

The fool will no longer be called noble, nor the rogue said to be generous.

For the fool will speak nonsense and his heart will work iniquity to practice ungodliness and to utter error against the LORD, to make empty the soul of the hungry. And he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail.

The instruments also of the fool are evil. He devises wicked devices to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speak right.

But the noble devises noble things, and by noble things he will stand.

Rise up you women who are at ease. Hear my voice you complacent daughters. Give ear to my speech.

You will be troubled many days and years, you complacent women, for the vintage will fail and the gathering will not come. Tremble, you women who are at ease. Be troubled you careless ones. Strip and make yourselves bare, and gird sackcloth upon your loins.

Beat your breasts for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine.

On the land of my people will come up thorns and briers, yes, on all the houses of joy in the joyous city, because the palaces will be forsaken. The bustling city will be deserted. The forts and towers will be for dens forever, a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks, until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high and the wilderness is a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is counted for a forest.

Then judgment will dwell in the wilderness and righteousness remain in the fruitful field.

And the work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever.

Blessed are you who sow beside all waters, who let out freely the ox and the donkey.

Woe to you who plunder but are not plundered, and those who deal treacherously but are not dealt with treacherously! When you cease to plunder, you will be plundered. When you stop dealing treacherously, they will deal
treacherously with you.

2 ¶ Oh LORD be gracious to us. ¶ We have waited for You. Be their arm every morning, our salvation also in the midst of trouble.

3 At the noise of the tumult the people fled. At the lifting up of Yourself the nations were scattered.

4 And Your plunder will be gathered like the gathering of the caterpillar. As the running to and fro of locusts, He will run upon them.

5 ¶ The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high. He has filled Zion with judgment and righteousness.

6 And wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times, and strength of salvation. The fear of the LORD is his treasure.

7 ¶ Behold, their valiant ones will cry outside. The ambassadors of peace will weep bitterly.

8 ¶ The highways lie waste, and the wayfaring man ceases. ¶ He has broken the covenant. ¶ He regards no man.

9 ¶ The earth mourns and languishes. ¶ Lebanon is ashamed and cut down. ¶ Sharon is like a wilderness, and Bashan and Carmel shake off their fruits.

10 ¶ “Now ¶ I will rise,” says the LORD. ¶ “Now I will be exalted. ¶ Now I will exalt Myself.

11 ¶ “You will conceive chaff. ¶ You will bring forth stubble. ¶ Your breath, as fire, will devour you.

12 ¶ “And the people will be as the burnings of lime. ¶ As thorns cut up, they will be burned in the fire.

13 ¶ “Hear, ¶ you who are afar off, what I have done. ¶ And you who are near, acknowledge My might.”

14 ¶ The sinners in Zion are afraid. Fearfulness has surprised the hypocrites. Who among us will dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us will dwell with everlasting burnings?

15 He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly. He who despises the gain of oppression, who shakes his hands from holding of bribes, who stops his ears from hearing of blood, and shuts his eyes from seeing evil.

16 He will dwell on high. His place of de-

fence will be the fortress of rocks. Bread will be given him. His waters will be sure.

17 ¶ Your eyes will see the king in his beauty. ¶ They will behold the land that is very far off.

18 ¶ Your heart will meditate on terror. ¶ Where is the scribe? ¶ Where is the receiver? ¶ Where is he who counted the towers?

19 ¶ You will not see a fierce people, ¶ a people of a deeper speech than you can perceive, of an obscure language that you cannot understand.

20 ¶ Look upon Zion, the city of our solemn feasts. ¶ Your eyes will see ¶ Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that will not be taken down. ¶ Not one of its stakes will ever be removed, nor will any of its ropes be broken.

21 But there the glorious LORD will be to us a place of broad rivers and streams, wherein will go no boat with oars, nor on which any mighty ship will pass.

22 ¶ For the LORD is our judge. ¶ The LORD is our lawgiver. ¶ The LORD is our king. ¶ He will save us.

23 ¶ Your tackle hangs slack. ¶ It cannot hold the base of its mast firmly, nor spread out the sail. ¶ Then the prey of a great plunder is divided. ¶ The lame take the plunder.

24 ¶ And the inhabitant will not say, ¶ “I am sick.” ¶ The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity.

Chapter 34
Judgment Against the Nations

1 ¶ Come ¶ near you nations to hear, and hearken you people. ¶ Let the earth hear and all who are in it, the world and all things that come forth from it.

2 ¶ For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations and His fury upon all their armies. He has utterly destroyed them. He has delivered them to the slaughter.

3 ¶ Their slain also will be cast out and ¶ their stench will come up from their carcases. ¶ And the mountains will be melted with their blood.

4 ¶ And ¶ all the hosts of heaven will be dissolved and the heavens will be rolled together as a scroll. ¶ And ¶ all their host will fall down, as the
leaf falls off from the vine and as a falling  
from the fig tree.
5 ¶ For  
my sword will be bathed in heaven. Behold, it  
will come down for judgment upon 
Idumea and upon the people of My curse.
6 The  
sword of the LORD is filled with blood. It is made fat with fatness and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For  
the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.
7 And the wild oxen will come down with them and the young bulls with the bulls. And their land will be soaked with blood and their dust made fat with fatness.
8 ¶ For  
it is the day of the Lord’s  
vengeance and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion.
9 And  
its streams will be turned into pitch and its dust into brimstone, and its land will become burning pitch.
10 It will not be quenched night or day.  
Its smoke will go up forever.  
From generation to generation it will lie waste. No one will pass through it forever and ever.
11 ¶ But the pelican and hedgehog will possess it. The owl also and the raven will dwell in it. And  
He will stretch out upon it the line of confusion and the plumb line of chaos.
12 They will call its nobles to the kingdom, but no one  
will be there. And all its princes will be nothing.
13 And  
thorns will come up in its palaces, nettles and brambles in its fortresses. And  
it will be a habitation of jackals and a courtyard for owls.
14 The wild beasts of the desert will also meet with the wild beasts of the desert, and the hairy goat will cry out to his companion. The screech owl also will rest there, and find for herself a place of rest.
15 There the great owl will make her nest. And she will lay and hatch and gather under her shadow. There the vultures also will be gathered, everyone with her mate.
16 ¶ Seek out  
the scroll of the LORD and read. Not one of these will fail. Not one will lack her mate, for My mouth has commanded and His Spirit has gathered them.
17 And He has cast the lot for them, and His hand has divided it to them by a measuring line. They will possess it forever. From generation to generation they will dwell in it.

Chapter 35
Joy of the Redeemed
1 ¶ The  
wilderness and the solitary place will be glad for them. And the  
desert will rejoice and blossom as the rose.
2 ¶ It will blossom abundantly and rejoice even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it. The excellence of Carmel and Sharon, they will see the  
glory of the LORD and the excellency of our God.
3 ¶ Strengthen the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees.
4 Say to those who  
are of a fearful heart, “Be strong. Do not fear. Behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with vengeance. He will come and save you.”
5 Then the  
eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.
6 Then the  
lame man will leap like a dear and the  
tongue of the dumb will sing. For in the wilderness  
waters will break out, and streams in the desert.
7 And the parched ground will become a pool and the thirsty land springs of water. In  
the habitation of jackals, where each lay, there will be grass with reeds and rushes.
8 ¶ And  
a highway will be there, a roadway, and it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The impure person will not travel on it. But it will be for him who walks that way. Neither will fools wander about on it.
9 ¶ No lion will be there, nor  
any ravenous beast will go up on it. It will not be found there. But the redeemed will walk  
there.
10 And the  
ransomed of the LORD will return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads. They will obtain joy and gladness. And  
sorrow and sighing will flee away.
Chapter 36
Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah that Sennacherib, king of Assyria, came up against all the fortified cities of Judah. And he took them.

2 And the king of Assyria sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem to King Hezekiah with a great army. And he stood by the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller’s field.

3 Then Eliakim, Hilkiah’s son, who was over the house, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, Asaph’s son, the recorder, came out to him.

4 ¶ And Rabshakeh said to them, “Say now to Hezekiah, ‘Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria, “What confidence is this in which you trust?

5 “I say, ‘Your counsel and strength for the war are only vain words.’ Now on whom do you rely, that you have rebelled against me?

6 “Behold, you trust in the staff of this broken reed, on Egypt. If a man lean on it, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him.

7 “But if you say to me, ‘We trust in the Lord our God,’ is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and said to Judah and to Jerusalem, ‘You will worship before this altar’?

8 “Now therefore, make a bargain with my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you 2,000 horses, if indeed you are able on your part to set riders upon them.

9 “How then will you turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master’s servants, and put your trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

10 “I have now come up without the LORD against this land to destroy it? The LORD said to me, ‘Go up against this land and destroy it.’ ”’

11 ¶ Then Eliakim and Shebna and Joah said to Rabshakeh, “Speak now to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it. Do not speak to us in the Jews’ language, in the ears of the people who are on the wall.”

12 But Rabshakeh said, “Has my master sent me to your master and to you to speak these words? Has he not sent me to the men who sit upon the wall in order that they may eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?”

13 ¶ Then Rabshakeh stood and cried out with a loud voice in the Jews’ language, and said, “Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria.

14 “Thus says the king, ‘Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you.

15 ‘Do not let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, “The LORD will surely deliver us. This city will not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.”

16 ‘Do not hearken to Hezekiah, for thus says the king of Assyria, “Make an agreement with me with a gift and come out to me, and eat each of his vine and each of his fig tree and drink each of the waters of his own cistern,

17 ‘until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

18 ‘Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, “The LORD will deliver us.” Have any of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

19 ‘Where are the gods of Hamath and Arphad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?

20 ‘Who are they among all the gods of these lands that have delivered their land out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?’”

21 ¶ But they held their peace and did not answer him a word, for the king’s commandment was, “Do not answer him.”

22 Then Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

Chapter 37
Prophecy of Jerusalem’s Deliverance

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when King Hezekiah heard this that he tore his clothes. And he covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.
2 Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, covered with sackcloth.  
3 And they said to him, “Thus says Hezekiah, ‘This day is a day of trouble and of rebuke and of blasphemy, for the children have come to the birth and there is no strength to bring forth.  
4 ‘It may be the LORD your God will hear the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard. Therefore, lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’”  
5 ¶ So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.  
6 Then Isaiah said to them, “Thus you will say to your master, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Do not be afraid of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.  
7 “Behold, I will send a blast upon him and he will hear a rumor, and he will return to his own land. And I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.” ’ ”  
8 ¶ So Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah, for he had heard that he had departed from Lachish.  
9 And he heard concerning Tirhakah, king of Ethiopia, “He has come forth to make war with you.” And when he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,  
10 “Thus you will speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, ‘Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, “Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.”’  
11 ‘Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them. So will you be delivered?  
12 ‘Have the 4gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, as Gozan and Haran and Rezeph and the children of Eden who were in Telassar?  
13 ‘Where is the king of Hamath and the king of Arphad and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena and Ivah?’”

Prayer of Hezekiah  
14 ¶ And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it. Then Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD and spread it before the LORD.  
15 And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD, saying,  
16 “O LORD of armies, God of Israel, who dwells between the cherubim. You are the God, even You alone of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.  
17 “Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear. Open Your eyes, O LORD, and see. 5Hear all the words of Sennacherib who has sent to reproach the living God.  
18 “Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations and their lands.  
19 “And they have cast their gods into the fire, for they were not gods, but the work of men’s hands, wood and stone. Therefore, they have destroyed them.  
20 “Now therefore, O LORD our God, 5save us from his hand so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD, even You only.”

Fall of Sennacherib  
21 ¶ Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria,  
22 ‘this is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him: “The virgin, the daughter of Zion, has despised you and laughed you to scorn. The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head at you.  
23 “Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? And against whom have you exalted your voice and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.  
24 “By your servants you have reproached the Lord and have said, ‘By the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon. And I will cut down its tall cedars and its choice fir trees. And I will enter into the height of his border and the forest of his Carmel.  

b Is 22:5; 26:16; 33:2  c Is 36:15,18,20  d Is 36:18,19  e Is 49:23  f Is 43:10,11  g Dn 9:18  h Ps 74:22  i 2 Kg 15:29; 16:9; 17:6,24  j Is 40:19,20  k Is 33:22  l Ps 83:18
25 ‘I have digged and drunk water, and with the sole of my feet. I have dried up all the rivers of the besieged places.’

26 ‘Have you not heard [long ago] how I have done it, and from ancient times that I have formed it? Now I have brought it to pass so that you should exist in order to lay waste fortified cities into ruinous heaps.

27 ‘Therefore, their inhabitants were of little power. They were dismayed and confounded. They were as the grass of the field and as the green herb, as the grass on the housetops and as grain blasted before it is grown up.

28 ‘But I know your dwelling, and your going out and your coming in, and your rage against Me.

29 ‘Because your rage against Me and your tumult have come up into My ears, therefore, I will put My hook in your nose and My bridle in your lips. And I will turn you back by the way by which you came.

30 ¶ “And this will be a sign to you: You will eat this year that which grows by itself, and the second year what springs from the same, and in the third year sow, reap, plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

31 “And the remnant that has escaped from the house of Judah will again take root downward and bear fruit upward.

32 “For out of Jerusalem will go forth a remnant, and those who escape out of Mount Zion. The zeal of the LORD of armies will do this.”

33 ¶ “Therefore, thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, ‘He will not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.

34 ‘By the way that he came, by the same he will return, and will not come into this city,’ says the LORD.

35 ‘For I will defend this city to save it for My own sake and for My servant ‘David’s sake.”

36 ¶ Then the Angel of the LORD went forth and smote in the camp of the Assyrians 185,000. And when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

37 So Sennacherib, king of Assyria, departed and went and returned. And he dwelt at Nin-eveh.

38 Now it came to pass as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons, smote him with the sword. Then they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 38

Sickness of Hezekiah

1 ¶ “In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, “Set your house in order, for you will die and not live.””

2 Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed to the LORD.

3 And he said, “Remember now, O LORD, I beseech you, how I have walked before You in truth and with a perfect heart. And I have done what is good in Your sight.” And Hezekiah cried bitterly.

4 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Isaiah, saying,

5 “Go and say to Hezekiah, ‘Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father. I have heard your prayer. I have seen your tears. Behold, I will add to your days fifteen years.

6 ‘And I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria. And I will defend this city.

7 ‘And this will be a sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that He has spoken.

8 ‘Behold, I will cause the shadow on the stairway, that has gone down with the sun on the stairway of Ahaz, to go back ten steps.’” So the sun’s shadow went back ten steps on the stairway on which it had gone down.

9 ¶ The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick and had recovered from his sickness:

10 “I said, ‘In the middle of my life I am to enter the gates of Sheol. I am deprived of the rest of my years.’

11 “I said, ‘I will not see the LORD, even the LORD % in the land of the living. I will behold
man no more with the inhabitants of the world.’

12 h“My life span is gone and is removed from me as a shepherd’s tent. I have cut off my life like a weaver. He cuts me off from the loom. From day until night You make an end of me.

13 “I have considered until morning, that as a lion, so will He break all my bones. From day even to night You make an end of me.

14 “I have mourned as a dove. My eyes fail with looking upward. O LORD, I am oppressed. Be my security.

15 ¶ “What will I say? He has both spoken to me and He Himself has done it. I will walk carefully all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

16 “Oh Lord, by these things men live and in all these things is the life of my spirit. Oh restore me to health and let me live.

17 “Behold, it was for my own peace that I had great bitterness. But You have in love of my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption. For You have cast all my sins behind Your back.

18 “For the grave cannot praise You. Death cannot celebrate You. Those who go down into the pit cannot hope for Your truth.

19 “It is the living who give thanks to You as I do today. A father will tell his sons about Your faithfulness.

20 “The LORD was ready to save me. Therefore, we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.”

21 ¶ Now mIsaiah had said, “Let them take a lump of figs and lay it for a plaster upon the boil, and he will recover.”

22 nHezekiah also had said, “What is the sign that I will go up to the house of the LORD?”

Chapter 39
Delegation from Babylon

1 ¶ At a that time Merodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a gift to Hezekiah, for he had heard that he had been sick and had recovered.

2 bAnd Hezekiah was pleased with them. Then he showed them the house of his precious things, the silver and the gold and the spices and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures. There was nothing in his house, or in all his dominion, that Hezekiah did not show them.

3 ¶ Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and said to him, “What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?” And Hezekiah said, “They came to me from a far country, even from Babylon.”

4 Then he said, “What have they seen in your house?” And Hezekiah answered, “They have seen all that is in my house. There is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them.”

5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the LORD of armies,

6 ‘Behold, the days are coming that all that is in your house and that which your fathers have laid up in store until this day, will be carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left,’ says the LORD.

7 ‘And of your sons who will issue from you, whom you will beget, they will take away. And they will be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’”

8 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “Good is the word of the LORD that you have spoken.” He also said, “For there will be peace and truth in my days.”

Chapter 40
Comfort for God’s People

1 ¶ “Comfort. Oh comfort My people,” says your God.

2 “Speak comfortably to Jerusalem and cry to her, that her forced labor has ended, that her iniquity is pardoned. aFor she has received of the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”

3 bThe voice of him who cries out in the wilderness, c“Prepare the way of the LORD. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 “Every valley will be exalted and every mountain and hill will be made low. And the crooked places will be made straight and the rough places smooth.

5 “And the glory of the LORD will be revealed and all flesh will see it together, for the
mouth of the LORD has spoken."

6 ¶ The voice said, “Cry out!” And I said, “What will I cry out?” All flesh is grass and all its goodliness is as the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers. The flower fades because the breath of the LORD blows upon it. Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers. The flower fades. But his word of our God will stand forever. 9 ¶ Oh Zion who brings good news, get up into the high mountain. Oh Jerusalem who brings good news, lift up your voice with strength. Lift it up. Do not be afraid. Say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” 10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come as a Mighty One, and His arm will rule for Him. Behold, His reward is with Him and His work before Him. 11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd. He will gather the lambs with His arm and carry them in His bosom. And He will gently lead those who are with young. 12 ¶ Who has ever measured the waters in the hollow of His hand and measured out heaven with a span, and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? 13 Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counselor has instructed Him? 14 With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him in the path of judgment, and taught Him knowledge, and showed to Him the way of understanding? 15 Behold, the nations are as a drop from a rain cloud and are counted as the small dust of the balance. Behold, He takes up the islands as a very little thing. 16 And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor its animals sufficient for a burnt offering. 17 All nations before Him are as “nothing, and they are counted to Him less than nothing and useless. 18 ¶ To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him? 19 The workman melts a graven image and the goldsmith spreads it over with gold and casts silver chains. 20 He who is so impoverished that he has no oblation chooses a tree that will not rot. He seeks for himself a cunning craftsman to prepare a graven image that will not be moved. 21 ¶ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22 It is He who sits upon the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are as grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens as a curtain and spreads them out as a tent in which to dwell, 23 who brings the princes to nothing. He makes the judges of the earth useless. 24 Yes, they will not be planted. Yes, they will not be sown. Yes, their stock will not take root in the earth. And He will also blow upon them and they will wither, and the whirlwind will take them away as stubble. 25 ¶ “To whom then will you liken Me? Or, to whom will I be equal?” says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high and behold who has created these things. The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name. Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, not one of them is missing. 27 ¶ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God”? 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, does not faint, nor is He weary? There is no searching of His understanding. 29 He gives power to the faint. And to those who have no might, He increases strength. 30 Even the youths will faint and be weary, and the young men will utterly fall. 31 But those who wait on the LORD will renew their strength. They ‘will mount up with wings as eagles. They will run and not be weary. They will walk and not faint.
1 ¶“Keep silence before Me, O coastland. And let the people renew their strength. Let them come near, then let them speak. Let us come near together for judgment.

2 ¶“Who raised up the righteous man from the east, called Him to his feet, gave the nations before Him, and made Him rule over kings? He gave them as the dust to his sword and as driven stubble to his bow.

3 “He pursued them and passed safely, even by the way that he had not gone with his feet.

4 ¶“Who has worked and accomplished it, calling the generations from the beginning? ‘I the LORD, am the first, and with the last I am He.’”

5 ¶The coastlands saw it and feared. The ends of the earth were afraid, drew near, and came. Everyone helped his neighbor and everyone said to his brother, “Be strong!”

6 ¶So the carpenter encouraged the smith. And he who smooths metal with the hammer encouraged him who beats the anvil, saying of the soldering, “It is good.” And he fastened it with pegs so that it will not be moved.

7 ¶“But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham My friend.

8 ¶“You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth and called you from its farthest regions, and said to you, ‘You are My servant. I have chosen you and not cast you away.

9 “Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. Yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness.’

10 ¶“Behold, all those who were incensed against you will be ashamed and confounded. They will be as nothing. And those who strive with you will perish.

11 ¶“You will seek them and will not find them, even those who contended with you. Those who war against you will be as nothing, and as a nonexistent thing.

12 ¶“For I the LORD your God will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Do not fear. I will help you.’

13 ¶“Do not fear you worm Jacob, and you men of Israel. I will help you,” says the LORD your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

14 ¶“Behold, I will make you a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth. You will thresh the mountains and beat them small, and will make the hills as chaff.

15 ¶“You will fan them, and the wind will carry them away, and the whirlwind will scatter them. And you will rejoice in the LORD and will glory in the Holy One of Israel.

16 ¶“I will open rivers in high places and fountains in the middle of the valleys. I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land springs of water.

17 ¶“I will plant the cedar in the wilderness, the acacia and the myrtle and the olive tree. I will set in the desert the cypress tree and the pine, and the box tree together,

18 ¶so that they may see and know and consider and understand together, that the hand of the LORD has done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it.

19 ¶“Bring forth your strong reasons,” says the King of Jacob.

20 ¶“Let them bring them forth and show us what will happen. Let them show the former things, what they are so that we may consider them and know the latter end of them. Or declare to us things that are to come.

21 ¶“Show the things that are to come hereafter so that we may know that you are gods. Yes, do good or do evil so that we may fear and see it together.

22 ¶“Behold, you are nothing and your work nothing. He who chooses you is an abomination.

23 ¶“I have raised up one from the north and he will come. From the rising of the sun he will call upon My name. And he will come upon princes as upon mortar, and as the potter treads clay.

26 ¶Who has declared from the beginning so...
that we may know, and beforetime, so that we may say, ‘He is righteous?’ Yes, there is no one who declares. Yes, there is no one who hears your words.

27 "The first will say to Zion, ‘Behold, here they are.’ And I will give to Jerusalem a messenger of good news.

28 For I beheld and there was no man, even among them. And there was no counsellor, that when I asked of them, could answer a word.

29 Behold, they are all worthless. Their works are nothing. Their molten images are wind and confusion.

Chapter 42

The Servant of the Lord

1 ¶ "Behold My servant whom I uphold. My elect in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him. He will bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

2 He will not cry out or lift up, or cause His voice to be heard in the street.

3 A bruised reed He will not break, and the glimmering flax He will not quench. He will bring forth right with truth.

4 "He will not fail nor be discouraged until He has set judgment on the earth. And the coastlands will wait for His law."

5 Thus says God the LORD who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and that which comes out of it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk on it,

6 "I the LORD have called you in righteousness and will hold your hand. And I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations,

7 to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and those who sit in darkness out of the prison house.

8 "I am the LORD. That is My name. And My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to graven images.

9 "Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare. Before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Song of Praise

10 ¶ Sing to the LORD a new song and His praise from the end of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, the coastlands and its inhabitants.

11 Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voice, the settlements where Kedar inhabits. Let the inhabitants of the rock sing. Let them shout from the top of the mountains.

12 Let them give glory to the LORD and declare His praise in the coastlands.

13 The LORD will go forth as a mighty man. He will stir up jealousy like a man of war. He will cry out, yes, roar. He will prevail against His enemies.

14 ¶ "I have a long time held My peace. I have been still and restrained Myself. Now I will cry out like a woman in labor. I will both gasp and pant.

15 "I will make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs. And I will make the rivers coastlands, and I will dry up the pools.

16 "And I will bring the blind by a way that they did not know. I will lead them in paths that they have not known. I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things I will do to them and not forsake them."

17 They will be turned back. They will be greatly ashamed who trust in graven images, who say to the molten images, "You are our gods."

Blind and Deaf Israel

18 ¶ Hear, you deaf. And look you blind, so that you may see.

19 Who is blind but My servant, and deaf like the messenger I send. Who is blind like the one committed to Me, blind like the servant of the LORD?

20 You have seen many things, but you do not observe them. Your ears are open, but no one hears.

21 ¶ The LORD is well pleased for His righteousness’ sake. He will magnify the law and make it honorable.
22 But this is a people robbed and plundered. All of them are snared in holes, and they are hidden in prison houses. They are for a prey and no one delivers them; for a plunder, and no one says, “Restore.”

23 ¶ Who among you will give ear to this? Who will hearken and hear for the time to come?

24 Who gave Jacob for a plunder and Israel to the robbers? Did not the LORD, He against whom we have sinned? ¶ For they would not walk in His ways, nor were they obedient to His law.

25 Therefore, He has poured upon him the fury of His anger and the strength of battle. And it set him aflame all around, yet he did not recognize it. And it burned him, but he did not take it to heart.

Chapter 43
Israel’s Savior

1 ¶ But now thus says the LORD who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, “Do not fear, ¶ for I have redeemed you. ¶ I have called you by your name. You are Mine.

2 ¶ When you pass through the waters, ¶ I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned, nor the flames set you ablaze.

3 ¶ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. ¶ I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in your place.

4 ¶ Since you were precious in My sight, you have been honored. So I have ¶ loved you. Therefore, I will give men for you and people for your life.

5 ¶ Do not fear, for I am with you. I will bring your seed from the east and gather you from the west.

6 ¶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up,’ and to the south, ‘Do not keep back.’ Bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the ends of the earth.

7 ¶ Bring everyone who is called by My name. For ¶ I have created him for My glory. I have formed him. Yes, I have made him.”

8 ¶ ¶ Bring forth the blind people who have eyes and the ¶ deaf who have ears.

9 Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled. ¶ Who among them can declare this and show us the former things? Let them bring forth their witnesses so that they may be proved right. Or, let them hear and say, “It is true.”

10 ¶ You ¶ are My witnesses,” says the LORD, ¶ ¶ and My servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and ¶ believe Me and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor will there be after Me.

11 ¶ I, even ¶ I, am the LORD, and besides Me there is no savior.

12 ¶ I have declared and I have saved. And I have proclaimed when there was no ¶ foreign god among you. ¶ Therefore, you are My witnesses,” says the LORD, ¶ “that I am God.

13 ¶ ¶ ¶ Yes, before the day was, I am He. And there is no one who can deliver out of My hand. I will work, and who will ¶ reverse it?”

Mercy for Unfaithfulness

14 ¶ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, ¶ “For your sake I have sent to Babylon and have brought down all their nobles and the Chaldeans who rejoice in their ships.

15 ¶ I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your ¶ King.”

16 ¶ ¶ Thus says the LORD who ¶ makes a way in the sea and a ¶ path in the mighty waters,

17 ¶ who ¶ brings forth the chariot and horse, the army and the power. (They will lie down together. They will not rise. They are extinct. They are quenched as a wick.)

18 ¶ Do ¶ not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old.

19 ¶ Behold, I will do a ¶ new thing. Now it will spring forth. Will you not know it? ¶ I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

20 ¶ The beast of the field will honor Me, the dragons and the owls, because ¶ I give waters
in the wilderness and rivers in the desert in order to give drink to My people, My chosen. 21 This people I have formed for Myself. They will show forth My praise.

22 ¶ “But you have not called upon Me, O Jacob. Instead, you have been weary of Me, O Israel.

23 “You have not brought Me the small cattle of your burnt offerings, nor have you honored Me with your sacrifices. I have not caused you to serve with an offering, nor wearied you with incense.

24 “You have bought Me no sweet cane, nor have you filled Me with the fat of your sacrifices. But you have made Me serve with your sins. You have wearied Me with your iniquities.

25 ¶ “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and will not remember your sins.

26 “Put Me in remembrance. Let us argue our case together. State your case so that you may be proved right.

27 “Your first father has sinned, and your teachers have transgressed against Me.

28 “Therefore, I have profaned the princes of the sanctuary and have given Jacob to the curse and Israel to reproaches.”

Chapter 44
The Chosen Israel

1 ¶ “Yet hear now, O Jacob My servant, and Israel whom I have chosen.

2 “Thus says the LORD who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you, ‘Do not fear, O Jacob, My servant, and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

3 ‘For I will pour water upon him who is thirsty and floods upon the dry ground. I will pour My Spirit upon your seed and My blessing upon your offspring.

4 ‘And they will spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses.

5 ‘One will say, “I am the Lord’s,” and another will call himself by the name of Jacob, and another will write on his hand, ‘Belonging to the Lord,’ and will name Israel’s name with honor.

6 ¶ “Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and His Redeemer, the LORD of armies, “I am the first and I am the last, and besides Me there is no God.

7 ‘And who as I, will call and will declare it, and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people? And the things that are coming, and will come, let them show these to them.

8 ‘Do not fear, nor be afraid. ‘Have I not told you from that time, and have declared it? ‘You are even My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Yes, there is no other Rock. I know not one.’”

Idolatry

9 ¶ Those who make a graven image are all of them useless. And their precious things will not profit. They are their own witnesses. They do not see, nor know, so that they may be ashamed.

10 Who has fashioned a god, or cast a graven image that is to no profit?

11 Behold, all his fellows will be ashamed. And the workmen, they are of men. Let them all be gathered together. Let them stand up. Let them tremble. They will be ashamed together.

12 The smith with the tongs both works in the coals and fashions it with hammers. And he works it with the strength of his arms. Yes, he is hungry and his strength fails. He drinks no water and is faint.

13 The carpenter stretches out his rule. He marks it out with a line. He fits it with a plane, and he marks it out with the compass. And he makes it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man, that it may remain in the house.

14 He hews down for himself cedars and takes the cypress and the oak so that he secures it among the trees of the forest. He plants an ash and the rain nourishes it.

15 Then it will be for a man to burn, for he will take some of it and warm himself. Yes, he kindles it and bakes bread. Yes, he makes a god and worships it. He makes it a graven image and falls down before it.
16 He burns part of it in the fire. With part of it he eats meat. He roasts a roast and is satisfied. Yes, he warms himself and says, “Ah! I am warm. I have seen the fire.”

17 And with the rest of it he makes a god, even his graven image. He falls down to it and worships it. And he prays to it and says, “Deliver me, for you are my god.”

18 ¶ They have not known nor understood. For He has shut their eyes so that they cannot see, and their hearts so that they cannot understand.

19 And no one considers in his heart, nor is there knowledge or understanding to say, “I have burned part of it in the fire. Yes, I have also baked bread upon its coals. I have roasted meat and eaten it. And I will make the rest of it an abomination? I will fall down to a block of wood?”

20 He feeds on ashes. A deceived heart has turned him aside so that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, “Is there not a lie in my right hand?”

21 ¶ “Remember these, O Jacob and Israel, for you are My servant. I have formed you. You are My servant. O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me.

22 ¶ I have blotted out as a thick cloud your transgressions, and as a cloud your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”

23 ¶ Sing, O you heavens, for the LORD has done it. Shout you lower parts of the earth. Break forth into singing, you mountains, O forest and every tree in it. For the LORD has redeemed Jacob and glorified Himself in Israel.

Habitation of Jerusalem

24 ¶ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and He who formed you from the womb, “I am the LORD who makes all things, who stretches forth the heavens alone, who spreads abroad the earth by Myself,

25 ¶ who frustrates the tokens of the liars and makes diviners mad, who turns wise men backward and makes their knowledge foolish,

26 ¶ who confirms the word of His servant and performs the counsel of His messengers, who says to Jerusalem, ‘You will be inhabited,’ and to the cities of Judah, ‘You will be built and I will raise up its decayed places,’

27 ¶ “who says to the deep, ‘Be dry and I will dry up your rivers,’

28 ¶ who says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd and will perform all My pleasure,’ even saying to Jerusalem, ¶ “You will be built, and to the temple, ‘Your foundation will be laid.’"

Chapter 45

1 ¶ “Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose bright hand I have taken to subdue nations before him. And I will loose the armor of kings in order to open before him double gates, and the gates will not be shut:

2 ¶ “I will go before you and make the crooked places straight. I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut through the bars of iron.

3 ¶ “And I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places so that you may know that I, the LORD, who calls you by your name, am the God of Israel.

4 ¶ “For Jacob My servant’s sake and Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name. I have surnamed you though you have not known Me.

5 ¶ “I am the LORD and there is no one else. There is no God besides Me. I girded you, though you have not known Me,

6 ¶ “so that they may know from the rising of the sun and from the west that there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD and there is no one else.

7 ¶ “I form the light and create darkness. I make peace and create calamity. I, the LORD, do all these things.”

8 ¶ Drop down heavens from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness. Let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation. And let righteousness spring up together. I the LORD have created it.

9 ¶ Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the earth. ¶ Will the clay say to him who fashions it, “What are you doing?”
handiwork say, “He has no hands?”

10 Woe to him who says to his father, “What are you begetting?” or to the woman, “What have you brought forth?”

11 ¶ Thus says the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and His Maker, “Ask Me about things to come concerning My sons, and you will commit to Me the work of My hands.

12 ¶I have made the earth and created man upon it. I, even My hands, have stretched out the heavens and all their host I have commanded.

13 ¶I have raised him up in righteousness and I will direct all his ways. He will build My city and he will let My captives go, and not for a price or a reward,” says the LORD of armies.

14 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “The labor of Egypt and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, will come over to you. They will come over in chains and will bow down to you. They will come over in chains and will bow down to you. They will make supplication to you, saying, ‘Surely God is in you, and there is no one else. There is no other God.’”

15 Truly, You are a God of hidden ways, O God of Israel, the Savior.

16 All of them will be ashamed and also confounded. They will go to confusion together who are makers of idols.

17 ¶But Israel will be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation. You will not be ashamed or disgraced forever and ever.

18 ¶ For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens, God Himself who formed the earth and made it. He has established it. He did not create it without purpose, but formed it to be inhabited: “I am the LORD and there is no one else.

19 ¶I have not spoken in secret, or in a dark recess of the earth. I did not say to the seed of Jacob, ‘Seek Me in vain.’ I am the Lord, faithful to My promises, truthful in all I proclaim.

20 ¶ “Assemble yourselves and come. Draw near together you who have escaped from the nations. They have no knowledge who set up the wood of their graven image and pray to a god that cannot save.

21 ¶ Declare and bring them near. Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I the LORD? So there is no God besides Me, a just God and a Savior. There is no one besides Me.

22 ¶ “Look to Me and be saved all the ends of the earth, for I am God and there is no one else.

23 ¶I have sworn by Myself. The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness and will not return so that to Me every knee will bow and every tongue will swear.

24 ¶SURELY they will say, ‘In the LORD I have righteousness and strength.’ Men will come to Him, and all who were angry at Him will be put to shame.

25 ¶In the LORD all the seed of Israel will be justified and will glory.”

Chapter 46
The Idols of Babylon

1 ¶ Bel bows down. Nebo stoops. Their idols were upon the beasts and upon the cattle. Your carriages were heavily loaded. They are a burden to the weary beast.

2 They stoop. They bow down together. They could not deliver the burden, but themselves have gone into captivity.

3 ¶ “Hearken to me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel who were upheld by Me from birth, who have been carried from the womb.

4 ¶ “And even to your old age I am He. And even to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made and I will bear, even I will carry and will deliver you.

5 ¶ “To whom will you liken Me and make Me equal and compare Me so that we should be alike?

6 ¶ They lavish gold out of the bag and weigh silver in the balance. Then they hire a goldsmith and he makes it a god. They fall down. Yes, they worship.
7 "They bear him upon the shoulder. They carry him and set him in his place and he stands. From his place he will not move. Yes, one will cry out to him, and yet he cannot answer, or save him out of his trouble.  
8 ¶ "Remember this and show yourselves men. Bring it again to mind, O you transgressors.  
9 ¶ "Remember the former things of old. For I am God and there is no one else. I am God and there is no one like Me,  
10 declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that have not yet happened, saying, 'My counsel will stand and I will do all My pleasure,'  
11 "calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Yes, I have spoken. I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it. I will also do it.  
12 ¶ "Hearken to Me, you stouthearted who are far from righteousness.  
13 ¶ "I bring near My righteousness. It will not be far off, and My salvation will not tarry. And I will place salvation in Zion for Israel My glory."

Chapter 47  
The Fall of Babylon  
1 ¶ "Come down and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon. Sit on the ground. There is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans, for you will no longer be called tender and delicate.  
2 ¶ "Take the millstones and grind meal. Uncover your locks. Make bare the leg. Uncover the thigh. Pass over the rivers.  
3 ¶ "Your nakedness will be uncovered. Yes, your shame will be seen. I will take vengeance and will not spare a man.”  
4 ¶ "As for our Redeemer, the LORD of armies is His name, the Holy One of Israel.  
5 ¶ "Sit in silence and go into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans, for you will no longer be called, 'The Lady of Kingdoms.'  
6 ¶ "I was angry with My people. I have profaned My inheritance and given them into your hand. You did not show them any mercy. On the aged you made your yoke very heavy.  
7 ¶ "And you said, 'I will be a lady forever.' These things you did not consider nor remember the outcome of them.  
8 ¶ "Therefore, hear this you who are given to pleasures, who dwell carelessly, who say in your heart, ‘I am and there is no one besides me. I will not sit as a widow, nor will I know the loss of children.’  
9 ¶ "But these two things will come to you in a moment in one day: the loss of children and widowhood. They will come upon you in full measure for the multitude of your sorceries and for the great abundance of your enchantments.  
10 ¶ "For you have trusted in your wickedness. You have said, ‘No one sees me.’ Your wisdom and your knowledge have perverted you, and you have said in your heart, ‘I am, and there is no one besides me.’  
11 ¶ "Therefore, evil will come upon you. You will not know from where it rises. And mischief will fall upon you. You will not be able to put it off. And desolation that you will not know will come upon you suddenly.  
12 ¶ "Stand now with your enchantments and with the multitude of your sorceries in which you have labored from your youth. Perhaps you will be able to profit. Perhaps you may cause trembling.  
13 ¶ "You are wearied in the multitude of your counsels. Let now the astrologers, the star gazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up and save you from these things that will come upon you.  
14 ¶ "Behold, they will be as stubble. The fire will burn them. They will not deliver themselves from the power of the flame. There will be no coal to warm by or a fire to sit before.  
15 ¶ "Thus they will be to you with whom you have labored, even your merchants from your youth. Each one will wander to his quarter. No one will save you.”

Chapter 48  
The Rebellion of Israel  
1 ¶ "Hear this, O house of Jacob, who are called
by the name of Israel and have come forth out of the waters of Judah, who swear by the name of the LORD and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.

2 For they call themselves after the holy city and lean themselves upon the God of Israel. The LORD of armies is His name.

3 ¶ "I have declared the former things from the beginning. And they went forth out of My mouth and I proclaimed them. I did them suddenly and they came to pass.

4 ¶ "I have declared the former things from this time, even hidden things, and you did not know them.

5 They are created now and not from the beginning, even before this day you had not heard, lest you should say, 'Behold, I knew them.'

6 "Yes, you did not hear. Yes, you did not know. Yes, from that time that your ear was not opened, because I knew that you would deal very treacherously and was called a rebel from the womb.

7 "For My name's sake I will defer My anger, and for My praise I restrain it for you in order not to cut you off.

8 "Go forth from Babylon. Flee from the Chaldeans. With a voice of singing declare and tell this. Utter it even to the end of the earth. Say, 'The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob.'

9 And they did not thirst when He led them through the deserts. He caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them. He split the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

10 “There is no peace for the wicked,” says the LORD.

Chapter 49
The Servant of the Lord

1 ¶ "Listen to Me, O coastlands, and hearken you people from afar. The LORD has called Me from the womb, from My birth He has made mention of My name.
2 And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword. In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me and made Me a polished shaft. In His quiver He has hidden Me.

3 "And He said to Me, "You are My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

4 ¶"Then I said, I have labored in vain. I have spent My strength for nothing and in vanity. Yet surely My justice is with the LORD and My work with My God."

5 ¶ "And now," says the LORD who formed Me from the womb to be His servant to bring Jacob back to Him so that Israel might be gathered to Him (for I am honored in the sight of the LORD and My God is My strength),

6 "Indeed He says, 'It is a small thing that You should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved of Israel. I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles so that You may be My salvation to the end of the earth.'"

7 ¶ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and His Holy One, to Him whom man despises, to Him whom the nation abhors, to the Servant of rulers, "Kings will see and arise. Princes also will worship because of the LORD that is faithful and the Holy One of Israel. And He will choose You."

Restoration of Israel

8 ¶ Thus says the LORD, "In an acceptable time I have answered You, and in a day of salvation I have helped You. And I will preserve You and give You for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to make them inherit the desolate heritages,

9 "so that You may say "to the prisoners, 'Go forth,' and to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' They will feed along the road and their pastures will be in all high places.

10 "They will not hunger or thirst, nor will the heat or sun smite them. For He who has mercy on them will lead them, even by the springs of water He will guide them.

11 "And I will make all My mountains a road and My highways will be exalted.

12 "Behold, these will come from afar. And behold, these will come from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Sinim."

13 "Sing, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth. And break forth into singing, O mountains, for the LORD has comforted His people and will have mercy upon His afflicted.

14 ¶ But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me and my Lord has forgotten me."

15 "Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Yes, they may forget, but I will not forget you.

16 ¶ "Behold, I have graven you upon the palms of My hands. Your walls are continually before me.

17 "Your children will make haste. Your destroyers and those who made you waste will go forth from you.

18 "Lift up your eyes all around and behold. All these gather themselves together and come to you. As I live," says the LORD, "You will surely put on all of them as jewels and bind them on as a bride.

19 "For your waste and your desolate places, and the land of your destruction, will even now be too narrow because of the inhabitants. And those who swallowed you up will be far away.

20 "The children of whom you were bereaved will yet say in your ears, 'The place is too cramped for me. Give a place for me where I may dwell.'

21 "Then you will say in your heart, 'Who has begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children and am desolate, a captive and wandering to and fro? And who has brought up these? Behold, I was left alone. But these, from where did they come?'

22 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I will lift up My hand to the Gentiles and set up My standard for the people. And they will bring your sons in their arms and your daughters will be carried upon as jewels and bind them on as a bride.

23 "And kings will be your nursing fathers..."
and their queens your nursing mothers. They will bow down to you with their face toward the earth and lick up the dust of your feet. And you will know that I am the LORD, for they will not be ashamed who wait for Me.

24 ¶ “Will the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?”

25 ¶ But thus says the LORD, “Even the captives of the mighty will be taken away, and the prey of the terrible will be delivered. For I will contend with him who contends with you, and I will save your children.

26 “And I will feed those who oppress you with their own flesh. And they will be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine. And all flesh will know that I the LORD am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”

Chapter 50
Sin and Obedience

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “Where is the certificate of your mother’s divorcement, whom I have put away? Or to whom of My creditors did I sell you? Behold, for your iniquities have I sold you. Behold, for your transgressions is your mother put away.

2 Therefore, when I came, was there no man? When I called, was there no one to answer? Is My hand shortened that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver? Behold, at My hand I have power to save and to destroy.

3 ¶ “I clothe the heavens with blackness and I make sackcloth their covering.”

4 ¶ The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of the learned so that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning. He awakens My ear to hear as the learned.

5 The Lord GOD has opened My ear and I was not rebellious, nor did I turn back.

6 ¶ I gave My back to those who struck Me and My cheeks to those who plucked off the hair. I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

7 ¶ For the Lord GOD will help Me. Therefore, I will not be disgraced. Therefore, I have set My face like a flint, and I know that I will not be ashamed.

8 ¶ He is near who justifies Me. Who will contend with Me? Let us stand together. Who is My adversary? Let him come near to Me.

9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help Me. Who is he who will condemn Me? ¶ Behold, they all will wax old as a garment. ¶ The moth will eat them up.

10 ¶ Who is among you who fears the LORD, who obeys the voice of His Servant, who walks in darkness and has no light? ¶ Let him trust in the name of the LORD and lean upon His God.

11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who encircle yourselves with firebrands. Walk in the light of your fire and in the firebrands that you have kindled. ¶ This you will have from My hand. You will lie down in torment.

Chapter 51
Salvation for Zion

1 ¶ “Hearken to me you who follow after righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from where you were hewn and to the hole of the pit from where you were dug.

2 ¶ Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you. ¶ For I called him alone and blessed him, and increased him.”

3 ¶ For the LORD will comfort Zion. He will comfort all her waste places. And he will make her wilderness like Eden and her desert like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

4 ¶ “Hearken to Me, My people, and give ear to Me, O My nation. ¶ For a law will proceed from Me and I will make My justice rest, as a light of the people.

5 ¶ “My righteousness is near. My salvation has gone forth and My arms will judge the people. ¶ The coastlands will wait upon Me and on My arm they will trust.

6 ¶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look...
upon the earth beneath. For the heavens will vanish away like smoke and the earth will wax old like a garment. And those who dwell on it will die in like manner. But My salvation will be forever and My righteousness will not be abolished.

7 ¶ “Hearken to Me you who know righteousness, the people in whose heart is My law. Do not fear the reproach of men, nor be afraid of their revilings.

8 “For the moth will eat them up like a garment, and the worm will eat them like wool. But My righteousness will be forever and My salvation from generation to generation.”

9 ¶ “Awake! Awake! Put on strength, O arm of the LORD. Awake as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Was it not You who cut Rahab in pieces and who pierced the dragon?

10 Was it not You who dried up the sea and the waters of the great deep, who has made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

11 Therefore, the redeemed of the LORD will return and come with singing to Zion. And everlasting joy will be upon their head. They will obtain gladness and joy. Sorrow and mourning will flee away.

12 ¶ “I, even I, am He who comforts you. Who are you that you should be afraid of a man who will die, and of the son of man who will be made as grass,

13 “and forgets the LORD your maker who has stretched forth the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and has feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor as if he were ready to destroy? And where is the fury of the oppressor?

14 “The captive exile hastens that he may be loosed, and that he should not die in the pit, nor that his bread should fail.

15 “But I am the LORD your God who divided the sea, whose waves roared. The LORD of armies is His name.

16 “And I have put My words in your mouth, and I have covered you in the shadow of My hand so that I may plant the heavens and lay the foundations of the earth, and say to Zion, ‘You are My people.’”

The Lord’s Wrath

17 ¶ “Awake! Awake! Stand up, O Jerusalem who has drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of His fury. You have drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling and wrung them out.

18 There is no one to guide her among all the sons whom she has brought forth. Neither is there any who takes her by the hand of all the sons that she has brought up.

19 These two things have come to you. Who will be sorry for you? The devastation and destruction, famine and sword. How will I comfort you?

20 Your sons have fainted. They lie at the head of all the streets as a wild bull in a net. They are full of the fury of the LORD, the re-buke of your God.

21 ¶ Therefore, now hear this you afflicted and drunken, but not with wine.

22 Thus says your Lord the LORD and your God who pleads the cause of His people, “Behold, I have taken out of your hand the cup of trembling, even the dregs of the cup of My fury. You will no longer drink it again.

23 “But I will put it into the hand of those who afflict you, who have said to your soul, ‘Bow down so that we may walk over you.’ And you have laid your body as the ground and as the street for those who went over.”

Chapter 52

1 ¶ “Awake! Awake! Put on your strength, O Zion. Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city. From henceforth there will no longer come into you the uncircumcised and the unclean.

2 Shake yourself from the dust. Arise and sit down, O Jerusalem. Loose yourself from the bands of your neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

3 ¶ For thus says the LORD, “You have sold yourselves for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money.”
4 For thus says the Lord GOD, “At first My people went down into Egypt to sojourn there. And the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.
5 “Now, therefore, what do I have here,” says the LORD, “seeing that My people have been taken away without cause?” Again the LORD declares, “Those who rule over them wail and My name is continually blasphemed all day long.
6 “Therefore, My people will know My name. Therefore, they will know in that day that I am He who speaks, ‘Behold, it is I.’
7 ¶ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings, who publishes peace, who brings good tidings of good, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”
8 Your watchmen will lift up the voice, with the voice together they will sing. For they will see eye to eye when the LORD will bring again Zion.
9 Break forth into joy. Sing together you waste places of Jerusalem. For the LORD has comforted His people. He has redeemed Jerusalem.
10 ¶ The LORD has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.
11 ¶ Depart! Depart! Go out from there. Touch no unclean thing! Go out of the midst of her. Be clean you who bear the vessels of the LORD.
12 For you will not go out with haste, nor go by flight. For the LORD will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your reward.

The Suffering Servant
13 ¶ Behold, ‘My Servant will deal wisely. He will be exalted and extolled, and be very high.
14 Just as many were astonished at you, My people, so His appearance was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men.
15 ‘So He will sprinkle many nations. The kings will shut their mouths at Him. “For that which had not been told them they will see. And that which they had not heard they will consider.

Chapter 53
1 ¶ Who has believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?
2 For He grew up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground. He has no form or comeliness. And when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him.
3 ¶ He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him. He was despised and we did not esteem Him.
4 ¶ Assuredly, ‘He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.
5 But He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him. And with His stripes we are healed.
6 ¶ All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned every one to his own way. And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
7 ¶ He was oppressed and was afflicted, and yet He did not open His mouth. ¶ He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He did not open His mouth.
8 By oppression and judgment He was taken away. And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living.
9 And ¶ He made His grave with the wicked, and with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.
10 ¶ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him. He has put Him to grief. When You will make His life an offering for sin, He will see His seed. He will prolong His days and the pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.
11 He will see the labor of His life and will be

satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous servant will justify many, for He will bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore, I will divide Him a portion with the great and He will divide the plunder with the strong, because He has poured out His life to death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Chapter 54
Future Glory of Zion

1 ¶ “Sing, O barren one, you who have borne no child. Break forth into singing and cry aloud you who did not labor with child. For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married woman,” says the LORD.

2 “Enlarge the place of your tent and let them stretch forth the curtains of your dwelling. Do not spare. Lengthen your ropes and strengthen your stakes.

3 “For you will break forth on the right hand and on the left, and your seed will inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

4 ¶ “Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed. Do not be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame. For you will forget the shame of your youth and will no longer remember the reproach of your widowhood.

5 “For your Maker is your husband. The LORD of armies is His name, and your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. He will be called the God of the whole earth.

6 “For the LORD has called you as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth when you were refused,” says your God.

7 “For a brief moment I have forsaken you. But with great mercies I will gather you.

8 “With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment. But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you,” says the LORD your Redeemer.

9 ¶ “For this is like the waters of Noah to Me. For as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no longer go over the earth, so I have sworn that I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

10 “For the mountains will depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness will not depart from you, nor will the covenant of My peace be removed,” says the LORD who has mercy on you.

11 ¶ “O you afflicted, tossed with tempest and not comforted. Behold, I will lay your stones with colorful gems and lay your foundations with sapphires.

12 “And I will make your windows of rubies and your gates of crystal, and all your borders of precious stones.

13 “And all your children will be taught by the LORD. And great will be the peace of your children.

14 “You will be established in righteousness. You will be far from oppression, for you will not fear; and from terror, for it will not come near you.

15 “Behold, if anyone fiercely assails you it will not be from Me. Whoever gathers together against you will fall for your sake.

16 “Behold, I have created the smith who blows the coals in the fire, and who brings forth an instrument for his work. And I have created the destroyer to destroy.

17 “No weapon that is formed against you will prosper. And every tongue that rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is from Me,” says the LORD.

Chapter 55
Invitation to the Thirsty

1 ¶ “Ho! Everyone who thirsts come to the waters. And he who has no money, come and buy and eat. Yes, come! Buy wine and milk without money and without price.

2 “Why do you spend money for that which is not bread and labor for that which does not satisfy? Hearken diligently to Me and eat that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.
3 "Incline your ear and come to Me. Hear, and your soul will live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

4 "Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander for the people.

5 "Behold, you will call a nation that you did not know. And nations who do not know you will run to you because of the LORD your God and for the Holy One of Israel, for He has glorified you."

6 ¶ Seek the LORD while He may be found. Call upon Him while He is near.

7 Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts. And let him return to the LORD and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God for He will abundantly pardon.

8 ¶ For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.

9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

10 "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud so that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 "so will My word be that goes forth out of My mouth. It will not return to Me void. But it will accomplish that which I please, and it will prosper in the thing to which I sent it.

12 "For you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace. The mountains and the hills will break forth before you into singing and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

13 "Instead of thorn, will come up the fir tree. And instead of the brier, will come up the myrtle tree. And it will be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that will not be cut off."

Chapter 56
Salvation for All

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD, "Keep justice and do righteousness, for My salvation is about to come and My righteousness to be revealed.

2 "Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who lays hold on it, who keeps the Sabbath from polluting it and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

3 ¶ Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying, "The LORD has utterly separated me from His people." Do not let the eunuch say, "Behold, I am a dry tree."

4 For thus says the LORD, "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths and choose the things that please Me, and take hold of My covenant, even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a memorial and a name better than of sons and of daughters. I will give them an everlasting name that will not be cut off.

6 ¶ Also the sons of the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD in order to serve Him, and to love the name of the LORD in order to be His servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath from polluting it and takes hold of My covenant, even them I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted upon My altar, for My house will be called a house of prayer for all people."

8 The Lord GOD who gathers the outcasts of Israel says, "Yet I will gather others to them, besides those already gathered."

Judgment for the Wicked

9 ¶ Come to eat all you beasts of the field and all you beasts in the forest.

10 His watchmen are blind. They are all ignorant. They are all mute dogs. They cannot bark. They are dreamers lying down who love to slumber.

11 Yes, they are greedy dogs who can never have enough. And they are shepherds who cannot understand. To the last one they all look to their own way, everyone for his gain.
“Come,” one says, “I will fetch wine and we will fill ourselves with strong drink, and tomorrow will be like today, only more so.”

Chapter 57

1 ¶ The righteous perishes and no man takes it to heart. And merciful men are taken away, while no one considers that the righteous is taken away from evil.

2 He will enter into peace. They will rest in their beds, each one walking in his righteousness.

3 “But draw near you sons of the sorceress, the seed of the adulterer and the harlot.

4 Against whom do you ridicule? Against whom do you make a wide mouth and draw out the tongue? Are you not children of transgression, a seed of falsehood?

5 Enflaming yourselves with idols under every green tree, slaying the children in the valleys under the cliffs of the rocks?

6 Among the smooth stones of the stream is your portion. They are your lot. Even to them you have poured a drink offering. You have offered a meat offering. Should I receive comfort in these?

7 Upon a lofty and high mountain you have set your bed. Even there you went up to offer sacrifice.

8 Behind the door and the doorpost you have set up your sign. Indeed, far removed from Me you have uncovered yourself. And you have gone up and made your bed wide. And you have made an agreement for yourself with them. You have loved their bed. You have looked on their manhood.

9 ¶ And you went to the king with ointment and increased your perfumes. And you sent your messengers afar off and debased yourself even to sheol.

10 “You are wearied in the greatness of your way. And yet you did not say, ‘There is no hope.’ You have found the life of your hand, therefore you were not grieved.

11 ¶ “And of whom have you been worried or feared that you have lied and have not remembered Me, nor taken it to your heart? Have I not held My peace even of old, and you do not fear Me?

12 “I will expose your righteousness and your works, for they will not profit you.

13 “When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you. But the wind will carry them all away. Vanity will take them. But he who puts his trust in Me will possess the land and will inherit My holy mountain.”

Comfort for the Humble

14 ¶ And one will say, “Build up! Build up! Prepare the way. Remove every obstacle out of the way of My people.”

15 ¶ For thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, “I dwell in the high and holy place with him also who is of a contrite and humble spirit in order to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

16 “For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry. For the spirit would fail before Me and the souls that I have made.

17 “Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry and smote him. I hid Myself and was angry. And he went on turning away in the way of his heart.

18 “I have seen his ways and will heal him. I will lead him also and restore comforts to him and to his mourners.

19 “I create the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace to him who is afar off and to him who is near,” says the LORD. “And I will heal him.

20 “But the wicked are like the troubled sea when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

21 “There is no peace,” says my God, “for the wicked.”

Chapter 58

Sincere Service

1 ¶ “Cry aloud! Do not hold back. Lift up your voice like a trumpet and show My people their transgression and the house of Jacob their sins.
2 “Day after day they besiege Me and delight to know My ways, as a nation that did righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God. They ask of Me the ordinances of justice. They take delight in approaching unto God.

3 ‘Why have we fasted,’ they say, ‘and You do not see? Why have we ‘afflicted our soul and You do not acknowledge it?’ Behold, in the day of your fast you find pleasure and exploit all your laborers.

4 “Behold, you fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high.

5 “Is it such a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head as a bulrush and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?

6 ¶ “Is not this the fast that I have chosen, to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?

7 “Is it not to divide your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out? When you see the naked, that you cover him, and that you do not hide yourself from your own flesh?

8 ¶ “Then your light will break out like the dawn and your health will speedily spring forth. And your righteousness will go before you. The glory of the LORD will be your reward.

9 “Then you will call and the LORD will answer. You will cry out and He will say, ‘Here I am.’ If you take away from the midst of you the yoke, the pointing of the finger and speaking vanity,

10 “and if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light will rise in darkness and your gloom be as midday.

11 “And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your soul in drought. And He will make fat your bones. And you will be like a watered garden and like a spring of water whose waters do not fail.

12 “And your sons will build the old waste places. You will raise up the foundations of many generations. And you will be called, ‘The repairer of the breach. The restorer of paths in which to dwell.’

13 ¶ “If because of the Sabbath ‘you turn your foot from doing your own pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable, and will honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words,

14 ¶ “then you will delight yourself in the LORD. And I will cause you to ride upon the high places of the earth and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. For “the mouth of the LORD has spoken it.”

Chapter 59
Confession and Redemption

1 ¶ Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened that it cannot save. Nor is His ear heavy that it cannot hear.

2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He will not hear.

3 For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity. Your lips have spoken lies. Your tongue has muttered perversity. No one calls for justice, nor does any plead for truth. They trust in vanity and speak lies. They conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity.

4 They hatch vipers’ eggs and weave the spider’s web. He who eats of their eggs dies, and that which is crushed breaks out into a viper.

5 They hatch vipers’ eggs and weave the spider’s web. He who eats of their eggs dies, and that which is crushed breaks out into a viper.

6 ¶ Their webs will not become clothing, nor will they cover themselves with their works. Their works are works of iniquity and the act of violence is in their hands.

7 ¶ Their feet run to evil and they make haste to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity. Wasting and destruction are in their paths.

8 They do not know the way of peace, and there is no judgment in their ways. They have made for themselves crooked paths. Whoever

b Mi 3:13-18 c Lv 16:29; 23:27 d 1 Kg 21:9 e Ez 7:5 f Lv 16:29 g Et 4:3 h Lk 4:18,19 i Ne 5:10-12 j Jr 34:9 k Ez 18:7 l Jb 31:19-22 m Ne 5:5 n Jb 11:17 o Ex 14:19 p Ps 12:2 q Is 61:4 r Is 56:2,4,6 s Jb 22:26 t Dt 32:13; 33:29 u Is 1:20; 40:5
goes thereon will not know peace.
9 ¶ Therefore, justice is far from us, nor does righteousness overtake us. "We wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness.
10 "We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes. We stumble at midday as in the night. We are in desolate places as dead men.
11 We all roar like bears and "mourn grievously like doves. We look for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us.
12 For our transgressions are multiplied before You and our sins testify against us. For our transgressions are with us. And as for our iniquities, we know them:
13 in transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and rebellion, conceiving and uttering \textsuperscript{q}from the heart words of falsehood.
14 And judgment is turned back, and justice stands afar off. For truth has fallen in the street and equity cannot enter.
15 Yes, truth fails, and he who departs from evil makes himself a \textsuperscript{r}prey. And the LORD saw it and it displeased Him that there was no justice.
16 And \textsuperscript{v}He saw that \textit{there was} no man, and \textit{I} was astonished that \textit{there was} no intercessor. Therefore, His arm brought salvation to him and His righteousness sustained him.
17 \textsuperscript{v}For He put on righteousness as a breastplate and a helmet of salvation upon His head. And He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak.
18 \textsuperscript{v}According to their deeds, so He will repay wrath to His adversaries and recompense to His enemies. To the coastslands He will fully repay.
19 \textsuperscript{v}So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west and His glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy comes in \textsuperscript{v}like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a banner against him.
20 ¶ "And the \textsuperscript{v}Redeemer will come to Zion and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," says the LORD.
21 "As \textsuperscript{w}for Me, this is My covenant with them," says the LORD. "My Spirit that \textit{is} upon you, and My words that I have put in your mouth will not depart out of your mouth, nor out of the mouth of your seed, nor out of the mouth of your seed’s seed,” says the LORD, “from henceforth and forever.”

Chapter 60

Glory of Zion

1 ¶ "Arise! \textit{Shine!} For your light has come and \textit{the} glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
2 "For behold, the darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the people. But the LORD will arise upon you and His glory will be seen upon you.
3 "And \textit{the} Gentiles will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising.
4 ¶ "Lift up your eyes all around and see. They all gather together. \textit{They} come to you. Your sons will come from afar and your daughters will be nursed at your side.
5 Then you will see and flow together, and your heart will swell with joy because \textit{the} abundance of the sea will be converted to you. The wealth of the Gentiles will come to you.
6 "The multitude of camels will cover you, \textit{with} the dromedaries of Midian and \textit{Ephah}. All those from \textit{Sheba} will come. They will bring \textit{gold} and incense, and they will show forth the praises of the LORD.
7 "All the flocks of \textit{Kedar} will be gathered together to you. The rams of Nebaioth will minister to you. They will come up with \textit{acceptance} on My altar and \textit{I} will glorify the house of My glory.
8 "Who \textit{are} these \textit{who} fly as a cloud and as the doves to their lattices?
9 "Surely the coastlands will wait for Me. And the ships of Tarshish \textit{will come} first \textit{to} bring your sons from afar, \textit{their} silver and \textit{their} gold with them, for the name of the LORD your God and for the Holy One of Israel.
because He has glorified you.

10 ¶ “And the sons of foreigners will build up your walls and their kings will minister to you. For in My wrath I smote you, but in My favor I have had mercy on you.

11 “Therefore, your gates will be open continually. They will not be shut day or night so that men may bring to you the wealth of the Gentiles, and their kings in procession.

12 ¶ “For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you will perish. Yes, those nations will be utterly wasted.

13 “The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the juniper tree, together with the box tree and the cypress, to beautify the place of My sanctuary. And I will make the place of My feet glorious.

14 “The sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you. And all those who despised you will bow themselves down at the soles of your feet. And they will call you, ‘The city of the LORD. The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.’

15 ¶ “Whereas you have been forsaken and hated so that no man went through you, I will make you an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

16 “You will also drink the milk of the Gentiles, and will milk the breast of kings. And you will know that I, the LORD am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

17 ¶ “For I will bring bronze and gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood bronze, and for stones iron. I will make peace your administrators and righteousness your overseers.

18 “Violence will no longer be heard in your land, neither wasting nor destruction within your borders. But you will call your walls ‘Salvation,’ and your gates ‘Praise.’

19 ¶ “The sun will no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give light to you. But the LORD will be to you an everlasting light and your God your glory.

20 ¶ “Your sun will no longer go down, nor will your moon withdraw itself. For the LORD will be your everlasting light and the days of your mourning will be ended.

21 ¶ “Your people also will be all righteous. They will inherit the land forever, the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, so that I may be glorified.

22 ¶ “A little one will become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation. I the LORD will hasten it in its time.”

Chapter 61

Time of the Lord’s Grace

1 ¶ The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good news to the meek. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2 to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,

3 to console those who mourn in Zion, to give to them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, so that they might be called trees of righteousness and the planting of the LORD in order that He might be glorified.

4 ¶ And they will rebuild the old ruins. They will repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.

5 And foreigners will stand and feed your flocks. And the sons of the alien will be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

6 ¶ But you will be named the priests of the LORD. Men will call you the ministers of our God. You will eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory you will boast.

7 ¶ Instead of your shame, you will have a double honor. And instead of humiliation, they will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore, in their land they will possess a double portion. Everlasting joy will be theirs.

8 ¶ “For I the LORD love justice. I hate villainous robbery for burnt offering. And I will
direct their work in truth and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

9 “And their seed will be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people. All who see them will acknowledge them, “that they are the seed that the LORD has blessed.”

10 ¶ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD. My soul will be joyful in my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation. He has covered me with the robe of righteousness as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth brings forth her bud, and as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Chapter 62
The New Name

1 ¶ For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest until its righteousness goes forth as brightness and its salvation as a lamp that burns.

2 And ‘the Gentiles will see your righteousness and all kings your glory. And ‘you will be called by a new name which the mouth of the LORD will name.

3 You will also be ‘a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

4 ‘You will no longer be called “Forsaken,” nor will your land any longer be called “Desolate.” But you will be called “Hephzibah,” and your land “Beulah.” For the LORD delights in you, and your land will be married.

5 For as a young man marries a virgin, so will your sons marry you. And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, ‘so will your God rejoice over you.

6 ¶ I have set watchmen upon your walls, O Jerusalem, who will never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent.

7 And give him no rest until He establishes and He makes Jerusalem ‘a praise on the earth.

8 The LORD has sworn by His right hand and by the arm of His strength, “Surely I will no longer ‘give your grain to be food for your enemies. And the sons of the foreigners will not drink your wine for which you have labored.”

9 But those who have gathered it will eat it and praise the LORD. And those who have brought it together will drink it ´in the courts of My holiness.

10 ¶ Go through. Go through the gates. ´Prepare the way for the people. Build up! Build up the highway! Remove the stones! ¬Lift up a banner over the people!

11 Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the world, “‘Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your salvation comes. Behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him.’”

12 And they will call them, “The Holy People. The Redeemed of the LORD.” And you will be called, “Sought Out, a City not Forsaken.”

Chapter 63
Day of Vengeance and Redemption

1 ¶ Who is this who comes from Edom with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength? “It is I who speak in righteousness and mighty to save.”

2 ¶ Why is Your apparel red and Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press?

3 “I have trodden the wine trough alone, and from the people there was no one with Me. For I will tread them in My anger and trample them in My fury. And their blood will be sprinkled upon My garments. And I will stain all My robes.

4 “For the day of vengeance is in My heart and the year of My redemption has come.

5 “And I looked and ‘there was no one to help. And I wondered that ‘there was no one to uphold. Therefore, My own arm brought salvation to Me and My fury upheld Me.

6 “And I will tread down the people in My
anger and make them drunk in My fury. And I will bring down their strength to the earth."

Praise and Prayer
7 ¶ I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD and the praises of the LORD according to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel that He has bestowed on them according to His mercies and according to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses.

8 For He said, “Surely they are My people, children who will not lie.” So He was their Savior.

9 ¶ In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His presence saved them. In His love and in His pity He redeemed them. And He bore them and carried them all the days of old.

10 But they rebelled and vexed His Holy Spirit. Therefore, He was turned to be their enemy, and thus He fought against them.

11 ¶ Then they remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying, “Where is He who "brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them?"

12 “Who led them by the right hand of Moses with His glorious arm, dividing the water before them in order to make Himself an everlasting name?

13 “Who led them through the deep as a horse in the wilderness that they should not stumble?”

14 As a beast goes down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest. So You led Your people to make Yourself a glorious Spirit of the LORD. Therefore, He was turned to be their enemy, and thus He fought against them.

15 ¶ Look down from heaven and behold from the habitation of Your holiness and of Your glory. Where is Your zeal and Your strength, the yearning of Your heart and of Your mercies toward me? Are they restrained?

16 Doubtless You "are our Father, though Abraham was ignorant of us and Israel did not recognize us. You, O LORD, are our Father, our redeemer. Our redeemer from everlasting is Your name.

17 O LORD, why have You "made us stray from Your ways and hardened our heart from Your fear? Return for Your servants’ sake, the tribes of Your inheritance.

18 The people of Your holiness have possessed it but a little while. Our adversaries have trodden down Your sanctuary.

19 We have become like those over whom You have never ruled, like those who were not called by Your name.

Chapter 64
1 ¶ Oh that You would split the heavens, that You would come down, that the mountains might flow down at Your presence.

2 As when the melting fire burns, the fire causes the waters to boil, to make Your name known to Your adversaries, so that the nations may tremble at Your presence!

3 When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down and the mountains quaked at Your presence.

4 For since the beginning of the world "men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen a God besides You who acts on behalf of the one who waits for Him.

5 You meet him who rejoices and works righteousness, who remembers You in Your ways. Behold, You were angry, for we have sinned. We continued in these ways a long time, and we need to be saved.

6 But we have all become like one who is unclean, and all "our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. And we all fade as a leaf. And our iniquities like the wind, have taken us away.

7 And there is no one who calls on Your name, who stirs up himself to take hold of You. For You have hidden Your face from us and have consumed us because of our iniquities.

8 But now, O LORD, You "are our Father. We are the clay and You our "potter. So we all are the work of Your hand.

9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, nor remember iniquity forever. Behold, look, we beseech You. We are all Your people.

10 Your holy cities are a wilderness. Zion is a
wilderness. Jerusalem is a desolation.

11 Our holy and our beautiful house where our fathers praised You is burned up with fire. And all our pleasant things are laid waste.

12 “Will You restrain Yourself at these things, O LORD? Will You hold Your peace and afflict us beyond measure?

Chapter 65
Judgment and Salvation

1 ¶ “I am asought by those who do not ask for Me. I am found by those who did not seek Me. I said, ‘Here am I. Here am I,’ to a nation that was not called by My name.

2 c“I have spread out My hands all day long to a rebellious people who ewalk in a way that is not good, following their own thoughts,

3 apeople who provoke Me to anger continually to My face, gwho sacrifice in gardens and burn incense upon altars of brick,

4 h“who remain among the graves and lodge in the monuments, iwho eat swine’s flesh and the broth of abominable things in their vessels,

5 j“who say, ‘Keep to yourself. Do not come near me, for I am holier than you!’ These are smoke in My nose, a fire that burns all day long.

6 "Behold, k it is written before Me. lI will not keep silence. mBut I will repay, even repay into their bosom,

7 "your iniquities and the iniquities of their fathers together,” says the LORD. “Because they have burned incense upon the mountains and blasphemed Me upon the hills, therefore, I will measure their former work into their bosom.”

8 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one says, ‘Do not destroy it, qfor a blessing is in it,’ so I will do for My servants’ sakes so that I may not destroy them all.

9 “And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and from Judah an heir of My mountains. And My elect will inherit it and My servants will dwell there.

10 “And 'Sharon will be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a resting place for herds for My people who 'seek Me.

11 “But you are those who forsake the LORD, who forget wMy holy mountain, who prepare a table for Fortune, and who furnish the drink offering for Destiny.

12 “Therefore, I will destine you to the sword and you will all bow down to the slaughter, because I called but you did not answer. I spoke, but you did not hear. And you did evil in My sight and chose that in which I did not delight.”

13 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, My servants will eat, but you will be hungry. Behold, My servants will drink, but you will be thirsty. Behold, My servants will rejoice, but you will be ashamed.

14 “Behold, My servants will sing for joy of heart, but you will cry out for sorrow of heart and will zwail with a broken spirit.

15 “And you will leave your name a for a curse to My chosen. For the Lord GOD will slay you and 'call His servants by another name.

16 d“Because he who is blessed in the earth will be blessed by the God of truth. And ehe who swears in the earth will swear by the God of truth, because the former troubles are forgotten and because they are hidden from My eyes.

New Heavens and a New Earth

17 ¶ “For behold, I create New heavens and a new earth. And the former things will not be remembered, nor come into mind.

18 “But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create. For behold, I create Jerusalem for rejoicing and her people for gladness.

19 ¶ “And I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in My people. And tthe voice of weeping will no longer be heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

20 ¶ “No longer will there be in her an infant who lives but a few days, nor an old man who does not live out his days. For the child will die a hundred years old, but the sinner being a
hundred years old will be accursed.
21 j“And they will build houses and inhabit them. And they will plant vineyards and eat the fruit from them.
22 “They will not build and another inhabit. They will not plant and kanother eat. For ‘as the days of a tree so will be the days of My people, and mMy elect will long enjoy the work of their hands.
23 “They will not labor in vain, ‘nor bring forth for trouble, for ‘they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD and their offspring with them.
24 ¶ “And it will come to pass that ‘before they call I will answer, and while they are still speaking I will ‘hear.
25 “The rwolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, ‘and dust will be the serpent’s food. They will not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,” says the LORD.

Chapter 66
Judgment and Hope

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “The aheaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you could build for Me? And where is the place of My rest?
2 “For My hand made all these things, therefore, all these things came into existence,” says the LORD. b“But to this person I will look, c even to him who is humble and of a contrite spirit, and trembles at My word.
3 ¶ “He dwho kills an ox is as if he slew a man. He who sacrifices a lamb as if he broke a dog’s neck. He who offers an oblation as if he offered swine’s blood. He who burns incense as if he blessed an idol. Yes, they have chosen their own ways and their soul delights in their abominations.
4 “I also will choose their delusions and will bring their fears upon them, bbecause when I called, no one answered. When I spoke, they did not hear. But they did evil before My eyes and chose that in which I did not delight.”
5 ¶ Hear the word of the LORD you who tremble at His word. “Your brethren who ghated you, who cast you out for My name’s sake, said, h“Let the LORD be glorified so that we may see your joy.’ But they will be put to shame.
6 “A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice from the LORD that renders repayment to His enemies.
7 “Before she was in labor, she brought forth. Before her pain came, she gave birth to a boy.
8 “Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Will the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Will a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.
9 “Will I bring to the point of birth and not give delivery?” says the LORD. “Will I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb?” says your God.
10 ¶ “Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad with her all you who love her. Rejoice for joy with her all you who mourn for her,
11 “so that you may nurse and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations, so that you may suck and be delighted with her bountiful bosom.”
12 ¶ For thus says the LORD, “Behold, jI will extend peace to her like a river and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream. Then you will knurse. You will be lcarried on the hip and fondled on the knees.
13 As one whom his mother comforts, so will I mcomfort you. And you will be comforted in Jerusalem.”
14 And when you see this, your heart will rejoice and nyour bones will flourish like a herb. And the hand of the LORD will be known to His servants and His indignation toward His enemies.
15 ¶ “For behold, the LORD will come with fire and with His chariots like a whirlwind in order to render His anger with fury and His rebuke with flames of fire.
16 For by fire and by pHis sword the LORD will plead with all flesh. And the slain of the LORD will be qmany.
17 “Those qwho sanctify and purify themselves to go to the gardens, following the one in the
center, who eat swine’s flesh, abominable things and mice, will come to an end altogether,” declares the LORD.

The Great Commission

18 ¶ “For I know their works and their thoughts. It will come that I will gather all nations and tongues. And they will come and see My glory.

19 “And I will set a sign among them and I will send those who are delivered to the nations, to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Meshech, Rosh, Tubal and Javan, to the distant coastlands that have neither heard My name nor seen My glory. And they will declare My glory among the Gentiles.

20 “And they will bring all your brethren for an offering to the LORD out of all nations on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on swift beasts, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,” says the LORD, “as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

21 “And I will also take from them for priests and for Levites,” says the LORD.

22 ¶ “For as the new heavens and the new earth that I will make will endure before Me,” says the LORD, “so will your seed and your name remain.

23 “And it will come to pass that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh will come to worship before Me,” says the LORD.

24 “And they will go forth and look upon the carcasses of the men who have transgressed against Me. For their worm will not die, nor will their fire be quenched. And they will be an abhorring to all flesh.”

JEREMIAH

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,

2 to whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, to the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, until the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

Call of Jeremiah

4 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

5 “Before I formed you in the stomach I knew you, and before you came forth out of the womb I sanctified you. I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

6 Then I said, “Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth.”

7 But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ for you will go to all those I will send you, and you will speak whatever I command you.

8 ¶ “Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you,” says the LORD.

9 ¶ Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

10 ¶ See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, and to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant.”

11 Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see a branch of an almond tree.”

12 Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”

13 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a seething pot, and its face is toward the north.”

14 Then the LORD said to me, “Out of the north an evil will break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.

15 ¶ For behold, I will call all the families of...
the kingdoms of the north,” says the LORD.

“And they will come and they will set each one his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem and against all its walls around about and against all the cities of Judah.

16 “And I will utter My judgments against them concerning all their wickedness, whereby they have forsaken Me and have burned incense to other gods and worshiped the works of their own hands.

17 ¶ “You therefore, gird up your loins and arise, and speak to them all that I command you. Do not be dismayed at their faces, lest I dismay you before them.

18 “For behold, I have made you this day a fortified city and an iron pillar, and brazen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against its princes, against its priests and against the people of the land.

19 “And they will fight against you. But they will not prevail against you, for I am with you,” says the LORD, “to deliver you.”

Chapter 2
Apostasy of Israel

1 ¶ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Go and cry out in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “I remember the kindness of your youth, the love of your betrothal, when you went after Me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

3 “Israel was holiness to the LORD, and the firstfruits of His increase. All who devour him will offend. Evil will come upon them,” ’ says the LORD.

4 ¶ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

5 Thus says the LORD, “What iniquity have your fathers found in Me that they have gone far from Me, and have walked after vanity and have become vain?

6 “They did not say, ‘Where is the LORD who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, who led us through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and pits, through a land of drought, and of deep darkness, through a land that no man passed through and where no man dwelt?’

7 “And I brought you into a fruitful country to eat its fruit and its goodness. But when you entered you defiled My land and made My heritage an abomination.

8 “The priests did not say, ‘Where is the LORD?’ And those who handle the law did not know Me. The rulers also transgressed against Me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal and walked after things that do not profit.

9 ¶ “Therefore, I will still contend with you,” says the LORD, “and with your children’s children I will contend.

10 “For cross to the coastlands of Kittim and see. And send to Kedar and consider diligently, and see if there is such a thing.

11 ¶ “Has a nation changed their gods that are no gods? But My people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.

12 “Be appalled at this, O you heavens, and be horribly afraid. Be very desolate,” says the LORD.

13 “For My people have committed two evils. They have forsaken Me the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

14 ¶ “Is Israel a servant? Is he a homeborn slave? Why is he spoiled?

15 ¶ “The young lions roared upon him and yelled. And they made his land waste. His cities are burned without inhabitant.

16 “The children of Noph and Tahapanes have also broken the crown of your head.

17 ¶ “Have you not brought this on yourself in that you have forsaken the LORD your God when He led you in the way?

18 “And now, what have you to do in the way of Egypt, to drink the waters of Sihor? Or what have you to do in the way of Assyria, to drink the waters of the River?

19 “Your own wickedness will correct you and your backslidings will reprove you. Know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter that you have forsaken the LORD your
God, and that My fear is not in you,” says the Lord GOD of armies.  
20 ¶ “For from old time I have broken your yoke and burst your bonds. And you said, ‘I will not transgress,’ when upon every high hill and under every green tree you laid down, playing the harlot.

21 “Yet I had planted you a noble vine, a completely faithful seed. How then have you turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine to Me?

22 “For though you wash yourself with lye and use much soap, yet the stain of your iniquity is before Me,” says the Lord GOD.

23 “How can you say, ‘I am not polluted. I have not gone after Baalim?’ See your way in the valley. Know what you have done.

24 “a wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness, that sniffs up the wind at her pleasure. In the time of her heat who can turn her away? All those who seek her will not weary themselves. In her month they will find her.

25 “Withhold your foot from being unshod, and your throat from thirst. But you said, ‘There is no hope. No, for I have loved foreigners and I will go after them.’

26 ¶ “As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes and their priests and their prophets,

27 “saying to a tree, ‘You are my father,’ and to a stone, ‘You have brought me forth.’ For they have turned their back to Me and not their face. But in the time of their trouble they will say, ‘Arise and save us.’

28 “But where are your gods that you have made? Let them arise, if they can save you in the time of your trouble. For your gods are according to the number of your cities, O Judah.

29 ¶ “Why do you contend with Me? All of you have transgressed against Me,” says the LORD.

30 “In vain I have smitten your children. They received no correction. Your own sword has devoured your prophets like a destroying lion.

31 “O generation, see the word of the LORD. Have I been a wilderness to Israel, a land of darkness? Why do My people say, ‘We are lords. We will come no more to you’?

32 “Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.

33 “Why do you beautify your way to seek love? Therefore, you have taught the wicked women your ways.

34 “Also in your skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents. I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these.

35 ¶ “Yet you say, ‘Because I am innocent, surely His anger will turn from Me.’ Behold, I will plead with you because you say, ‘I have not sinned.’

36 ¶ “Why do you gad about so much to change your way? You also will be ashamed of Egypt as you were ashamed of Assyria.

37 “Yes, you will go forth from him, with your hands upon your head. For the LORD has rejected your trusted allies, and you will not prosper in them.”

Chapter 3

1 ¶ “They say, ‘If a man puts away his wife and she goes from him, and becomes another man’s, ‘will he return to her again?’ Will not that land be greatly polluted? But you have played the harlot with many lovers. And still you return again to Me,” says the LORD.

2 “Lift up your eyes to the high places and see. Where have you not been violated? By the roads you have sat for them like an Arab in the desert. And you have polluted a land with your harlotry and with your wickedness.

3 “Therefore, the showers have been withheld and there has been no latter rain. And you had a harlot’s forehead. You refused to be ashamed.

4 “Will you not from this time cry out to Me, ‘My Father! You are the guide of my youth?’

5 ¶ “Will He reserve His anger forever? Will He keep it to the end?” Behold, you have spoken and done evil things as you were able.”
Unfaithfulness of Israel

6 ¶ The LORD also said to me in the days of Josiah the king, “Have you seen what backsliding Israel has done? She has gone upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there played the harlot.

7 “And I said after she had done all these things, ‘Return to Me.’ But she did not return. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it.

8 “And I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but went and played the harlot also.

9 “And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom that she defiled the land and committed adultery with stones and with trees.

10 “And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah has not turned to Me with her whole heart, but rather in pretense,” says the LORD. “And her treacherous sister Judah saw it.

11 ¶ And the LORD said to me, “The backsliding Israel has justified herself more than treacherous Judah.

12 “Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, ‘Return, you backsliding Israel,’ says the LORD. ‘I will not cause My anger to turn away from Me.

13 “Only acknowledge your iniquity that you have transgressed against the LORD your God, and have scattered your ways to the foreigners under every green tree, and you have not obeyed My voice,” says the LORD.

14 “Return, O backsliding children,” says the LORD, “for I am merciful,” says the LORD. ‘I will not remain angry forever.

15 “And I will give you shepherds according to My heart who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

16 “And it will come to pass when you are multiplied and increased in the land in those days,” says the LORD, “they will say no more, ‘The ark of the covenant of the LORD.’ It will not come to mind, or be remembered or missed. It will not be made again.

17 “At that time they will call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD, and all the nations will be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. Neither will they walk anymore after the imagination of their evil heart.

18 “In those days the house of Judah will walk with the house of Israel. And they will come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance to your fathers.

19 ¶ “But I said, ‘How will I put you among the children and give you a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the nations?’ And I said, ‘You will call Me, My Father, and will not turn away from Me.’

20 “Surely as a wife treacherously departs from her husband, so have you dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel,” says the LORD.

21 ¶ A voice was heard upon the high places, weeping and supplications of the children of Israel, for they have perverted their way and they have forgotten the LORD their God.

22 “Return, you backsliding children. I will heal your backslidings.” “Behold, we come to you, for you are the LORD our God.

23 “Truly in vain is the sound from the hills, the tumult from the mountains. Truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel.

24 “For shame has devoured the labor of our fathers from our youth, their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters.

25 “We lie down in our shame and our confusion covers us, ‘for we have sinned against the LORD our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even to this day, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God.’

Chapter 4

1 ¶ “If you will return, O Israel,” says the LORD, “return to Me. And if you will put away your abominations out of My sight, then you will not waver.

2 But you will swear, ‘The LORD lives,’ in truth, in judgment and in righteousness. And the nations will bless themselves in Him and
in Him they will "glory."

3 ¶ For thus says the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem, "Break up your fallow ground and do not sow among thorns.

4 "Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart you men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, lest My fury come forth like fire and burn with no one to quench it, because of the evil of your deeds."

5 ¶ Declare in Judah and publish in Jerusalem, "Blow the trumpet in the land. Cry out and say, 'Assemble yourselves, and let us go into the fortified cities.'

6 "Set up the standard toward Zion. Take refuge! Do not delay! For I will bring evil from the north and great destruction.

7 "The lion has come up from its thicket and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way. He has gone forth from his place to make your land desolate. Your cities will be laid waste and be without an inhabitant.

8 "Because of this put on sackcloth, lament and wail, for the fierce anger of the LORD has not turned back from us.

9 "And it will come to pass in that day," says the LORD, "that the heart of the king will perish and the heart of the princes. And the priests will be astonished and the prophets will wonder."

10 ¶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Surely You have greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, 'You will have peace, whereas the sword reaches to the heart.'"

11 ¶ At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem, "A dry wind of the high places blows in the wilderness toward the daughter of My people, not to fan or to cleanse—

12 "even a full wind from those places will come to Me. Now I will give also sentence against them.

13 "Behold, he will come up as clouds and his chariots will be as a whirlwind. "His horses are swifter than eagles. Woe to us, for we are plundered!"

14 O Jerusalem, 'wash your heart from wickedness so that you may be saved. How long will your vain thoughts remain within you?

15 For a voice declares "from Dan and publishes affliction from Mount Ephraim.

16 "Proclaim it to the nations. Behold, publish against Jerusalem, 'Besiegers come from a far country and give out their voice against the cities of Judah.

17 "As keepers of a field, they are against her all around because she has been rebellious against Me,' says the LORD.

18 "Your way and your deeds have procured these things for you. This is your wickedness because it is bitter, because it reaches to your heart."

19 ¶ O my soul, my soul! I am pained in my very heart. My heart makes a noise in me. I cannot hold my peace because you have heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.

20 bDisaster upon disaster is proclaimed, for the whole land is plundered. Suddenly in a moment 'my tents and my curtains are plundered.

21 How long will I see the standard and hear the sound of the trumpet?

22 "For My people are foolish. They have not known Me. They are silly children, and they have no understanding. dThey are wise to do evil, but they have no knowledge of how to do good.

23 ¶ "I beheld the earth, and behold, it was without form and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

24 "I beheld the mountains, and behold, they trembled, and all the hills moved to and fro.

25 "I beheld, and behold, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens had fled.

26 "I beheld, and behold, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all its cities were broken down at the presence of the LORD and by His fierce anger."

27 ¶ For thus has the LORD said, "The whole land will be desolate. irHowever, I will not make a full end.

28 "Because of this the earth will mourn and
the heavens above be black, for I have spoken it I have purposed it. And I will not relent, nor will I turn back from it.

29 “The whole city will flee because of the noise of the horsemen and bowmen. They will go into thickets and climb upon the rocks. Every city is forsaken and not a man dwells in them.

30 “And when you are plundered, what will you do? Though you clothe yourself with crimson, though you deck yourself with ornaments of gold, though you enlarge your eyes with painting, in vain you will make yourself fair. Your lovers will despise you. They will seek your life.

31 “For I have heard a voice as a woman in travail, and the anguish as her who brings forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, that wails herself, that spreads her hands, saying, ‘Woe is me, for my soul is wearied because of murderers.’”

Chapter 5
No One is Upright

1 ¶ “Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem and see now and know. Seek in her open places if you can find a man, if there is anyone who executes justice, who seeks the truth. And I will pardon her.

2 “And though they say, ‘The LORD lives,’ surely they swear falsely.

3 O LORD, are not Your eyes upon the truth? You have stricken them, but they have not grievèd. You have consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than a rock. They have refused to return.

4 ¶ Therefore I said, “Surely these are poor. They are foolish. For they do not know the way of the LORD, nor the judgment of their God.

5 “I will go to the great men and will speak to them, for they have known the way of the LORD and the judgment of their God.” But these have with one accord broken the yoke and burst the bonds.

6 Therefore, a lion out of the forest will slay them and a wolf of the deserts will destroy them. A leopard will watch over their cities. Everyone who goes out from there will be torn in pieces because their transgressions are many and their backsldings are numerous.

7 ¶ “How will I pardon you for this? Your children have forsaken Me and sworn by those who are not gods. ‘When I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots’ houses.

8 ¶ “They were as fed horses in the morning. Everyone neighed after his neighbor’s wife.

9 ¶ “Will I not punish them for these things?” says the LORD. “And will not My soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

10 ¶ “Go up on her walls and destroy. However, do not make a full end. Take away her branches, for they are not the LORD’S.

11 “For the house of Israel and the house of Judah have dealt very treacherously against Me,” says the LORD.

12 ¶ “They have lied about the LORD, and said, ‘It is not He, nor will evil come upon us, nor will we see sword or famine.

13 “And the prophets will become wind, and the word is not in them. Thus will it be done to them.”

14 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD God of armies, “Because you speak this word, ‘behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, and this people wood. And it will devour them.

15 “Behold, I will bring a nation upon you from afar, O house of Israel,” says the LORD. “It is a mighty nation. It is an ancient nation, a nation whose language you do not know, nor understand what they say.

16 “Their quiver is as an open sepulchre. They are all mighty men.

17 “And they will eat up your harvest and your bread that your sons and your daughters should eat. They will eat up your flocks and your herds. They will eat up your vines and your fig trees. They will impoverish with the sword your fortified cities wherein you trusted.
Nevertheless in those days,” says the LORD, “I will not make a full end with you.”

And it will come to pass when you will say, ‘Why does the LORD our God do all these things to us?’ Then you will answer them, ‘As you have forsaken Me and served foreign gods in your land, so will you serve foreigners in a land that is not yours.’

Declare this in the house of Jacob and publish it in Judah, saying,

Hear now this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes and do not see, who have ears and do not hear.

Do you not fear Me?” says the LORD. ‘Will you not tremble at My presence? For I have placed the sand as a boundary for the sea, an eternal decree so it cannot cross over it. And though its waves toss themselves, yet they cannot prevail. Though they roar, yet they cannot pass over it?

But this people has a revolting and a rebellious heart. They have turned aside and departed.

Neither do they say in their heart, ‘Let us now fear the LORD our God who gives rain, both the former and the latter, in its season. He reserves for us the appointed weeks of the harvest.”

Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withheld good things from you.

For among My people are found wicked men. They lay in wait as he who sets snares. They set a trap. They catch men.

As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit. Therefore, they have become great and grown rich.

They are fat. They shine. Yes, they surpass the deeds of the wicked. They do not plead the cause, the cause of the fatherless; that they may prosper. And they do not defend the rights of the poor.

‘Will I not punish them for these things?’ says the LORD. ‘Will not My soul be avenged on such a nation as this?’

An appalling and terrible thing is committed in the land.

The prophets prophesy falsely and the priests rule by their own power. And My people love to have it so. And what will you do in the end?

Chapter 6

Siege of Jerusalem

O you children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem. Blow the trumpet in Tekoa and set up a signal of fire in ‘Beth-haccerem, for evil appears out of the north and great destruction.

I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and dainty woman. The shepherds with their flocks will come to her. They will pitch their tents against her all around. They will pasture each in his own place.

Prepare war against her. Arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe to us, for the day goes away, for the shadows of the evening are stretched out.

Arise, and let us go by night. And let us destroy her palaces.”

For thus has the LORD of armies said, “Cut down trees and cast a mound against Jerusalem. This is the city to be punished, in whose midst there is only oppression.

As a fountain casts out its waters, so she casts out her wickedness. Violence and plunder are heard in her. Before Me continually are grief and wounds.

Be instructed, O Jerusalem, lest My soul depart from you, lest I make you desolate, a land not inhabited.”

Thus says the LORD of armies, “They will thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel as a vine. Pass your hand again like a grape gatherer over the branches.”

To whom will I speak and give warning so that they may hear? Behold, their ear is uncircumcised and they cannot hearken. Behold, the word of the LORD is to them a reproach. They have no delight in it.

Therefore, I am full of the fury of the LORD. I am weary with holding in. “I will pour it out upon the children abroad and upon

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the assembly of young men together. For even the husband with the wife will be taken, the aged with him who is full of days.

12 “And their houses will be given to others, together with their fields and wives. For I will stretch out My hand upon the inhabitants of the land,” says the LORD.

13 “For from the least of them even to the greatest of them everyone is given to covetousness. Everyone deals falsely, from the prophet even to the priest.

14 “They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace, when there is no peace.’

15 Therefore, they will fall among those who fall. At the time that I punish them they will be cast down,” says the LORD.

16 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the sold paths, where the good way is, and walk in it and you will find rest for your souls. But they said, ‘We will not walk in it.’

17 “Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, ‘Hearken to the sound of the trumpet.’ But they said, ‘We will not hearken.’

18 “Therefore hear, you nations, and know, O assembly, what is among them.

19 ¶“Hear, O earth. Behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened to My words or to My law. But they rejected it.

20 ¶“For what purpose does incense come to Me from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet to Me.”

21 Therefore, thus says the LORD, “Behold, I will lay stumblingblocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together will fall upon them. The neighbor and his friend will perish.”

22 Thus says the LORD, “Behold, a people comes from the north country, and a great nation will be raised from the remote parts of the earth.

23 “They will lay hold on bow and spear. They are cruel and have no mercy. Their voice roars like the sea, and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against you, O daughter of Zion.”

24 ¶ We have heard its fame. Our hands wax feeble. Anguish and pain have taken hold of us as of a woman in childbirth.

25 Do not go forth into the field, nor walk by the way, for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side.

26 O daughter of my people, gird yourself with sackcloth and swallow yourself in ashes. Mourn as for an only son with lamentation most bitter. For the destroyer will suddenly come upon us.

27 ¶ “I have set you for a tower and a fortress among My people, that you may know and test their way.”

28 k They are all stubborn rebels, walking with slanders. They are brass and iron. They are all corrupters.

29 The bellows blow fiercely. The lead is consumed by the fire. The founder melts in vain, for the wicked are not separated.

30 They call them rejected silver because the LORD has rejected them.

Chapter 7

Worthless Religiosity

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 ¶“Stand in the gate of the Lord’s house and proclaim there this word, and say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD all you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship the LORD.”

3 Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, b“Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.

4 “Do not trust in lying words, saying, ‘The temple of the LORD. The temple of the LORD are these.’

5 “For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your deeds, if you thoroughly execute justice between a man and his neighbor,
6 “If you do not oppress the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, nor walk after other gods to your ruin,
7 then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, forever and ever.
8 ¶ “Behold, you trust in lying words that cannot profit.
9 ¶ “Will you steal, murder and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know,
10 and then come and stand before Me in this house, which is called by My name, and say, ‘We are delivered to do all these abominations’?
11 ¶ “Has this house that is called by My name become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it,” says the LORD.
12 ¶ “But go now to My place that was in Shiloh, where I first set My name, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.
13 ¶ “And now, because you have done all these works,” says the LORD, “and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer,
14 therefore, I will do to this house that is called by My name, wherein you trust, and to the place that I gave to you and to your fathers, as I did to Shiloh.
15 ¶ “And I will cast you out of My sight as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim.
16 ¶ “Therefore, “do not pray for this people, or lift up a cry or prayer for them, or make intercession to Me. For I will not hear you.
17 ¶ “Do you not see what they are doing in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?
18 ¶ “The children gather wood and the fathers kindle the fire. And the women knead their dough to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings to other gods so that they may provoke Me to anger.
19 ¶ “Do they provoke Me to anger?” says the LORD. “Do they not provoke themselves to the shame of their own faces?”
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, My anger and My fury will be poured out upon this place, upon man and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field and upon the fruit of the ground. And it will burn and will not be quenched.”
21 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ¶ “Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat.
22 ¶ “For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.
23 ¶ “But this thing I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice and I will be your God and you will be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you so that it may be well with you.’
24 ¶ “Yet they did not hearken, or incline their ear. But they walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward and not forward.
25 ¶ “Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt to this day I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.
26 ¶ “Yet they did not hearken, nor incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. ¶ They did worse than their fathers.
27 ¶ “Therefore, ¶ “you will speak all these words to them, but they will not hearken to you. You will also call to them, but they will not answer you.
28 ¶ “But you will say to them, ‘This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God, nor receive correction. ¶ Truth is perished and is cut off from their mouth.
29 ¶ “Cut off your hair, O Jerusalem, and cast it away. And take up a lamentation on high places, for the LORD has rejected and forsaken the generation of His wrath.’

Valley of Slaughter

30 “For the children of Judah have done evil
in My sight,” says the LORD. “They have set their abominations in the house that is called by My name in order to pollute it.

31 “And they have built the high places of Tophet that is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom in order to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, that I did not command them, nor did it come into My heart.

32 ¶ “Therefore, behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that it will no longer be called Tophet, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter. For they will bury in Tophet until there is no room.

33 “And the carcases of this people will be food for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth. And no one will frighten them away.

34 “Then I will cause to cease from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, for the land will be desolate.

Chapter 8
1 ¶ “At that time,” says the LORD, “they will bring out the bones of the kings of Judah and the bones of its princes and the bones of the priests and the bones of the prophets and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, out of their graves.

2 “And they will spread them before the sun and the moon and all the host of heaven whom they have loved and whom they have served and after whom they have walked and whom they have sought and whom they have worshiped. They will not be gathered or be buried. They will be as refuse upon the face of the earth.

3 “And death will be chosen rather than life by all the remnant of those who remain of this evil family, that remain in all the places to which I have driven them,” says the LORD of armies.

4 ¶ “Furthermore, you will say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD, ‘Will they fall and not arise? Will he turn away and not return?’

5 “Why then is this people of Jerusalem 'slidden back by a perpetual backsliding?

6 ¶ “I hearkened and heard, but they have not spoken what is right. No man repented of his wickedness, saying, ‘What have I done?’ Everyone turned to his course as the horse rushes into the battle.

7 “Yes, the stork in the heaven knows her appointed times. And the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming, but My people do not know the judgment of the LORD.

8 ¶ “How can you say, ‘We are wise and the law of the LORD is with us’? But behold, the lying pen of the scribes has made it into a lie.

9 ¶ “The wise men are put to shame. They are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD. So what wisdom do they have?

10 “Therefore, I will give their wives to others and their fields to those who will inherit them. For everyone from the least even to the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even to the priest, everyone deals falsely.

11 “For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace,’ when there is no peace.

12 “Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed, nor could they blush. Therefore, they will fall among those who fall. In the time of their punishment they will be cast down,” says the LORD.

13 ¶ “I will surely consume them,” says the LORD. “There will be no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf will fade. And the things that I have given them will pass away from them.”

14 Why do we sit still? Assemble yourselves and let us enter into the fortified cities. And let us be silent there, for the LORD our God has put us to silence and given us “water of gall to drink because we have sinned against the LORD.

15 We looked for peace but no good came,
and for a time of health, and behold, trouble!

16 The snorting of his horses was heard from Dan. The whole land trembled at the sound of the neighing of his strong ones, for they have come and have devoured the land and all that is in it, the city and those who dwell in it.

17 “For behold, I will send serpents against you and adders that cannot be charmed. And they will bite you,” declares the LORD.

18 ¶ When I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint in Me.

19 Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of those who dwell in a far country. “Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her king in her?” “Why have they provoked Me to anger with their graven images and with foreign idols?”

20 “The harvest is past. The summer is ended, and we are not saved.”

21 “For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt. I am mourning. Astonishment has taken hold of me.

22 Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has not the health of the daughter of my people been restored?

Chapter 9

1 ¶ Oh that my head were waters and my eyes a fountain of tears so that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

2 Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place for travelers so that I might leave my people and go from them! For they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men.

3 “They bend their tongues like their bow for lies. They are not valiant for the truth on the earth, for they proceed from evil to evil and they do not know Me,” says the LORD.

4 “Let everyone be on guard against his neighbor, and do not trust any brother, for every brother deals craftily and every neighbor goes about as a slanderer.

5 “And everyone will deceive his neighbor and will not speak the truth. They have taught their tongue to speak lies and weary themselves to commit iniquity.

6 “Your dwelling is in the midst of deceit. Through deceit they refuse to know Me,” says the LORD.

7 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, “Behold, I will melt them and try them, for what can I do for the daughter of My people?

8 “Their tongue is as an arrow shot out. It speaks deceit. One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, but inwardly he sets an ambush for him.

9 “Will I not punish them for these things?” says the LORD. “Will not My soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

10 “For the mountains I will take up weeping and wailing, and for the pastures of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that no one can pass through them. Neither can men hear the voice of the cattle. Both the birds of the heavens and the beast are fled. They are gone.

11 “And I will make Jerusalem heaps and a den of jackals. And I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant.”

12 ¶ Who is the wise man who can understand this? And who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD has spoken, that he may declare it? Why is the land ruined, laid waste like a desert, so that no one passes through?

13 And the LORD says, “Because they have forsaken My law that I set before them and have not obeyed My voice, nor walked in it,

14 “but have walked after the imagination of their own heart and after Baalim, that their fathers taught them.”

15 Therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

16 “I will scatter them also among the Gentiles, whom neither they nor their fathers have known. And I will send a sword after them until I have consumed them.”

17 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, “Consider and call for the mourning women so that they may come. And send for wailing women so that they may come.

18 “And let them make haste and take up a
wailing for us so that our eyes may run down with tears and our eyelids gush out with waters.

19 “For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, ‘How are we plundered! We are greatly disgraced because we have forsaken the land, because your dwellings have cast us out.’”

20 Yet hear the word of the LORD, O you women, and let your ear receive the word of His mouth and teach your daughters wailing, and everyone her neighbor a dirge.

21 For death has come up into our windows and has entered into our palaces in order to cut off the children from the streets and the young men from the town squares.

22 Speak, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Even the carcases of men will fall as refuse upon the open field and as the handful after the reaper, and no one will gather them.’”

23 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “Do not let the wise man glory in his wisdom, nor let the mighty man glory in his might. Do not let the rich man glory in his riches.

24 “But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on the earth. ¶ For in these things I delight,” says the LORD.

25 ¶ “Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will punish all those who are circumcised with the uncircumcised—

26 “Egypt and Judah and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all who are in the farthest corners, who dwell in the wilderness. For all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.”

Chapter 10
Foolish Idols

1 ¶ Hear the word that the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel:

2 Thus says the LORD, “Do not learn the way of the nations, and do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, for the nations are dismayed at them.

3 “For the customs of the people are futile. For one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the ax.

4 “They deck it with silver and with gold. They fasten it with nails and with hammers so that it does not move.

5 “They are upright as the palm tree, but do not speak. They must be carried because they cannot go. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, nor also is it in them to do good.”

6 ¶ Forasmuch as there is no one like You, O LORD, You are great and Your name is great in might.

7 ¶ Who would not fear You, O King of nations? Indeed it is Your due. Forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like You.

8 But they are all stupid and foolish. A wooden idol is a foolish teaching.

9 Silver beaten into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the craftsmen and of the hands of the goldsmith. Blue and purple are their clothing. They are all the work of skilled men.

10 But the LORD is the true God. He is the living God and an everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble and the nations will not be able to endure His indignation.

11 ¶ Thus you will say to them, “The gods who have not made the heavens and the earth, even they will perish from the earth, and from under these heavens.”

12 ¶ He has made the earth by His power. He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by His discretion.

13 When He utters His voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth. He makes lightnings with rain and brings forth the wind out of His treasures.

14 Everyone is stupid in his knowledge. Every goldsmith is put to shame by the graven image. ¶ For his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.
15 They are vanity and the work of errors. In the time of their punishment they will perish.
16 "The portion of Jacob is not like them, for He is the Maker of all things. And Israel is the rod of His inheritance. bThe LORD of armies is His name.

Future Destruction
17 ¶ "Gather up your wares out of the land, O inhabitant of the fortress.
18 For thus says the LORD, "Behold, I will sling out the inhabitants of the land at this time. And I will distress them so they will find it so."
19 ¶ Woe is me for my hurt! My wound is grievous. But I said, "Truly this is grief and I must bear it."
20 ¶ My tent is plundered and all my cords are broken. My children have gone forth from me and they are not. There is no one to stretch forth my tent anymore, and to set up my curtains.
21 For the shepherds have become stupid, and have not sought the LORD. Therefore, they will not prosper and all their flocks will be scattered.
22 Behold, the noise of the report has come, and a great commotion out of the north country, to make the cities of Judah desolate and a den of jackals.

Jeremiah's Prayer
23 ¶ O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself. It is not in man who walks to direct his steps.
24 O LORD, correct me, but with justice; not in Your anger, lest You bring me to nothing.
25 ¶ Pour out Your fury upon the nations that do not know You, and upon the families that do not call on Your name. For they have eaten up Jacob and devoured and consumed him. And you have made his habitation desolate.

Chapter 11
Broken Covenant
1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
were your gods, O Judah. And according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem you have set up altars to that shameful thing, even altars to burn incense to Baal.

14 ¶ Therefore, do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them. For I will not hear them in the time that they cry out to Me because of their trouble.

15 “What has My beloved to do in My house, seeing she has worked lewdness with many, and the holy flesh is passed from you? When you do evil, then you rejoice.”

16 The LORD called your name, “A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit.” With the noise of a great tumult He has kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken.

17 “For the LORD of armies who planted you has pronounced evil against you because of the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah that they have done against themselves to provoke Me to anger in offering incense to Baal.”

Conspiracy Against Jeremiah

18 ¶ And the LORD has given me knowledge of it and I know it. Then you showed me their deeds.

19 But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter. And I did not know that they had devised devices against Me, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living so that his name may be no longer remembered.”

20 But, O LORD of armies, who judges righteously, who tests the feelings and the heart, let me see Your vengeance on them. For to You I have revealed my cause.

21 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD concerning the men of Anathoth who seek your life, saying, “Do not prophesy in the name of the LORD, so that you will not die at our hand”;

22 therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, “Behold, I will punish them. The young men will die by the sword. Their sons and their daughters will die by famine.

23 “And there will be no remnant of them, for I will bring evil upon the men of Anathoth, even the year of their punishment.”

Chapter 12

Jeremiah’s Complaint

1 ¶ Righteous are you, O LORD, when I plead with you. Yet let me talk with You of Your judgments. Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why are all those happy who deal so treacherously?

2 You have planted them. Yes, they have taken root. They grow. Yes, they bring forth fruit. You are near in their mouth and far from their mind.

3 But you, O LORD, know me. You have seen me and You examine my heart’s attitude toward You. Pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter.

4 How long will the land mourn and the herbs of every field wither because the wickedness of those who dwell in it? The animals and the birds are consumed because they said, “He will not see our final ending.”

God’s Answer

5 ¶ “If you have run with the footmen and they have wearied you, then how can you compete with horses? And if in the land of peace wherein you trusted, they wearied you, then how will you do in the thicket of Jordan?

6 “For even your brethren and the house of your father, even they have dealt treacherously with you. Do not believe them, though they speak fair words to you.

7 ¶ “I have forsaken My house. I have left My heritage. I have given the dearly beloved of My soul into the hand of her enemies.

8 “My heritage is to Me as a lion in the forest. It cries out against Me. Therefore, I have hated it.

9 “My heritage is to Me as a speckled bird. The birds all around are against her. Come, assemble all the beasts of the field. Come to devour.

10 “Many shepherds have destroyed My
vineyard. They have trodden My portion under foot. They have made My pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

11 "They have made it desolate, and being desolate, it mourns to Me. The whole land is made desolate because no man lays it to heart.

12 "The plunders have come upon all high places in the wilderness. For the sword of the LORD will devour from one end of the land even to the other end of the land. No flesh will have peace.

13 "They have sown wheat, but will reap thorns. They have put themselves to pain, but will not profit. And they will be ashamed of your harvest because of the fierce anger of the LORD."

14 ¶ Thus says the LORD against all My evil neighbors who touch the inheritance that I have caused My people Israel to inherit, "Behold, I will pluck them out of their land and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.

15 "And it will come to pass after I have plucked them out, I will return and have compassion on them. And I will bring them again, everyone to his heritage and everyone to his land.

16 "And it will come to pass that if they will diligently learn the ways of My people, to swear by My name, 'As the LORD lives,' as they taught My people to swear by Baal, then they will be established in the midst of My people.

17 "But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation," says the LORD.

Chapter 13
The Buried Waistcloth

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD to me, "Go and get a waistcloth and put it on your loins, and do not put it in water."

2 So I got a waistcloth according to the word of the LORD and put it on my loins.

3 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying,

4 "Take the waistcloth that you have, that is upon your loins, and arise. Go to the Euphrates. Hide it there in a hole of the rock."

5 So I went and hid it by the Euphrates as the LORD commanded me.

6 Now it came to pass after many days that the LORD said to me, "Arise, go to the Euphrates and take the waistcloth from there that I commanded you to hide."

7 Then I went to the Euphrates and dug. And I took the waistcloth from the place where I had hid it. And behold, the waistcloth was marred. It was profitable for nothing.

8 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

9 "Thus says the LORD, 'After this manner I will mar the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.

10 ‘This evil people who refuse to hear My words, who walk in the imagination of their heart and walk after other gods, to serve them and to worship them, will even be as this waistcloth that is good for nothing.

11 ‘For as the waistcloth cleaves to the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave to Me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah,' says the LORD, 'that they might be to Me for a people and for a name, and for praise and for glory. But they would not hear.'

Wineskins

12 ¶ Therefore, you will speak to them this word, 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel, "Every bottle will be filled with wine. And they will say to you, 'Do we not certainly know that every bottle will be filled with wine?'

13 "Then you will say to them, 'Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings who sit upon David’s throne, and the priests and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

14 "And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together," says the LORD. "I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them."

Coming Captivity

15 ¶ Hear and give ear. Do not be proud, for the LORD has spoken.
16 Give glory to the LORD your God before He stumbles upon the wilderness. And while you are looking for light, He turns it into the shadow of death, and makes it thick darkness.

17 But if you will not hear it, my soul will weep in secret places for your pride. And my eye will weep sore and run down with tears because the Lord’s flock is carried away captive.

18 Say to the king and to the queen, “Take a lowly seat, for your beautiful crown has come down from your head.”

19 The cities of the south will be shut up and no one will open them. All of Judah will be carried away captive. It will be wholly carried away captive.

20 Lift up your eyes and behold those who come from the north. Where is the flock that was given you, your beautiful flock?

21 What will you say when He punishes you? For you have taught them to be captains, and as chiefs over you. Will not sorrows take you when these things come upon Me?”

22 And if you say in your heart, “Why do these things come upon Me?”, it is because of the greatness of your iniquity your skirts have been uncovered and your heels made bare.

23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then can you also do good, who are accustomed to doing evil.

24 Therefore, I will scatter them as the stubble that passes away by the wind of the wilderness.

25 This is your lot, the portion of your measures from Me,” says the LORD, “because you have forgotten Me and trusted in falsehood.

26 Therefore, I will uncover your skirts over your face so that your shame may appear.

27 I have seen your adulteries and your neighings, the lewdness of your prostitution, and your abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe to you, O Jerusalem! How long will you remain unclean?”

Chapter 14
Punished with Drought
ets prophesy lies in My name. "I did not send them, nor have I commanded them, nor spoke to them. They prophesy to you a false vision and divination, and a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart.

15 Therefore, thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who prophesy in My name, although it was not I who sent them, "yet they say, 'Sword and famine will not be in this land.' By sword and famine those prophets will be consumed.

16 "And the people to whom they prophesy will be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword. And they will have no one to bury them, their wives or their sons or their daughters. For I will pour their wickedness upon them.

17 ¶ "Therefore, you will say this word to them," Let my eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease. For the virgin daughter of My people is broken with a great breach, with a very grievous blow.

18 'If I go forth into the field, then behold, the slain with the sword! And if I enter into the city, then behold, those who are sick with famine! Yes, both the prophet and the priest go about into a land that they do not know.'"

19 ¶ "Have you utterly rejected Judah? Has your soul loathed Zion? Why have You smitten us, and there is no healing for us? We looked for peace and there is no good, and for the time of healing, and behold, trouble!

20 We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness and the iniquity of our fathers, for we have sinned against you.

21 Do not abhor us. For Your name's sake, do not disgrace the throne of Your glory. Remember, do not break Your covenant with us.

22 "Are there any among the idols of the nations who can cause rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Is it not You, O LORD our God? Therefore, we will wait upon You, for You have made all these things.

Chapter 15

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to me, "Though Moses and Samuel stood before Me, yet My mind could not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight and let them go forth.

2 "And it will come to pass if they say to you, 'Where will we go forth?' then you will tell them, 'Thus says the LORD, 'Those destined for death, and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity.'"

3 "And I will appoint over them four kings of punishment," says the LORD. "The sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the birds of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy.

4 "And I will cause them to be moved into all kingdoms of the earth because of what Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, did in Jerusalem.

5 ¶ "For who will have pity upon you, O Jerusalem? Or who will mourn for you? Or who will go aside to ask how you are doing?"

6 "You have forsaken Me," says the LORD. "You have gone backward. Therefore, I will stretch out My hand against you and destroy you. I am weary of relenting. And I will fan them with a fan in the gates of the land. I will bereave children of children. I will destroy My people since they do not return from their ways.

8 "Their widows will be more numerous before Me than the sand of the seas. I will bring against them, against the mother of the young men, a plunderer at noonday. I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly and terrors upon the city.

9 "She who bore seven sons pines away. She has breathed her last. Her sun has gone down while it was yet day. She has been ashamed and disgraced, and the remainder of those I will deliver to the sword before their enemies," says the LORD.

10 ¶ "Woe to me, my mother, that you have borne me as a man of strife and a man of contention to all the land! I have not lent money, nor have I borrowed, yet everyone of them curses me.
11 The LORD said, “Surely I will set you free for purposes of good. Surely I will cause the enemy to make a petition to you in a time of disaster and a time of distress.”

12 ¶ “Will iron break the northern iron and the steel?

13 ¶ “Your substance and your treasures I will give as plunder without price, and because of all your sins, even in all your borders.

14 “And I will make you to pass with your enemies into a land that you do not know. For a fire is kindled in My anger that will burn upon you.”

15 ¶ O LORD, you know. Remember me and take notice of me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. Do not, in view of Your patience, take me away. Know that for Your sake I endure reproach.

16 Your words were found and I ate them. And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart. For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of armies.

17 ¶ I did not sit in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced. I sat alone because of Your hand, for You have filled me with indignation.

18 Why is my pain perpetual and my wound incurable, that refuses to be healed? Will You be to me as an unreliable stream, and as waters that fail?

19 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD, ¶“If you return, then I will bring you again and you will stand before Me. And if you separate the precious from the vile, you will be as My mouth. Let them return to you, but you do not return to them.

20 ¶ “And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze. And they will fight against you, but they will not prevail over you. For I am with you to save you and to deliver you,” says the LORD.

21 ¶ “And I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem you out of the hand of the violent.”

Chapter 16
National Calamity

1 ¶ The word of the LORD came also to me, saying,

2 ¶“You will not take a wife, nor will you have sons or daughters in this place.”

3 For thus says the LORD concerning the sons and concerning the daughters who are born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bore them, and concerning their fathers who begot them in this land:

4 ¶ “They will die grievous deaths. They will not be lamented, nor will they be buried. They will be as refuse upon the face of the earth. And they will be consumed by the sword and by famine. Their carcasses will be food for the birds of heaven and for the beasts of the earth.”

5 ¶ For thus says the LORD, ¶“Do not enter into the house of mourning, nor go to lament or bemoan them. For I have taken away My peace from this people,” says the LORD, ¶“even lovingkindness and mercies.

6 ¶ Both the great and the small will die in this land. They will not be buried, nor will men lament for them, or cut themselves, or make themselves bald for them.

7 ¶Neither will men break bread in mourning for them, to comfort them because of the dead. Neither will men give them the cup of consolation to drink for their father or their mother.

8 ¶“Also, you will not go into the house of feasting in order to sit with them to eat and to drink.”

9 ¶ For thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ¶“Behold, I am going to eliminate from this place, and in your days, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.

10 ¶“Now when you tell this people all these words they will say to you, ¶“Why has the LORD pronounced all this great evil against us? Or what is our iniquity? Or what is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?”

11 ¶“Then you will say to them, ¶“Because your fathers have forsaken Me,” says the LORD, ¶‘have walked after other gods and have
served them. And they have worshiped them and have forsaken Me, and have not kept My law.

12 ¶ And you have done “worse than your fathers. For behold, “each one of you walks after the imagination of his evil heart so that no one hearkens to Me.

13 ¶ Therefore, I will cast you out of this land qinto a land that you do not know, neither you nor your fathers. And there you will serve other gods day and night, for I will grant you no favor.’

14 ¶ “Therefore behold, the ‘days are coming,” says the LORD, “when it will no longer be said, `The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt,”

15 “but, `The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands to which He had driven them.’ I will bring them again into their land that I gave to their fathers.

16 ¶ “Behold, I will send for many “fishermen,” says the LORD, “and they will fish for them. And afterwards I will send for many hunters and they will hunt them from every mountain and every hill and from the clefts of the rocks.

17 ¶ “For My ’eyes are upon all their ways. They are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes.

18 ¶ “And first I will repay their iniquity and their sin “double because “they have defiled My land. They have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable things.”

19 ¶ O LORD, ymy strength and my fortress, and zmy refuge in the day of affliction. The Gentiles will come to You from the ends of the earth and will say, “Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity and things wherein there is “no profit.”

20 Will a man make gods to himself? Yet they b are not gods.

21 ¶ “Therefore behold, I will this once cause them to know. I will cause them to know My hand and My might. Then they will know that cMy name is the LORD.”

Chapter 17

1 ¶ “The sin of Judah is a written with a b stylus of iron and with the point of a diamond. It is c engraved upon the tablet of their heart and upon the horns of their altars.

2 ¶ “As they remember their children, so they remember their altars and their d wooden images by the green trees on the high hills.

3 ¶ “O My mountain in the field, I will give your substance and all your treasures to plunder, and your high places for sin, throughout all your borders.

4 ¶ “And you, even yourself, will discontinue from your heritage that I gave you. And I will cause you to serve your enemies “in the land that you do not know, for “you have kindled a fire in My anger that will burn forever.”

5 ¶ Thus says the LORD, ““Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes b flesh his arm and whose heart departs from the LORD.

6 ¶ “For he will be ‘like the shrub in the desert, and ‘will not see when good comes. But he will inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, ‘in a land of salt without inhabitant.

7 ¶ “Blessed ‘is the man who trusts in the LORD and whose trust is the LORD.

8 ¶ “For he will be “as a tree planted by the waters and spreads out its roots by the river. And it will not fear when heat comes, but its leaf will be green. And it will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit.

9 ¶ “The “heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked. Who can understand it?

10 ¶ “I the LORD o search the heart. I test the mind, p even to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds.

11 ¶ “As the partridge sits on eggs and does not hatch them, so he who unjustly acquires riches “will leave them in the midst of his days. And at his end, he will be ‘a fool.”

12 ¶ A glorious high throne from the beginning ‘is the place of our sanctuary.

13 ¶ O LORD, ‘the hope of Israel, ‘all who forsake You will be ashamed. Those who turn
away on earth will be written down because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters.

14 Heal me, O LORD, and I will be healed. Save me, and I will be saved, for You are my praise.

15 Behold, they say to me, “Where is the word of the LORD? Let it come now.”

16 As for me, I have not hastened from being a shepherd to follow You. Neither have I desired the woeful day. You know that what came out of my lips was right before You.

17 Do not be a terror to me. You are my hope in the day of evil.

18 aLet them be ashamed who persecute me, but do not let me be ashamed. Let them be dismayed, but do not let me be dismayed. Bring upon them the day of evil and destroy them with double destruction.

The Sabbath

19 ¶ Thus said the LORD to me, “Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, through which the kings of Judah come in, and through which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem.

20 “And say to them, dHear the word of the LORD you kings of Judah and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem who enter in by these gates.

21 ‘Thus says the LORD, “Take heed to yourselves and bear no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring your produce in by the gates of Jerusalem.

22 “Do not carry forth a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day, nor do any work. But hallow the Sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers.

23 gBut they did not obey, nor incline their ear. But they made their neck stiff so that they might not hear, nor receive instruction.

24 ¶ “And it will come to pass that if you diligently hearken to Me,” says the LORD, “to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but hallow the Sabbath day, to do no work on it,

25 “then there will enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And this city will remain forever.

26 “And they will come from the cities of Judah and from the places around Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin and from the plain and from the mountains and from the South, bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices and grain offerings and incense, and bringing sacrifices of praise to the house of the LORD. But if you will not hearken to Me to hallow the Sabbath day by not bearing a burden, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem. And it will not be quenched.’ ”

Chapter 18

The Potter’s House

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 “Arise, and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause you to hear My words.”

3 Then I went down to the potter’s house, and behold, he was making something at the wheel.

4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter. So he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

5 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

6 “O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? says the LORD. “Behold, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel.

7 “If at any time I will speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up and to pull down and to destroy it,

8 “if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent from the calamity I planned to bring on it.

9 “If at any time I will speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it,

10 “if it does evil in My sight so that it does
not obey My voice, then I will relent from the good by which I said I would benefit them. 

11 ¶ “Now therefore go and speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I am fashioning calamity against you and devising a device against you. ¹Return now everyone from his evil way, and make your ways and your deeds good.’”

12 “And they will say, “There is no hope. But we will walk after our own devices and everyone will do the imagination of his evil heart.”

13 ¶ “Therefore thus says the LORD, ¹Ask now among the nations who has heard such things? The virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing.

14 ‘Will a man leave the snow of Lebanon that comes from the rock of the field? Will the cold flowing waters that come from another place be forsaken?

15 ‘Because My people have forgotten Me they have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused them to stumble in their ways from the ancient paths, to walk in bypaths, not on a highway,

16 ‘to make their land desolate and a perpetual hissing. Everyone who passes thereby will be astonished and shake his head.

17 ¶ “As with an east wind, I will scatter them before the enemy. In the day of their calamity, ‘I will show them the back and not the face.’”

18 ¶ Then they said, “Come, and let us devise devices against Jeremiah, ²for the law will not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us smite him with the tongue and let us not give heed to any of his words.”

19 ¶ Give heed to Me, O LORD, and listen to what my opponents are saying.

20 “Will evil be rewarded for good? For they have dug a pit for my soul. Remember that I stood before You to speak good for them, and to turn away Your wrath from them.

21 Therefore, deliver up their children to the famine and pour out their blood by the force of the sword. And let their wives be bereaved of their children, and be widows. And let their men be put to death. Let their young men be slain by the sword in battle.

22 Let an outcry be heard from their houses when You will bring raiders suddenly upon them. For they have dug a pit to take me and hidden snares for my feet.

23 Yet, LORD, You know all their counsel against me, to slay me. ²Do not forgive their iniquity, nor blot out their sin from Your sight. But let them be overthrown before You. Deal thus with them in the time of Your anger.

Chapter 19

1 Thus says the LORD, “Go and get a potter’s earthen flask and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests.

2 ¶ Then they said, “Come, and let us devise devices against Jeremiah, ²for the law will not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us smite him with the tongue and let us not give heed to any of his words.”

3 ¶ “And say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “Behold, I will bring calamity upon this place, at which the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle.

4 ¶ “Because they have forsaken Me and have made this an alien place, and have burned incense in it to other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents.

5 ¶ They have built also the high places of Baal to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal ⁴that I did not command, nor spoke it, nor did it ever enter My mind.

6 ¶ Therefore behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that this place will no longer be called Tophet, nor the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter.

7 ¶ “And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place. ⁴And I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies and by the hands of those who seek their lives. And I will give their carcasses to be food for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth.
8 “And I will make this city desolate and a hissing. Everyone who passes by it will be astonished and hiss because of all its plagues.
9 “And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters. And everyone will eat the flesh of his friend in the siege and in the distress with which their enemies and those who seek their life will distress them.”

10 ¶ Then you will break the flask in the sight of the men who go with you.
11 ¶ And you will say to them, “Thus says the LORD of armies, “Likewise, I will break this people and this city as one breaks a potter’s vessel that cannot be made whole again. And they will bury them in Tophet until there is no place to bury.
12 ¶ This I will do to this place,” says the LORD, “and to its inhabitants and even make this city as Tophet.
13 ¶ Then the houses of Jerusalem and the houses of the kings of Judah will be defiled as the place of Tophet because of all the houses upon whose roofs they have burned incense to all the host of heaven, and have poured out drink offerings to other gods.”’

14 ¶ Then Jeremiah came from Tophet where the LORD had sent him to prophesy. And he stood in the court of the LORD’S house and said to all the people,
15 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it because they have stiffened their necks so that they might not hear My words.’”

Chapter 20
Pashur Confronts Jeremiah

1 ¶ Now “Pashur, the son of “Immer the priest, who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things.
2 Pashur then had Jeremiah the prophet beaten and put him in the stocks that were at the upper Benjamin Gate that was by the house of the LORD.

3 Now it came to pass on the next day that Pashur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah said to him, “The LORD has not called your name Pashur, but Magor-missabib.
4 ¶ “For thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends. And they will fall by the sword of their enemies and your eyes will behold it. And I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon and he will carry them captive into Babylon. And he will slay them with the sword.
5 ¶ Furthermore, I will deliver all the riches of this city, and all its gains and all its precious things, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah, I will give them into the hand of their enemies who will plunder them. And they will take them and carry them to Babylon.
6 ¶ And you, Pashur, and all who dwell in your house, will go into captivity. And you will come to Babylon and there you will die. And you will be buried there, you, and all your friends to whom you have prophesied lies.’”

7 ¶ O LORD, You enticed me, and I was persuaded. You are stronger than I, and have prevailed. I am in derision daily. Everyone mocks me.
8 ¶ For when I spoke, I cried out. I cried out violence and plunder because the word of the LORD has resulted in reproach and derision all day long.
9 ¶ Then I said, “I will not make mention of Him, nor speak anymore in His name.” But His word was in My heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones. And I was weary with forbearing, and I could not keep silent.
10 ¶ For I have heard the whispering of many, “Fear on every side. Report him! Yes, let us report him!” All my trusted friends watched for my fall, saying, “Perhaps he can be deceived so that we may prevail against him and take our revenge on him.”
11 ¶ But the LORD is with me as a mighty warrior. Therefore, my persecutors will stumble and they will not prevail. They will be greatly ashamed, for they will not prosper. Their everlasting confusion will never be forgotten.
12 Yet, O LORD of armies, who tests the righteous and sees the mind and the heart, let me see Your vengeance on them, for to You I have set forth my cause.

13 ¶ Sing to the LORD. Praise the LORD. For He has delivered the soul of the poor from the hand of evildoers.

14 ¶ Cursed is the day in which I was born. Do not let the day in which my mother bore me be blessed.

15 Cursed is the man who brought tidings to my father, saying, “A man child is born to you,” making him very glad.

16 And let that man be as the cities that the LORD overthrew without relenting. And let him hear the cry in the morning and the shouting at noon,

17 because he did not kill me before birth, so that my mother might have been my grave, and her womb to be always enlarged with me.

18 Why did I come forth out of the womb to see labor and sorrow, that my days should be consumed with shame?

Chapter 21
Zedekiah’s Request Rejected

1 ¶ The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD when a King Zedekiah sent to him Pashur the son of Melchiah and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying,

2 “Inquire, I ask you, of the LORD for us, for Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, is making war against us. Perhaps the LORD will deal with us according to all His wonderful acts, so that the enemy will withdraw from us.”

3 ¶ Then Jeremiah said to them, “Thus will you say to Zedekiah:

4 ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel, “Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands with which you fight against the king of Babylon and against the Chaldeans, who besiege you outside the walls. And I will assemble them into the midst of this city.

5 ‘And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger and in fury and in great wrath.

6 ‘And I will smite the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast. They will die of a great pestilence.

7 “Then afterward,” says the LORD, “I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life. And he will smite them with the edge of the sword. ‘He will not spare them, nor have pity, nor have mercy.

8 ¶ “And to this people you will say, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death.

9 “He who abides in this city will die by the sword and by the famine and by the pestilence. But he who goes out and falls down to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he will live, and he will have his own life as booty.

10 “For I have set My face against this city for harm and not for good,” says the LORD. “It will be given into the hand of the king of Babylon and he will burn it with fire.”’

11 ¶ “And concerning the house of the king of Judah, say, ‘Hear the word of the LORD,

12 ‘O house of David, thus says the LORD, “Execute justice in the morning and deliver him who is exploited out of the hand of the oppressor, lest My fury go out like fire and burn with no one to extinguish it, because of the evil of your deeds.

13 “Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant of the valley and rock of the plain,” says the LORD, who say, “Who will come down against us? Or, who will enter into our habitations?”

14 “But I will punish you according to the fruit of your deeds,” says the LORD. “And I will kindle a fire in its forest and it will devour all things around it.”’”

Chapter 22
Condemnation of Corrupt Rulers

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “Go down to the house of the king of Judah and speak there this word,
2 “and say, “Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah who sits upon the throne of David, you and your servants, and your people who enter in by these gates.

3 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Execute justice and righteousness, and deliver the exploited out of the hand of the oppressor. And do no wrong. Do no violence to the foreigner, the fatherless, the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place.

4 “For if you indeed do this thing, then kings will enter the gates of this house, sitting in David’s place on his throne, riding in chariots and on horses, even the king himself and his servants and his people.

5 “But if you will not hear these words, ‘I swear by Myself,’” says the LORD, “that this house will become a desolation.”

6 ¶ For thus says the LORD to the king’s house of Judah, “You are as Gilead to Me, and the head of Lebanon. But surely I will make you a wilderness with cities that are not inhabited.

7 “And I will prepare destroyers against you, each one with his weapons. And they will cut down your choice cedars and cast them into the fire.

8 “And many nations will pass by this city and everyone will say to his neighbor, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this great city?’

9 “Then they will answer, ‘Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD their God and served them.’”

10 ¶ Do not weep for the dead, nor bemoan him. Weep bitterly for him who goes away, for he will never return again, or see his native country.

11 ¶ For thus says the LORD concerning Shallum the son of Josiah, king of Judah, who became king in the place of Josiah his father who went out from this place, “He will never return there.

12 “But he will die in the place to which they have led him captive, and will see this land no more.

13 ¶ “Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness and his chambers by injustice, who uses his neighbor’s service without wages and does not give him wages for his work,

14 “who says, ‘I will build for myself a wide house with large chambers, and cut out for myself windows. And I will panel it with cedar and paint it with vermillion.’

15 “Will you reign because you enclose yourself in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink, and do justice and righteousness, and it was well with him?

16 “He pled the cause of the afflicted and needy and it was well with him. Is not this what it means to know Me?” says the LORD.

17 “But your eyes and your heart are for nothing but for your covetousness and to shed innocent blood, and for oppression and for violence.”

18 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, ¶“They will not lament for him, saying, ‘Ah my brother!’ or, ‘Ah sister!’ They will not lament for him, saying, ‘Ah lord!’ or, ‘Ah his glory!’

19 ¶“He will be buried with the burial of a donkey, cast off and thrown out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

20 ¶“Go up to Lebanon and cry out. And lift up your voice in Bashan, and cry out from Abarim, for all your lovers are destroyed.

21 “I spoke to you in your prosperity, but you said, ‘I will not hear.’ This has been your behavior since your youth, that you do not obey My voice.

22 “The wind will eat up all your shepherds and your lovers will go into captivity. Surely then you will be ashamed and humiliated because of all your wickedness.

23 “O inhabitant of Lebanon, who makes your nest in the cedars, how gracious will you be when pains come upon you as the pain of a woman in childbirth!

24 ¶“As I live,” says the LORD, ¶“though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, were the signet upon My right hand, yet I would pull you off.

25 ¶“And I will give you into the hand of those who seek your life, and into the hand of those whose face you fear, even into the hand of Neb-
uchadnezzar, king of Babylon, and into the hand of the Chaldeans.

26 "And I will cast you out, and your mother who bore you, into another country where you were not born. And there you will die.

27 “But to the land to which they desire to return, there they will not return.

28 “Is this man Coniah a despised broken idol? Is he a vessel wherein is no pleasure? Why are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into a land that they do not know?

29 ¶ “O land, land, land, hear the word of the LORD.

30 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Write this man childless, a man who will not prosper in his days. For no man of his descendants will prosper sitting on the throne of David or ruling again in Judah.’"

Chapter 23

The Righteous Branch

1 ¶ “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the LORD.

2 Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people, “You have scattered My flock and driven them away, and have not attended to them. "Behold, I am about to attend to you for the evil of your deeds,” says the LORD.

3 “And I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries to which I have driven them, and will bring them again to their pasture. And they will be fruitful and increase.

4 “Then I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them. And they will fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor will they be lacking,” says the LORD.

5 ¶ “Behold, ‘the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will raise to David a righteous Branch and a King will reign and prosper. And he will execute justice and righteousness on the earth.

6 ¶ “In His days Judah will be saved and Israel will dwell safely. And ‘this is His name by which He will be called, ‘The LORD Our Righ-

7 ¶ “Therefore behold, ‘the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that they will no more say, ‘The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’

8 “but, ‘The LORD lives who brought up and who led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country and ‘from all countries to which I had driven them.’ And they will dwell in their own land.”

Lying Prophets

9 ¶ “My heart within me is broken because of the prophets. "All my bones shake. I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine has overcome, because of the LORD and because of the words of His holiness.

10 For "the land is full of adulterers. "Because of a curse the land mourns. "The pleasant places of the wilderness have dried up and their course is evil, and their might is not right.

11 ¶ “For "both prophet and priest are profane. Yes, ‘in My house I have found their wickedness,” says the LORD.

12 “Therefore, ‘their way will be to them as slippery ways in the darkness. In the darkness they will be driven on and fall in them. For I will bring calamity upon them, even the year of their visitation,” says the LORD.

13 “And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria. "They prophesied by Baal and caused My people Israel to err.

14 “I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing. "They commit adultery and walk in lies. They strengthen also the hands of evildoers so that no one turns back from his wickedness. All of them are to Me as Sodom and her inhabitants as Gomorrah.”

15 “Therefore, thus says the LORD of armies concerning the prophets, ‘Behold, I will feed them with wormwood and make them drink the water of gall, because from the prophets of Jerusalem has profaneness gone forth into all the land.’”

16 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, “Do not hearken to the words of the prophets who...
prophesy to you. They are making you worthless.  
They speak a vision from their own imagination and not out of the mouth of the LORD.

17 “They continue to say to those who despise me, ‘The LORD has said, “You will have peace.”’ And they say to everyone who walks after the imagination of his own heart, No evil will come upon you.

18 ¶ “Who has stood in the counsel of the LORD and has perceived and heard His word? Who has given heed to His word and heard it?

19 Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD has gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind. It will fall grievously upon the head of the wicked.

20 The anger of the LORD will not turn back until He has executed and performed the thoughts of His heart. In the latter days you will understand it perfectly.

21 ¶ “I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

22 “But if they had stood in My counsel and had caused My people to hear My words, then they should have turned them from their evil way and from the evil of their deeds.

23 ¶ “Am I a God who is near,” says the LORD, “and not a God afar off?”

24 “Can any hide himself in secret places that I will not see him?” says the LORD. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” says the LORD.

25 “I have heard what the prophets said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, ‘I have dreamed. I have dreamed.’

26 “How long will this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? Yes, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart,

27 “who think to cause My people to forget My name by their dreams that every man tells to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten My name for Baal.

28 “The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream. And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?” says the LORD.

29 “Is not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

30 ¶ “Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets,” says the LORD, “who steal My words every one from his neighbor.

31 “Behold, I am against the prophets,” says the LORD, “who use their tongues and say, ‘He says.’

32 “Behold, I am against those who prophesy false dreams,” says the LORD, “and tell them, and cause My people to err by their lies and by their recklessness. I did not send them or command them. Therefore, they will not profit this people at all,” says the LORD.

False Prophets and Oracles

33 ¶ “And when this people, or the prophet, or a priest, will ask you, saying, ‘What is the oracle of the LORD?’ you will then say to them, ‘What oracle?’ I will even forsake you,” says the LORD.

34 “And as for the prophet and the priest and the people who will say, ‘The oracle of the LORD,’ I will even punish that man and his house.

35 “Thus everyone will say to his neighbor and every one to his brother, ‘What has the LORD answered?’ and, ‘What has the LORD spoken?’

36 “For you will no longer mention the oracle of the LORD. For every man’s word will be his oracle, because you have perverted the words of the living God, the LORD of armies our God.

37 “Thus you will say to the prophet, ‘What has the LORD answered you?’ and, ‘What has the LORD spoken?’

38 “But since you say, ‘The oracle of the LORD,’ therefore thus says the LORD, ‘Because you say this word, “The oracle of the LORD,” and I have sent to you, saying, “You will not say, ‘The oracle of the LORD,’ ”’

39 “Therefore behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you and I will forsake you and the city that I gave you and your fathers. And I will cast you out of My presence.

40 “And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you and a perpetual shame that will not be forgotten.”
Chapter 24
Two Baskets of Figs

1 ¶ After Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and the officials of Judah with the craftsmen and smiths from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon, the LORD showed me two baskets of figs set before the temple of the LORD.

2 One basket had very good figs, even like the figs that are first ripe. And the other basket had very bad figs that could not be eaten because they were so bad.

3 Then the LORD said to me, “What do you see, Jeremiah?” And I said, “Figs, the good figs, very good; and the bad, very bad, that cannot be eaten because they are so bad.”

4 ¶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

5 Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge those who are carried away captive from Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans for their good.

6 For I will set My eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land. And I will plant them and not pull them up. And I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the LORD. And they will be My people and I will be their God. For they will return to Me with their whole heart.

7 And as for the bad figs that cannot be eaten because they are so bad—surely thus says the LORD—so I will abandon Zedekiah the king of Judah and his princes and the remnant of Jerusalem who remain in this land, and those who dwell in the land of Egypt.

8 And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth as a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse in all places where I will scatter them.

9 And I will send the sword, famine and pestilence among them until they are consumed from off the land that I gave to them and to their fathers.’”

Chapter 25
Seventy Years of Captivity

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of the LORD, the God of Israel, the son of Josiah, king of Judah (this was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon),

2 that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. He said,

3 “From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even to this day, these twenty-three years, the word of the LORD has come to me. And I have spoken to you, rising early and speaking. But you have not hearkened.

4 ¶ And the LORD has sent to you all His servants the prophets, rising early and sending them. But you have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear.

5 “They said, ‘Turn now everyone from his evil way and from the evil of your deeds, and dwell in the land that the LORD has given to you and to your fathers forever and ever.

6 And do not go after other gods to serve them and to worship them. And do not provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands, and I will do you no harm.’

7 Yet you have not hearkened to Me,” says the LORD, “in order that you might provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands to your own harm.

8 Therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Because you have not heard My words,

9 behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,’ says the LORD, ‘and I will send to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants, and against all these surrounding nations. And I will utterly destroy them and make them an astonishment and a hissing, and perpetual desolations.

10 Furthermore, I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light
of the candle.

11 ‘And this whole land will be a desolation and an astonishment. And these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

12 ¶ ‘And it will come to pass when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation,’ says the LORD, ‘for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans. And I will make it an everlasting desolation.

13 ‘And I will bring upon that land all My words that I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book that Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations.

14 ¶ (For many nations and great kings will be served by them also. ‘And I will repay them according to their deeds and according to the works of their own hands.’)

The Cup of God’s Wrath

15 ¶ For thus says the LORD God of Israel to me, ‘Take the wine cup of this fury at My hand and cause all the nations to whom I send you to drink it.

16 “And they will drink and stagger and go insane because of the sword that I will send among them.”

17 Then I took the cup from the LORD’S hand and made all the nations drink to whom the LORD had sent me:

18 Jerusalem and the cities of Judah and its kings and its princes, to make them a ruin, a horror, a derision and a curse, as it is this day;

19 Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and his servants and his princes and all his people,

20 and all the mixed people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon and Azzah and Ekron and the remnant of Ashdod,

21 Edom and Moab, and the children of Ammon,

22 and all the kings of Tyre, and all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the islands that are beyond the sea,

23 Dedan and Tema and Buz, and all who are in distant places,

24 and all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mixed multitude who dwell in the desert,

25 and all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes,

26 and all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world that are upon the face of the earth. Then the king of Sheshach will drink after them.

27 ¶ Therefore, you will say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ‘Drink and be drunken, and vomit and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword that I will send among you.’”

28 “And it will be, if they refuse to take the cup at your hand to drink, then you will say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, “You will certainly drink.

29 “For behold, I am beginning to bring calamity on the city that is called by My name. And should you be utterly unpunished? You will not be unpunished, for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth,” says the LORD of armies.’

30 ¶ “Therefore, prophesy against them all these words and say to them, ‘The LORD will roar from on high and utter His voice from His holy habitation. He will mightily roar upon His habitation. As those who tread the grapes, He will give a shout against all the inhabitants of the earth.

31 ‘A noise will go even to the ends of the earth, for the LORD has a controversy with the nations. He will plead with all flesh. He will give them who are wicked to the sword,’ says the LORD.”

32 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, “Behold, calamity will go out from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind will be raised up from the remotest parts of the earth.

33 ¶And the slain of the LORD will be at that day from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth. They will not be lamented, nor gathered, nor buried. They will be rubbish on the ground.

34 ¶ “Wail, you shepherds, and cry out. Wallow yourselves in ashes you masters of the
flock, for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions have come. And you will fall like a precious vessel.

35 “And the shepherds will have no way to flee, nor the masters of the flock to escape.

36 “A voice of the cry of the shepherds and a wailing of the masters of the flock will be heard, for the LORD has plundered their pasture.

37 “And the peaceful habitations are cut down because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

38 “He has left His hiding place like the lion. For their land has become a horror because of the fierceness of the oppressing sword and because of His fierce anger.”

Chapter 26
Threatened with Death

1 ¶ In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, came this word from the LORD, saying,

2 “Thus says the LORD, “Stand in the court of the LORD’S house and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the LORD’S house. Speak to them all the words that I command you. Do not omit a word.

3 "Perhaps they will listen and everyone will turn from his evil way so that I may relent of the calamity that I purpose to do to them because of the evil of their deeds."

4 “And you will say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD, ‘If you will not hearken to Me, to walk in My law that I have set before you,

5 “to hearken to the words of My servants the prophets whom I sent to you, both rising up early and sending them, (but you have not hearkened)—

6 “then I will make this house like Shiloh and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.’"

7 ¶ So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD.

8 Now it came to pass when Jeremiah had ended speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, “You will surely die.

9 “Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate without an inhabitant?’” And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

10 ¶ When the princes of Judah heard these things, then they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and sat down in the entry of the New Gate of the LORD’S house.

11 Then the priests and the prophets spoke to the princes and to all the people, saying, “This man is worthy of death, for he has prophesied against this city as you have heard with your ears.”

12 ¶ Then Jeremiah spoke to all the princes and to all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words that you have heard.

13 “Now therefore amend your ways and your deeds and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will change His mind about the misfortune that He has pronounced against you.

14 “As for me, behold, I am in your hand. Do with me what seems good and right to you.

15 “But know for certain that if you put me to death, you will surely bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city, and upon its inhabitants, for of a truth the LORD has sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

16 ¶ Then the princes and all the people said to the priests and to the prophets, “This man is not worthy of death, for he has spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God.”

17 ¶ Then some of the elders of the land rose up and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying,

18 ¶ Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah. And he spoke to all the people of Judah, saying, “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Zion will be plowed like a field and Jerusalem will become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest.’”

19 “Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the LORD...
and 'entreat the LORD, and the LORD 'changed His mind about the calamity that He had pronounced against them? “Thus we are committing a great evil against ourselves.”

20 ¶ Now there was also a man who prophesied in the name of the LORD, Urijah the son of Shemaiah of Kirjath-jearim, who prophesied against this city and against this land according to all the words of Jeremiah.

21 And when Jehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death. But when Urijah heard it, he was afraid and fled, and went into Egypt.

22 Then Jehoiakim the king sent men into Egypt, namely, Elnathan the son of Achbor and other men with him into Egypt.

23 And they fetched Urijah out of Egypt and brought him to Jehoiakim the king, who slew him with the sword and cast his dead body into the graves of the common people.

24 Nevertheless, ‘the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah that they should not give him into the hand of the people to put him to death.

Chapter 27
Judah to Serve Nebuchadnezzar

1 ¶ In the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 “Thus says the LORD to me, ‘Make bonds and yokes and put them on your neck.

3 ‘Then send them to the king of Edom and to the king of Moab and to the king of the Ammonites and to the king of Tyre and to the king of Sidon, by the hand of the messengers who come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah.

4 ‘Then command them to say to their masters, “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel. Thus you will say to your masters,

5 “‘I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the earth by My great power and by My outstretched arm. And I have given it to the one who is pleasing in My sight.

6 “And now I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Baby-

lon, ’My servant. And the beasts of the field I have also given to serve him.

7 “And all nations will serve him and his son and his grandson until the time of his own land comes. And then many nations and great kings will make him serve them.

8 “And it will come to pass that the nation and kingdom that will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation I will punish,” says the LORD, “with the sword and with famine and with pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.

9 “Therefore, do not hearken to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers who speak to you, saying, ‘You will not serve the king of Babylon.’

10 “For they prophesy a lie to you, to remove you far from your land, and I will drive you out and you will perish.

11 “But the nations that bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him, those I will allow to remain in their own land,” says the LORD. “And they will farm it and dwell in it.” ‘

12 ¶ I spoke also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, “Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him and his people, and live.

13 “Why will you die, you and your people, by the sword, by famine and by pestilence, as the LORD has spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

14 “Therefore, do not hearken to the words of the prophets who speak to you, saying, ‘You will not serve the king of Babylon.’ For they prophesy a lie to you.

15 “For I have not sent them,” says the LORD, “yet they prophesy a lie in My name so that I might drive you out and that you might perish, you and the prophets who prophesy to you.”

16 ¶ And I also spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Do not hearken to the words of your prophets who prophesy to you, saying, “Behold, the vessels...
of the LORD’S house will soon be brought back from Babylon.” For they prophesy a lie to you.

17 ‘Do not hearken to them. Serve the king of Babylon and live. Why should this city be laid waste?

18 ‘But if they are prophets, and if the word of the LORD is with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of armies that the vessels that are left in the house of the LORD and in the house of the king of Judah and at Jerusalem, not go to Babylon.

19 ¶ ‘For thus says the LORD of armies concerning the pillars and concerning the sea and concerning the bases and concerning the remainder of the vessels that remain in this city that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon did not take when he carried away captive Jecoihjah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem,

20 ‘yes, thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the LORD and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem,

21 ‘they too will be carried to Babylon. And there they will be until the day that I visit them,’ says the LORD. ‘Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.’ ”

Chapter 28

Hananiah the False Prophet

1 ¶ Now it came to pass the same year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, who was from Gibeon, spoke to me in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying,

2 “Thus speaks the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, saying, ‘I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

3 ‘Within two full years I will bring back into this place all the vessels of the LORD’S house that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place and carried them to Babylon.

4 ‘And I will bring back to this place Jecoihiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah who went into Babylon,’ says the LORD. ‘For I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.’”

5 ¶ Then the prophet Jeremiah said to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and in the presence of all the people who stood in the house of the LORD,

6 even the prophet Jeremiah said, ¶“Amen! May the LORD do so. May the LORD perform your words that you have prophesied, to bring back into this place the vessels of the LORD’S house and all captives who were carried away to Babylon.

7 “Nevertheless, hear now this word that I speak in your ears and in the ears of all the people.

8 “The prophets who have been before me and before you of old prophesied both against many countries and against great kingdoms, of war and of evil and of pestilence.

9 ¶‘The prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet will come to pass, then will the prophet be known that the LORD has truly sent him.”

10 ¶ Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah’s neck and broke it.

11 And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years.’” Then the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

12 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet after Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

13 “Go and tell Hananiah, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, ‘You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made instead of them yokes of iron.’ ”

14 ‘For thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ¶“I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. And they will serve him. And ¶”I have also given him the beasts of the field.’ ”

15 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah
the prophet, “Hear now, Hananiah. The LORD has not sent you, but you make this people trust in a ‘lie.

16 “Therefore, thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will cast you from off the face of the earth. This year you will die because you have taught rebellion against the LORD.’”

17 So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

Chapter 29
Letter to the Exiles

1 ¶ Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the remainder of the elders who were carried away captive, and to the priests and to the prophets and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon.

2 (This happened after Jeconiah the king, and the queen and the eunuchs the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the carpenters and the craftsmen had departed from Jerusalem.)

3 By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, saying,

4 “Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, to all who are carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon,

5 ‘Build houses and dwell in them, and plant gardens and eat their produce.

6 ‘Take wives and beget sons and daughters. And take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands so that they may bear sons and daughters in order that you may be increased there and not diminished.

7 ‘And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it. For in its peace you will have peace.’

8 ¶ “For thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel. ‘Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in the midst of you deceive you, nor hearken to the dreams that they dream.

9 ‘For they prophesy falsely to you in My name. I have not sent them,’ says the LORD.

10 ¶ “For thus says the LORD, ‘After seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

11 ‘For I know the thoughts that I think toward you,’ says the LORD, ‘thoughts of peace, and not for calamity, to give you a future and a hope.

12 ‘Then you will call upon Me and you will go and pray to Me, and I will hear you.’

13 ‘And you will seek Me and find Me when you will search for Me with all your heart.

14 ‘And I will be found by you,’ says the LORD. ‘And I will turn away your captivity and will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places where I have driven you,’ says the LORD. ‘And I will bring you again into the place from where I caused you to be carried away captive.’

15 ¶ “Because you have said, ‘The LORD has raised up for us prophets in Babylon’—

16 ¶ therefore, thus says the LORD of the king who sits on the throne of David, and of all the people who dwell in this city, and your brethren who have not gone forth with you into captivity—

17 “thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Behold, I will send on them the sword, famine and pestilence. And I will make them like vile figs that cannot be eaten due to rottenness.

18 ‘And I will persecute them with the sword, with famine and with pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse and an astonishment, and a derision and a reproach, among all the nations to which I have driven them,

19 ‘because they have not hearkened to My words,’ says the LORD, ‘that I sent to them by My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them. But you would not hear,’ says the LORD.

20 ¶ “Therefore, hear the word of the LORD all you of the captivity whom I have sent from Jerusalem to Babylon.

21 “Thus says the LORD of armies, the God
of Israel, of Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and of Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, who prophesy a lie to you in My name, ‘Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he will slay them before your eyes.

22 ‘And from them will be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah that are in Babylon, saying, “The LORD make you like Zedekiah and like Ahab whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire,

23 ‘because they did disgraceful things in Israel and have committed adultery with their neighbors’ wives and have spoken lying words in My name that I have not commanded them. Indeed I know and am a witness,” says the LORD.’

Message to Shemaiah

24 ¶ Thus will you also speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite, saying,

25 ‘Thus speaks the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, saying, ‘Because you have sent letters in your name to all the people who are at Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, saying,

26 ‘The LORD has appointed you priest in the place of Jehoiada the priest, that you should be officers in the house of the LORD for everyone who is demented and makes himself a prophet, that you should put him in prison and in the stocks.

27 ‘Now therefore, why have you not rebuked Jeremiah of Anathoth who makes himself a prophet to you?

28 ‘For he has sent to us in Babylon, saying, ‘This captivity is long. Build houses and dwell in them. And plant gardens and eat their produce.’’’

29 ¶ And Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the ears of Jeremiah the prophet.

30 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

31 ‘Send to all those of the captivity, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite, ‘Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you and I did not send him, and he caused you to trust in a lie,

32 ‘therefore, thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite and his seed. He will not have a man to dwell among this people, nor will he behold the good that I will do for My people,” says the LORD, “because he has taught rebellion against the LORD.”’ ”

Chapter 30

Restoration of All Israel

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 ‘Thus speaks the LORD God of Israel, saying, ‘Write all the words that I have spoken to you on a scroll.

3 ‘For behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘that I will bring again the captivity of My people Israel and Judah,’ says the LORD. ‘And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they will possess it.’”

4 ¶ And these are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and concerning Judah:

5 ‘For thus says the LORD, ‘We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear and not of peace.

6 ‘Ask now and see if a male can give birth. Why do I see every man with his hands on his loins as a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale?

7 ‘Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it. It is even the time of Jacob’s trouble, but he will be saved out of it.

8 ‘For it will come to pass in that day,’ says the LORD of armies, ‘that I will break his yoke from off your neck and will break your bonds. And foreigners will no longer make them their slaves.

9 ‘But they will serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up to them.

10 ¶ ‘Therefore, do not fear, O My servant Jacob,’ says the LORD, ‘nor be dismayed, O Israel. For behold, I will save you from afar and your seed from the land of their captivity, and Jacob will return and will be in rest, and
be quiet and no one will make him afraid.

11 ‘For I am with you,’ says the LORD, ‘to save you. Though I make a full end of all nations to which I have scattered you, yet I will not make a full end of you. But I will correct you in measure and will not leave you unpunished.’

12 ¶ “For thus says the LORD, ‘Your bruise is incurable and your wound is grievous.

13 ‘There is no one to plead your cause so that you might be bound up. You have no healing medicines.

14 ¶ All your lovers have forgotten you. They do not seek you, for I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, because of the multitude of your iniquities, because your sins have increased.

15 ‘Why do you cry out over your affliction? Your sorrow is incurable because of the multitude of your iniquities. Because your sins were increased, I have done these things to you.

16 ‘Nevertheless, all those who devour you will be devoured. And all your adversaries, every one of them, will go into captivity. And those who plunder you will be plundered, and all who prey upon you I will give for a prey.

17 ¶ For I will restore health to you and I will heal you of your wounds,’ says the LORD, ‘because they called you an outcast, saying, “It is Zion, for whom no one cares.”’

18 ¶ “Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob’s tents and have mercy on his dwelling places. And the city will be built upon her own heap and the palace will stand where it used to be.

19 ‘And out of them will proceed thanksgiving and the voice of those who rejoice. And I will multiply them, and they will not be few. I will also glorify them, and they will not be small.

20 ‘Their children also will be as before. And their assembly will be established before Me, and I will punish all who oppress them.

21 ‘And their leader will be one of them, and their governor will proceed from their midst. And I will cause him to draw near and he will approach Me. For who is this who pledged his heart to approach Me?’ says the LORD.

22 ‘And you will be My people and I will be your God.’”

23 ¶ Behold, the whirlwind of the LORD goes forth with fury, a continuing whirlwind. It will fall violently upon the head of the wicked.

24 The fierce anger of the LORD will not turn back until He has performed and until He has accomplished the intent of His heart. In the latter days you will consider it.

Chapter 31

1 ¶ At the same time, says the LORD, i“Will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be My people.”

2 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “The people who were left from the sword found grace in the wilderness—Israel, when I went to give him rest.”

3 The LORD has appeared from old to me, saying, “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love. Therefore, with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

4 “Again I will build you, and you will be built, O virgin of Israel. You will again be adorned with your tambourines, and will go forth in the dances of those who rejoice.

5 “You will plant vines on the mountains of Samaria. The planters will plant and will eat them as common things.

6 “For there will be a day that the watchmen upon Mount Ephraim will cry out, ‘Arise, and let us go up to Zion to the LORD our God.’

7 ¶ For thus says the LORD, i“Sing with gladness for Jacob and shout among the chief of the nations. Proclaim! Give praise and say, ‘O LORD, save Your people, the remnant of Israel.’

8 “Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the remote parts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and together with she who is in labor with child. A great company will return here.

9 “They will come with weeping. And with
supplications I will lead them. I will cause them
to walk by the streams of waters on a straight path
wherein they will not stumble. For I am a
Father to Israel and Ephraim is My firstborn.”
10 ¶ Hear the word of the LORD, O you nations,
and declare it in the far off coastlands,
and say, “He who scattered Israel will gather
him, and keep him, as a shepherd does his
flock.”
11 For the LORD has redeemed Jacob and
ransomed him from the hand of him who was
stronger than he.
12 ¶ Therefore, they will come and sing in the
height of Zion and will flow together to the
goodness of the LORD, for wheat and for wine
and for oil, and for the young of the flock and
of the herd. And their soul will be as a watered
garden, and they will never sorrow again.
13 ¶ Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance,
both young men and old together, for I will
turn their mourning into joy and will comfort
them. And I will make them rejoice from their
sorrow.
14 ¶ And I will fill the soul of the priests with
fatness, and My people will be satisfied with
My goodness,” says the LORD.
15 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “A voice was heard
in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children. She refuses
to be comforted for her children because they
are no more.”
16 ¶ Thus says the LORD; “Restrain your
voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears.
For your work will be rewarded,” says the
LORD, “and they will come again from the
land of the enemy.”
17 ¶ “There is hope for your future,” says the
LORD, “that your children will come again to
their own territory.
18 ¶ “I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning
himself, ‘You have chastised me, and I was
chastised as a bull unaccustomed to the yoke.’
Turn me back and I will be restored, for You
are the LORD my God.
19 ¶ ‘Surely after I turned back, I repented. And
after I was instructed, I smote on my thigh. I
was ashamed, yes, even humiliated because I
bore the reproach of my youth.’
20 ¶ “Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he a pleasant
child? For since I spoke against him, I do earnestly remember him still. Therefore, My heart yearns for him. ‘I will surely have mercy on him,” says the Lord.
21 ¶ “Set up signposts. Make high heaps. Set
your heart toward the highway, even the way
that you went. Turn again, O virgin of Israel.
Turn again to these your cities.
22 ¶ “How long will you go about, O backsliding daughter? For the LORD has created a new thing on the earth—a woman will encompass a man.”
23 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, the God
of Israel, “They will again use this speech in
the land of Judah and in its cities when I will
bring back their captivity, m ‘The LORD bless
you, O habitation of justice and mountain of
holiness.’
24 ¶ ‘Judah and all its cities will dwell together
in it, the farmer and those who go about with
flocks.
25 ¶ ‘For I have filled the weary soul and I have
replenished every sorrowful soul.’
26 ¶ At this I awoke and looked and looked around.
And my sleep has been pleasant to me.
27 ¶ ‘Behold, the days are coming,” says the
LORD, “that I will sow the house of Israel
and the house of Judah with the seed of man
and with the seed of beast.
28 ¶ “And it will come to pass that as I have
watched over them, ‘to pluck up and to break
down, and to throw down and to destroy and
to afflict, so I will watch over them in order to
build and to plant,” says the LORD.
29 ¶ ‘In those days they will no longer say,
‘The fathers have eaten a sour grape and the
children’s teeth are set on edge.’
30 ¶ “But everyone will die for his own iniquity.
Every man who eats the sour grape, his
teeth will be set on edge.”
31 ¶ “Behold, the days are coming,” says the
LORD, “that I will make a new covenant with
the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,
32 “not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, which covenant they broke, although I was a husband to them,” says the LORD.

33 “But this will be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the LORD, “I will put My law in their inward parts and write it in their hearts. And I will be their God and they will be My people.

34 “And they will no longer teach every man his neighbor and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” says the LORD. “For I will forgive their iniquity and I will remember their sin no more.”

35 Thus says the LORD, “Who gives the sun for a light by day and the fixed order of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, that divides the sea when its waves roar. The LORD of armies is His name.

36 “If this fixed order departs from before Me,” says the LORD, “then the seed of Israel also will cease from being a nation before Me forever.”

37 Thus says the LORD, “If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out below, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done,” says the LORD.

38 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that the city will be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananel to the gate of the corner.

39 “And the measuring line will again extend straight forward over the hill Gareb, then it will turn to Goath.

40 “And the whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields to the Brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, will be holy to the LORD. It will not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.”

Chapter 32
Buying of a Field

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar.

2 Now at that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the guard that was in the house of the king of Judah,

3 for Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, “Why do you prophesy and say, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon and he will take it.”

4 “And Zedekiah king of Judah will not escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans, but will surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon and will speak with him mouth to mouth, and his eyes will behold his eyes,

5 “and he will lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there he will be until I visit him,” says the LORD. “Though you fight with the Chaldeans, you will not prosper.””?

6 ¶ Then Jeremiah said, “The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

7 ‘Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you, saying, “Buy my field that is in Anathoth, for the right of redemption is yours to buy it.”’

8 So Hanameel my uncle’s son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD. And he said to me, ‘Please buy my field that is in Anathoth, for the right of redemption is yours to buy it.’”

9 “So Hanameel my uncle’s son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD. And he said to me, ‘Please buy my field that is in Anathoth, that is in the country of Benjamin, for the right of inheritance is yours and the redemption is yours. Buy it for yourself.’ Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

10 “So I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle’s son that was in Anathoth. And I weighed him the seventeen shekels of silver.

11 “And I signed the deed and sealed it. And I took witnesses and weighed him the money in the scales.

12 “So I took the deed of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open,
12 "and I gave the deed of the purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of Hanameel my uncle’s son, and in the presence of the witnesses who signed the purchase, before all the Jews who sat in the court of the prison.

13 ¶ "Then I charged Baruch before them, saying,

14 'Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, "Take these deeds, this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthen vessel so that they may last a long time."

15 ¶ 'For thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel. "Houses and fields and vineyards will be possessed again in this land."

16 ¶ "Now when I had delivered the deed of the purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying,

17 'Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heaven and the earth by Your great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for You.

18 'You show lovingkindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them, O great and mighty God. 'The LORD of armies is His Name,

19 "great in counsel and mighty in work. For Your eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds.

20 "You have set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even to this day, and in Israel and among other men. And You have made for You a name as it is this day.

21 ¶ "And You have brought forth Your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and with wonders and with a strong hand and with a stretched out arm and with great terror.

22 ¶ "And You have given them this land that You swore to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey.

23 ¶ "And they came in and possessed it. But they did not obey Your voice or walk in Your law. They have done nothing of all that You commanded them to do. Therefore, You have caused all this calamity to come upon them.

24 ¶ 'Behold the siege ramps that have come to the city to take it. And the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans who fight against it, because of the sword, famine and pestilence. And what You have spoken has come to pass. And behold, You see it.

25 ¶ 'And You have said to me, O Lord GOD, "Buy the field for money and take witnesses, for the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans."

26 ¶ "Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the ‘God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?’

28 Therefore, thus says the LORD, "Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. And he will take it.

29 ¶ "And the Chaldeans who fight against this city will come and set fire to this city and burn it with the houses, upon whose roofs they have offered incense to Baal and poured out drink offerings to other gods, to provoke Me to anger.

30 ¶ "For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have only done evil before Me from their youth. For the children of Israel have only provoked Me to anger with the work of their hands,” says the LORD.

31 ¶ "For this city has been to Me a provocation of My anger and of My fury from the day that they built it even to this day, that I should remove it from before My face.

32 ¶ "because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah that they have done to provoke Me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests and their prophets, and the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

33 ¶ "And they have turned to Me the back and not the face. Though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.

34 ¶ "But they set their abominations in the house that is called by My name, to defile it.

35 ¶ "And they built the high places of Baal..."
that are in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire to Molech, which I did not command them, nor did it come into My mind that they should do this abomination to cause Judah to sin.

36 ¶ “Now therefore, thus says the LORD God of Israel concerning this city of which you say, ‘It is given into the hand of the king of Babylon by sword, by famine and by pestilence.’

37 “Behold, I will gather them out of all countries to which I have driven them in My anger and in My fury and in great wrath. And I will bring them back to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely.

38 “And they will be My people and I will be their God.

39 “And I will give them one heart and one way so that they may fear Me always, for their own good and for the good of their children after them.

40 “And I will make an everlasting covenant with them so that I will not turn away from them to do them good. But I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.

41 “Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and assuredly I will plant them in this land with My whole heart and with My whole soul.

42 ¶ “For thus says the LORD, ‘As I have brought all this great calamity upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.

43 ‘And fields will be bought in this land of which you say, “It is desolate without man or beast. It is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.”’

44 ‘Men will buy fields for money and sign deeds and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin and in the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah and in the cities of the mountains and in the cities of the valley and in the cities of the south. For I will cause their captivity to return,’ says the LORD.”

Chapter 33
Promise of Restoration

1 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the second time while he was still shut up in the court of the prison, saying,

2 “Thus says the LORD the Maker of the earth, the LORD who formed it to establish it. The LORD is His name.

3 ¶ “Call to Me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things that you do not know.’

4 ¶ “For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel concerning the houses of this city and concerning the houses of the kings of Judah that are thrown down by the siege ramps and by the sword.

5 ‘They are coming to fight with the Chaldeans, but only to fill their places with the dead bodies of men whom I have slain in My anger and in My fury, for all whose wickedness I have hidden My face from this city.

6 ‘Behold, I will bring it health and healing, and I will heal them. And I will reveal to them the abundance of peace and security.

7 ‘And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return. And I will build them as at the first.

8 ‘And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against Me. And I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have transgressed against Me.

9 ‘And it will be to Me a name of joy, a praise and an honor before all the nations of the earth who will hear all the good that I do to them. And they will fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I make for it.’

10 ¶ “Thus says the LORD, ‘Again there will be heard in this place of which you say, “It is a waste, without man and without beast,” that is, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without man and without inhabitant and without beast,

11 ‘the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice
of the bride, the voice of those who will say, "Praise the LORD of armies for the LORD is good for His mercy endures forever"—and of those who will bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land as at the first," says the LORD.

12 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, 'Again in this place that is desolate without man and without beast, and in all its cities, will be a habitation of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down.

13 "In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the vale and in the cities of the south, and in the land of Benjamin and in the places around Jerusalem and in the cities of Judah, the flocks will pass again under the hands of him who tells them," says the LORD.

14 ¶ "Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will perform the good thing that I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

15 'In those days and at that time I will cause the 'Branch of righteousness to grow up to David. And He will execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

16 'In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name with which it will be called, The LORD our righteousness.'

17 "For thus says the LORD, 'David will never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel.

18 'Neither will the priests the Levites lack a man before Me to offer burnt offerings and to burn grain offerings, and to do sacrifices continually.'"

19 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

20 "Thus says the LORD, 'If you can break My covenant of the day and My covenant of the night, so that day and night will not be at their appointed time,

21 'then My covenant may also be broken with David My servant, so that he should not have a son to reign on his throne, and with the Levites, and the priests, My ministers.

22 'As the host of heaven cannot be counted or the sand of the sea measured, so will I multiply the seed of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.'"

23 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

24 "Have you not considered what this people have spoken, saying, 'The two families that the LORD chose, He has rejected them'? Thus they have despised My people so that they should no longer be a nation before them.

25 ¶ "Thus says the LORD, 'If My covenant is not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth,

26 then I will cast away the seed of Jacob and David My servant so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will cause their captivity to return and will have mercy on them.'"

Chapter 34
Warning to Zedekiah

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army, and all the kingdoms of the earth under his dominion, and all the people, fought against Jerusalem and against all its cities, saying,

2 "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah and tell him, 'Thus says the LORD of you, 'You will not die by the sword.

3 'You will die in peace. And as spices were burned for your fathers, the former kings who..."
were before you, so will they burn spices for you. And they will lament you, saying, “Alas, Lord!” For I have pronounced the word,” says the LORD.
6 ¶ Then Jeremiah the prophet spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem when the king of Babylon’s army fought against Jerusalem and against all the cities of Judah that were left, against Lachish and against Azekah, for these fortified cities remained of the cities of Judah.
7 ¶ This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people who were in Jerusalem to proclaim liberty to them:
8 ¶ that each man should set free his male servant and each man his female servant, a Hebrew man or a Hebrew woman, so that no one should keep them, a Jew his brother in bondage.
9 Now when all the princes and all the people who had entered into the covenant heard that everyone should allow his male servant and his female servant to go free, that no one should keep them anymore, then they obeyed and let them go.
10 But afterward they changed their minds and caused to return the servants and the female maids whom they had let go. And they brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids.
11 ¶ Therefore, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
12 ¶ Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondmen, saying,
13 ¶ “At the end of seven years let go every man his Hebrew brother who has been sold to you. And when he has served you six years, you will let him go free from you. But your fathers did not hearken to Me, nor incline their ear.
14 ¶ Then you recently turned and did what is right in My sight, each man proclaiming release to his neighbor, and you made a covenant before Me in the house that is called by My name.
15 ¶ Therefore, thus says the LORD, ‘You have not hearkened to Me in proclaiming liberty, everyone to his brother and everyone to his neighbor. ‘Behold, I proclaim liberty for you,’ says the LORD, to the sword, to pestilence and to famine. And I will cause you to be moved into all the kingdoms of the earth. And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
16 ¶ “And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
17 ¶ “And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
18 ¶ “And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
19 ¶ “And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
20 ¶ “And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
21 ¶ “And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant that they had made before Me when they cut the calf in two, and passed between its parts—
22 ¶ “Behold, I will command,’ says the LORD, ‘and cause them to return to this city. And they will fight against it and take it and burn it with fire. And I will make the cities of Judah a desolation without an inhabitant.’”

Chapter 35
The Rechabites
1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying, "Go to the house of the "Rechabites and speak to them. Bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers and give..."
them wine to drink.”
3 Then I took Jaazaniah, the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziniah, and his brothers and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites,
4 and I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdalial, a man of God who was by the chamber of the princes that was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door.
5 And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine and cups. And I said to them, “Drink wine.”
6 But they said, “We will drink no wine, for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, ‘You will drink no wine, you, nor your sons forever.
7 ‘Neither will you build a house, nor sow seed, nor plant a vineyard, nor own one. But all your days you will dwell in tents so that you may live many days in the land where you are foreigners.’
8 “Thus we have obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he has charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, or our daughters,
9 “nor to build houses for ourselves in which to dwell. Neither have we a vineyard nor field nor seed.
10 “But we have dwelt in tents and have obeyed and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.
11 “But it came to pass when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, ‘Come and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians.’ So we dwell in Jerusalem.”
12 ¶ Then Jeremiah said to the house of the Rechabites, “Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ‘Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father and kept all his precepts, and done according to all that he has commanded you,
13 therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ‘Jonadab the son of Rechab will not lack a man to stand before Me forever.’ ”

Chapter 36

Burning of the Scroll

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, that this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
2 “Take a scroll and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you concerning Israel and concerning Judah, and concerning all the nations from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah even to this day.
3 “It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the calamity that I purpose to do to them, that they may return every man from his evil
way, so that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.”

4 ¶ Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah. And Baruch wrote on a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD that He had spoken to him.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, “I am detained. I cannot go into the house of the LORD.

6 “Therefore, you go and read from the scroll that you have written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD’S house on the day of fasting. And you will also read them in the ears of all Judah who come out of their cities.

7 “It may be that they will present their petition before the LORD and will return every one from his evil way. For great is the anger and the fury that the LORD has pronounced against this people.”

8 So Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading from the scroll in the ears of the people.

9 ¶ Now it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD to all the people in Jerusalem and to all the people who came from the cities of Judah to Jerusalem.

10 Then Baruch read from the scroll the words of Jeremiah in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe. He read in the higher court at the entry of the New Gate of the LORD’S house, in the ears of all the people.

11 ¶ When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard from the scroll all the words of the LORD,

12 then he went down into the king’s house, into the scribe’s chamber. And behold, all the princes sat there, even Elishama the scribe and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor and Gemariah the son of Shaphan and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

13 Then Michaiah declared to them all the words that he had heard when Baruch read the scroll in the ears of the people.

14 Then all the officials sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, to Baruch, saying, “Take in your hand the scroll from which you have read in the ears of the people, and come.” So Baruch the son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand and came to them.

15 Then they said to him, “Sit down now and read it in our ears.” So Baruch read it in their ears.

16 Now it came to pass when they had heard all the words, they turned in fear one to another. Then they said to Baruch, “We will surely tell the king of all these words.”

17 Then they asked Baruch, saying, “Tell us, how did you write all these words? Was it at his dictation?”

18 Then Baruch answered them, “He pronounced all these words to Me with his mouth and I wrote them with ink on the scroll.”

19 Then the princes said to Baruch, “Go. Hide yourself, you and Jeremiah, and let no man know where you are.”

20 ¶ Then they went in to the king into the court, but they stored the scroll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the scroll. And he took it out of Elishama the scribe’s chamber. Then Jehudi read it in the ears of the king and in the ears of all the princes who stood beside the king.

22 Now the king sat in the winterhouse in the ninth month. And there was a fire on the hearth burning before him.

23 So it came to pass when Jehudi had read three or four columns, he cut it with a penknife and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

24 Yet the king and all his servants who heard all these words were not afraid, nor did they tear their garments.

25 Nevertheless, Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah implored the king that he would not burn the scroll. But he would not listen to them.

26 But the king commanded Jerahmeel the...
son of Hammelch, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to seize Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet. But the LORD hid them.

27 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah after the king had burned the scroll, and the words that Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,

28 “Take another scroll and write on it all the former words that were on the first scroll that Jehoiakim the king of Judah burned.

29 “And you will say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, ‘Thus says the LORD, “You have burned this scroll, saying, ‘Why have you written on it saying that the king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land and will cause to cease from here man and beast?’”

30 ‘Therefore, thus says the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah, “He will have no one to sit upon the throne of David. And his dead body will be cast out in the day to the heat and in the night to the frost.

31 And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity. And I will bring upon them and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah all the evil that I have pronounced against them—but they did not hearken.”’

32 ¶ Then Jeremiah took another scroll and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah, who wrote on it from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the scroll that Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire. And many similar words were added to them.

Chapter 37
Imprisonment of Jeremiah

1 ¶ Now King aZedekiah, the son of Josiah, reigned instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.

2 But neither he nor his servants, nor the people of the land, hearkened to the words of the LORD that He spoke by the prophet Jeremiah.

3 ¶ And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah and cZephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “Pray now to the LORD our God for us.”

4 Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people, for they had not put him in prison.

5 Then Pharaoh’s army came up from Egypt. And when the Chaldeans who besieged Jerusalem heard news of them, they departed from Jerusalem.

6 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

7 “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Thus you will say to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of Me, “Behold, Pharaoh’s army that has come to help you will return to Egypt into their own land.

8 ‘And the Chaldeans will come again and fight against this city and take it. And they will burn it with fire.”

9 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Do not deceive yourselves, saying, “The Chaldeans will surely depart from us,” for they will not depart.

10 For though you had smitten the whole army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there were only wounded men left among them, each man in his tent, they would rise up and burn this city with fire.’”

11 ¶ Now it came to pass when the army of the Chaldeans had lifted the siege of Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh’s army,

12 that Jeremiah went out from Jerusalem to go to the land of Benjamin in order to take possession of some property there among the people.

13 And when he was in the Gate of Benjamin, a captain of the guard was there, whose name was Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah. And he took Jeremiah the prophet, saying, “You are going over to the Chaldeans.”

14 Then Jeremiah said, “This is false. I am not going over to the Chaldeans.” But he did not hearken to him. So Irijah took Jeremiah and brought him to the princes.

15 Therefore, the princes were angry with Jeremiah. And they struck him ‘and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe. For they had made it into the prison.
16 ¶ When Jeremiah had entered into the dungeon cells, and Jeremiah had remained there many days,
17 then Zedekiah the king sent and took him out. And the king asked him secretly in his house, and said, “Is there any word from the LORD?” And Jeremiah said, “There is.” Then he said, “You will be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon.”
18 Furthermore, Jeremiah said to King Zedekiah, “What offense have I committed against you, or against your servants, or against this people, that you have put me in prison?
19 “Where are now your prophets who prophesied to you, saying, ‘The king of Babylon will not come against you, or against this land’?
20 “Therefore please listen, O my lord the king. Please let my petition be accepted before you so that you do not cause me to return to the house of Jonathan the scribe, lest I die there.”
21 Then Zedekiah the king commanded that they should commit Jeremiah into the court of the prison, and that they should give him daily a piece of bread out of the bakers’ street, until all the bread in the city was finished. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

Chapter 38

Captivity in a Cistern
1 ¶ Then Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah the son of Pashur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashur the son of Malchiah, heard the words that Jeremiah had spoken to all the people, saying,
2 “Thus says the LORD, ‘He who remains in this city will die by the sword, by famine and by pestilence. But he who goes out to the Chaldeans will live, for he will have his life for a booty and will live.’
3 “Thus says the LORD, ‘This city will surely be given into the hand of the king of Babylon’s army who will take it.’
4 Therefore, the princes said to the king, “Let this man be put to death, for he weakens the hands of the men of war who remain in this city and the hands of all the people by speaking such words to them. For this man does not seek the welfare of this people, but their harm.”
5 Then Zedekiah the king said, “Behold, he is in your hand, for the king can do nothing against you.”
6 Then they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah the son of Hammelech, that was in the court of the prison. And they let down Jeremiah with ropes. And in the cistern there was no water, but only mud. So Jeremiah sank into the mud.
7 ¶ Now Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, one of the eunuchs who was in the king’s house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the cistern. When the king was sitting in the Gate of Benjamin,
8 Ebedmelech went out of the king’s house and spoke to the king, saying,
9 “My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the cistern. And he will die where he is because of the famine, for there is no more bread in the city.”
10 Then the king commanded Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, saying, “Take from here thirty men with you and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.”
11 So Ebedmelech took the men with him and went into the house of the king under the treasury. And he took there worn-out clothes and worn-out rags and let them down by ropes into the cistern to Jeremiah.
12 And Ebedmelech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, “Put these worn-out clothes and rags under your armpits under the ropes.” And Jeremiah did so.
13 So they drew up Jeremiah with ropes and took him up out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.
14 ¶ Then Zedekiah the king sent and had Jeremiah the prophet brought to him into the third entry that is in the house of the LORD. And the king said to Jeremiah, “I will ask you something. Hide nothing from me.”
15 Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “If I declare it to you, will you not surely put me to death? And if I give you counsel, you will not hearken to me?”
16 So Zedekiah the king swore secretly to Jeremiah, saying, “As the LORD lives, who
made us this soul, I will not put you to death, nor will I give you into the hand of these men who seek your life.”

17 ¶ Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “Thus says the LORD, the God of armies, the God of Israel, ‘If you will assuredly go out to the king of Babylon’s princes, then your soul will live and this city will not be burned with fire. And you will live and your house.

18 ¶ Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “Thus says the LORD, the God of armies, the God of Israel, ‘If you will assuredly go out to the king of Babylon’s princes, then your soul will live and this city will not be burned with fire. And you will live and your house.

19 And Zedekiah the king said to Jeremiah, “I am afraid of the Jews who have gone over to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand and they mock me.”

20 But Jeremiah said, “They will not deliver you. Please obey the LORD in what I am saying to you so that it may go well with you and you may live.

21 ¶ Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “Let no man know of these words, and you will not die.

22 ¶ Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, “I presented my petition before the king that he would not have me returned to Jonathan’s house to die there.”

27 Then all the princes came to Jeremiah and asked him. And he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they ceased speaking with him, for the conversation had not been heard.

28 So ¶ Jeremiah stayed in the court of the prison until the day that Jerusalem was taken.

Chapter 39
Fall of Jerusalem

1 ¶ In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem, and they besieged it.

2 Then in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, the ninth day of the month, the city was breached.

3 ¶ Then all the princes of the king of Babylon came in and sat in the Middle Gate, even Nergalsharezer, Samgarnebo, Sarsechim, Rabsaris, Nergalsharezer, Rabmag, with all the remainder of the princes of the king of Babylon.

4 ¶ Now it came to pass when Zedekiah the king of Judah saw them, and all the men of war, that they fled and went out of the city by night by the way of the king’s garden, by the gate between the two walls. And he went out the way of the plain.

5 But the Chaldean army pursued after them and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho. And when they had overtaken him, they brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath where he gave judgment on him.

6 Then the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah in Riblah before his eyes. The king of Babylon also slew all the nobles of Judah.

7 Furthermore, he put out Zedekiah’s eyes and bound him with chains in order to carry him to Babylon.

8 ¶ And the Chaldeans burned with fire the king’s house and the houses of the people. And they broke down the walls of Jerusalem.

9 Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive into Babylon the remnant
of the people that remained in the city, the deserters who had gone over to him and the rest of the people who remained.

10 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left in the land of Judah the poor of the people who had nothing. And he gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.

11 ¶ Now Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying,

12 “Take him and look well after him, and do him no harm. But do to him even as he will ask of you.”

13 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard sent Nebushasban, Rabsaris and Nergalsharezer, Rabmag and all the king of Babylon’s princes.

14 They sent and took Jeremiah out of the court of the prison and committed him to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan so that he should carry him home. So he dwelt among the people.

15 ¶ Now the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah while he was shut up in the court of the prison, saying,

16 “Go and speak to Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “Behold, I will bring My words upon this city for calamity and not for good. And they will be fulfilled in that day before you.

17 “But I will deliver you in that day,” says the LORD. “And you will not be given into the hand of the men of whom you are afraid.

18 “For I will surely deliver you and you will not fall by the sword. But your life will be for a booty to you “because you have put your trust in Me,” says the LORD.””

Chapter 40
Jeremiah Set Free

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD after Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him bound in chains among all who were carried away captive from Jerusalem and Judah, who were carried away captive to Babylon.

2 And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah and said to him, “The LORD your God has pronounced this calamity upon this place.

3 “Now the LORD has brought it to pass and done according as He has said. ‘Because you people have sinned against the LORD and have not obeyed His voice, therefore this thing has come upon you.

4 “And now behold, I set you free this day from the chains that were upon your hand. If it seems good to you to come with me to Babylon, come. And I will look after you well. But if you prefer not to come with me to Babylon, stay. Behold, all the land is before you. Go wherever it seems good and right for you to go.”

5 Now while Jeremiah had not yet gone back, he said, “Go back also to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon has made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people. Or go wherever it seems convenient for you to go.” So the captain of the guard gave him provisions and a reward, and let him go.

6 ¶ Then Jeremiah went to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah. And he dwelt with him among the people who were left in the land.

Assassination of Gedaliah

7 ¶ Now when all the captains of the forces who were in the fields, even they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam governor in the land, and had committed to him men and women and children and the poorest of the land who were not carried away captive to Babylon,

8 then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Maachathite, they and their men.

9 Then Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan swore to them and to their men, saying, “Do not be afraid to serve the Chaldeans. Dwell in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will be well with you.”
10 “As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah in order to serve the Chaldeans who will come to us. But you, gather wine and summer fruits and oil and put them in your vessels, and dwell in your cities that you have taken.”

11 Likewise, when all the Jews who were in Moab and among the Ammonites and in Edom, and who were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah and that he had set over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan,

12 even all these Jews returned from all the places to which they were driven. And they came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah in Mizpah. And they gathered much wine and summer fruits.

13 Furthermore, Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were in the fields, came to Gedaliah to Mizpah.

14 And they said to him, “Are you well aware that Baalis the king of the Ammonites has sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to slay you?” But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam did not believe them.

15 Then Johanan the son of Kareah spoke secretly to Gedaliah in Mizpah, saying, “Please allow me and I will slay Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no man will know it. Why should he slay you so that all the Jews who are gathered to you should be scattered, and the remnant in Judah perish?”

16 But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said to Johanan the son of Kareah, “You will not do this thing, for you speak falsely of Ishmael.”

Chapter 41

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the seventh month that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama, of the royal seed, and the princes of the king, even ten men with him, came to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah. And there they ate bread together in Mizpah.

2 Then Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and the ten men who were with him, arose and smote Gedaliah the son of Ahikam with the sword. And they slew him whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land.

3 Ishmael also slew all the Jews who were with him, even with Gedaliah at Mizpah and the Chaldeans who were found there, the men of war.

4 ¶ Now it came to pass the second day after he had slain Gedaliah, and no man knew it,

5 that certain men came from Shechem, from Shiloh and from Samaria, even eighty men with their beards shaved and their clothes torn. And having cut themselves, they came with offerings and incense in their hand to bring them to the house of the LORD.

6 And Ishmael the son of Nethaniah went out from Mizpah to meet them, weeping all along as he went. And it came to pass as he met them that he said to them, “Come to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam.”

7 Now it was that when they came inside the city, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah slew them and cast them into the midst of a pit, he and the men who were with him.

8 But ten men were found among them who said to Ishmael, “Do not slay us, for we have treasures of wheat and barley and oil and honey in the field.” So he refrained and did not put them to death along with their companions.

9 Now the pit in which Ishmael had cast all the dead bodies of the men whom he had slain because of Gedaliah, was the one that Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha king of Israel. Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled it with those who were slain.

10 Then Ishmael carried away captive all the remnant of the people who were in Mizpah, even the king’s daughters and all the people who remained in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had committed to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. And Ishmael the son of Nethaniah carried them away captive, and departed to go over to the Ammonites.

11 ¶ But when Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, heard of all the evil that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done,

12 they took all the men and went to fight with Ishmael the son of Nethaniah. And they found him by the great waters that are in Gibeon.
13 Now it came to pass when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, they were glad.

14 So all the people whom Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah turned around and came back, and went to Johanan the son of Kareah.

15 But Ishmael the son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men, and went to the Ammonites.

**Flight to Egypt**

16 ¶ Then Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, took from Mizpah all the remnant of the people whom he had recovered from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, after he had slain Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, that is the mighty men of war, and the women and the children and the eunuchs whom he had brought back from Gibeon.

17 And they departed and dwelt in the habitation of Chimham that is by Bethlehem, in order to go to Egypt because of the Chaldeans. For they were afraid of them because Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had slain Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon made governor in the land.

**Chapter 42**

1 ¶ Then all the captains of the forces and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, came near.

2 And they said to Jeremiah the prophet, Please let our petition come before you and pray for us to the LORD your God, even for all this remnant, for we are left but a few out of many as your eyes now see us,

3 “that the LORD your God may show us the way in which we should walk, and the thing that we should do.”

4 Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, “I have heard. Behold, I will pray to the LORD your God according to your words. And it will come to pass that whatever thing the LORD will answer you, I will declare it to you. I will keep nothing back from you.”

5 Then they said to Jeremiah, The LORD be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not do according to all things that the LORD your God will send to us by you.

6 “Whether it is pleasing or whether it is displeasing, we will obey the voice of the LORD our God, to whom we send you, so that it may be well with us when we obey the voice of the LORD our God.”

7 ¶ Now it came to pass after ten days that the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah.

8 Then he called Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces that were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest.

9 And he said to them, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel to whom you sent me to present your petition before Him.

10 ‘If you will remain in this land, then I will build you and not pull you down. And I will plant you and not pluck you up. For I will relent concerning the calamity that I have inflicted on you.

11 ‘Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon of whom you are afraid. Do not be afraid of him,’ says the LORD, ‘for I am with you to save you and to deliver you from his hand.

12 ‘And I will show mercy to you so that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land.

13 ‘But if you say, “We will not dwell in this land,” or obey the voice of the LORD your God,

14 saying, “No, but we will go into the land of Egypt where we will see no war, or hear the sound of the trumpet, or have hunger of bread. And we will dwell there”—

15 ‘then hear now the word of the LORD you remnant of Judah. Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “If you wholly set your faces to enter into Egypt and to sojourn there,

16 “then it will come to pass that the sword that you feared will overtake you there in the
land of Egypt. And the famine of which you were afraid will follow close after you in Egypt. And there you will die.

17 “So will it be with all the men who set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there. They will die by the sword, by famine and by pestilence. ‘And not one of them will remain or escape from the calamity that I will bring upon them.’”

18 ¶ For thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “As My anger and My fury have been poured out upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so will My fury be poured out upon you when you enter into Egypt. And you will become a curse, an object of horror, an astonishment and a reproach. And you will see this place no more.”

19 The LORD has said concerning you, O you remnant of Judah, “Do not go into Egypt.” Know for certain that I have admonished you this day.

20 For you have only deceived yourselves when you sent me to the LORD your God, saying, “Pray for us to the LORD our God, and according to all that the LORD our God will say, so declare to us and we will do it.”

21 And now I have this day declared it to you, but you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God, nor anything for which He has sent me to you.

22 Now therefore know for certain that you will die by the sword, by famine and by pestilence in the place to which you desire to go and to sojourn.

Chapter 43

1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Jeremiah had ended speaking to all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words, then Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, spoke to Jeremiah, saying, “You speak falsely. The LORD our God has not sent you to say, ‘Do not go into Egypt to sojourn there.’”

2 “But Baruch the son of Neriah has set you against us in order to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans so that they might put us to death, and carry us away as captives into Babylon.”

4 ¶ So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, did not obey the voice of the LORD to dwell in the land of Judah.

5 But Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, took all the remnant of Judah who had returned from all the nations to which they had been driven, to dwell in the land of Judah,

6 even men and women and children and the king’s daughters, and every person whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah.

7 a So they came into the land of Egypt because they did not obey the voice of the LORD. They went as far as Tahpanhes.

8 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

9 “Take great stones in your hand and hide them in the sight of the men of Judah in the clay in the brick courtyard that is at the entry of Pharaoh’s house in Tahpanhes.

10 Then say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon My servant, and will set his throne upon these stones that I have hidden. And he will spread his royal pavilion over them.

11 “And when he comes, he will smite the land of Egypt. Those who are meant for death will be given over to death, and those for captivity to captivity, and those for the sword to the sword.

12 “And I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt, and he will burn them. And he will carry them away as captives. And he will array himself with the land of Egypt as a shepherd puts on his garment. Then he will go out from here in peace.

13 “He will also break the obelisks of Heliopolis that are in the land of Egypt. And he will burn with fire the temples of the gods of the Egyptians.””
Chapter 44

Punishment for Idolatry

1 ¶ The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews who dwell in the land of Egypt, who dwell at aMigdol and at bTahpanhes and at cNoph and in the country of dPathros, saying,

2  "Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ‘You have seen all the calamity that I have brought upon Jerusalem and upon all the cities of Judah. And behold, this day they are a desolation and no man dwells in them

3  ‘because of their wickedness that they have committed to provoke Me to anger in that they went f to burn incense and g to serve other gods whom they did not know, they, you or your fathers.

4  ‘However, h I sent to you all My servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, “Oh, do not do this abominable thing that I hate.”

5  ‘But they did not hearken or incline their ear to turn from their wickedness or stop burning incense to other gods.

6  ‘Therefore, My fury and My anger was poured out and was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. And they are wasted and desolate as it is this day.

7  ‘Therefore, now thus says the LORD, the God of armies, the God of Israel, “Why commit this great evil against your souls, to cut off from you man and woman, child and suckling, out of Judah, leaving yourselves without a remnant,

8  ‘in that you provoke Me to wrath with the works of your hands, burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have come to dwell, so that you might be cut off and become a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth?

9  ‘Have you forgotten the wickedness of your fathers and the wickedness of the kings of Judah, and the wickedness of their wives, and your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives that they have committed in the land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

10  ‘They are not humbled even to this day, nor have they feared or walked in My law or in My statutes that I set before you and before your fathers.’”

11 ¶ “Therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ‘Behold, I will set My face against you for calamity and to cut off all Judah.

12  ‘And I will take the remnant of Judah who have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, and they will all be consumed and fall in the land of Egypt. They will even be consumed by the sword and by famine. They will die, from the least even to the greatest, by the sword and by famine. And they will become a curse, an object of horror, an astonishment and a reproach.

13  ‘For I will punish those who dwell in the land of Egypt as I have punished Jerusalem by the sword, by famine and by pestilence.

14  ‘So there will be no refugees or survivors of the remnant of Judah who have gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, lest they return to the land of Judah to which they desire to return and live. For no one will return except those who escape.’”

15 ¶ Then all the men who knew that their wives had burned incense to other gods, and all the women who stood by, a great multitude, even all the people who dwelt in the land of Egypt answered Jeremiah, saying,

16  “As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken to you.

17  “But we will certainly do whatever has gone forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and to pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For at that time we had plenty of food and were well and saw no misfortune.

18  “But since we ceased to burn incense to the queen of heaven and to pour out drink offerings to her, we have been in need of all things and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.
19 “And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make her cakes to worship her and pour out drink offerings to her without our husbands’ permission?”

20 ¶ Then Jeremiah said to all the people, to the men and women—even to all the people who had given him such an answer—saying,

21 “The incense that you burned in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers, your kings and your princes and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them and did not all this come into His mind?

22 “So that the LORD could no longer bear it because of the evil of your deeds, and because of the abominations that you have committed, therefore your land is a desolation and an astonishment and a curse without an inhabitant as it is this day.

23 “Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, or in His statutes, or in His testimonies, therefore, this calamity has happened to you as it is this day.

24 ¶ Furthermore, Jeremiah said to all the people and to all the women, “Hear the word of the LORD all Judah who are in the land of Egypt,

25 “Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, saying, ‘You and your wives have both spoken with your mouths and have fulfilled it in deed, saying, “We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and to pour out drink offerings to her.” Go ahead and confirm your vows and certainly perform your vows.’

26 “Therefore, hear the word of the LORD all Judah who dwell in the land of Egypt, ‘Behold, I have sworn by My great name,’ says the LORD, ‘that My name will no longer be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, “The Lord GOD lives.”

27 ‘Behold, I will watch over them for calamity and not for good. And all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt will be consumed by the sword and by famine until there is an end of them.

28 ¶ Yet a small number who escape the sword will return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah, and all the remnant of Judah who have gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there will know whose words will stand, Mine or theirs.

29 “And this will be a sign to you,” says the LORD, ‘that I will punish you in this place so that you may know that My words will surely stand against you for calamity.’

30 “Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will give Pharaoh-hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies and into the hand of those who seek his life, as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, his enemy and who sought his life.’”

Chapter 45

Message to Baruch

1 ¶ The word that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Baruch the son of Neriah when he had written these words on a scroll at the mouth of Jeremiah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,

2 “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch,

3 ‘You said, “Woe is me! For the LORD has added grief to my sorrow. I am weary with my groaning and have found no rest.”’

4 “Thus you will say to him, ‘The LORD says thus, “Behold, that which I have built I will break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up, even this whole land.”

5 “But you, are you seeking great things for yourself? Do not seek them, for behold, I will bring calamity upon all flesh,’ says the LORD. ‘But your life I will give to you for a prize in all places where you go.’”

Chapter 46

Message to the Egyptians

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the nations,

2 against Egypt, against the army of Pha-
raho-necho king of Egypt, that was by the River Euphrates in Carchemish, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon 4smote in the 4th year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah.

3 “Line up the shield and buckler, and draw near for the battle.

4 “Harness the horses. And get up you horsemen and stand forth with your helmets. Polish the spears and put on the armor.

5 “Why have I seen them dismayed and turned back? Their mighty ones are beaten down and have fled. And they do not look back because fear was all around,” says the LORD.

6 Do not let the swift flee away, or the mighty man escape. They will stumble and fall toward the north by the River Euphrates.

7 Who is this who comes up as a flood, whose waters move as the rivers?

8 Egypt rises up like a flood and his waters are moved like the rivers. And he says, “I will go up and will cover the earth. I will destroy the city and its inhabitants.”

9 Come up you horses and rage you chariots. And let the mighty men come forth, the Ethiopians and the Lydians who handle the shield, and the Lydians who handle and bend the bow.

10 For this is the day of the Lord GOD of armies, a day of vengeance so that He may avenge Himself on His adversaries. And the armies, a day of vengeance so that He may avenge Himself on His adversaries. And the armies will march with an army and come against her.

11 Go up into Gilead and take balm, 9O virgin, the daughter of Egypt. In vain you will use many medicines, for you will not be cured.

12 The nations have heard of your shame and your cry has filled the land. For the mighty man has stumbled against the mighty, and both of them have fallen down together.

13 ¶ The word that the LORD spoke to Jeremiah the prophet as to how Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon would come and smite the land of Egypt.

14 Declare in Egypt and publish in Migdol and in Tahpanhes. Say, “Stand fast and prepare, for the sword will devour all around you.

15 “Why are your valiant men swept away? They did not stand because the LORD drove them away.

16 “He made many to fall, yes, one fell upon another. And they said, ‘Arise, and let us return to our own people and to the land of our nativity, away from the oppressing sword.’”

17 “They cried out there, ‘Pharaoh king of Egypt is but a big noise. He has missed his opportunity.’

18 “As I live,” says the King, “whose name is the LORD of armies, “Surely as Tabor is among the mountains and as Carmel by the sea, so will he come.

19 “O daughter dwelling in Egypt, prepare yourself to go into captivity. For Noph will be waste and desolate without an inhabitant.

20 ¶ “Egypt is like a very fair heifer, but a gadfly is coming. It comes out of the north.

21 “Her hired men are also in the midst of her like a fattened bull, for they also have turned back and have fled away together. They did not stand because the day of their calamity had come upon them and the time of their visitation.

22 ¶ “Her noise will go like a serpent, for they will march with an army and come against her with axes as hewers of wood.

23 “They will cut down her forest,” says the LORD, “though it cannot be searched because they are more numerous than locusts and are without number.

24 “The daughter of Egypt will be put to shame. She will be delivered into the hand of the people of the north.”

25 The LORD of armies, the God of Israel, says, “Behold, I will punish the multitude of No and Pharaoh and Egypt with their gods and their kings, even Pharaoh and all those who trust in him.

26 ¶ And I will deliver them into the hand of those who seek their lives, and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of his servants. However, afterward it will be inhabited as in the days of old,” says the LORD.
27 ¶ “But I do not fear, O My servant Jacob, and do not be dismayed, O Israel. For behold, I will save you from afar off and your seed from the land of their captivity. And Jacob will return and be in rest at ease, and no one will make him afraid.

28 “Do not fear, O Jacob My servant,” says the LORD, “for I am with you. For I will make a full end of all the nations to which I have driven you. But I will not make “a full end of you, but “correct you in measure. However, I will not leave you wholly unpunished.”

Chapter 47
Message to the Philistines

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet “against the Philistines before Pharaoh attacked Gaza.

2 Thus says the LORD, “Behold, “waters rise up “out of the north and will be an overflowing flood. And they will overflow the land and all that is in it, the city and those who dwell in it. Then the men will cry out and all the inhabitants of the land will wail.

3 “At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his strong horses, at the rushing of his chariots and at the rumbling of his wheels. The fathers will not turn back for their children because of the loppness of their hands,

4 “because of the day that comes to spoil all the Philistines and to cut off from Tyre and Sidon every helper who remains. For the LORD will plunder the Philistines, “the remnant of the country of Caphtor.

5 “Baldness has come upon Gaza. “Ashkelon is cut off with the remnant of their valley. How long will you cut yourself?

6 ¶ “O sword of the LORD, how long until you rest? Put up yourself into your scabbard, rest and be still.

7 “How can it be quiet, seeing the LORD has given it a charge against Ashkelon and against the sea shore? There He has appointed it.”

Chapter 48
Message to the Moabites

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel against Moab, “Woe to Nebo, for it is plundered. “Kiriathaim is disgraced and taken. Misgab is disgraced and dismayed.

2 ¶ “There will be no more praise of Moab. In Heshbon they have devised calamity against it. ‘Come and let us cut it off from being a nation.’ You also will be cut down, O Madmen. The sword will pursue you.

3 “A voice of crying will be from Horonaim, plundering and great destruction.

4 “Moab is destroyed. Her little ones have caused a cry to be heard.

5 ¶“For by the ascent of Luhith continual weeping will go up. For at the descent of Horonaim they have heard the anguished cry of destruction.

6 ¶ “Flee! Save your lives and be like the bush in the desert.

7 “Because you have trusted in your works and in your treasures, you also will be taken. And Chemosh will go forth into captivity together with his priests and his princes.

8 “And the plunderer will come upon every city and no city will escape. The valley also will perish, and the plain will be destroyed as the LORD has spoken.

9 “Give “wings to Moab so that it may flee and get away. For its cities will be desolate, without any to dwell in them.

10 ¶“Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD deceitfully, and cursed is he who keeps back his sword from blood.

11 ¶“Moab has been at ease from his youth and he has settled on his dregs. And he has not been emptied from vessel to vessel, nor has he gone into captivity. Therefore, he tastes as he did and his aroma has not changed.

12 “Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will send to him those who pour from jars, and they will empty his vessels and break his jars.

13 “And Moab will be ashamed of Chemosh, as the house of Israel was ashamed of Bethel their confidence.

14 “How can you say, “We are mighty and strong men for the battle”?

15 “Moab has been plundered and gone up
out of her cities. And his chosen young men have "gone down to the slaughter," says 'the King, whose name is the LORD of armies.
16 "The calamity of Moab is near and his affliction comes quickly.
17 "All you who are around, mourn for him. And all you who know his name, say, 'How is the strong staff broken, the beautiful rod!'
18 ¶ "O daughter who inhabits Dibon, come down from your glory and sit in thirst, for the plunderer of Moab will come upon you and he will destroy your strongholds.
19 "O inhabitant of Aroer, stand by the way and keep watch. Ask him who flees, and she who escapes, and say, 'What has happened?'
20 "Moab is disgraced, for it is broken down. Wail and cry. Tell it in Arnon that Moab is plundered,
21 "and that judgment has come upon the plain country, upon Holon and upon Jahazah and upon Mephaath
22 "and upon Dibon and upon Nebo and upon Beth-diblathaim
23 "and upon Kiriataim and upon Beth-gamul and upon Beth-meon
24 "and upon Kerioth and upon Bozrah, and upon all the cities of the land of Moab far or near.
25 ¶ "The horn of Moab is cut off and his arm is broken," says the LORD.
26 ¶ "Make him drunk, for he magnified himself against the LORD. Moab also will wallow in his vomit and he also will be in derision.
27 "Now was not Israel a laughingstock to you? Was he found among thieves, that you shake your head in scorn whenever you speak of him?
28 "O you who dwell in Moab, leave the cities and dwell in the rock. Be like the dove that makes her nest at the mouth of a cave.
29 "We have heard the pride of Moab—he is exceedingly proud—of his loftiness and his arrogance and his pride and the haughtiness of his heart.
30 "I know his wrath," says the LORD, "but it will not be so. His lies accomplished nothing.
31 "Therefore, I will wail for Moab and I will cry out for all Moab. My heart will mourn for the men of Kirheres.
32 ¶ "O vine of Sibmah, I will weep for you with the weeping of Jazer. Your plants have gone over the sea and reach even to the Sea of Jazer. The plunderer has fallen upon your summer fruits and upon your vintage.
33 ¶ "And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field and from the land of Moab. And I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses. No one will tread with shouting. Their shouting will be not shouting of joy.
34 ¶ "From the cry of Heshbon even to Elealeh, and even to Jahaz, they have uttered their voice, 'from Zoor even to Horonaim, as a three-year old heifer. For the waters also of Nimrim will be desolate.
35 "Furthermore, I will cause to cease in Moab," says the LORD, "him who offers on high places and him who burns incense to his gods.
36 ¶ "Therefore, My heart will sound for Moab like pipes and My heart will sound like pipes for the men of Kirheres, because the riches he has acquired have perished.
37 "For every head will be bald and every beard shaved. Upon all the hands will be cuts and upon the loins sackcloth.
38 ¶ "There will be general lamentation upon all the housetops of Moab and in its streets. For I have broken Moab like a vessel wherein there is no pleasure," says the LORD.
39 ¶ "They will wail, saying, 'How is it broken down! How has Moab turned the back with shame!' So will Moab be an object of ridicule and a horror to all those about him.
40 ¶ For thus says the LORD, "Behold, he will fly as an eagle and will spread his wings over Moab.
41 ¶ Kerioth is taken and the strongholds are surprised. And the mighty men's hearts in Moab at that day will be as the heart of a woman in her birth pains.
42 ¶ And Moab will be destroyed from being a people because he exalted himself against the LORD.
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43 b"Fear and the pit and the snare will be upon you, O inhabitant of Moab," says the LORD.
44 "He who flees from the fear will fall into the pit. And he who gets up out of the pit will be taken in the 'snare. For I will bring upon it, even upon Moab, the year of their visitation," says the LORD.
45 ¶ "Those who fled stood under the shadow of Heshbon because of the force. But a fire will come forth out of Heshbon and a flame from the midst of lSihon. And it mwill devour the corner of Moab and the scalps of the riotous revelers.
46 n"Woe to you, O Moab! The people of Chemosh perish. For your sons are taken captive and your daughters captive.
47 "Yet I will bring again the captivity of Moab in the latter days," says the LORD. Thus ends the judgment of Moab.

Chapter 49
Message to the Ammonites
1 ¶ Thus says the LORD concerning the aAmmonites, "Has Israel no sons? Or, has he no heirs? Why then has Malcam taken possession of bGad and his people have settled in its cities?
2 c"Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will cause an alarm of war to be heard in dRabbah of the Ammonites. And it will be a desolate heap and her daughters will be burned with fire. Then Israel will be heir to those who were his heirs," says the LORD.
3 "Wail, O Heshbon, for Ai is plundered. Cry out you daughters of Rabbah. fGird youselves with sackcloth. Lament and run to and fro on the walls, for their Milcom will go into captivity together with his gpriests and his princes.
4 b"How boastful you are about the valleys! Your valley is flowing away, O ibacksliding daughter who trusts in her jtreasures, k saying, ‘Who will come against me?’
5 "Behold, I will bring terror upon you,” says the Lord GOD of armies, “who is the King of all the Earth.”

Message to the Edomites
7 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies mconcerning Edom, n"Is wisdom no more in Teman? “Has counsel perished from the prudent? Has their wisdom ovanished?
8 “Flee! Turn back. Dwell in the depths, O inhabitants of qDedan, for I will bring the calamity of Esau upon him at the time that I will visit him.
9 “If grape gatherers come to you, would they not leave some gleaning grapes? If thieves by night, they will destroy until they have enough.
10 s"But I have made Esau bare. I have uncovered his secret places and he will not be able to hide himself. His seed is plundered, and his brethren and his neighbors and he are no more.
11 “Leave your fatherless children. I will preserve them alive. And let your widows trust in Me.”
12 ¶ For thus says the LORD, “Behold, “they whose judgment was not to drink of the cup will certainly drink of it. And are you he who will completely go unpunished? You will not go unpunished, but you will surely drink of it.
13 “For I have sworn by Myself,” says the LORD, “that “Bozrah will become a desolation, a reproach, a waste and a curse. And all its cities will be perpetual wastes.”
14 ¶ I have heard a rumor from the LORD and an ambassador is sent to the nations, saying, “Gather together and come against her, and rise up to the battle.”
15 ¶ “For behold, I will make you small among the nations and despised among men.
16 “Your fierceness has deceived you and the pride of your heart, O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, who hold the height of the hill. “Though you should make your “nest as high as the eagle, I will bring you down from there,” says the LORD.
17 “Edom also will be a desolation. Everyone who goes by it will be astonished and will hiss at all its plagues.

18 As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbor cities,” says the LORD, “no man will abide there, nor will any son of man dwell in it.

19 Behold, he will come up like a lion from the swelling of Jordan against the habitation of the strong. But I will suddenly make him run away from her. And who is that shepherd who will stand before Me?”

20 Therefore, hear the plan of the LORD that He has taken against Edom, and His purposes that He has purposed against the inhabitants of Teman. Surely they will drag them off, even the little ones of the flock. Surely He will make their habitations desolate with them.

21 The earth is moved at the noise of their fall. There is an outcry! The noise of it has been heard at the Red Sea.

22 Behold, he will come up and fly as the eagle, and spread his wings over Bozrah. And in that day the heart of the mighty men of Edom will be as the heart of a woman in her birth pains.

Message to Damascus

23 Concerning Damascus. Hamath and Arpad are disgraced, for they have heard evil tidings. They are fainthearted. There is sorrow on the sea. It cannot be quiet.

24 Damascus has become feeble and turns herself to flee, for terror has seized her. Anguish and sorrows have taken her as a woman in childbirth.

25 Why is the city of praise not been deserted, the city of My joy!

26 Therefore, her young men will fall in her streets and all the men of war will be cut off in that day,” says the LORD of armies.

27 And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus and it will consume the palaces of Benhadad.”

Message to Kedar and Hazor

28 Concerning Kedar and the kingdoms of Hazor that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon will smite. Thus says the LORD, “Arise! Go up to Kedar and plunder the men of the east.

29 They will take away their tents and their flocks. They will take for themselves their curtains and all their vessels and their camels. And they will cry out to them, “Terror is on every side!”

30 Flee! Get far away! Dwell in the depths, O you inhabitants of Hazor,” says the LORD, “for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has taken counsel against you and has conceived a scheme against you.

31 Arise! Go up to “the wealthy nation that dwells securely,” says the LORD, “that has neither gates nor bars, that dwells alone.

32 “And their camels will be plunder and the multitude of their cattle a booty. And I will scatter into all winds those who are in the farthest corners. And I will bring their calamity from every side,” says the LORD.

33 And Hazor will be a dwelling for jackals and a desolation forever. No man will abide there, nor any son of man dwell in it.”

Message to the Elamites

34 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against aElam in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, saying,

35 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Behold, I will break the bow of Elam, the chief of their might.

36 And upon Elam I will bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven. And I will scatter them toward all those winds. And there will be no nation to which the outcasts of Elam will not go.

37 For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before those who seek their life. And I will bring calamity upon them, even My fierce anger,’ says the LORD. ‘And I will bring the sword after them until I have consumed them.

38 Then I will set My throne in Elam, and
will destroy from there the king and the princes,’ says the LORD.
39 ‘But it will come to pass in the latter days that I will bring again the captivity of Elam,’” says the LORD.

Chapter 50

Message to Babylon

1 ¶ The word that the LORD spoke against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.
2 “Declare and proclaim among the nations. Proclaim it and lift up a standard. Do not conceal it. Say, ‘Babylon has been captured. Bel has been put to shame. Marduk has been shattered. Her images have been put to shame. Her idols have been shattered.’
3 “For out of the north there is coming up a nation against her that will make her land desolate and no one will dwell in it. They will wander off. They will depart, both man and beast.
4 ¶ “In those days and in that time,” says the LORD, “the children of Israel will come. They and the children of Judah together, coming and weeping. They will come and seek the LORD their God.
5 “They will ask the way to Zion with their faces in its direction. They will say, ‘Come and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that will not be forgotten.’
6 “My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have caused them to go astray. They have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountain to hill. They have forgotten their resting place.
7 “All who found them have devoured them. And their adversaries said, ‘We are not guilty because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, even the LORD, the hope of their fathers.’
8 “Flee away from the midst of Babylon and go forth from the land of the Chaldeans. Be as the male goats before the flocks.
9 “For behold, I will raise up and cause to come against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country. And they will set themselves in array against her. From the north she will be taken. Their arrows will be like an expert warrior who does not return empty-handed.
10 “And Chaldea will be plundered. All who plunder her will have their fill,” says the LORD.
11 ¶ “Because you were glad, because you rejoiced, O you destroyers of My heritage, because you have grown fat as the threshing heifer and bellow as bulls,
12 “your mother will be greatly disgraced. She who bore you will be ashamed. Behold, the least of the nations will be a wilderness, a dry land and a desert.
13 “Because of the wrath of the LORD it will not be inhabited, but it will be wholly desolate. Everyone who goes by Babylon will be astonished and hiss at all her plagues.
14 “Put yourselves in array against Babylon all around. All you who bend the bow, shoot at her. Spare no arrows, for she has sinned against the LORD.
15 ¶ “Shout against her all around. She surrenders. Her foundations are fallen. Her walls are thrown down, because it is the vengeance of the LORD. Take vengeance on her. As she has done, do to her.
16 “Cut off the sower from Babylon, and him who handles the sickle in the time of harvest. Because of fear of the oppressing sword, everyone will return to his own land, and everyone will flee to his own land.
17 ¶ “Israel is a scattered sheep. The lions have driven him away. First, the king of Assyria has devoured him, and last, this Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, has broken his bones.
18 “Therefore, thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, ‘Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land as I have punished the king of Assyria.
19 ¶ And I will bring Israel again to his habitation. And he will feed on Carmel and Bashan, and his soul will be satisfied upon Mount Ephraim and Gilead.

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20 ‘In those days and at that time,’ says the LORD, ‘search will be made for the iniquity of Israel, and there will be none; and for the sins of Judah, and they will not be found. For I will pardon those whom I preserve.’

21 ¶ “Go up against the land of Merathaim, against it and against the inhabitants of ‘Pekod. Slay and utterly destroy them,” says the LORD, “and do according to all that I have commanded you."

22 ¶ “A sound of battle is in the land and of great destruction.

23 “How the hammer of the whole earth has been shattered and broken! How has Babylon become a desolation among the nations!

24 “I have laid a snare for you and you are also taken, O Babylon. And you were not aware. You are found and also caught, because you have contended against the LORD.”

25 The LORD has opened His armory and has brought out the weapons of His indignation. For this is the work of the Lord GOD of armies in the land of the Chaldeans.

26 Come against her from the farthest border. Open her storehouses. Cast her up as heaps and utterly destroy her. Let nothing of her be left.

27 Slay all her young bulls. Let them go down to the slaughter. Woe to them, for their day has come, the time of their visitation.

28 ¶ The voice of those who flee and escape out of the land of Babylon declares in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, the vengeance of His temple.

29 ¶ “Call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow, camp against it all around. Let no one escape. Reward her according to her work. Do to her according to all that she has done. ‘For she has been proud against the LORD, against the Holy One of Israel.

30 ¶ “Therefore, her young men will fall in the streets and all her men of war will be cut off in that day,” says the LORD.

31 ¶ “Behold, I am against you, O you most proud,” says the Lord GOD of armies. ‘For your day has come, the time that I will visit you.

32 ¶ “And the most proud will stumble and fall, and no one will raise him up. And I will kindle a fire in his cities and it will devour all around him.”

33 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, “The children of Israel and the children of Judah were oppressed together. And all who took them captive held them fast. They refused to let them go.

34 ¶ Their Redeemer is strong. ‘The LORD of armies is His name. He will thoroughly plead their cause so that He may give rest to the land and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.

35 ¶ “A sword is upon the Chaldeans,” says the LORD, “and upon the inhabitants of Babylon and upon her princes and upon her wise men.

36 ¶ “A sword is upon the soothsayers, and they will be fools. A sword is upon her mighty men, and they will be dismayed.

37 ¶ “A sword is upon their horses, and upon their chariots, and upon all the mixed people who are in the midst of her. And they will become as women. A sword is upon her treasures, and they will be robbed.

38 ¶ “A drought is upon her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the land of graven images, and they are insane with their idols.

39 ¶ “Therefore, the wild beasts of the desert, with the wild beasts of the islands, will dwell there. And the owls will dwell in it. And it will be no more inhabited, nor will it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

40 ¶ “As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring cities,” says the LORD, “so will no man live there, nor will any son of man dwell in it.

41 ¶ “Behold, a people will come from the north, and a great nation and many kings will be raised up from the ends of the earth.

42 ¶ “They will hold the bow and the lance. They are cruel and will show no mercy. Their voice will roar like the sea. They will ride upon horses, set in array like a man for the battle against you, O daughter of Babylon.

43 ¶ “The king of Babylon heard the report of them and his hands became feeble. Anxiety
took hold of him and pain as a woman in childbirth.

44 “Behold, he will come up like a lion from the swelling of Jordan to the habitation of the strong. But I will make them suddenly run away from her. And who is a chosen man whom I may appoint over her? For who is like Me? And who will appoint Me the time? And who is that shepherd who will stand before Me?’”

45 Therefore, hear the counsel of the LORD that He has taken against Babylon, and His purposes that He has planned against the land of the Chaldeans. Surely the least of the flock will draw them out. Surely He will make their habitation desolate with them.

46 b At the shout that Babylon has been captured, the earth is shaken and an outcry is heard among the nations.

Chapter 51

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I will raise up against Babylon and against those who dwell in the midst of those who rise up against Me, a destroying wind.

2 “And I will send winnowers to Babylon who will winnow her and empty her land. For in the day of trouble they will be against her all around.

3 “Against her let the archer bend his bow, and lift himself up against her in his armor. Do not spare her young men. Utterly destroy all her army.

4 “Thus the slain will fall in the land of the Chaldeans and those who are thrust through in her streets.”

5 For Israel has not been forsaken, nor Judah of his God, the LORD of armies, though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel.

6 ¶ Flee out of the midst of Babylon and deliver to every man his life. Do not be cut off in her iniquity, for this is the time of the LORD’S vengeance. He will pay her what she deserves.

7 Babylon has been a golden cup in the hand of the LORD’S hand that made all the earth drunk. The nations have drunk of her wine. Therefore, the nations are mad.

8 Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed. Wail for her. Take balm for her pain. Perhaps she may be healed.

9 We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed. Forsake her, and let everyone of us go into his own country. For her judgment reaches to heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies.

10 The LORD has revealed our righteousness. Come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.

11 ¶ “Sharpen the arrows. Gather the shields. v The LORD has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His purpose is against Babylon, to destroy it, because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of His temple.

12 “Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon. Make the guard strong. Set up the watchmen. Prepare the ambushes, for the LORD has devised and done that which He spoke against the inhabitants of Babylon.

13 ¶ “O you who dwell upon many waters and are abundant in treasures. Your end has come, the measure of your covetousness.

14 b The LORD of armies has sworn by Himself, saying, “Surely I will fill you with men as with locusts. And they will lift up a shout against you.”

15 ¶ “He has made the earth by His power. He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heaven by His understanding.

16 When He utters His voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and He causes the clouds to ascend from the ends of the earth. He makes lightnings with rain, and brings forth the wind out of His storehouses.

17 b Every man is senseless and without understanding. Every goldsmith is disgraced by the graven image, for his molten image is falsehood and there is no breath in them.

18 They are worthless, the work of errors. In the time of their visitation, they will perish.

19 The Portion 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 armies is His name.

20 ¶ You are My battle ax and weapons of war, for with you I will break in pieces the nations, and with you I will destroy kingdoms.

21 And with you I will break in pieces the horse and his rider. And with you I will break in pieces the chariot and his rider.

22 With you also I will break in pieces man and woman. And with you I will break in pieces the old and young. And with you I will break in pieces the young man and the maid.

23 I will also break in pieces with you the shepherd and his flock. And with you I will break in pieces the farmer and his yoke of oxen. And with you I will break in pieces captains and rulers.

24 ¶ "And I will render to Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight," says the LORD.

25 "Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain," says the LORD, who destroys all the earth. "And I will stretch out My hand upon you and roll you down from the rocks. And I will make you a burnt mountain.

26 And they will not take of you a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations. But you will be desolate forever," says the LORD.

27 ¶ Set up a standard in the land. Blow the trumpet among the nations. Prepare the nations against her. Call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni and Ashchenaz. Appoint a captain against her. Cause the horses to come up as bristly locusts.

28 Prepare against her the nations with the kings of the Medes, its captains, and all its rulers, and all the land of his dominion.

29 And the land will tremble and sorrow. For every purpose of the LORD will be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without an inhabitant.

30 The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting. They have remained in their strongholds. Their might has failed. They became as women. They have burned her dwelling places. The bars of her gates are broken.

31 ¶ One courier will run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to show the king of Babylon that his city is taken on all sides,

32 and that the passages are blocked, and the reeds they have burned with fire, and the men of war are terrified.

33 ¶ For thus says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, "The daughter of Babylon is like a threshingfloor. It is time to thresh her. Yet a little while and the time of her harvest will come.

34 ¶ "Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon has devoured me. He has crushed me. He has made me an empty vessel. He has swallowed me up like a jackal. He has filled his stomach with my delicacies. He has cast me out.

35 "The violence done to me and to my flesh are upon Babylon," the inhabitant of Zion will say. "May my blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea!" will Jerusalem say.

36 Therefore, thus says the LORD, "Behold, I will plead your cause and take vengeance for you. And I will dry up her sea and make her springs dry.

37 ¶ And Babylon will become heaps, a dwelling place for jackals, an astonishment and a hissing without an inhabitant.

38 ¶ They will roar together like lions. They will growl as lions' whelps.

39 ¶ "In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunk so that they may rejoice and sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake," says the LORD.

40 ¶ "I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with male goats.

41 ¶ "How is Sheshach taken! And how is the praise of the whole earth surprised! How is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations!

42 ¶ The sea has come up over Babylon. She is covered with the multitude of its waves.

43 ¶ Her cities are a desolation, a dry land and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwells, nor does any son of man pass by it.

44 ¶ And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I...
will bring forth out of his mouth that which he has swallowed up. And the nations will not flow together anymore to him. Yes, “the wall of Babylon will fall.

45 ¶ “My people, go out of the midst of her and deliver every man his life from the fierce anger of the LORD.

46 “And lest your heart faint, and you fear for the rumor that will be heard in the land (a rumor will come one year, and after that in another year will come a rumor, and violence in the land, ruler against ruler).

47 “Therefore behold, the days are coming that I will exercise judgment on the graven images of Babylon. And her whole land will be disgraced and all her slain will fall in the midst of her.

48 “Then the heaven and the earth, and all who are therein, will sing for joy over Babylon. For the plunderers will come to her from the north,” says the LORD.

49 ¶ As Babylon has caused the slain of Israel to fall, so at Babylon will fall the slain of all the earth.

50 ¶ You who have escaped the sword, get away. Do not stand still. Remember the LORD from afar and let Jerusalem come into your mind.

51 ¶ We are ashamed because we have heard reproach. Shame has covered our faces, for foreigners have come into the sanctuaries of the LORD’S house.

52 ¶ “Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will execute judgment upon her graven images. And throughout all her land, the wounded will groan.

53 ¶ “Though Babylon should ascend to heaven, and though she should fortify the height of her strength, yet from Me plunderers will come to her,” says the LORD.

54 ¶ A sound of a cry comes from Babylon, and great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans,

55 because the LORD has plundered Babylon, and made her loud noise vanish from her, though her surging waves roar like many waters, and the noise of their voices sounds forth.

56 Because the plunderer has come upon her, even upon Babylon, and her mighty men are taken, every one of their bows is broken. For the LORD is a God of retribution. He will fully repay.

57 ¶ “And I will make drunk her princes and her wise men, her captains and her rulers, and her mighty men. And they will sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake,” says the King whose name is the LORD of armies.

58 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, “The wide walls of Babylon will be utterly broken and her high gates will be burned with fire. So the people and the nations will labor in vain because of the fire. And they will be weary.”

59 ¶ The word that Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah to Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. (Now Seraiah was the quartermaster.)

60 So Jeremiah wrote on a scroll all the calamity that would come upon Babylon, even all these words that are written against Babylon.

61 And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, “When you come to Babylon, see that you read all these words.

62 ¶ “Then you will say, ‘O LORD, You have spoken against this place, to cut it off so that no one will remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it will be desolate forever.’

63 ¶ “And it will be when you have finished reading this scroll that you will bind a stone to it and cast it into the middle of the Euphrates.

64 ¶ “Then you will say, ‘Thus will Babylon sink and will not rise from the calamity that I will bring upon her. And they will become weary.’” Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Chapter 52

Fall of Jerusalem

1 ¶ Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years
in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

2 And he did that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

3 For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from His presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

4 ¶ Now it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem. And he camped against it and built a siege wall all around it.

5 So the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.

6 And in the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the famine was severe in the city, so that there was no bread for the people of the land.

7 Then the city was broken into and all the men of war fled. And they went out of the city at night by the way of the gate between the two walls that was by the king’s garden, though the Chaldeans were all around the city. And they went by way of the Arabah.

8 ¶ But the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho. And all his army was scattered from him.

9 Then they took the king and carried him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he pronounced judgment upon him.

10 And the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. He slew also all the princes of Judah in Riblah.

11 Then he put out the eyes of Zedekiah. And the king of Babylon bound him in chains and carried him to Babylon. And he put him in prison until the day of his death.

12 ¶ Now in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month, that was the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard who served the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.

13 And he burned the house of the LORD and the king’s house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, even all the houses of the great men he burned with fire.

14 And all the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard, broke down all the walls of Jerusalem all around.

15 ¶ Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive some of the poorest of the people and the rest of the people who remained in the city, the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the craftsmen.

16 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left the rest of the poorest of the land to be vinedressers and farmers.

17 ¶ The pillars of bronze that were in the house of the LORD and the bases, and the bronze sea that was in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans also broke up and carried all their bronze to Babylon.

18 The caldrons and the shovels and the snuffers and the bowls and the spoons and all the vessels of bronze with which they ministered, they also took away.

19 Also the basins and the firepans and the bowls and the caldrons and the candlesticks and the spoons and the cups that were of pure gold and silver, the captain of the guard took away.

20 The two pillars, one sea, and twelve bronze bulls that were under the bases that King Solomon had made in the house of the LORD—the bronze of all these vessels was beyond measure.

21 Now a capital of bronze was on it. And the height of each capital was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the capital all around, all of bronze. The second pillar also and the pomegranates were like these.

22 And a capital of bronze was on it. And the height of each capital was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the capital all around, all of bronze. And the second pillar was like these, including pomegranates.

23 And there were ninety-six pomegranates on a side, and all the pomegranates upon the
network all around were one hundred.

24 ¶ Then the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door.

25 He took also out of the city a eunuch who had charge of the men of war, and seven men of those who were close to the king, who were found in the city, and the principal scribe of the army who mustered the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the midst of the city.

26 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah.

27 And the king of Babylon smote them and put them to death in Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah was carried captive out of its own land.

28 ¶ This is the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year 3,023 Jews.

29 In the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem 832 persons.

30 In the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews 745 persons. All the persons together were 4,600.

Jehoiachin Exalted

31 ¶ Now it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, in the twenty-fifth day of the month, that Evil-merodach king of Babylon in the first year of his reign lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah, and brought him forth out of prison.

32 And he spoke kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings who were with him in Babylon.

33 And he changed his prison garments. And he continually ate bread before him all the days of his life.

34 And for his diet, there was a continual diet given him from the king of Babylon, every day a portion until the day of his death, all the days of his life.

LAMENTATIONS

Chapter 1

1 ¶ How lonely sits the city that was full of people! a How has she become as a widow! She who was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how has she become a slave!

2 She weeps bitterly in the night and her tears are on her cheeks. Among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her. All her friends have dealt treacherously with her. They have become her enemies.

3 Judah has gone into captivity under affliction and under great servitude. She dwells among the nations. She finds no rest. All her persecutors overtook her in the midst of her troubles.

4 The roads to Zion mourn because no one comes to the solemn feasts. All her gates are desolate. Her priests sigh. Her virgins are afflicted and she is in bitterness.

5 Her adversaries have become her masters. Her enemies prosper, for the LORD has afflicted her because of the multitude of her transgressions. Her children have gone into captivity before the enemy.

6 All majesty has departed from the daughter of Zion. Her princes have become like deer that find no pasture, that flee without strength before the pursuer.

7 Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her miseries all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old, when her people fell into the hand of the enemy, and no one helped her. The adversaries saw her and mocked at her downfall.

8 ¶ Jerusalem has grievously sinned. Therefore, she is filthy. All who honored her despise her because they have seen her nakedness. Yes, she sighs and turns backward.

9 Her filthiness is in her skirts. a She did not
consider her destiny. Therefore, she came down astonishingly. She had no comforter. O LORD, behold my affliction, for the enemy has magnified himself.

10 The adversary has spread out His hand upon all her pleasant things, for she has seen that the nations entered into her sanctuary, whom You commanded that they should not enter into Your assembly.

11 All her people sigh. They seek bread. They have given their treasures for food in order to live. “See, O LORD, and consider, for I am scorned.”

12 ¶ “Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Behold, and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, that has been brought on me, which the LORD has afflicted me in the day of His fierce anger.

13 “From above He has sent fire into my bones, and it prevails against them. He has spread a net for my feet. He has turned me back. He has made me desolate and faint all the day.

14 The yoke of my transgressions was bound by His hand. They were woven and came up to my neck. He has made my strength fall. The Lord has delivered me into their hands. I am not able to rise up.

15 “The Lord has trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me. He has called an assembly against me to crush my young men. The Lord has trampled the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.

16 “For these things I weep. My eye, my eye runs down with water because the comforter who should relieve my soul is far from me. My children are desolate because the enemy prevailed.”

17 Zion spreads forth her hands and there is no one to comfort her. The LORD has commanded concerning Jacob that His adversaries should be all around him. Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them.

18 ¶ “The LORD is righteous, for I have rebelled against His commandment. Hear now all you people and behold my sorrow. My virgins and my young men have gone into captivity. I called for my lovers, but they deceived me. My priests and my elders perished in the city while they sought food to restore their own strength.

19 “Behold, O LORD, for I am in distress. My soul is greatly troubled. My heart has turned within me, for I have grievously rebelled. In the street the sword slays. In the house it is like death.

20 “They have heard that I sigh. There is no one to comfort me. All my enemies have heard of my trouble. They are glad that you have done it. Oh, that You would bring the day that You have announced so that they may become like me.

21 ¶ “Let all their wickedness come before You, and do to them as You have done to me for all my transgressions. For my sighs are many and my heart is faint.”

Chapter 2

1 ¶ How the Lord has covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in His anger! He has cast down from heaven to the earth the beauty of Israel, and not remembered His footstool in the day of His anger!

2 The Lord has swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob and has had no pity. He has thrown down in His wrath the strongholds of the daughter of Judah. He has brought them down to the ground. He has profaned the kingdom and its princes.

3 He has cut off in His fierce anger all the horn of Israel. He has drawn back His right hand from before the enemy, and burned against Jacob like a flaming fire that devours all around.

4 He has bent His bow like an enemy. He stood with His right hand as an adversary and slew all who were pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion. He poured out His fury like fire.

5 ¶ The Lord was as an enemy. He has swallowed up Israel. He has swallowed up all her palaces. He has destroyed her strongholds, and has increased mourning and lamentation in the daughter of Judah.
6 And He has violently taken away His tabernacle as if it were of a garden. He has destroyed His places of the assembly. The LORD has caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and has despised king and priest in the indignation of His anger.

7 The Lord has cast off His altar. He has abandoned His sanctuary. He has given up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces. They have made a noise in the house of the LORD as in the day of a solemn feast.

8 The LORD has purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion. He has stretched out a line. He has not withdrawn His hand from destroying. Therefore, He made the rampart and the wall to lament. They languished together.

9 Her gates have sunk into the ground. He has destroyed and broken her bars. Her king and her princes are among the nations. The law is no more. Her prophets also find no vision from the LORD.

10 The elders of the daughter of Zion sit upon the ground and keep silent. They have cast dust upon their heads. They have girded themselves with sackcloth. The virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.

11 ¶ My eyes fail because of tears. My spirit is greatly troubled. My heart is poured out on the ground because of the destruction of the daughter of my people, because the children and infants faint in the streets of the city.

12 They say to their mothers, “Where is grain and wine?” as they faint as the wounded in the streets. My virgins and my young men have fallen by the sword. You have slain them in the day of Your anger. You have killed and not pitied.

13 How will I admonish you? To what will I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem? To what will I equal you so that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For your breach is great like the sea. Who can heal you?

14 Your prophets have seen vain and foolish things for you. And they have not uncovered your iniquity to turn away your captivity. But they have envisioned for you false and misleading oracles.

15 All who pass by clap their hands at you. They hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying, “Is this the city that men call The Perfection of Beauty, The Joy of the Whole Earth?”

16 ¶ All your enemies have opened their mouth against you. They hiss and gnash the teeth. They say, “We have swallowed her up. Certainly this is the day for which we hoped. We have found it and we have seen it.”

17 The LORD has done what He had devised. He has fulfilled His word that He had commanded in the days of old. He has thrown down and has not pitied. And He has caused your enemy to rejoice over you. He has set up the horn of your adversaries.

18 ¶ Their heart cried out to the Lord, “O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night. Give yourself no rest. Do not let the apple of your eye cease.

19 “Arise! Cry out in the night. In the beginning of the watches pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift up your hands toward Him for the life of your young children who faint because of hunger at the head of every street.”

20 ¶ Behold, O LORD, and consider to whom You have done this. Will the women eat their offspring and children who were born healthy? Will the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord?

21 “The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets. My virgins and my young men have fallen by the sword. You have slain them in the day of Your anger. You have killed and not pitied.

22 “You have called as in a solemn day my terrors all around, so that in the day of the LORD’S anger no one escapes or remains. Those whom I have borne and brought up, My enemy has consumed.”

Chapter 3

1 ¶ I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of His wrath.

2 He has led me and brought me into dark-
ness, and not into light.

3 Surely against me He has turned. He turns His hand against me all day long.

4 He has made old my flesh and my skin. He has broken my bones.

5 He has built against me and surrounded me with bitterness and hardship.

6 He has set me in dark places as those who have long been dead.

7 He has hedged me in so that I cannot get out. He has made my chain heavy.

8 Also when I cry out and shout, He shuts out my prayer.

9 He has enclosed my ways with cut stone. He has made my paths crooked.

10 He was to me as a bear lying in wait and as a lion in secret places.

11 He has turned aside my ways and torn me in pieces. He has made me desolate.

12 He has bent His bow and set me as a target for the arrow.

13 He has caused the arrows of His quiver to enter into my inward parts.

14 I am a laughingstock to all my people, and their taunting song all day long.

15 He has filled me with bitterness. He has made me drunken with wormwood.

16 He has also broken my teeth with gravel stones. He has covered me with ashes.

17 And You have removed my soul far away from peace. I forgot happiness.

18 And I said, “My strength and my hope have perished from the LORD.”

19 Remember my affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.

20 My soul still remembers and is bowed down within me.

21 This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope.

22 Because of the LORD’S mercies we are not consumed, for His compassion does not fail.

23 They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness.

24 The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.”

25 The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.

26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.

27 It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

28 He sits alone and keeps silence, because he has laid it upon him.

29 aHe puts his mouth in the dust, if perhaps there is hope.

30 bHe gives his cheek to him who smites him. He is filled full with reproach.

31 For the Lord will not reject forever.

32 Though He causes grief, yet He will have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies.

33 For He does not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

34 to crush under His feet all the prisoners of the earth,

35 to turn aside the right of a man before the face of the Most High,

36 to subvert a man in His cause, the Lord does not approve.

37 Who is he who speaks and it comes to pass, when the Lord does not command it?

38 Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that both good and woe go forth?

39 Why does a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

40 Let us search and examine our ways, and turn again to the LORD.

41 Let us lift up our heart with our hands to God in the heavens.

42 We have transgressed and have rebelled. You have not pardoned.

43 You have covered with anger and persecuted us. You have slained. You have not pitied.

44 You have covered Yourself with a cloud so that the Lord will not command it.

45 You have covered against us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the people.

46 All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.

47 Fear and a snare have come upon us, desolation and destruction.
48 ¶ My eye runs down with rivers of water because of the destruction of the daughter of my people.
49 ¶ My eye trickles down, and does not cease, without any interruption, until the LORD looks down and beholds from heaven.
50 My eye affects my heart because of all the daughters of my city.
51 Without cause my enemies hunted me down like a bird.
52 They have cut off my life in the dungeon and cast a stone upon me.
53 ¶ I called upon Your name, O LORD, out of the lowest dungeon.
54 You have heard my voice. Do not hide Your ear from my breathing, from my cry.
55 You have heard my voice. Do not fear. You said, “Do not fear.”
56 You have redeemed my life. You have pleaded the case of my soul. You have seen my wrong. Judge my case.
57 You have seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.
58 You have heard their reproach, O LORD, and all their schemes against me, the lips of those who rose up against me, and their device against me all day long.
59 Behold their sitting down and their rising up. I am their mocking song.
60 Give them sorrow of heart, Your curse to them.
61 In Your anger, persecute and destroy them from under the heavens of the LORD.

Chapter 4

1 ¶ How the gold becomes dim! How the most fine gold has changed! The stones of the sanctuary are poured out at the head of every street.
2 The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how they are esteemed as clay pots, the work of the hands of the potter!
3 Even the jackals offer the breast. They give suck to their young ones. The daughter of my people has become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness.
4 The tongue of the nursing child cleaves to the roof of His mouth because of thirst. The young children ask for bread and no one breaks it for them.
5 Those who fed delicately are desolate in the streets. Those who were brought up in scarlet embrace ash heaps.
6 For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom that was overthrown in a moment, and no hands were turned toward her.
7 Her princes were purer than snow. They were whiter than milk. They were more ruddy in body than rubies. Their polishing was like sapphire.
8 Their appearance is blacker than soot. They are not known in the streets. Their skin cleaves to their bones. It has withered. It has become like wood.
9 Those who are slain with the sword are better off than those who are slain with hunger. For these pine away, stricken through for lack of the fruits of the field.
10 The hands of compassionate women boiled their own children. They were their food in the destruction of the daughter of my people.
11 The LORD has accomplished His fury. He has poured out His fierce anger and has kindled a fire in Zion, and it has devoured its foundations.
12 The kings of the earth and all the inhabitants of the world would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy could have entered into the gates of Jerusalem.
13 ¶ Because of the sins of her prophets and the iniquities of her priests who have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her, they have wandered as blind men in the streets. They have polluted themselves with blood so that men could not touch their garments.
15 They cried out to them, “Depart! Unclean! Depart, depart, do not touch!” So they fled and wandered. People among the nations said, “They will not continue to dwell with us.”

16 The anger of the LORD has divided them. He will no longer regard them. The people do not respect the priests. They do not favor the elders.

17 ¶ Yet our eyes failed. Looking for help was useless. In our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us.

18 They hunted our steps so that we cannot go in our streets. Our end is near. Our days are fulfilled, for our end has come.

19 Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven. They pursued us upon the mountains. They laid wait for us in the wilderness.

20 The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was caught in their pits, of whom we said, “Under His shadow we will live among the nations.”

21 ¶ Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom who dwells in the land of Uz. The cup will also pass through to you. You will be drunken and will make yourself naked.

Chapter 5

1 ¶ Remember, O LORD, what has come upon us. Consider and behold our reproach.

2 Our inheritance has been turned over to aliens, our houses to foreigners.

3 We are orphans and fatherless. Our mothers are as widows.

4 We have to pay for our drinking water. Our wood is sold to us.

5 Our necks are under persecution. We labor and have no rest.

6 We have submitted to Egypt and Assyria to get enough bread.

7 ¶ Our fathers have sinned and are no more. And we have borne their iniquities.

8 Servants have ruled over us. There is no one who delivers us out of their hand.

9 We get our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness.

10 Our skin is hot as an oven because of the terrible famine.

11 They ravished the women in Zion and the maidens in the cities of Judah.

12 Princes are hung by their hands. The faces of elders were not honored.

13 They took the young men to grind and the children fell under the loads of wood.

14 The elders have gone from the gate, the young men from their music.

15 The joy of our heart has ceased. Our dance has turned into mourning.

16 The crown has fallen from our head. Woe to us, for we have sinned!

17 Because of this our heart is faint. Because of these things our eyes are dim.

18 Because of the mountain of Zion that is desolate, the foxes walk upon it.

19 ¶ You, O LORD, remain forever. Your throne from generation to generation.

20 Why do You forget us forever and forsake us for such a long time?

21 ¶ Turn us to You, O LORD, and we will be turned. Renew our days as of old.

22 But You have utterly rejected us. You are very angry against us.
fifth year of King Jehoiachin’s captivity, 3 the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar. And 4 the hand of the LORD was there upon him. 4 ¶ And I looked, and behold, 5 a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud with fire flashing forth continually and a bright light around it, and in its midst something as the color of amber in the midst of the fire. 5 ¶ Also out of its midst came the likeness of four living creatures. And 6 this was their appearance. They had the likeness of a man. 6 And each one had four faces, and each one had four wings. 7 And their legs were straight and their feet were like the sole of a calf’s hoof. And they sparkled like the color of burnished bronze. 8 And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides. And each of the four had faces and wings. 9 Their wings were joined one to another. They did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward. 10 As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man. Each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side. 11 Each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side. 12 All four also had the face of an eagle. 11 Such were their faces. And their wings were stretched upward, two wings of each one were joined one to another. And two covered their bodies. 12 And each one went straight forward. Where the spirit went, they went. They did not turn when they went. 13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, as the appearance of lamps. It went up and down among the living creatures. And the fire was bright. And out of the fire went forth lightning. 14 And the living creatures ran to and fro like bolts of lightning. 15 ¶ Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold there was one wheel on the earth beside each living creature with his four faces.
the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward. I saw as it were the appearance of fire. And it had brightness all around.

28 As the appearance of the rainbow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell on my face and I heard a voice of one who spoke.

Chapter 2
Call of Ezekiel

1 ¶ And He said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet and I will speak to you.”

2 Then bthe Spirit entered into me when He spoke to me. And He set me upon my feet so that I heard Him who spoke to me.

3 Then He said to me, “Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me. They and their fathers have transgressed against Me, even to this very day.

4 “For they are stubborn children and obstinate. I am sending you to them and you will say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’

5 ¶ And they, whether they will hear or whether they will refuse—for they are a rebellious house—yet they b will know that there has been a prophet among them.

6 ¶ “And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions. Do not be afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house.

7 “And you will speak My words to them, whether they will hear or whether they will refuse, for they are rebellious.

8 “But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I give you.”

9 ¶ And when I looked, behold, a hand was sent to me. And behold, a roll of a scroll was in it.

10 And he spread it before me, and it was written on the front and back. And there was written on it lamentations and mourning and woe.

Chapter 3

1 ¶ Furthermore, He said to me, “Son of man, eat what you find. Eat this scroll and go speak to the house of Israel.”

2 So I opened my mouth and He caused me to eat the scroll.

3 Then He said to me, “Son of man, cause your stomach to eat and fill your body with this scroll that I give to you.” Then I ate it. And it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.

4 ¶ Then He said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.

5 “For you are not sent to a people of unfamiliar speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel:

6 “not to many people of an unfamiliar speech and a difficult language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, had I sent you to them, they would have hearkened to you.

7 “But the house of Israel will not hearken to you, for they will not hearken to Me. For all the house of Israel are stubborn and hardhearted.

8 “Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads.

9 ¶ As adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead. Do not fear them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house.”

10 Furthermore, He said to me, “Son of man, all My words that I will speak to you receive in your heart and hear with your ears.

11 “Now go to those of the captivity, to the children of your people, and speak to them. Then tell them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, whether they will hear or whether they will refuse.’

12 ¶ Then the Spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a great thunderous voice, saying, “Blessed is the glory of the LORD in His place.”
13 I heard also the sound of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels beside them, and a sound of rumbling.

14 So the Spirit lifted me up and took me away. And I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit, but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

15 Then I came to those of the captivity at Telabib who dwelt by the River Chebar. And I sat where they sat and remained there astonished among them for seven days.

Warning to Israel

16 ¶ Now it came to pass at the end of seven days that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

17 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman to the house of Israel. Therefore, hear the word from My mouth and give them warning from Me.

18 “When I say to the wicked, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not give him warning, nor speak to warn the wicked of his wicked way, to save his life, the same wicked man will die in his iniquity. But his blood I will require at your hand.

19 “Yet if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he will die in his iniquity. But you have delivered your soul.

20 “Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he will die. Because you have not given him warning, he will die in his sin and his righteousness that he has done will not be remembered. But his blood I will require at your hand.

21 “However, if you warn the righteous man that the righteous not sin, and he does not sin, he will surely live, because he took warning. Also, you have delivered your soul.”

22 ¶ And the hand of the LORD was there upon me. And He said to me, “Arise, go out into the plain and I will there talk with you.”

23 Then I arose and went out into the plain. And behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory that I saw by the River Chebar. And I fell on my face.

24 Then the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet. And He spoke with me, and said to me, “Go, shut yourself inside your house.

25 ¶ But you, O son of man, behold, they will put bonds on you and will bind you with them, and you will not go out among them.

26 ¶ And I will make your tongue cleave to the roof of your mouth so that you will be dumb and cannot be a man who rebukes them, for they are a rebellious house.

27 ¶ But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth and you will say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ He who hears, let him hear, and he who refuses, let him refuse, for they are a rebellious house.

Chapter 4

Prophecy from the Clay Tablet

1 ¶ “You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and inscribe a city on it, even Jerusalem.

2 And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it. Also place a camp against it and set battering rams against it all around.

3 Furthermore, take an iron plate and set it for a wall of iron between you and the city. Then set your face against it and it will be besieged. And you will lay siege against it.

4 ¶ “Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel on it. According to the number of the days that you will lie on it you will bear their iniquity.

5 Now when you have completed these, lie again on your right side. And you will bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.

6 “Now when you have completed these, lie again on your right side. And you will bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. I have appointed you each day for a year.

7 ¶ “You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and inscribe a city on it, even Jerusalem.
8 “And behold, I will put bonds on you and you will not turn from one side to another until you have ended the days of your siege.
9 ¶ “As for you, take wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet and spelt. Put them in one vessel and make them into bread for yourself according to the number of the days that you will lie on your side. For 390 days you will eat of it.
10 “And your food that you will eat will be by weight, twenty shekels a day. From time to time you will eat it.
11 “You will drink also water by measure, the sixth part of a hin by measure. From time to time you will drink.
12 “And you will eat it as barley cakes. And in their sight you will bake it over dung that comes out of man.”
13 And the LORD said, “Even thus will the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles where I will drive them.”
14 Then I said, “Ah Lord GOD! Behold, my soul has not been defiled. For from my youth up even until now I have not eaten of that which dies of itself or is torn by beasts, nor has abominable flesh come into my mouth.”
15 Then He said to me, “Behold, I have given you cow’s dung for man’s dung, and you will prepare your bread over it.”
16 Furthermore, He said to me, “Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem. And they will eat bread by weight and with care. And they will drink water by measure and with astonishment,
17 so that they may lack bread and water, and they will be dismayed with one another and waste away in their iniquity.”

Chapter 5
1 ¶ “And you, son of man, take a sharp sword. Take and use it as a barber’s razor on your head and beard. Then take scales for weighing and divide the hair.
2 ¶ “You will burn with fire one-third in the middle of the city when the days of the siege are completed. And you will take one-third and strike around it with a knife. And one-third you will scatter in the wind. And I will draw out a sword behind them.
3 ¶ “You will also take a small number of them and bind them on your garment.
4 ¶ “Then take some of them again and cast them into the middle of the fire, and burn them in the fire. From there a fire will come out into all the house of Israel.”
5 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, “This is Jerusalem. I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are all around her.
6 ¶ “And she has changed My judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and My statutes more than the countries that are all around her. For they have refused My judgments and My statutes. They have not walked in them.”
7 ¶ “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Because you multiplied transgression more than the nations that are around you and have not walked in My statutes, nor have kept My judgments, nor have done according to the ordinances of the nations that are around you,’
8 ¶ “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I, even I, am against you. And I will execute judgments in the midst of you in the sight of the nations.
9 ¶ “And because of all your abominations, I will do among you that which I have not done, and the like of which I will never do again.
10 ¶ “Therefore, the fathers will eat the sons in the midst of you and the sons will eat their fathers. And I will execute judgments on you and will scatter the whole remnant of you into all the winds.
11 ¶ “Therefore, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things, and with all your abominations, therefore I will also diminish you. ¶ My eye will not spare, nor will I have any pity.
12 ¶ One-third of you will die with pestilence. They will be consumed in the midst of you with famine. And one-third will fall by the sword all around you. And I will scatter one-third into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.
13 ¶ Thus My anger will be spent and I will satisfy My fury upon them. Then I will be
appeased. And they will know that I the LORD have spoken it in My zeal, when I have spent My fury upon them.

14 ‘Furthermore, I will make you waste and a reproach among the nations that are all around you, in the sight of all who pass by.

15 ‘So it will be a reproach and a taunt, a warning and an astonishment to the nations that are all around you, when I will execute judgments on you in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I, the LORD, have spoken it.

16 ‘When I send on them the evil arrows of famine that will be for their destruction, that I will send to destroy you, then I will increase the famine on you and will break your supply of bread.

17 ‘So I will send on you famine and wild beasts, and they will leave you no children. And pestilence and blood will pass through you. And I will bring the sword upon you. I, the LORD, have spoken it.’”

Chapter 6

Prophecy Against the Mountains

1 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face toward the mountains of Israel and prophesy against them,

3 “and say, ‘You mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD, for thus says the Lord GOD to the mountains and to the hills, to the rivers and to the valleys, “Behold, I, even I, will bring a sword upon you and I will destroy your high places.

4 “Behold, your altars will be desolate and your images will be broken. And I will cast down your slain men before your idols.

5 “And I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of Israel before their idols. And I will scatter your bones all around your altars.

6 “In all your dwellings, the cities will be laid waste and the high places will be desolate, so that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken down and cease, and your images may be cut down and your works may be abolished.

7 “And the slain will fall in the midst of you, and you will know that I am the LORD.

8 ¶ Yet I will leave a remnant so that you may have some who will escape the sword among the nations when you are scattered throughout the countries.

9 “And those of you who escape will remember Me among the nations to which they will be carried captives, because I was hurt by their adulterous hearts that turned away from Me, and with their eyes that go whoring after their idols. And they will loathe themselves for the evils that they have committed in all their abominations.

10 “And they will know that I am the LORD. I have not said in vain that I would bring this calamity on them.”

11 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Smite with your hand and stamp with your foot, and say, “Alas for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! For they will fall by the sword, by famine and by pestilence.

12 “He who is afar off will die from pestilence. And he who is near will fall by the sword. And he who remains and is besieged will die by famine. Thus I will accomplish My fury upon them.

13 “Then you will know that I am the LORD, when their slain men will be among their idols all around their altars, on every high hill, on all the tops of the mountains and under every green tree and under every thick oak, the place where they offered sweet savor to all their idols.

14 “So I will stretch out My hand upon them, and make the land desolate, yes, more desolate than the wilderness toward Diblath, in all their habitations. And they will know that I am the LORD.”’”

Chapter 7

The End

1 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Also, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD to the land of Israel, “An end! The end has come upon the four corners of the land.

3 ‘Now the end is upon you and I will send
My anger upon you. And I will judge you according to your ways, and will repay you for all your abominations.

4 c‘And My eye will not spare you, nor will I have pity. But I will repay your ways upon you, and your abominations will be in your midst. dThen you will know that I am the LORD.’

5 "Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Calamity, a single calamity, behold, has come.

6 ‘An end has come! The end has come. It watches for you. Behold, it has come.

7 f‘Doom has come upon you, O you who dwell in the land. gThe time has come. The day of trouble is near, and not the joyful shouting on the mountains.

8 ‘Now I will shortly pour out My fury upon you and accomplish My anger upon you. And I will judge you according to your ways and will repay you for all your abominations.

9 ‘And My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity. I will repay you according to your ways and your abominations that are in your midst. And you will know that I am the LORD who strikes.

10 ¶ ‘Behold the day. Behold, it has come. iDoom has gone forth. The rod has blossomed. Pride has budded.

11 j‘Violence has grown into a rod of wickedness. None of them will remain, nor of their people, nor of their wealth. kNeither will there be wailing for them.

12 ‘The time has come and the day draws near. Do not let the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn, for wrath is upon all their people.

13 ‘For the seller will not return to that which is sold, although they are still alive. For the vision concerns the whole multitude that will not return. Neither will any maintain himself by the iniquity of his life.

14 ‘They have blown the trumpet to make everyone ready. But no one goes to the battle, for My wrath is upon all their multitude.

15 a‘The sword is outside and the plague and the famine are within. He who is in the field will die with the sword. And he who is in the city, famine and pestilence will devour him.

16 ¶ ‘But those of them who escape will be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them mourning, everyone because of his iniquity.

17 ‘All hands will be feeble and all knees will be weak as water.

18 ‘They will also gird themselves with sackcloth and horror will cover them. And shame will be upon all faces and baldness upon all their heads.

19 ‘They will cast their silver into the streets and their gold will be removed. Their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD. They will not satisfy their souls, nor fill their stomachs, because it became the stumbling block of their iniquity.

20 ¶ ‘They were proud of their beautiful ornaments and used it to make their abominable idols and vile images. Therefore, I will make it like refuse to them.

21 ‘And I will give it into the hands of the foreigners for a tbooty, and to the wicked of the earth for plunder. And they will defile it.

22 ‘I will also turn My face from them, and they will defile My secret place, for the robbers will enter into it and defile it.

23 ¶ ‘Prepare chains, for the land is full of crimes of blood and the city is full of violence.

24 ‘Therefore, I will bring the worst of the nations and they will possess their houses. I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease, and their holy places will be defiled.

25 ‘Destruction comes, and they will seek peace and there will be none.

26 ‘Mischief will come upon mischief, and rumor will be upon rumor. Then they will seek a vision from the prophet. But the law will perish from the priest and counsel from the elders.

27 ‘The king will mourn, and the prince will be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the people of the land will be troubled. I will do to them according to their way, and according to what they deserve I will judge them. Then they will know that I am the LORD.’”
Chapter 8
Temple Idolatry

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell upon me there.

2 Then I looked, and behold, a likeness as the appearance of a man. From the appearance of his loins, even downward, was as fire. And from his loins, even upward, it was as the appearance of brightness as the color of amber.

3 And he stretched out the form of a hand and took me by a lock of my hair. And the Spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem to the door of the Inner Gate that looks toward the north, where the seat of the image of jealousy was that provokes to jealousy.

4 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there according to the vision that I saw in the plain.

5 ¶ Then He said to me, “Son of man, lift up your eyes now toward the north.” So I lifted up my eyes toward the north, and behold, northward at the gate of the altar was this image of jealousy in the entrance.

6 Furthermore, He said to me, “Son of man, do you see what they are doing, the great abominations that the house of Israel commits here that I should go far away from My sanctuary? But turn again and you will see greater abominations.”

7 ¶ Then He brought me to the door of the court. And when I looked, behold, a hole in the wall.

8 Then He said to me, “Son of man, dig now in the wall.” And when I dug in the wall, behold, a door.

9 Then He said to me, “Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they are doing here.”

10 So I went in and saw. And behold, every form of creeping things and abominable beasts and all the idols of the house of Israel were portrayed upon the wall all around.

11 And there stood before them seventy men of the elders of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, and every man with his censer in his hand, and a thick cloud of incense went up.

12 Then He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the rooms of his carved idols? For they say, ‘The LORD does not see us. The LORD has forsaken the land.’”

13 ¶ He said also to me, “Turn again and you will see greater abominations that they are doing.”

14 Then He brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD’S house that was toward the north. And behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz.

15 ¶ Then He said to me, “Have you seen this, O son of man? Turn again and you will see greater abominations than these.”

16 Then He brought me into the inner court of the LORD’S house, and behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east. And they worshiped the sun toward the east.

17 ¶ Then He said to me, “Have you seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing for the house of Judah that they commit the abominations that they commit here? For behold, they are filled the land with violence and have returned to provoke Me to anger. For behold, they are putting the twig to their nose.

18 ‘Therefore, I will also deal in fury. My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity. And though they cry out in My ears with a loud voice, I will not hear them.’

Chapter 9
Death of Idolaters

1 ¶ He cried out also in my ears with a loud voice, saying, “Cause those who have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.”

2 And behold, six men came from the way of the Upper Gate that lies toward the north, each man with a slaughter weapon in his hand.
with a writer’s kit by his side. And they went in and stood beside the bronze altar.

¶ Then the glory of the God of Israel went up from the cherub on which it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen who had the writer’s kit by his side.

4 And the LORD said to him, “Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and who cry out because of all the abominations that are being committed in its midst.”

5 And to the others he said in my hearing, “Go after him through the city, and strike. Do not let your eye have pity and do not spare.

6 “Slay utterly old and young, both maids and little children and women. But do not come near any man on whom is the mark. Now begin at My sanctuary.” Then they began with the elders who were before the temple.

7 And he said to them, “Defile the temple and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!” And they went out and slew in the city.

8 ¶ Now it came to pass while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell on my face and cried out and said, “Ah Lord GOD! Will You destroy all the remainder of Israel in Your pouring out of Your fury upon Jerusalem?”

9 Then He said to me, “The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great and the land is full of blood. And the city is full of perverseness, for they say, “The LORD has forsaken the land and the LORD does not see.’

10 “But as for Me also, My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity. I will repay their way upon their heads.”

11 And behold, the man clothed with linen who had the writer’s kit by his side reported the matter, saying, “I have done as You have commanded me.”

Chapter 10
The Glory Departs

1 ¶ Then I looked, and behold, in the firmament that was over the head of the cherubim there appeared something like a sapphire stone, having the appearance of the likeness of a throne.

2 And He spoke to the man clothed with linen and said, “Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill your hand with coals of fire from between the cherubim, and scatter them over the city.” And he went in as I watched.

3 Now the cherubim stood on the right side of the temple when the man went in. And the cloud filled the inner court.

4 ¶ Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub and stood over the threshold of the temple. And the temple was filled with the cloud and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD’S glory.

5 And the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when He speaks.

6 ¶ Now it came to pass that when He had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, “Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubim,” then he went in and stood beside the wheels.

7 And one cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubim to the fire that was between the cherubim, and took it. And he put it into the hands of him who was clothed with linen. He took it and went out.

8 As for their appearances, the four wheels by the cherubim, one wheel by one cherub and another wheel by another cherub. And the appearance of the wheels was as the color of a beryl stone.
their hands and their wings and the wheels, were full of eyes all around, even the wheels that the four had.

13 As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing, “O wheel.”

14 ¶ And everyone had four faces. The first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

15 ¶ And the cherubim were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the River Chebar.

16 And when the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them. And when the cherubim lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also did not turn from beside them.

17 When they stood, these stood. And when they were lifted up, these lifted up themselves also, for the spirit of the living creature was in them.

18 ¶ Then the glory of the LORD departed from off the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. And the appearance and likeness of their faces was the same faces that I saw by the River Chebar, their appearances and themselves. Each one went straight forward.

Chapter 11
Judgment of Leaders

1 ¶ Furthermore, the Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the East Gate of the LORD’S house that faces eastward. And behold, at the door of the gate twenty-five men, among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people.

2 Then He said to me, “Son of man, these are the men who devise mischief and give wicked counsel in this city.

3 “They say, ‘Is not the time near to build houses? This city is the caldron, and we are the meat.’

4 “Therefore, prophesy against them. Prophesy, O son of man.”

5 ¶ And the Spirit of the LORD fell on me and said to me, “Speak, ‘Thus says the LORD, ‘Thus you have said, O house of Israel, for I know your thoughts.

6 ¶ “You have multiplied your slain in this city and you have filled its streets with the slain.

7 ¶ “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Your slain whom you have laid in the midst of it, they are the meat and this city is the caldron. But I will bring you forth out of the midst of it.

8 ¶ ‘You have feared the sword, and I will bring a sword on you,’ says the Lord GOD.

9 ¶ “And I will bring you out of its midst and deliver you into the hands of foreigners. And I will execute judgments among you.

10 ¶ “You will fall by the sword. I will judge you in the border of Israel, then you will know that I am the LORD.

11 ¶ “This city will not be your caldron, nor will you be the meat in its midst. I will judge you in the border of Israel.

12 ¶ “Then you will know that I am the LORD, for you have not walked in My statutes, nor executed My judgments, but have gone after the behavior of the nations that are all around you.' ”

13 ¶ Now it came to pass when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died. Then I fell down on my face and cried out with a loud voice. And I said, “Alas, Lord GOD! Will You make a full end of the remnant of Israel?”

14 ¶ Again the word of the LORD came to
me, saying,
15 “Son of man, your brethren, even your own brethren, the men of your relatives and all the house of Israel, all of them, are those to whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, ‘They are far away from the LORD. This land has been given to us for a possession.’
16 “Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet I will be to them for a little while as a sanctuary in the countries where they have gone.”’
17 “Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will gather you from the people and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered. And I will give you the land of Israel.”
18 “When they come there, they will take away all the detestable things from it and all its abominations from it.
19 “And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them. And I will take the stony heart out of their flesh and will give them a heart of flesh,
20 so that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances, and do them. And they will be My people, and I will be their God.
21 “But as for those whose heart walks after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will repay their way upon their own heads,” says the Lord GOD.
22 Then the cherubim lifted up their wings and the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel was high above them.
23 And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain that is on the east side of the city.
24 ¶ Afterwards, the Spirit took me up and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to those of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me.
25 Then I spoke to those in the captivity all the things that the LORD had shown me.

Chapter 12
Prophecy of Captivity

¶ The word of the LORD also came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, you are dwelling in the midst of a rebellious house who have eyes to see and do not see. They have ears to hear and do not hear, for they are a rebellious house.
3 “Therefore, son of man, prepare your baggage for moving, and move by day in their sight. And you will move from your place to another place in their sight. It may be that they will consider, though they are a rebellious house.
4 “Then you will bring forth your baggage by day in their sight, as baggage for moving. And you will go out in the evening in their sight as those who go forth into captivity.
5 “Dig through the wall in their sight and go out through it.
6 “In their sight you will bear your baggage on your shoulders. Carry it out in the twilight. You will cover your face so that you do not see the ground, for I have set you for a sign to the house of Israel.”
7 ¶ And I did as I was commanded. I brought forth my baggage by day, as baggage for moving. And in the evening I dug through the wall with my hand. I brought it out in the twilight and I bore it on my shoulder in their sight.
8 ¶ And in the morning the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
9 “Son of man, has not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, ‘What are you doing?’
10 “Say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “This burden concerns the prince in Jerusalem and all the house of Israel who are among them.”’
11 “Say, ‘I am your sign. As I have done, so will it be done to them. They will move and go into captivity.’
12 “And the prince who is among them will bear upon his shoulder in the twilight, and will go out. They will dig through the wall to carry out through it. He will cover his face so that he not see the ground with his eyes.
13 “I will also spread My net upon him and he will be taken in My snare. Then I will bring
him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldeans. But he will not see it, though he will die there.

14 “And I will scatter toward every wind all who are around him to help him, and all his bonds. And I will draw out the sword after them.

15 “And I will scatter toward every wind all who are around him to help him, and all his bonds. And I will draw out the sword after them.

16 ¶ But I will leave a few men of them from the sword, from the famine and from the pestilence, so that they may declare all their abominations among the nations where they go. And they will know that I am the LORD.”

17 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

18 “Son of man, eat your bread with trembling and drink your water with quivering and with anxiety.

19 “Then say to the people of the land, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the land of Israel, ‘They will eat their bread with anxiety and drink their water with dismay, so that her land may be desolate from all that is in it because of the violence of all those who dwell in it.

20 “And the cities that are inhabited will be laid waste and the land will be desolate. And you will know that I am the LORD.’”

21 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

22 “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy. Say to them who prophesy out of their own hearts, ‘Hear the word of the LORD.’

23 Thus says the Lord GOD, “Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own feelings and have seen nothing!

24 O Israel, your prophets are like the foxes in the deserts.

25 You have not gone up into the breaches, nor did you build the wall around the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD.

26 ¶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

27 “Son of man, behold, those of the house of Israel say, ‘The vision that he sees is for many days to come, and he prophesies of the times that are far off.’

28 ¶ Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “None of My words will be delayed any longer, but the word that I have spoken will be done,”’ says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 13

Condemnation of False Prophets

1 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy. Say to them who prophesy out of their own hearts, ‘Hear the word of the LORD.’

3 Thus says the Lord GOD, “Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own feelings and have seen nothing!

4 O Israel, your prophets are like the foxes in the deserts.

5 You have not gone up into the breaches, nor did you build the wall around the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD.

6 “They have seen falsehood and lying divination, saying, ‘The LORD says.’ But the LORD has not sent them. And they have made others hope that they would confirm the word.

7 “Have you not seen a false vision, and have you not spoken a lying divination when you say, ‘The LORD says,’ but I have not spoken it?’”

8 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Because you have spoken falsehood and seen lies, therefore behold, I am against you,” says the Lord GOD.

9 “And My hand will be on the prophets who see false visions and who ‘divine’ lies. They will not be in the assembly of My people, nor will they be written in the record of the house of Israel, nor will they enter into the land of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord GOD.
“Because, even because they have seduced My people, saying, ‘Peace,’ and there was no peace. And one built up a wall, and lo, others plaster it with whitewash.

10 "Say to those who plaster it with whitewash, that it will fall. "There will be an overflowing rain, and you, O great hailstones, will fall. And a stormy wind will break it.

11 "Behold, when the wall has fallen, will it not be said to you, 'Where is the mortar with which you have plastered it?'"

12 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, "I will even break it with a violent wind in My fury. And there will be a overflowing rain in My anger and great hailstones in My fury to consume it.

13 So I will break down the wall that you have plastered with whitewash, and bring it down to the ground so that its foundation will be uncovered. And it will fall and you will be consumed in its midst. And you will know that I am the LORD.

14 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, "I will tear them from your arms and will let the souls go, even the souls whom you hunt to make as birds."

21 "I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people from your hands. And they will no longer be in your hand to be hunted. ‘And you will know that I am the LORD.

22 "Because with "lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad whom I have not made sad, and strengthened the hands of the wicked so that he should not turn from his wicked way, by promising him life.

23 "Therefore, ‘you will no longer envision futility nor divine divinations. For I will deliver My people out of your hand. And you will know that I am the LORD.”

Chapter 14
Condemnation of Idolaters

1 ¶ Then some of the elders of Israel came to me and sat before me.

2 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

3 "Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face. Should I be consulted by them at all?

4 "Therefore, speak to them and say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Any man of the house of Israel who sets up his idols in his heart and puts the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and then comes to the prophet, I the LORD will answer him who comes according to the multitude of his idols,"

5 “so that I may lay hold of the house of Israel in their own heart because they are all estranged from Me through their idols.”

6 ¶ “Likewise, you son of man, ‘set your face against the daughters of your people ‘who prophesy out of their own heart. And prophesy against them,

7 “and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Woe to the women who sew magic bands on all wrists and make veils for the heads of persons of every stature to hunt down souls! Will you hunt the souls of My people, and will you save the souls alive who come to you?’

8 “And will you defile Me among My people ‘for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, to slay the souls who should not die, and to save the souls alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who hear your lies?”

9 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against your magic bands with which you hunt the souls to make them as birds. And I will tear them from your arms and will let the souls go, even the souls whom you hunt to make as birds."

10 “I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people from your hands. And they will no longer be in your hand to be hunted. ‘And you will know that I am the LORD.

11 "Because with "lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad whom I have not made sad, and strengthened the hands of the wicked so that he should not turn from his wicked way, by promising him life.

12 "Therefore, ‘you will no longer envision futility nor divine divinations. For I will deliver My people out of your hand. And you will know that I am the LORD.”
8 “And I will set My face against that man and will make him a sign and a proverb. And I will cut him off from the midst of My people, and you will know that I am the LORD.

9 “And if the prophet is deceived when he has spoken a thing, I the LORD have deceived that prophet. And I will stretch out My hand upon him and will destroy him from the midst of My people Israel.

10 “And they will bear the punishment of their iniquity. The punishment of the prophet will be even as the punishment of him who inquired, so that the house of Israel may no longer go astray from Me, nor be defiled anymore with all their transgressions, but that they may be My people and I may be their God,” says the Lord GOD.”

**Inevitable Judgment**

12 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,

13 “Son of man, when the land sins against Me by persistent transgression, then I will stretch out My hand upon it, and will break the staff of its bread. And I will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it.

14 “Even though these three men, Noah, Daniel and Job, were in it, by their own righteousness they could only deliver themselves,” declares the Lord GOD.

15 ¶ “If I cause wild beasts to pass through the land, and they plunder it, so that it is desolate, and no man may pass through because of the beasts,

16 “even though these three men were in it, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “they will deliver neither sons nor daughters. They only will be delivered, but the land will be desolate.

17 ¶ “Or if I bring a sword upon that land, and say, ‘Sword, go through the land,’ so that I cut off man and beast from it,

18 “even though these three men were in it, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “they will deliver neither sons nor daughters. But they will deliver only themselves.

19 ¶ “Or if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury upon it in blood, to cut off from it man and beast,

20 “even though Noah, Daniel and Job, were in it, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “they will deliver neither son nor daughter. They will deliver only their own souls by their righteousness.”

21 ¶ For thus says the Lord GOD, “How much more when I send My four sore judgments upon Jerusalem, the sword and the famine and the noisome beast and the pestilence, to cut off from it man and beast?’

22 “Yet behold, therein will be left a remnant that will be brought forth, both sons and daughters. Behold, they will come out to you, and you will see their behavior and their actions. And you will be comforted concerning the calamity that I have brought upon Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought upon it.

23 “And they will comfort you when you see their behavior and their actions. And you will know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it,” says the Lord GOD.

**Chapter 15**

**The Useless Vine**

1 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, what is the vine more than any other wood, or than a branch that is among the trees of the forest?

3 “Can wood be made from it to do any work? Or can men make a peg from it to hang any vessel on it?

4 “Behold, it is cast into the fire for fuel. The fire devours both ends of it, and its middle is burned. Is it then useful for any work?

5 “Behold, when it was whole, it was not useful for any work. How much less will it be useful for any work when the fire has consumed it, and it is burned?

6 ¶ “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘As the vine among the trees of the forest that I have given to the fire for fuel, so will I give the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

7 “And I will set My face against them. They will go out from one fire, and another fire will

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deavor them. And you will know that I am the LORD when I set My face against them.

8 ‘And I will make the land desolate because they have persisted in unfaithfulness,’” says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 16

Unfaithful Jerusalem

1 ¶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, acause Jerusalem to know her abominations,

3 “and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD to Jerusalem, “Your birth band your nativity are from the land of Canaan. cYour father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.

4 “And as for your nativity, din the day you were born your navel was not cut, nor were you washed in water for cleansing. You were not salted at all, nor swaddled at all.

5 “No eye looked with pity on you to do any of these things for you, to have compassion on you. But you were cast out in the open field, for you were abhorred on the day you were born.

6 ¶ “And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you when you were in your blood, ‘Live!’ Yes, I said to you when you were in your blood, ‘Live!’

7 “I have caused you to multiply as the bud of the field, and you have increased and become great, and you have become very beautiful. Your breasts were formed and your hair has grown, when before you were naked and bare.

8 “Now when I passed by you and looked on you, behold, your time was the time of love.

9 “Then I washed you with water. Yes, I thoroughly washed away your blood from you, and I anointed you with oil.

10 “I clothed you also with embroidered cloth, and gave you sandals of badger skin. And I girded you all around with fine linen and I covered you with silk.

11 “I adorned you also with ornaments and put bracelets on your hands, and a chain on your neck.

12 “And I put a jewel on your forehead, and earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head.

13 “Thus you were adorned with gold and silver. And your clothing was of fine linen and silk, and embroidered cloth. You ate fine flour and honey and oil. And you were exceedingly beautiful, and you prospered into a kingdom.

14 “And your fame went forth among the nations because of your beauty. For it was perfect because of My splendor that I bestowed on you,” says the Lord GOD.

15 ¶ “But you trusted in your own beauty, and played the harlot because of your fame. And you poured out your harlotry on everyone who passed by who would have it.

16 “And you took some of your clothes, made for yourself high places of various colors and played the harlot on them, that should never come about or happen.

17 “You have also taken your fair jewels from My gold and of My silver, that I had given you, and made for yourself images of men. And you played the harlot with them.

18 “Then you took your embroidered cloth and covered them. And you have set My oil and My incense before them for a sweet savor.

19 “My food also that I gave you, fine flour and oil and honey, with which I fed you, you have even set it before them for a sweet savor. And so it was,” says the Lord GOD.

20 “Furthermore, you have taken your sons and your daughters, whom you have borne to Me, and sacrificed them to idols to be devoured. Were your harlotries a small matter,

21 “that you have slain My children and offered them up to idols by causing them to pass through the fire?

22 “And in all your abominations and your harlotries you have not remembered the days of your ‘youth ‘when you were naked and bare and were struggling in your blood.

23 “And you poured out your harlotry on every one who passed by who would have it.

24 “And you played the harlot on them, that should never come about or happen.

25 “You have also taken your fair jewels from My gold and of My silver, that I had given you, and made for yourself images of men. And you played the harlot with them.

26 “Then you took your embroidered cloth and covered them. And you have set My oil and My incense before them.

27 “My food also that I gave you, fine flour and oil and honey, with which I fed you, you have even set it before them for a sweet savor. And so it was,” says the Lord GOD.

28 “Furthermore, you have taken your sons and your daughters, whom you have borne to Me, and sacrificed them to idols to be devoured. Were your harlotries a small matter,

29 “that you have slain My children and offered them up to idols by causing them to pass through the fire?

30 “And in all your abominations and your harlotries you have not remembered the days of your ‘youth ‘when you were naked and bare and were struggling in your blood.
“Now it came to pass after all your wickedness—Woe, woe to you!, says the Lord GOD—

¶ “that you have also built for yourself a shrine and have made for yourself a high place in every public place.

¶ “You built yourself a high place at the top of every road and have made your beauty to be abhorred. And you have opened your feet to everyone who passed by and multiplied your harlotries.

¶ “You have also played the harlot with the Egyptians your very fleshly neighbors, and have increased your harlotry in order to provoke Me to anger.

¶ “Behold therefore, I have stretched out My hand over you and have diminished your rations. And I have delivered you to the will of those who hate you, the daughters of the Philistines who are ashamed of your lewd behavior.

¶ “You have played the harlot also with the Assyrians because you were not satisfied. Yes, you have played the harlot with them, and still could not be satisfied.

¶ “Furthermore, you have multiplied your fornication in the land of Canaan even to Chaldea. And still you were not satisfied.”

¶ “How weak is your heart,” says the Lord GOD, “seeing you do all these things, the work of a boldfaced harlot.

¶ “You built your shrine at the head of every road, and built your high place in every street. Yet you were not like a harlot because you scorned pay.

¶ “But you were as a wife who commits adultery, who takes foreigners instead of her husband!

¶ “They give gifts to all harlots. But you gave your gifts to all your lovers, and hired them so that they might come to you on every side for your harlotry.

¶ “And the opposite is in you from other women in your harlotry, in that no one follows you to commit harlotry. And in that you gave a reward and no reward is given to you. Therefore, you are opposite.”

¶ Therefore, O harlot, hear the word of the LORD.

Thus says the Lord GOD, “Because your filthiness was poured out and your nakedness uncovered through your harlotry with your lovers, and with all the idols of your abominations, and by the blood of your children that you gave to them,

¶ “Behold therefore, I will gather all your lovers with whom you have taken pleasure, and all those whom you have loved, with all those whom you have hated, and I will gather them all round against you and will uncover your nakedness for them so that they may see all your nakedness.

¶ “And I will judge you as women who break wedlock and shed blood are judged. Then I will bring on you the blood of wrath and jealousy.

¶ “And I will also give you into their hand and they will throw down your shrines and will break down your high places. They will strip you also of your clothes and will take your fair jewels, and leave you naked and bare.

¶ “They will also bring up a crowd against you. And they will stone you with stones and thrust you through with their swords.

¶ “Then they will burn your houses with fire and execute judgments upon you in the sight of many women. And I will cause you to cease from playing the harlot, and you will also no longer pay your lovers.

¶ “So I will make My fury toward you to rest and My jealousy will depart from you. Then I will be quiet and will no longer be angry.

¶ “Because you have not remembered the days of your youth, but have agitated Me in all these things, surely therefore, I will also re-pay your behavior upon your head,” says the Lord GOD. “And you will not commit this lewdness on top of all your abominations.

¶ “Behold, everyone who uses proverbs will use this proverb against you, saying, ‘As is the mother, so is her daughter.’

¶ “You are your mother’s daughter who loathes her husband and her children. And you
are the ‘sister of your sisters who loathed their husbands and their children. “Your mother was
a Hittite and your father an Amorite.
46 “And your older sister is Samaria, she and
her daughters who dwell at your left hand. And
your younger sister who dwells at your right
hand is Sodom and her daughters.
47 “Yet you have not merely walked after their
ways, nor behaved after their abominations. But, as if that were a very little thing? you were
corropt more than they in all your ways.
48 “And your older sister is Samaria, she and
her daughters who dwell at your left hand. And
your younger sister who dwells at your right
hand is Sodom and her daughters.
49 “Yet you have not merely walked after their
ways, nor behaved after their abominations.
But, as if that were a very little thing, you were
corropt more than they in all your ways.
50 “As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “Sodom
your sister has not done, she nor her daugh-
ters, as you have done, you and your daugh-
ters.
51 “Neither has Samaria committed half of
your sins. But you have multiplied your abomi-
nations more than they, and have justified your
sisters in all your abominations that you have
done.
52 “You who have judged your sisters, bear
your own shame also for your sins that you
have committed more abominable than they.
They are more righteous than you. Yes, be dis-
graced also, and bear your shame, in that you
have justified your sisters.
53 ¶ “When I bring again their captivity, the
captivity of Sodom and her daughters, and the
captivity of Samaria and her daughters, then I
will bring again the captivity of your captives
among them,
54 so that you may bear your own shame and
may be disgraced by all that you did when
you comforted them.
55 “When your sisters, Sodom and her daugh-
ters, return to their former state, and Samaria
and her daughters return to their former state,
then you and your daughters will return to your
former state.

56 “For your sister Sodom was not mentioned
by your mouth in the day of your pride,
57 before your wickedness was uncovered. Even so, you are now scorned by the daugh-
ters of Syria and all her neighbors and the
daughters of the Philistines—all those around
you who despise you.
58 ¶ “You have borne your lewdness and your abominations,” says the LORD.
59 For thus says the Lord GOD, “I will deal
with you as you have done, who have despised
the oath in breaking the covenant.
60 ¶ “Nevertheless, I will remember My cov-
enant with you in the days of your youth. And
I will establish an everlasting covenant with
you.
61 Then you will remember your ways and
be ashamed when you receive your sisters, your
older and your younger. And I will give them
to you for daughters, but not because of My
covenant.
62 ¶ “And I will establish My covenant with
you, and you will know that I am the LORD,
63 so that you may remember and be con-
founded, and never open your mouth anymore
because of your shame, when I have forgiven
you for all that you have done,” says the Lord
GOD.

Chapter 17
The Two Eagles and a Vine

1 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, set forth a riddle and speak a
parable to the house of Israel,
3 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ¶ “A
great eagle with great wings and long pinions,
full of feathers that had different colors, came
to Lebanon and took the highest branch of the
cedar.
4 “He cropped off the top of its young twigs
and carried it into a land of merchants. He set
it in a city of merchants.
5 “He also took of the seed of the land and
planted it in a fruitful field. He placed it by
great waters and set it as a willow tree.

6 “And it grew and became a spreading vine of low stature, whose branches turned toward him and its roots were under him. So it became a vine and brought forth branches and shot forth sprigs.

7 ¶ “There was also another great eagle with great wings and many feathers. And behold, this vine bent her roots toward him and shot forth her branches toward him so that he might water it.

8 “It was planted in a good soil by great waters so that it might bring forth branches, and that it might bear fruit, so that it might be a splendid vine.”

9 “You say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Will it prosper? hWill he not pull up its roots and cut off its fruit so that it wither? It will wither in all the leaves of her spring, even without great power or many people to pluck it up by its roots.

10 “Yes behold, though planted, will it prosper? iWill it not utterly wither when the east wind touches it? It will wither in the furrows where it grew.”’

11 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

12 “Say now to the rebellious house, ‘Do you not know what these things mean?’ Tell them, ‘Behold, the king of Babylon has come to Jerusalem and has taken its king and its princes, and led them with him to Babylon.

13 ‘And he has taken of the king’s seed and made a covenant with him, and has put him under oath. He has also taken the mighty of the land,

14 so that the kingdom might be subjected, so that it might not lift itself up, but that by keeping His covenant it might continue.

15 ‘But he rebelled against him in sending his ambassadors into Egypt so that they might give him horses and many people. qWill he prosper? Will he escape who does such things? Or will he break the covenant and be delivered?

16 ‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘surely in the place where the king dwells who made him king, whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he broke, even with him in the midst of Babylon he will die.

17 ‘Neither will Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company help him in the war by casting up mounts and building forts in order to cut off many lives.

18 ‘Seeing he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, when behold, “he had given his hand, and has done all these things, he will not escape.”’

19 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “As I live, surely My oath that he has despised, and My covenant that he has broken, even it I will inflict on his head.

20 ‘And I will spread My net upon him and he will be taken in My snare. And I will bring him to Babylon, and try him there for his unfaithful act that he has trespassed against Me.

21 ‘And all his fugitives with all his bonds will fall by the sword. And those who remain will be scattered toward all winds. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken it.”

22 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar and will set it out. I will crop off from the top of its young twigs a tender one, and I will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

23 “In the mountain of the height of Israel I will plant it. And it will bring forth boughs and bear fruit, and be a majestic cedar. And under it will dwell all birds of every wing. They will dwell in the shadow of its branches.

24 “Then all the trees of the field will know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree. I have exalted the low tree. I have dried up the green tree and have made the dry tree to flourish. tI the LORD have spoken and have done it.”

Chapter 18

The Soul that Sins will Die

1 ¶ The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

2 “What do you mean that you use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes and the children’s teeth are set on edge?’”
3 “As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “you will not have the opportunity anymore to use this proverb in Israel.
4 “Behold, all souls are Mine. As the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is Mine.
5 The soul that sins, it will die.
6 But if a man is righteous, and does that which is lawful and right,
7 and has not oppressed any, but has restored to the debtor his pledge, has plundered no one by violence, has given his bread to the hungry, and has covered the naked with a garment,
8 he who has not loaned money for interest or taken any increase, who has withdrawn his hand from iniquity, has executed true justice between man and man,
9 has walked in My statutes, and has kept My judgments, to deal faithfully, he is righteous. He will surely live,” says the Lord GOD.
10 ¶ “If he begets a son who is a thief or a shedding of blood, and who does any of these things,
11 (though he himself does not do any of these things), that is, has eaten at the mountain shrines and defiled his neighbor’s wife;
12 if he has oppressed the poor and needy, has plundered by violence, not restored the pledge, and lifted up his eyes to the idols, or committed abomination;
13 if he has exacted interest and taken increase—will he then live? He will not live. He has done all these abominations. He will surely die and his blood will be upon him.
14 ¶ “Now behold, if he begets a son who sees all his father’s sins that he has done, and considers, and does not do such,
15 who has not eaten to idols upon the mountains, nor lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, or defiled his neighbor’s wife,
16 nor oppressed any, nor witheld the pledge, nor plundered by violence, but has given his bread to the hungry and has covered the naked with a garment,
17 who has withdrawn his hand from the poor, and not received interest or increase, but has executed My judgments and walked in My statutes—he will not die for the iniquity of his father. He will surely live.
18 “As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, plundered his brother by violence and did that which was not good among his people, behold, he will die in his iniquity.
19 ¶ “Yet you say, ‘Why? Does not the son bear the iniquity of the father?’ When the son has done that which is lawful and right, and has kept all My statutes, and has done them, he will surely live.
20 “The soul who sins will die. The son will not bear the iniquity of the father, nor will the father bear the iniquity of the son. ‘The righteousness of the righteous will be upon him and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon him.
21 “But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he has committed, and keeps all My statutes, and does that which is lawful and right, he will surely live. He will not die.
22 ¶ “All his transgressions that he has committed will not be mentioned to him. In his righteousness that he has done he will live.
23 ¶ “Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked?’, says the Lord GOD. ‘Am I not pleased when he turns from his ways and lives?’
24 ¶ “But when the righteous turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, will he live? None of his righteousness that he has done will be remembered. In his trespass that he has trespassed, and in his sin that he has sinned, in them he will die.
25 ¶ “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not fair.’ Hear now, O house of Israel. Is not My way fair? Are not your ways unfair?
26 ¶ “When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity and dies
in them, for he will die for his iniquity that he has done.

27 “Again, when the wicked man turns away from his wickedness that he has committed, he will surely live. He will not die.

28 “Because he considers and turns away from all his transgressions that he has committed, he will surely live. He will not die.

29 "But the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not fair.’ O house of Israel, are not My ways fair? Are not your ways unfair?

30 ¶ Therefore, I will judge you, O house of Israel, each one according to his ways,” says the Lord GOD. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.

31 Cast away from you all your transgressions by which you have transgressed. And make for yourself a new heart and a new spirit. For why will you die, O house of Israel?

32 "For I have no pleasure in the death of him who dies,” says the Lord GOD. "Therefore, turn yourselves and live.”

Chapter 19
Lament over the Princes

1 ¶ Furthermore, take up a lamentation for the princes of Israel,
2 “and say, ‘What was your mother? She was a lioness among lions! She lay down among lions. She nourished her cubs among young lions.
3 ‘And she brought up one of her cubs. b It became a young lion, and it learned to catch the prey. It devoured men.
4 ‘The nations also heard of him. He was taken in their pit, and they brought him with chains to the land of Egypt.
5 ‘Then when she saw that she waited, and her hope was lost, then she took d another of her cubs and made him a young lion.
6 ‘And he broke down their strongholds and destroyed their cities. ‘He became a young lion and learned to catch the prey and devoured men.

7 ‘And he knew their desolate palaces, and he laid waste their cities. And the land and its fullness was desolate because of the sound of his roaring.

8 ‘Then the nations set against him on every side from their provinces, and spread their net over him. b He was taken in their pit.

9 ‘And they put him in a cage in chains, and brought him to the king of Babylon. They brought him in nets so that his voice would no longer be heard on the mountains of Israel.

10 ¶ ‘Your mother is like a vine in your blood, planted by the waters. She was fruitful and full of branches because of abundant waters.

11 ‘And she had strong branches for the sceptres of rulers. And her stature was exalted among the thick branches, and she appeared in her height with the multitude of her branches.

12 ‘But she was plucked up in fury. She was cast down to the ground and the east wind dried up her fruit. Her strong rods were broken and withered. The fire consumed them.

13 ‘And now she is planted in the wilderness, in a dry and thirsty ground.

14 ‘And fire has gone out from her branches that has devoured her fruit, so that she has no strong rod to be a sceptre to rule.’” c This is a lamentation, and will be for a lamentation.

Chapter 20
A Rebellious People

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the seventh year, in the fifth month, the tenth day of the month, that asome of the elders of Israel came to inquire of the LORD. And they sat before me.

2 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

3 “Son of man, speak to the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Have you come to inquire of Me? As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I will not be inquired of by you.’”

4 “Will you judge them, son of man? Will you judge them? ‘Cause them to know the abominations of their fathers.

5 ¶ ‘Say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,
“In the day when I chose Israel and lifted up My hand to the seed of the house of Jacob, and made Myself known to them in the land of Egypt, I lifted up My hand to them saying that I am the LORD your God.

6 “In the day I lifted up My hand to them to bring them out of the land of Egypt into a land that I had selected for them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands.

7 Then I said to them, ‘Cast away every man the abominations of his eyes and do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.’

8 “But they rebelled against Me and would not hearken to Me. They did not cast away the abominations of their eyes, nor did they forsake the idols of Egypt. Then I said, ‘I will pour out My fury on them in order to accomplish My anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.’

9 “But I worked for My name’s sake so that it should not be profaned before the nations, among whom they were and in whose sight I made Myself known to them in bringing them out of the land of Egypt.

10 ¶ “Therefore, I caused them to go out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness.

11 ¶ ‘Then I gave them My statutes and showed them My judgments, that if a man obeys, he will live in them.

12 ¶ “Furthermore, I also gave them My sabbaths to be a sign between Me and them so that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them.

13 ¶ “But the house of Israel rebelled against Me in the wilderness. They did not walk in My statutes, but they despised My judgments, that if a man obeys he will live in them. And My sabbaths they greatly profaned. Then I said, ‘I would pour out My fury upon them in the wilderness in order to consume them.’

14 ¶ But I worked for My name’s sake so that it should not be profaned before the nations in whose sight I brought them out.

15 ¶ ‘I also lifted up My hand to them in the wilderness so that I would not bring them into the land that I had given them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands,

16 ¶ because they despised My judgments and did not walk in My statutes, but profaned My sabbaths. For their heart went after their idols.

17 ¶ Nevertheless, My eye spared them from destroying them. I did not make an end of them in the wilderness.

18 ¶ “But I said to their children in the wilderness, ‘Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers, nor observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols.

19 ¶ ‘I am the LORD your God. Walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and obey them.

20 ¶ And sanctify My sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you so that you may know that I am the LORD your God.’

21 ¶ “But the children rebelled against Me. They did not walk in My statutes, nor keep My judgments to obey them, that if a man obey he will live in them. They profaned My sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them in order to accomplish My anger against them in the wilderness.

22 ¶ “Nevertheless, I withdrew My hand and worked for My name’s sake so that it should not be profaned in the sight of the nations in whose sight I brought them out.

23 ¶ “I lifted up My hand to them also in the wilderness so that I would scatter them among the nations and disperse them through the countries,

24 ¶ because they had not executed My judgments, but had despised My statutes and had profaned My sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers’ idols.

25 ¶ “Therefore, ¶ I also gave them statutes that were not good and judgments whereby they could not live.

26 ¶ “And I pronounced them unclean in their own ritual gifts, in that they caused all their firstborn to pass through the fire so that I might make them desolate, to the end that they might...
know that I am the LORD.””

27 ¶ “Therefore, son of man, speak to the house of Israel and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “In this your fathers have blasphemed Me in that they have committed a trespass against Me.

28 “When I had brought them into the land concerning which I lifted up My hand to give to them, then they saw every high hill and all the thick trees. And they offered there their sacrifices and there they presented the provocation of their offering. There also they made their soothing aroma and poured out there their drink offerings.

29 “Then I said to them, ‘What is the high place unto which you go?’ And the name of it is called Bamah to this day.”’

Judgment and Restoration

30 ¶ ‘Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Will you profane yourselves after the manner of your fathers? And will you commit harlotry after their taboimitions?

31 “For when you offer your gifts and when you make your sons pass through the fire, you profane yourselves with all your idols, even to this day. And I will be inquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “I will not be inquired of by you.

32 “And what which comes into your mind will not come about, that you say, ‘We will be as the nations, as the families of the countries, to serve wood and stone.’

33 ¶ “As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “surely with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, I will rule over you.

34 “Then I will bring you out from the people and will gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with fury poured out.

35 “And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there I will plead with you face to face.

36 “As I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you,” says the Lord GOD.

37 “And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the yoke of the covenant.

38 “And I will purge out from among you the rebels and those who transgress against me. I will bring them out of the country where they sojourn, and they will not enter into the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

39 ¶ “As for you, O house of Israel,” thus says the Lord GOD, “Go! Each one of you serve his idols—then hereafter—if you will not hearken to Me; but profane My holy name no more with your gifts and with your idols.

40 “For on My holy mountain, on the mountain height of Israel,” says the Lord GOD, “there all the house of Israel and all of those in the land will serve Me. There I will accept them, and there I will require your offerings and the firstfruits of your obligations, with all your holy things.

41 “I will accept you with your soothing aroma when I bring you out from the people and gather you out of the countries wherein you have been scattered. And I will be set apart in you before the nations.

42 “Then you will know that I am the LORD when I bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for which I lifted up My hand to give to your fathers.

43 “And there you will remember your ways and all your deeds wherein you have been defiled. And you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that you have committed.

44 “Then you will know that I am the LORD when I have worked with you for My name’s sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt deeds, O house of Israel,” says the Lord GOD.

Judgment Against the South

45 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

46 ¶“Son of man, set your face toward the south and prophesy against the south field.
47 “And say to the forest of the south, ‘Hear the word of the LORD. “Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will kindle a fire in you and it will devour every green tree and every dry tree in you. The blazing flame will not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north will be burned by it.

48 “And all flesh will see that I the LORD have kindled it. It will not be quenched.”’

49 Then I said, “Ah Lord GOD! They say of me, ‘Does he not speak parables?’”

Chapter 21

God’s Sword for Judgment

1 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem and bpreach to the holy places and prophesy against the land of Israel.

3 “And say to the land of Israel, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Behold, I am against you and will draw out My sword from its sheath and will cut off from you the drighteous and the wicked.

4 “Seeing then that I will cut off from you the righteous and the wicked, therefore, My sword will go forth out of its sheath against all flesh from the south to the north

5 “in order that all flesh may know that I the LORD have drawn out My sword out of its sheath. It will not return to its sheath again.”

6 “Sigh therefore, son of man, with breaking heart and bitter grief. Groan in their sight.

7 “Then it will be when they say to you, ‘Why do you sigh?’, then you will answer, ‘For the news, when it comes. And every heart will melt and all hands will be feeble, and every spirit will faint and all knees will be weak as water.
Behold, it comes and will be brought to pass,’ says the Lord GOD.”

8 ¶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

9 “Son of man, prophesy and say, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Say, ‘A sword! A sword is sharpened and also polished!’

10 ‘It is sharpened to make a great slaughter.
It is polished so that it flash like lightning.’
Should we then make mirth? It despises the rod of My son, as every tree.

11 “And he has given it to be polished so that it may be handled. This sword is sharpened and it is polished in order to be given into the hand of the slayer.

12 “Cry out and wail, son of man. For it will be upon My people. It will be upon all the princes of Israel. Terrors by reason of the sword will be upon My people.

13 “For there is a trial in store. And who can despise the rod of My wrath?,” says the Lord GOD.

14 ¶ “You, therefore, son of man, prophesy and strike your hands together. And let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword of the slain. It is the sword of the great men who are slain, who enter into their ‘private chambers.

15 “I have set the point of the sword against all their gates so that their heart may faint and their ruins be multiplied. Ah! It is made bright. It is grasped for the slaughter.

16 “Thrust one way or another, either to the right or to the left, wherever your edge is ordered.

17 “I will also strike My hands together and I will cause My fury to rest. I the LORD, have said it.”

18 ¶ The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

19 “Also, son of man, appoint for yourself two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to come. Both of them will go out of one land. And choose a place. Choose it at the head of the road to the city.

20 “Appoint a road that the sword may come to Rabbath of the Ammonites and to Judah into fortified Jerusalem.

21 “For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the road, at the head of the two roads, to use divination. He makes his arrows shake. He consults with images. He looks at the liver.

22 “At his right hand was the divination for Jerusalem, to appoint captains, to open the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the voice with shouting, to appoint battering rams against the
gates, to cast a mount, and to build a fort.

23 "And it will be to them as a false divination in their sight, to those who have sworn oaths. But he will call to remembrance the iniquity so that they may be taken.

24 ¶ "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, Because you have made your iniquity to be remembered in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear—because you have come to remembrance, you will be taken in hand.

25 "Now to you, O slain, wicked one, your day has come when iniquity will have an end,

26 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, Because you have made your iniquity to be remembered in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear—because you have come to remembrance, you will be taken in hand.

27 ¶ "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, Remove the turban and take off the crown. This will not be the same. Exalt the humble and humble the exalted.

28 ¶ "And you, son of man, prophesy and say, Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites and concerning their reproach, even say, "The sword, the sword is drawn. For the slaughter it is polished, for consuming and for flashing—

29 "while they see for you false visions, while they divine a lie for you—to bring you upon the necks of those who are slain of the wicked, whose day has come when their iniquity will have an end.

30 ¶ "Will I cause it to return into its sheath? I will judge you in the place where you were created, in the land of your nativity.

31 ¶ "And I will pour out My indignation upon you. I will blow against you in the fire of My wrath and deliver you into the hand of brutal men skilled in destruction.

32 ¶ "You will be for fuel to the fire. Your blood will be in the midst of the land. You will no longer be remembered, for I the Lord have spoken it."

Chapter 22
The Sins of Jerusalem

1 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

2 ¶ "Now, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the city of blood? Yes, you will show her all her abominations.

3 ¶ "Then say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, 'The city sheds blood in its midst so that her time may come. And she makes idols against herself to defile herself.

4 ¶ "You have become guilty in your blood that you have shed, and have defiled yourself in your idols that you have made. And you have caused your days to draw near and have come even to your years. Therefore, I have made you a reproach to the nations and a mocking to all countries.

5 ¶ "Those who are near and those who are far from you will mock you, you who are infamous and full of turmoil.

6 ¶ "Behold, the princes of Israel in you, every one according to his power, have been bent on shedding blood.

7 ¶ "They have treated father and mother lightly within you. In the midst of you they have dealt by oppression with the foreigner. In you they have wronged the fatherless and the widow.

8 ¶ "You have despised My holy things and have profaned My sabbaths.

9 ¶ "In you are men who carry tales to shed blood. And in you they eat upon the mountains. In the midst of you they commit lewdness.

10 ¶ "In you they have uncovered their fathers' nakedness. In you they have humbled her who was unclean in her menstrual impurity.

11 ¶ "And one has committed abomination with his neighbor's wife, and another has lewdly defiled his daughter-in-law; and another in you has humbled his sister, his father's daughter.

12 ¶ "In you they have taken bribes to shed blood. You have taken interest and increase, and you have greedily gained from your neighbors by extortion, and have forgotten Me," says the Lord GOD.

13 ¶ "Behold, therefore, I have sinned My hand at your dishonest gain that you have
made, and at your blood that has been in the midst of you.

14 "Can your heart endure, or can your hands be strong in the days that I will deal with you? ‘I the LORD have spoken it and will do it.

15 ‘And I will scatter you among the nations and disperse you in the lands. And I will consume your filthiness out of you.

16 ‘When you have defiled yourself in the sight of the nations, then you will know that I am the LORD.’ "

17 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

18 “Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross. All of them are bronze and tin and iron and lead in the midst of the furnace. They are even the dross of silver.

19 “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Because you have all become dross, behold there­fore, I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.

20 ‘As they gather silver and bronze and iron and lead and tin into the midst of the furnace to blow the fire upon it, to melt it, so I will gather you in My anger and in My fury, and I will leave you there and melt you.

21 ‘Yes, I will gather you and blow upon you in the fire of My wrath and you will be melted in the midst of it.

22 ‘As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so will you be melted in the midst of it. Then you will know that I the LORD have poured out My fury upon you.’ ”

23 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

24 “Son of man, say to her, ‘You are the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation.’

25 “There is a conspiracy of her prophets in her midst, like a roaring lion tearing the prey. They have devoured souls. They have taken the treasure and precious things. They have made many widows in her midst.

26 “Her priests have violated My law and have profaned My holy things. They have put no difference between the holy and profane, nor have they showed any difference between the unclean and the clean. And they have hidden their eyes from My sabbaths so that I am profaned among them.

27 “Her princes in the midst of her are like wolves tearing the prey to shed blood and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.

28 “And her prophets have smeared whitewash for them, seeing false visions and diving lies to them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,’ when the LORD has not spoken.

29 “The people of the land have used oppression and committed robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy. Yes, they have wrongfully oppressed the foreigner.

30 “And I sought for a man among them who would make up the hedge and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I would not destroy it. But I found no one.

31 “Therefore, I have poured out My indignation upon them. I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath. ‘Their own way I have repaid upon their heads,” says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 23

The Adulterous Sisters

1 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, there were two women, the daughters of one mother.

3 “And they committed harlotry in Egypt. They committed harlotry in their youth. Their breasts were embraced there and there their virgin bosom was pressed.

4 “Now their names were Aholah the elder and Aholibah her sister. And they were Mine and bore sons and daughters. Thus were their names: Samaria is Aholah and Jerusalem is Aholibah.

5 ¶ “Now Aholah played the harlot when she was Mine. And she lusted after her lovers, after the Assyrians, her neighbors,

6 "who were clothed with blue, captains and rulers, all of them desirable young men, horse­men riding upon horses.

7 “Therefore, she committed her harlotry with them, with all those who were the chosen men of Assyria, and with all after whom she lusted.
With all their idols she defiled herself.

8 “She did not forsake her harlotries from the time in Egypt, for in her youth they lay with her. They bruised the breasts of her virginity and poured out their lust on her.

9 “Therefore, I have delivered her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians after whom she lusted.

10 “These uncovered her nakedness. They took her sons and her daughters, and slew her with the sword. And she became famous among women, for they executed judgment on her.

11 ¶ “And when her sister Aholibah saw this, she was more corrupt in her lust than she, and more than her sister in her harlotries.

12 “She lusted after the Assyrians, governors and officials, the ones near, magnificently dressed, horsemen riding on horses, all of them desirable young men.

13 “I saw that she had defiled herself. They both took the same road.

14 “So she increased her harlotries. And she saw men portrayed on the wall, the images of the Chaldeans portrayed with vermilion,

15 “girded with belts on their waists, with flowing turbans on their heads, all of them looking like princes, like the Babylonians of Chaldea, the land of their nativity.

16 “And as soon as she saw them with her eyes, she lusted after them, and sent messengers to them into Chaldea.

17 “And the Babylonians came to her into the bed of love, and they defiled her with their harlotry. And she was defiled by them, and she became disgusted with them.

18 “So she uncovered her harlotries and uncovered her nakedness. Then I became disgusted with her as I had become disgusted with her sister.

19 “But she multiplied her harlotries by calling to remembrance the days of her youth wherein she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt.

20 “For she lusted after her lovers, whose genitals were like those of donkeys, and whose issue is like the issue of horses.

21 “Thus you longed for the lewdness of your youth when the Egyptians handled your bosom because of the breasts of your youth.

22 ¶ “Therefore, O Aholibah, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will raise up your lovers against you, from whom you were alienated. And I will bring them against you on every side,

23 “the Babylonians and all the Chaldeans, Pekod and Shoa and Koa and all the Assyrians with them. All of them are desirable young men, captains and rulers, great lords and renowned, all of them riding on horses.

24 “And they will come against you with chariots, wagons and wheels, and with an assembly of people. They will set against you buckler and shield and helmet all around. And I will set judgment before them and they will judge you according to their judgments.

25 “And I will set My jealousy against you, and they will deal furiously with you. They will take away your nose and your ears, and your remnant will fall by the sword. They will take your sons and your daughters, and your survivors will be devoured by the fire.

26 ¶“They will also strip off your clothes and take away your beautiful jewels.

27 “Thus I will make your lewdness and your harlotry brought from the land of Egypt to cease from you, so that you will not lift up your eyes to them, nor remember Egypt anymore.’

28 “For thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I will deliver you into the hand of those whom you hate, into the hand of those from whom you were alienated.

29 “And they will deal with you hatefully, and will take away all for which you worked. And they will leave you naked and bare. And the nakedness of your harlotries will be uncovered, both your lewdness and your harlotries.

30 “I will do these things to you because you have played the harlot with the nations, and because you are defiled with their idols.

31 “You have walked in the way of your sister. Therefore, I will give her cup into your hand.’

32 ¶ “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘You will
drink of your sister’s cup that is deep and wide. You will be laughed to scorn and held in derision; it contains much.

33 ‘You will be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of your sister Samaria.

34 ‘You will even drink it and suck it out, and you will break its fragments, and tear your own breasts, for I have spoken it,’ says the Lord GOD.

35 “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Because you have forgotten Me and cast Me behind your back, therefore bear also your lewdness and your harlotries.’”

36 ¶ Furthermore, the LORD said to me, “Son of man, will you judge Aholah and Aholibah? Yes, declare to them their abominations.

37 “They have committed adultery, and blood is on their hands, and with their idols they have committed adultery. And they have also caused their sons, whom they bore to me, to pass for them through the fire, to devour them.

38 “Furthermore, this they have done to Me: they have defiled My sanctuary in the same day and have profaned My sabbaths.

39 “For when they had slain their children to their idols, then they came the same day into My sanctuary to profane it. And behold, thus they did in the midst of My house.

40 “And furthermore, they have sent for men to come from afar, to whom a messenger was sent. And behold, they came. And you washed yourself, painted your eyes, and adorned yourself with ornaments.

41 “And you sat on a splendid couch with a table arranged before it on which you had set My incense and My oil.

42 “And the sound of a carefree multitude was with her. And with the men of the common sort were brought Sabeans from the wilderness who put bracelets on their hands and beautiful crowns on their heads.

43 “Then I said to her who was old in adulteries, ‘Will they now commit harlotries with her and she with them?’

44 “But they went in to her as they go in to a woman who plays the harlot. So they went in to Aholah and to Aholibah, the lewd women.

45 “And they, righteous men, will judge them with the judgment of adulteresses and with the judgment of women who shed blood, because they are adulteresses and blood is on their hands.

46 ¶ ‘For thus says the Lord GOD, ‘I will bring up a company upon them and will give them over to calamity and plunder.

47 ‘And the company will stone them with stones and dispatch them with their swords. They will slay their sons and their daughters and burn their houses with fire.

48 ‘Thus I will cause lewdness to cease out of the land so that all the women may be admonished and not commit lewdness as you have done.

49 ‘And they will repay your lewdness upon you, and you will bear the sins of your idols. Then you will know that I am the Lord GOD.’”

Chapter 24

The Parable of the Pot

1 ¶ Again in the ninth year, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, write the name of the day, even of this same day. The king of Babylon set himself against Jerusalem this same day.

3 “Now utter a parable to the rebellious house and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Put on the pot. Put it on and also pour water in it.

4 “Gather the pieces into it, even every good piece, the thigh and the shoulder. Fill it with the choice bones.

5 “Take the choice of the flock and burn also the bones under it. Make it boil well, and let them seethe its bones in it.”

6 ¶ ‘Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Woe to the city of blood, to the pot whose scum is in it, and whose scum has not gone out of it! Bring it out piece by piece, on which no lot has fallen.

7 “For her blood is in the midst of her. She set it on the top of a rock. She did not pour it on the ground in order to cover it with dust,
8 “so that it might cause fury to come up to take vengeance. I have set her blood on the top of a rock so that it should not be covered.”
9 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, Woe to the city of blood! I will make the pile for a fire great.
10 “Heap on wood. Kindle the fire. Consume the flesh and spice it well, and let the bones be burned.
11 “Then set it empty on its coals so that the brass of it may be hot, and may burn, and that the filthiness of it may be melted in it, so that the scum of it may be consumed.
12 “She has wearied herself with lies, and her great scum did not go out of her. Let her scum be in the fire.
13 “In your filthiness is lewdness. Because I have purged you and you were not purged, you will not be purged from your filthiness any more, until I have caused My fury to rest on you.
14 ¶ I the LORD have spoken it. It will come to pass and I will do it. I will not go back, nor will I spare, nor will I relent. They will judge you according to your ways and according to your deeds,” says the Lord GOD.’”

Death of Ezekiel’s Wife
15 ¶ Also the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
16 “Son of man, behold, I take away from you the desire of your eyes with a stroke. But you will neither mourn nor weep, nor will your tears run down.
17 “Groan silently. Make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban and ‘put your shoes on your feet, and ‘do not cover the lower part of your face. Do not eat the bread of men.’
18 So I spoke to the people in the morning. And at evening my wife died. Then I did in the morning as I was commanded.
19 ¶ Then the people said to me, “Will you not tell us what these things mean to us that you do?”
20 Then I answered them, “The word of the LORD came to me, saying,
21 ‘Speak to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, ‘I will profane My sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your soul. And your sons and your daughters whom you have left behind will fall by the sword.
22 ‘And you will do as I have done. You will not cover the lower part of your face, nor eat the bread of men.
23 ‘And your turbans will be on your heads and your shoes on your feet. You will not mourn nor weep, but you will pine away in your iniquities and mourn one toward another.
24 ‘Thus Ezekiel is to you a sign. According to all that he has done you will do. And when this comes, ‘you will know that I am the Lord GOD.’”
25 ‘Also for you, son of man, will it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that on which they set their minds, their sons and their daughters,
26 ‘that he who escapes in that day will come to you, to cause you to hear it with your ears?
27 ‘In that day your mouth will be opened to him who has escaped and you will speak, and no longer be speechless. And you will be a sign to them. Then they will know that I am the LORD.’”

Chapter 25
Prophecy Against Ammon
1 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, set your face against the Ammonites and prophesy against them.
3 “And say to the Ammonites, ‘Hear the word of the Lord GOD. Thus says the Lord GOD, “Because you said, ‘Aha,’ against My sanctuary when it was defiled, and against the land of Israel when it was desolated, and against the house of Judah when they went into captivity,
4 “behold therefore, I will deliver you to the men of the east for a possession. And they will set their palaces in you and make their dwellings in you. They will eat your fruit and they will drink your milk.
5 “And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels, and the Ammonites a resting place for flocks. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”

6 “For thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Because you clapped your hands and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all your despite against the land of Israel, behold therefore, I will stretch out My hand on you and will deliver you for spoil to the nations. And I will cut you off from the people, and I will cause you to perish from the countries. I will destroy you, and you will know that I am the LORD.”

8 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, “Because Moab and Seir say, ‘Behold, the house of Judah is like all the nations,’

9 therefore behold, I will open the flank of Moab, the cities that are on its frontiers, the glory of the country, Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon and Kiriathaim,

10 to the men of the east with the Ammonites, and will give them in possession so that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations.

11 “And I will execute judgments on Moab and they will know that I am the LORD.”

12 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, “Because Edom has acted against the house of Judah by taking vengeance and has greatly offended, and revenged itself on them,”

13 therefore thus says the Lord GOD, ‘I will also stretch out My hand upon Edom. And I will cut off man and beast from it, and I will make it desolate from Teman. And those of Dedan will fall by the sword.

14 “And I will lay My vengeance on Edom by the hand of My people Israel. And they will do in Edom according to My anger and according to My fury. Then they will know My vengeance,” says the Lord GOD.

15 ¶ “Thus says the Lord GOD, “Because the Philistines have acted in revenge and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart to destroy it because of the old hatred,”

16 therefore thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will stretch out My hand on the Philistines and I will cut off the ‘Cherethims and destroy the remnant of the sea coast.

17 “And I will execute great vengeance on them with furious rebukes. Then “they will know that I am the LORD.””

Chapter 26

Prophecy Against Tyre

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, ‘Aha, she is broken who was the gateway of the peoples. It has opened to Me. I will be filled now that she is laid waste,’

3 therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against you, as the sea causes its waves to come up.

4 ‘And they will destroy the walls of Tyre and break down her towers. I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock.

5 ‘It will be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea, for I have spoken it,’ says the Lord GOD. ‘And it will become a spoil to the nations.

6 ‘And her daughters who are in the field will be slain by the sword. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”

7 For thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will bring upon Tyre Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses and with chariots and with horsemen and cavalry and many people.

8 ‘He will slay with the sword your daughters in the field. And he will make a fort against you and cast a mount against you, and lift up a large shield against you.

9 ‘And he will set battering rams of war against your walls, and with his axes he will break
down your towers.
10 “Because of the multitude of his horses, their dust will cover you. Your walls will shake at the noise of the horsemen and of the wheels and of the chariots, when he enters into your gates as men enter into a city wherein is made a breach.
11 “With the hoofs of his horses he will tread down all your streets. He will slay your people by the sword, and your strong garrisons will go down to the ground.
12 “And they will plunder your riches, and make a prey of your merchandise. And they will break down your walls and destroy your luxurious houses. And they will lay your stones and your timber and your dust in the midst of the water.
13 “And I will cause the sound of your songs to cease, and the sound of your harps will be no longer heard.
14 “And I will make you like the top of a rock. You will be a place to spread nets upon. You will be built no more, for I the LORD have spoken it,” says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 27
Lament for Tyre

1 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,
2 “Now, son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyre.
3 “And say to Tyre, who dwells at the entrance to the sea, merchant of the peoples to many coastlands, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “O Tyre, you have said, “I am perfect in beauty.”
4 “Your borders are in the midst of the seas. Your builders have perfected your beauty.
5 “They have made all your ship boards of fir trees from Senir. They have taken cedars from Lebanon to make masts for you.
6 “Of the oaks of Bashan they have made your oars. The company of the Ashurites have inlaid our planks with ivory from the islands of Chittim.
7 “Fine linen with embroidered work from Egypt was that which you spread forth to be your sail. Blue and purple from the islands of Elishah was that which covered you.
8 “The inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad were your mariners. Your wise men, O Tyre, who were in you, were your pilots.
9 “The elders of Gebal and its wise men were in you to caulk your seams. All the ships of the sea with their mariners were in you to occupy your merchandise.
10 ¶ “Those from Persia and Lud and Phut were in your army, your men of war. They hung the shield and helmet in you. They gave splendor to you.
11 “The men of Arvad with your army were
all around on your walls, and the Gammadims
were in your towers. They hung their shields
all around on your walls. They have made your
beauty perfect.

12 ¶ "Tarshish was your merchant because of
the multitude of all kinds of riches. They gave
you silver, iron, tin and lead for your goods.

13 Javan, Tubal and Meshech, they were your
merchants. They traded with the lives of men
and vessels of bronze in your market.

14 "Those of the house of Togarmah traded for
your goods with horses and horsemen and mules.

15 "The men of Dedan were your merchants.
Many islands were the merchandise of your
hand. They brought you horns of ivory and
ebony as payment.

16 "Syria was your merchant because of the
abundance of the goods of your making. They
gave for your goods emeralds, purple and em-
broidered work and fine linen and coral and
agate.

17 "Judah, and the land of Israel, they were
your merchants. They traded in your market
wheat of Minnith and Pannag and honey and
oil and balm.

18 "Damascus was your merchant in the mul-
titude of the goods of your making, for the
abundance of all riches, in the wine of Helbon
and white wool.

19 "Dan also and Javan, going to and fro,
traded for your goods. Bright iron, cassia and
calamus were in your market.

20 "Dedan was your merchant in precious
clothes for chariots.

21 "Arabia and all the princes of Kedar, they
were your merchants for lambs, rams and goats.
For these they were your merchants.

22 "The merchants of Sheba and Ramah,
they were your merchants. They traded for your
goods with the best of all spices, and with all
precious stones and gold.

23 "Haran and Canneh and Eden, the mer-
chants of Sheba, Asshur and Chilmad, were
your merchants.

24 "These were your merchants in all sorts of
things, in blue clothes and embroidered work,
and in carpets of many colors and tightly
wound cords that were among your merchan-
dise.

25 "The ships of Tarshish were the carriers
for your merchandise. And you were replen-
ished and made very glorious in the midst of the
seas.

26 "Your rowers have brought you into great
waters. The east wind has broken you in the
midst of the seas.

27 ¶ "Your riches and your goods, your mer-
chandise, your mariners and your pilots, your
caulkers and the dealers of your merchandise,
and all your men of war who are in you, and in
all your company that is in the midst of you,
will fall into the midst of the seas in the day of
your ruin.

28 "The shorelands will shake at the sound
of the cry of your pilots.

29 "And all who handle the oar, the mariners,
and all the pilots of the sea, will come down
from their ships. They will stand on the land,

30 "and will cause their voice to be heard
against you. And they will cry out bitterly and
will cast dust on their heads. They will wallow
themselves in the ashes.

31 "And they will make themselves utterly
bald for you, and gird themselves with sack-
cloth. And they will weep for you with bitter-
ness of heart and bitter wailing.

32 "And in their wailing they will take up a
lamentation for you and lament over you,
saying, 'What city is like Tyre, like the destroyed
in the midst of the sea?'

33 'When your goods went forth out of the
seas, you filled many people. You enriched the
kings of the earth with the multitude of your
riches and with your merchandise.

34 'But you are broken by the seas in the
depths of the waters. Your merchandise and
all your company will fall in your midst.

35 'All the inhabitants of the islands will be
astonished at you, and their kings will be
greatly afraid. They will be troubled in coun-
tenance.

36 'The merchants among the people will
hiss at you. You will be a terror and will be no
more.' "'"
Chapter 28
Prophecy Against the King of Tyre

1 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because your heart is lifted up and you have said, 'I am a god. I sit in the seat of gods in the midst of the seas,' you are but a man and not a god, though you set your heart as the heart of God.
3 "(Behold, you are wiser than Daniel! There is no secret that can be hidden from you.
4 "With your wisdom and with your understanding you have acquired riches, and have acquired gold and silver into your treasuries.
5 "By your great wisdom and by your trade you have increased your riches, and your heart is lifted up because of your riches.)
6 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Because you have set your heart as the heart of God,
7 'behold therefore, I will bring foreigners on you, the most ruthless of the nations. And they will draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and they will defile your brightness.
8 'They will bring you down to the Pit and you will die the death of those who are slain in the midst of the seas.
9 'Will you still say before him who slays you, "I am a god"? But you are a man, and no god, in the hand of him who slays you.
10 'You will die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of foreigners, for I have spoken it," says the Lord GOD."'

11 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
12 "Son of man, set your face against Sidon and prophesy against it.
13 "And say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am against you, O Sidon, and I will be glorified in the midst of you. Then they will know that I am the LORD.
14 "For I will send to her pestilence and blood into her streets. And the wounded will be judged in the midst of her by the sword on her every side. Then they will know that I am the LORD.

Chapter 28:
- a Jr 49:16
- b Ez 28:9
- c Ez 27:3,4
- d Is 31:3
- e Dn 1:20; 2:20-23,28; 5:11,12
- f Zc 9:1-3
- g Ps 62:10
- h Ez 26:7
- i Ez 7:24; 21:31; 30:11
- j Is 14:15
- k Ez 28:2
- l Ez 31:18; 32:19,21,25,27
- m Ez 27:2
- n Ez 27:3
- o Ez 31:8,9; 36:35
- p Ez 26:13
- q Ez 25:20
- r Ez 20:40
- s Is 14:12
- t Ez 28:14
- u Ez 28:2,5
- v Ez 26:21
- w Ez 27:36
- x Ez 6:2; 25:2; 29:2
- y Is 23:2,4,12
- z Ex 14:4,17
- a Ps 9:16
- b Ez 28:25
- c Ez 38:22
- d Ja 23:13
from any around them who scorned them. Then they will know that I am the Lord GOD.”

25 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “When I have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, and be sanctified in them in the sight of the nations, then they will dwell in their land that I have given to My servant Jacob.

26 “And they will dwell safely in it and will build houses and plant vineyards. Yes, they will dwell with confidence when I have executed judgments on all those around them who despise them. Then they will know that I am the Lord their God.”’

Chapter 29

Prophecy Against Egypt

1 ¶ In the tenth year, in the tenth month, in the twelfth day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt.

3 ‘Speak and say, ’Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh, king of Egypt, the great monster that lies in the midst of his rivers, who has said, ‘My river is mine and I have made it.’

4 “But I will put hooks in your jaws and I will cause the fish of your rivers to cling to your scales. And I will bring you up out of the midst of your rivers and all the fish of your rivers will cling to your scales.

5 “And I will abandon you in the wilderness, you and all the fish of your rivers. You will fall upon the open fields. You will not be gathered and buried. I have given you for food to the beasts of the field and to the birds of the heaven.

6 “Then all the inhabitants of Egypt will know that I am the Lord because they have been only a staff made of reed to the house of Israel.

7 “When they took hold of you by your hand, you broke and tore all their hands. And when they leaned on you, you broke and made all their loins quake.”

8 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will bring a sword upon you and cut you off from man and beast.

9 “Then the land of Egypt will be desolate and waste. Then they will know that I am the Lord, because he has said, ‘The river is mine and I have made it.’

10 “Behold therefore, I am against you and against your rivers. And I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate, from Migdol to Syene, even to the border of Ethiopia.

11 ¶“No foot of man will pass through it, nor foot of beast will pass through it. Neither will it be inhabited forty years.

12 “And I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate. And her cities among the cities that are laid waste will be desolate forty years. And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and will disperse them through the countries.”

13 ¶ Yet thus says the Lord GOD, “At the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the people where they were scattered.

14 “And I will bring again the captivity of Egypt and will cause them to return to the land of Pathros, to the land of their habitation. And they will be there a lowly kingdom.

15 “It will be the lowliest of the kingdoms. Neither will it exalt itself anymore above the nations, for I will diminish them so that they will no longer rule over the nations.

16 “And it will no longer be the confidence of the house of Israel, bringing to mind the iniquity of their having turned to Egypt. But they will know that I am the Lord GOD.”’

17 ¶ Now it came to pass in the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, in the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

18 “Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, made his army labor hard against Tyre. Every head was made bald and every shoulder was peeled. But he and his army had no wages from Tyre for the labor that he had
performed against it.”

19 ‘Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, and he will take her wealth and carry off her spoil and seize her plunder. And it will be the wages for his army.

20 “I have given him the land of Egypt for his labor that he performed, because they acted for Me,” says the Lord GOD.

21 ¶ ‘In that day I will cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth and I will open your mouth in their midst. Then they will know that I am the LORD.’”

Chapter 30
Lament for Egypt

1 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, prophesy and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Wail! Alas for the day! For the day is near, even the day of the LORD is near, a cloudy day. It will be the time of the nations.

3 “And the sword will come upon Egypt and great pain will be in Ethiopia when the slain will fall in Egypt. And they will take away her multitude and her foundations will be broken down.

4 “Ethiopia and Libya and Lydia, and all the mixed people and Chub, and the men of the land that is in alliance will fall with them by the sword.”

6 ¶ ‘Thus says the LORD, “They also who hold up Egypt will fall. And the pride of her power will come down. From Migdol to Syene those within her will fall by the sword,” says the Lord GOD.

7 “And they will be desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities will be in the midst of the cities that are wasted.

8 “Then they will know that I am the LORD when I have set a fire in Egypt and when all her helpers are destroyed.

9 “In that day messengers will go out from me in ships to make the secure Ethiopians afraid. And great pain will come upon them as in the day of Egypt, for behold, it comes.”

10 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will also make the multitude of Egypt to cease by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

11 “He and his people with him, the most ruthless of the nations, will be brought to destroy the land. And they will draw their swords against Egypt and fill the land with the slain.

12 “And I will make the rivers dry, and I will sell the land into the hand of the wicked. And I will make the land waste, and all that is in it by the hand of foreigners. I the LORD have spoken it.”

13 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause their images to cease out of Memphis. And there will no longer be a prince of the land of Egypt.

14 “And I will put fear in the land of Egypt.

15 “And I will pour My fury on Sin, the strength of Egypt. And I will cut off the multitude of No.

16 “And I will set fire in Egypt. Sin will have great pain and No will be torn asunder, and Noph will have distresses daily.

17 “The young men of Aven and of Pibeseth will fall by the sword. And these cities will go into captivity.

18 “At Tehaphnehes also the day will be darkened when I break there the yokes of Egypt. And the pomp of her strength will cease in her. As for her, a cloud will cover her and her daughters will go into captivity.

19 “Thus I will execute judgments on Egypt. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”’

20 ¶ Now it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first month, in the seventh day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

21 “Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And behold, it will not be bound up to be healed, or wrapped with a bandage to make it strong to hold the sword.

22 “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and
will break his arms, both the strong and that which was broken. And I will cause the sword to fall out of his hand.

23 ‘And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and will disperse them throughout the countries.

24 ‘And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and put My sword in his hand. But I will break Pharaoh’s arms and he will groan before him with the groanings of a wounded man.

25 ‘But I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and the arms of Pharaoh will fall down. Then they will know that I am the LORD when I will put My sword into the hand of the king of Babylon and he will stretch it out over the land of Egypt.

26 ‘And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them among the countries. Then they will know that I am the LORD.’"

Chapter 31
A Cedar in Lebanon

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to his multitude, bWho can be compared with you in majesty?

3 c‘Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with fair branches that shaded the forest, and was of a high stature. And its top was among the thick boughs.

4 d“The waters made it great. The deep springs set it up on high with its rivers running all around its base. And it sent out its channels to all the trees of the field.

5 ‘Therefore, its height was exalted above all the trees of the field, and its boughs were multiplied. And its branches became long because of the abundance of waters when it shot forth.

6 ‘All the birds of heaven made their nests in its boughs. And under its branches all the beasts of the field brought forth their young. And all great nations lived under its shade.

7 ‘Thus it was beautiful in its greatness, in the length of its branches, for its root was by great waters.

8 ‘The cedars in the garden of God could not hide it. The fir trees were not like its boughs. And the chestnut trees were not like its branches, nor any tree in the garden of God was like it in its beauty.

9 ‘I made it beautiful by the abundance of its branches. So all the trees of Eden that were in the garden of God, envied it.

10 ¶ ‘Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Because it is high in stature and has set its top among the clouds, and its heart is haughty in its loftiness,

11 “I have therefore delivered it into the hand of the mighty one of the nations. He will surely deal with it. According to its wickedness I have driven it away.

12 “And foreigners, jthe most ruthless of the nations, have cut it off and have left it. kUpon the mountains and in all the valleys its branches have fallen. And its boughs are broken by all the rivers of the land. And all the people of the earth have gone down from its shadow and have left it.

13 “Upon its ruin will all the birds of the heaven remain, and all the beasts of the field will be upon its branches,

14 “so that all the trees by the waters may not be exalted in their stature, nor set their top among the clouds, nor their well-watered mighty ones stand erect in their height. For they are all delivered to death, “to the depths of the earth, among the children of men who go down to the Pit.”

15 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “In the day when it went down to the grave I caused a mourning. I covered the deep because of it. I restrained its rivers and the great waters were stayed. And I caused Lebanon to mourn for it, and all the trees of the field fainted for it.

16 “I made the nations shake at the sound of its fall, when I cast it down to Sheol with those who descend into the Pit. And all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all who drink water, ‘will be comforted in the depths of the earth.
17 “They also went down into Sheol with it to those who are slain with the sword, and those who were his arm, who dwelt under its shadow in the midst of the nations.
18 “To which are you thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? Yet you will be brought down with the trees of Eden to the depths of the earth. You will lie in the midst of the uncircumcised with those who are slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his multitude,” says the Lord GOD.”

Chapter 32
Lament for Pharaoh
1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say to him, ‘You are like a young lion of the nations, and as you are a monster in the seas. And you came forth with your rivers and troubled the waters with your feet, and fouling their rivers.’”
3 Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will therefore spread out My net over you with a company of many people. And they will bring you up in My net.
4 Then I will leave you on the land. I will cast you out on the open field, and cause all the birds of the heaven to settle on you. And I will fill the beasts of the whole earth with you.
5 “And I will lay your flesh upon the mountains, and fill the valleys with your carcass.
6 “I will also water with your blood the land in which you swim, even to the mountains. And the rivers will be full of you.
7 “And when I put you out, I will cover the heavens and make its stars dark. I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon will not give her light.
8 “All the bright lights of heaven I will make dark over you, and set darkness upon your land,” says the Lord GOD.
9 “I will also trouble the hearts of many people when I bring your destruction among the nations, into the countries that you have not known.
10 “Yes, I will make many people amazed at you, and their kings will be horribly afraid for you when I brandish My sword before them. And they will tremble at every moment, every man for his own life, in the day of your fall.”
11 ¶ “For thus says the Lord GOD, “The sword of the king of Babylon will come upon you.
12 “By the swords of the mighty I will cause your multitude to fall, the terrible of the nations, all of them. And they will plunder the pomp of Egypt, and all its multitude will be destroyed.
13 “I will destroy also all its beasts from beside the great waters. Neither will the foot of man trouble them anymore, nor the hoofs of beasts trouble them.
14 “Then I will make their waters deep, and cause their rivers to run like oil,” says the Lord GOD.
15 “When I will make the land of Egypt desolate, and the land is destitute of that which filled it, when I strike all those who live in it, then they will know that I am the LORD.
16 “This is the lamentation by which they will lament her. The daughters of the nations will lament her. They will lament for her, even for Egypt and for all her multitude,” says the Lord GOD.
17 ¶ It came to pass also in the twelfth year, in the fifteenth day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
18 “Son of man, cast them down, even her and the daughters of the famous nations, to the depths of the earth, with those who go down into the Pit.
19 “Whom do you surpass in beauty? Go down and be laid with the uncircumcised.
20 “They will fall in the midst of those who are slain by the sword. She is delivered to the sword. Draw her and all her multitudes.
21 “Asshur is there and all her company.
His graves are all around her. All of them are slain, fallen by the sword,
23 whose graves are set in the remotest parts of the Pit, and her company is all around her grave. All of them slain, are fallen by the sword, who caused terror in the land of the living.
24 ¶ “There is Elam and all her multitude all around her grave. All of them are slain, fallen by the sword, who caused terror in the land of the living. Yet they have borne their shame with those who go down to the Pit.
25 ¶ “There is Meshech, Tubal and all her multitude. Her graves are all around it. All of them are uncircumcised, slain by the sword, though they caused their terror in the land of the living.
26 ¶ “There is Edom, her kings and all her princes, who with their might are laid by those who are slain by the sword. They will lie with the uncircumcised, and with those who go down to the Pit.
27 ¶ “There are the princes of the north, all of them and all the Sidonians, who have gone down with the slain. With their terror they are ashamed of their might. And they lie uncircumcised with those who are slain by the sword. And they bear their shame with those who go down to the Pit.

31 ¶ “Pharaoh will see them and will be comforted over all his multitude, even Pharaoh and all his army slain by the sword,” says the Lord GOD.
32 ¶ “For I have caused My terror in the land of the living. And he will be laid in the midst of the uncircumcised with those who are slain with the sword, even Pharaoh and all his multitude,” says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 33
Ezekiel, the Watchman

1 ¶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, speak to the children of your people and say to them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man from their territory and set him for their watchman,
3 and he sees the sword coming upon the land, he blows the trumpet and warns the people.
4 Now whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take heed, if the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity. But his blood I will require at the watchman’s hand.’
5 ¶ “So you, O son of man, I have set you as a watchman to the house of Israel. Therefore, you will hear the word at My mouth and warn them for Me.
6 ¶ When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked of his way, that wicked man will die in his iniquity. But his blood I will require from your hand.
7 ¶ “When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked of his way, that wicked man will die in his iniquity. But his blood I will require from your hand.
8 ¶ “However, if you warn the wicked of his way to turn from it, if he does not turn from his way he will die in his iniquity. But you have delivered your soul.
10 ¶ "Therefore, O son of man, speak to the house of Israel. 'Thus you say, "If our transgressions and our sins are on us, and we ²pine away in them, how should we then live?"'

11 "Say to them, 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, ¹I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked ²turn from his way and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?'

12 ¶ "Therefore, son of man, say to the children of your people, 'The ²righteousness of the righteous will not deliver him in the day of his transgression. As for the wickedness of the wicked, ³he will not fall because of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness. Neither will the righteous be able to live because of his righteousness in the day that he sins.'

13 "When I say to the righteous ³that he will surely live, ⁴if he trusts in his own righteousness and commits iniquity, all his righteousnesses will not be remembered. But because of his iniquity that he has committed, he will die for it.

14 "Again, ⁴when I say to the wicked, 'You will surely die,' if he turns from his sin and does that which is lawful and right, "if the wicked ³restores the pledge, ⁴restores what he had robbed, walks in ⁵the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he will surely live. He will not die.

16 "None of his sins that he has committed will be mentioned to him. He has done that which is lawful and right. He will surely live.

17 ¶ "Yet the children of your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' But as for them, their way is not fair.

18 ¶ "When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he will die in his iniquity.

19 "But if the wicked turn from his wickedness and does that which is lawful and right, he will live in it.

20 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O you house of Israel, I will judge each one after his ways."

21 ¶ Now it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, in the fifth day of the month, ²that one who had escaped from Jerusalem came to me, saying, "The city has been captured."

22 Now the hand of the LORD was upon me in the evening, before he who had escaped came. And He ²opened my mouth at the time they came to me in the morning. So my mouth was opened and I was no longer speechless.

23 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

24 "Son of man, ³they who inhabit those ⁴ruins of the land of Israel are saying, "Abraham was only one and he inherited the land. But we are many and the land is given to us for an inheritance.'

25 "Therefore, say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, 'You eat with the blood and lift up your eyes toward your idols and shed blood. And will you possess the land?'

26 "You stand upon your sword. You work abomination and each one of you defiles his neighbor's wife. And will you possess the land?'

27 "Say thus to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "As I live, surely those who are in the ruins will fall by the sword. And he who is in the open field I will give to the beasts to be devoured. And those who are in the forts and in the caves will die from pestilence.

28 ¶ "For I will make the land desolate, and the pomp of her strength will cease. And the mountains of Israel will be desolate so that no one will pass through.

29 "Then they will know that I am the LORD when I make the land a desolation and a waste because of all their abominations that they have committed.'

30 ¶ "Also, son of man, the children of your people are still talking about you by the walls and in the doors of the houses. And they ²speak one to another, each one to his brother, saying, 'Please come and hear what the word is that..."
comes from the LORD.’
31 “So they come to you as the people do. And they sit before you as My people and they hear your words, but they will not do them. For with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goes after their covetousness.
32 “And behold, you are to them as a sensual song of one who has a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument. For they hear your words, but they do not do them.
33 “And when this comes to pass—behold, it will come—then they will know that a prophet has been among them.”

Chapter 34
Leadership of the Flock
1 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
2 “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD to the shepherds, a “Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock?
3 “You eat the fat and you clothe yourselves with the wool. You kill those who are fed. But you do not feed the flock.
4 “The sickly you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick. Neither have you bound up those who were broken, nor have you brought again those who were driven away. Neither have you sought those who were lost, but with force and with severity you have dominated them.
5 “And they were scattered because there was no shepherd. And they became food to all the beasts of the field when they were scattered.
6 “My sheep wandered through all the mountains and upon every high hill. Yes, My flock was scattered over all the face of the earth and no one searched or sought for them.” ’ ”
7 ¶ Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD.
8 “As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “surely because My flock became a prey and My flock became food for every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, nor did My shepherds search for My flock, but the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock,
9 “therefore, O you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:
10 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against the shepherds. And I will require My flock at their hand and cause them to cease from feeding the flock. Neither will the shepherds feed themselves anymore, for I will deliver My flock from their mouth so that they may not be food for them.” ’ ”
11 ¶ For thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I Myself will both search for My sheep and seek them out.
12 “As a shepherd seeks out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered, so I will seek out My sheep. And I will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.
13 “And I will bring them out from the people and gather them from the countries. And I will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers and in all the inhabited places of the country.
14 “I will feed them in a good pasture, and their grazing ground will be on the mountain heights of Israel. There they will lie in a good grazing ground, and in a fat pasture they will feed on the mountains of Israel.
15 “I will feed My flock and I will cause them to lie down,” says the Lord GOD.
16 “I will seek that which was lost and bring again that which was driven away. And I will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick. But I will destroy the fat and the strong. I will feed them with judgment.
17 ¶ “And as for you, O My flock, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between the rams and the male goats.
18 ‘Is it a small thing to you to have eaten up the good pasture, that you must tread down...
with your feet the rest of your pastures? Or that you should drink of the clear waters, that you must foul the rest with your feet?

19 ‘And as for My flock, they must eat that which you have trodden with your feet. And they drink that which you have fouled with your feet.’"

20 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them, ’Behold, I Myself will judge between the fat sheep and between the lean sheep.

21 “Because you have pushed with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the sickly with your horns, until you have scattered them abroad,

22 “therefore, I will save My flock, and they will no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 ¶ “Then I will set up one a shepherd over them. And He will feed them, even b My servant David. He will feed them and He will be their shepherd.

24 “And c I the LORD will be their God, and My servant David da prince among them. I the LORD have spoken it.

25 “And e I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will f cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land. And they g will dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the forest.

26 “And I will make them and the places all around h My hill i a blessing. And I will j cause the showers to come down in its season. There will be k showers of blessing.

27 “And l the tree of the field will yield her fruit, and the earth will yield her increase. And they will be safe in their land, and will know that I am the LORD when I have m broken the bonds of their yoke, and delivered them from the hand of those who n enslaved them.

28 “And they will no longer be a prey to the nations, nor will the beast of the land devour them. But o they will dwell safely, and no one will make them afraid.

29 “And I will raise up for them a p plant of renown, and they will q no longer be consumed with hunger in the land, s nor bear the shame of the nations anymore.

30 “Thus will they know that t I the LORD their God am with them, and that they, even the house of Israel, are u My people,” says the Lord GOD.

31 “As for you, My v flock, the flock of My pasture, you are men, and I am your God,” declares the Lord GOD.

Chapter 35

Prophecy Against Edom

1 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face against a Mount Seir and b prophesy against it.

3 “And say to it, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, O Mount Seir, I am against you, and c I will stretch out My hand against you and make you desolate and waste.

4 “I will lay your cities waste and you will be desolate. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

5 “Because you have had a perpetual hatred and have shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time of their final doom,

6 “therefore, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “I will prepare you for bloodshed, and bloodshed will pursue you. Since you have not hated bloodshed, therefore bloodshed will pursue you.

7 “Thus I will make Mount Seir most desolate, and I will cut off from it the hone who passes through and returns.

8 “And I will fill his mountains with his slain. On your hills and in your valleys, and in all your rivers, they will fall who are slain with the sword.

9 “I will make you an everlasting desolation and your cities will not return. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

10 ¶ “Because you have said, ‘These two nations and these two countries will be mine, and we will possess them,’ whereas t the LORD was there,

11 “therefore, as I live,” says the Lord GOD, “I will do u according to your anger, and ac-
cording to your envy that you have used out of your hatred against them. And I will make Myself known among them when I have judged you.

12 “Then you will know that I am the LORD, and that I have heard all your blasphemies that you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, ‘They are laid desolate. They are given to us to consume.’

13 “Thus with your mouth you have boasted against Me and have multiplied your words against Me. I have heard them.

14 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “As all the earth rejoices, I will make you desolate.

15 ‘As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel because it was desolate, so will I do to you. You will be desolate, O Mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it. Then they will know that I am the LORD.’”

Chapter 36

Prophecy to the Mountains

1 ¶ “Also, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, ‘You mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord.

2 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Because the enemy has said against you, ‘Aha,’ and, ‘The ancient high places have become our possession,’

3 “therefore prophesy and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “For good reason they have made you desolate and swallowed you up on every side so that you might be a possession to the rest of the nations, and you have been taken up in the talk and the whispering of the people.”’ “

4 ‘Therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD. Thus says the Lord GOD to the mountains and to the hills, to the rivers and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes and to the cities that are forsaken, that became a prey and derision to the rest of the nations that are all around,

5 ‘therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Surely in the fire of My jealousy I have spoken against the rest of the nations and against all Idumea who have appointed My land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with spiteful minds, in order to plunder its open country.”

6 ‘Prophecy, therefore, concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains and to the hills, to the rivers and to the valleys, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I have spoken in My jealousy and in My fury because you have borne the shame of the nations.’

7 “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘I have lifted up My hand. Surely the nations that are around you will bear their own shame.

8 ¶ ‘But you, O mountains of Israel, you will shoot out your branches and yield your fruit for My people of Israel, for they will soon come.

9 ‘For behold, I am for you and I will turn to you, and you will be cultivated and sown.

10 ‘And I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it. And the cities will be inhabited and the ruins will be rebuilt.

11 ‘And I will multiply upon you man and beast, and they will increase and bring fruit. And I will settle you after your old estates and will do better to you than at your beginnings.

12 ‘Yes, I will cause men to walk on you—My people Israel—and they will take possession of you and you will be their inheritance. And you will no longer from now on bereave them of children.’

13 “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Because they say to you, “You are a devourer of men and have bereaved your nation of children,”

14 ‘therefore, you will devour men no more, nor bereave your nation anymore,’ says the Lord GOD.

15 “Neither will I cause men to hear in you the shame of the nation anymore. Neither will you bear the reproach of the people anymore. Neither will you cause your nation to fall anymore,” says the Lord GOD.’”

16 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

17 “Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their deeds. Their way was before...
Me as the uncleanness of a woman in her impurity.

18 “Therefore, I poured My fury on them for the blood that they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it.

19 “Then I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries.

According to their way and according to their deeds I judged them.

20 “And when they came to the nations where they went, they profaned My holy name when they said to them, ‘These are the people of the LORD, and yet they have gone out of His land.’

21 But I had concern for My holy name that the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they went.

22 “Therefore, say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for My holy name’s sake, that you have profaned among the nations where you went.

23 “And I will sanctify My great name that was profaned among the nations, that you have profaned in the midst of them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD,” says the Lord GOD, “when I am sanctified in you before their eyes.

24 “For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all countries. And I will bring you into your own land.

25 “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean. From all your filthiness and from all your idols, I will cleanse you.

26 “A new heart also I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and I will give you a heart of flesh.

27 “And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes. And you will keep My judgments and do them.

28 “Then you will dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers. And you will be My people and I will be your God.

29 “I will also save you from all your uncleannesses. And I will call for the grain and will increase it, and bring no famine on you.

30 “And I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field so that you will receive no more reproach of famine among the nations.

31 “Then you will remember your own evil ways and your deeds that were not good. And you will loathe yourselves in your own sight because of your iniquities and your abominations.

32 “Let it be known to you that I am not doing this for your sakes,” says the Lord GOD. “Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel.”

33 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, “In the day that I will have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins will be rebuilt.

34 “And the desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by.

35 “And they will say, ‘This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden. And the waste and desolate and ruined cities have become fenced and are inhabited.’

36 “Then the nations that are left all around you will know that I the LORD built the ruined places and planted that which was desolate. I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.”

37 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “This also I will let the house of Israel ask Me to do for them: I will increase their men like a flock.

38 “As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts, so will the waste cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”’

Chapter 37

Valley of Dry Bones

1 ¶ The hand of the LORD was upon me and carried me out in the Spirit of the LORD. And He set me down in the middle of the valley that was full of bones.

2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around. And behold, there were many in the
open valley. And behold, they were very dry.

3 Then He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.”

4 Again He said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, ‘O you dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.’

5 “Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, ‘Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you and you will live.

6 ‘And I will lay sinews upon you and will bring up flesh on you and cover you with skin. And I will put breath in you and you will live. Then you will know that I am the LORD.’”

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to bone.

8 Then I looked, and behold, the sinews and the flesh came up on them and the skin covered over them. But there was no breath in them.

9 Then He said to me, “Prophesy to the wind. Prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain so that they may live.’”

10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them and they lived. And they stood up on their feet, an exceeding great army.

11 ¶ Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost. We are cut off from our parts.’

12 “Therefore, prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves. And I will bring you into the land of Israel.

13 “Then you will know that I am the LORD when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up out of your graves.

14 “And I will put My Spirit in you and you will live. And I will place you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken it and performed it,” says the LORD.”

15 ¶ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,

16 “Furthermore, son of man, take one stick and write on it, ‘For Judah and for the children of Israel his companions.’ Then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions.’

17 “Then “join them one to another into one stick, and they will become one in your hand.

18 ¶ “And when the children of your people will speak to you, saying, “Will you not show us what you mean by these?”

19 ¶ “say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph that is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick. And they will be one in My hand.”’

20 “And the sticks on which you wrote will be in your hand before their eyes.

21 “Then say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the nations where they have gone and will gather them on every side and bring them into their own land.

22 “And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel. And one king will be king for all of them. And they will no longer be two nations, nor will they be divided into two kingdoms.

23 “Neither will they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions. But I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they will be My people and I will be their God.

24 ¶ “Then David My servant will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes and do them.

25 “And they will dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt. And they will dwell in it,
even they and their children and their children’s children forever. And My servant David will be their prince forever.

26 “Furthermore, I will make a covenant of peace with them. It will be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will place them and multiply them, and will establish My sanctuary in the midst of them forevermore.

27 “My tabernacle will also be with them. Yes, I will be their God and they will be My people.

28 “Then the nations will know that I the LORD sanctifies Israel when My sanctuary will be in the midst of them forever.”’ 

Chapter 38

Prophecy Against Gog

1 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face against Gog, the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

3 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal.

4 “And I will turn you about and put hooks into your jaws. And I will bring you out and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them splendidly attired, a great company with buckler and shield, all of them wielding swords;

5 Persia, Ethiopia and Libya with them, all of them with shield and helmet;

6 Gomer and all his troops, the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his troops, and many people with you.

7 ¶ Be prepared and prepare for yourself, you and all your company who are assembled around you, and be a guard to them.

8 ¶ After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land that is brought back from the sword and is gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel that had been a continual waste. But its people were brought out of the nations and they are living securely, all of them.

9 “You will ascend and come like a storm. You will be like a cloud to cover the land, you and all your troops, and many people with you.”

10 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “It will also come to pass at the same time that things will come into your mind and you will devise an evil plan.

11 “And you will say, ‘I will go up to the land of unwalled villages. I will go to those who are at rest, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls and having neither bars nor gates’—

12 “in order to take spoil and to seize plunder, to turn your hand on the desolate places that are now inhabited, and on the people who are gathered out of the nations, who have acquired cattle and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land.

13 “Sheba and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish with all its villages will say to you, ‘Have you come to take spoil? Have you gathered your company to seize plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?’”

14 ¶ “Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “In that day when My people of Israel dwell safely, will you not know it?

15 “And you will come from your place out of the north parts, you and many people with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army.

16 “And you will come up against My people of Israel as a cloud to cover the land. It will be in the latter days and I will bring you against My land so that the nations may know Me when I am sanctified through you before their eyes, O Gog.”

17 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Are you he of whom I have spoken in old time by My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied in those days many years that I would bring you against them?

18 ¶ “Now it will come to pass at the same time when Gog comes against the land of Is-
“Israel,” says the Lord GOD, “that My fury will mount up in My anger.

19 “For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I declare that on that day there will surely be a great earthquake in the land of Israel.

20 “The fish of the sea and the birds of the heaven, and the beasts of the field and all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all the men who are on the face of the earth, will shake at My presence. And the mountains will be thrown down and the steep places will fall, and every wall will fall to the ground.

21 “And I will call for a sword against him throughout all My mountains,” says the Lord GOD. “Every man’s sword will be against his brother.

22 “And I will bring against him judgment with pestilence and with blood. And I will rain on him and on his troops, and on the many people who are with him, an overflowing rain and great hailstones, fire and brimstone.

23 “Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself. Then I will be known in the eyes of many nations and they will know that I am the Lord.”

Chapter 39

1 ¶ “Therefore, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal.

2 “And I will turn you about and leave only the sixth part of you. And I will cause you to come up from the north and will bring you upon the mountains of Israel.

3 “Then I will strike your bow out of your left hand and cause your arrows to fall out of your right hand.

4 “You will fall on the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops, and the people who are with you. I will give you to the ravenous birds of every kind and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.

5 “You will fall on the open field, for I have spoken it,” says the Lord GOD.

6 Then I will send a fire on Magog and among those who live in security in the coastlands. Then they will know that I am the LORD.

7 “So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel. And I will not let them profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

8 “Behold, it is coming, and it is done,” says the Lord GOD. “This is the day of which I have spoken.

9 ¶ “Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go forth, and will set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the war clubs and the spears, and they will burn them with fire for seven years.

10 “They will not take wood from the field, nor cut down any from the forests, for they will burn the weapons with fire. And they will take the spoil of those who despoiled them and seize the plunder of those who plundered them,” declares the Lord GOD.

11 ¶ “Then it will come to pass in that day that I will give to Gog a burial place in Israel, the valley of those who pass by east of the sea. And it will block off those who would pass by. So they will bury Gog there with all his horde, and they will call it the valley of Hamongog.

12 “For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them in order that they might cleanse the land.

13 “Yes, all the people of the land will bury them. And it will be to their renown on the day that I glorify Myself,” says the Lord GOD.

14 “And they will set apart men regularly employed, to pass through the land to bury those bodies that remain on the surface of the ground in order to cleanse it. After the end of seven months they will make a search.

15 “As those who pass through the land pass through and anyone sees a man’s bone, then he will set up a marker by it until the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamongog.

16 “And also the name of the city will be Hamonah. In this manner they will cleanse the land.
17 ¶ “And, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD, "Speak to every kind of bird and to every beast of the field, "Assemble yourselves and come. Gather yourselves on every side to My sacrifice that I sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel so that you may eat flesh and drink blood.

18 ¶“You will eat the flesh of the mighty and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs and of goats, of bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan.

19 “And you will eat fat until you are full, and drink blood until you are drunken, of My sacrifice that I have sacrificed for you.

20 ¶Thus you will be filled at My table with horses and chariots, with mighty men and with all men of war," says the Lord GOD.

21 ¶“And I will set My glory among the nations and all the nations will see My judgment that I have executed, and bMy hand that I have laid upon them.

22 ¶“So the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward.

23 ¶“And the nations will know that the house of Israel went into captivity because of their iniquity. Because they trespassed against Me, therefore, I hid My face from them and gave them into the hand of their enemies. And all of them fell by the sword.

24 ¶“According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions I have done to them, and hidden My face from them." ¶ ¶

25 ¶ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, ¶ "Now I will bring again the captivity of Jacob and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for My holy name, after they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses by which they have trespassed against Me, when they dwelt safely in their land with no one to make them afraid.

26 ¶“When I have brought them again from the people and gathered them out of their enemies’ lands, and am sanctified through them in the sight of many nations, ¶

27 ¶ then they will know that I am the LORD their God who caused them to be led into captivity among the nations. But I have gathered them to their own land, and I will leave none of them there any longer.

29 ¶“Neither will I hide My face anymore from them. For I have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,” says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 40
The New Temple

1 ¶ In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, at the beginning of the year, in the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was captured, in the same day the hand of the LORD was on me and He took me there.

2 ¶“In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain. And on it to the south there was a structure like a city.

3 And he took me there, and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring rod. And he stood in the gate.

4 And the man said to me, ¶ “Son of man, behold with your eyes and hear with your ears, and set your heart on all that I will show you, for the purpose that I might show them to you were you brought here. ¶ Declare all that you see to the house of Israel.”

East Gate to the Outer Court

5 ¶ And behold, a wall all around on the outside of the temple, and in the man’s hand a measuring rod six cubits long by the cubit and a hand’s width. So he measured the width of the building, one rod; and the height, one rod.

6 Then he came to the gate that faces toward the east, and went up its stairs. And he measured the threshold of the gate which was one rod wide. And the other threshold of the gate was one rod wide.

7 And every little room was one rod long and one rod wide. And between the little rooms were five cubits, and the threshold of the gate by the porch of the gate facing inward was one rod.
8 He measured also the porch of the gate facing inward, one rod.
9 Then he measured the porch of the gate, eight cubits and its posts, two cubits. And the porch of the gate was facing inward.
10 And the little rooms of the gate eastward were three on this side and three on that side. The three were the same measure. And the pillars had the same measure on this side and on that side.
11 And he measured the width of the entrance of the gate, ten cubits. The length of the gate was thirteen cubits.
12 The space also before the little rooms was one cubit on this side; and the space was one cubit on that side. And the little rooms were six cubits on this side and six cubits on that side.
13 Then he measured the gate from the roof of one little room to the roof of another. The width was twenty-five cubits, as door faces door.
14 He measured also pillars of sixty cubits, even to the pillar of the court all around the gate.
15 And from the face of the gate of the entrance to the face of the porch of the inner gate was fifty cubits and the width twenty-five cubits.
16 And there were narrow windows to the little rooms, and to their pillars within the gate all around, and likewise for the porches. And there were windows all around inside. And on each side pillar were palm tree ornaments.

The South Gate
24 ¶ After that he brought me toward the south, and behold, a gate facing the south. And he measured its posts and its porches according to these same measures.
25 And there were windows in it and in its porches all around, like those windows. The length was fifty cubits and the width twenty-five cubits.
26 And there were seven steps to ascend to it, and its porches were before them. And it had palm trees, one on this side and another on that side, upon its pillars.
27 And there was a gate in the inner court facing the south. And he measured from gate to gate facing the south, one hundred cubits.

Gates to the Inner Court
28 ¶ Then he brought me to the inner court by the south gate. And he measured the south gate according to these same measures.
29 And its little rooms and its pillars and its porches were according to these same measures. And there were windows in it and in its porches all around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.
30 And the porches all around were twenty-five cubits long and five cubits wide.
31 And its porches faced toward the outer court. And palm trees were on its pillars. And the ascent to it had eight steps.
32 ¶ And he brought me into the inner court
facing the east. And he measured the gate according to these same measures.

33 And its little rooms and its pillars and its porches were according to these same measures. And there were windows in it and in its porches all around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

34 And its porches were facing the outward court. And palm trees were on its pillars, on this side and on that side. And the ascent to it had eight steps.

35 ¶ And he brought me to the north gate and measured it according to these same measures, also its little rooms, its pillars and its porches, and the windows to it all around. The length was fifty cubits and the width twenty-five cubits.

36 And its pillars were facing the outer court. And palm trees were on its pillars, on this side and on that side. And the ascent to it had eight steps.

Rooms for Preparing Sacrifices

38 ¶ And the rooms and their entrances were by the pillars of the gates where they washed the burnt offering.

39 And in the porch of the gate were two tables on this side and two tables on that side, to slay on them the burnt offering and the sin offering and the trespass offering.

40 And at the outer side, as one ascends to the entrance from the north gate, were two tables. And on the other side, that was at the porch of the gate, were two tables.

41 Four tables were on this side and four tables on that side. By the side of the gate were eight tables on which they slew their sacrifices.

42 And the four tables were of cut stone for the burnt offering, a cubit and a half long, and a cubit and a half wide, and one cubit thick. On this also they laid the instruments with which they slew the burnt offering and the sacrifice.

43 And fastened all around within were hooks a handbreadth wide. And on the tables was the flesh of the offering.

Rooms for the Priests

44 ¶ And outside the inner gate were the rooms for the singers in the inner court that was at the side of the north gate. And their front was facing the south. One was at the side of the east gate with the front facing the north.

45 And he said to me, “This room whose front is facing the south is for the priests, the keepers in charge of the house.

46 “And the room whose front is facing the north is for the priests, the keepers in charge of the altar. These are the sons of Zadok among the sons of Levi, who come near to the LORD to minister to Him.”

47 ¶ So he measured the court, one hundred cubits long and one hundred cubits wide, foursquare. And the altar was before the temple.

The Temple

48 ¶ Then he brought me to the porch of the temple and measured each pillar of the porch, five cubits on this side and five cubits on that side. And the width of the gate was three cubits on this side and three cubits on that side.

49 ¶ The length of the porch was twenty cubits and the width eleven cubits. And he brought me by the steps by which they went up to it. And there were pillars by the doorposts, one on this side and another on that side.

Chapter 41

1 ¶ Afterward he brought me to the temple and measured the pillars, six cubits wide on the one side and six cubits wide on the other side, which was the width of the tabernacle.

2 And the width of the door was ten cubits. And the sides of the door were five cubits on the one side and five cubits on the other side. And he measured its length, forty cubits. And the width was twenty cubits.

3 Then he went inside and measured the pillar of the door, two cubits; and the door, six cubits. And the width of the door was seven cubits.

4 Then he measured its length, twenty cubits; and the width, twenty cubits, beyond the sanctuary. Then he said to me, “This is the most holy place.”

5 Afterward he measured the wall of the
The foundations of the side rooms were four cubits, all around the temple on every side.

6 And the side rooms were three, one above another, and thirty in order. And they rested on ledges that were for the side rooms all around so that they might be supported, but not fastened to the wall of the temple.

7 The side rooms surrounding the temple were wider at each successive story. Because the structure surrounding the temple went upward by stages on all sides of the temple, therefore, the width of the temple increased as it went higher. And thus one went up from the lowest story to the highest by way of the second story.

8 I saw also the height of the temple all around. The foundations of the side rooms were a full rod, that is, six cubits high.

9 The thickness of the wall that was for the side room outside was five cubits. And that which was left was the place of the side rooms that were inside.

10 And between the rooms was the width of twenty cubits all around the temple on every side.

11 And the doors of the side rooms faced the place that was left, one door faced the north and another door faced the south. And the width of the place that was left was five cubits all around.

12 Now the building that was before the separating courtyard at the end faced the west was seventy cubits wide. And the wall of the building was five cubits thick all around, and its length ninety cubits.

13 So he measured the house, one hundred cubits long; and the separating courtyard and the building, with its walls, one hundred cubits long;

14 also the width of the face of the temple and the separating courtyard faced the east, one hundred cubits.

15 And he measured the length of the building opposite the separating courtyard that was behind it, and its galleries on one side and on the other side, one hundred cubits, with the inner temple and the porches of the court;

16 The door pillars and the narrow windows and the galleries all around on their three stories, opposite the door, paneled with wood all around, and from the ground up to the windows, and the windows were covered—

17 to that above the door, even to the inner house and outside, and by all the wall all around inside and outside, by measure.

18 ¶ And it was made with cherubim and palm trees, so that a palm tree was between each cherub. And every cherub had two faces,

19 so that the face of a man was facing the palm tree on the one side and the face of a young lion facing the palm tree on the other side. It was made throughout all the house all around.

20 From the ground to above the door were cherubim and palm trees made, and on the wall of the temple.

21 ¶ The pillars of the temple were squared, also the face of the sanctuary. The appearance of the one was as the appearance of the other.

22 The altar of wood was three cubits high and its length two cubits. And its corners and its length and its walls were of wood. And he said to me, “This is the table that is before the LORD.”

23 And the temple and the sanctuary had two doors.

24 And the doors had two leaves apiece, two turning leaves, two leaves for the one door and two leaves for the other door.

25 And there was carved on them, on the doors of the temple, cherubim and palm trees as were carved on the walls. And there were thick planks on the face of the porch outside.

26 And there were narrow windows and palm trees on one side and on the other side, on the sides of the porch and on the side rooms of the temple, and thick planks.

Chapter 42

Rooms for the Priests

1 ¶ Then he brought me out into the outer court, the way facing the north. And he brought me into the room that was opposite the separating courtyard that was before the building toward the north.
Ezekiel 43

Glory Returns to the Temple

1 ¶ Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that faces toward the east.
2 ¶ And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. And his voice was like a noise of many waters. And the earth was radiated with His glory.

3 Now it was according to the appearance of the vision that I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city. And the visions were like the vision that I saw by the River Chebar. Then I fell on my face.

4 ¶ Then the glory of the LORD came into the temple by the way of the gate facing toward the east.

5 Then the Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner court. And behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

6 ¶ Then I heard him speaking to me out of the temple.
the temple, and kthe man stood by me.
7 And He said to me, “Son of man, lthe place of My throne, and mthe place of the soles of My feet nwhere I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever. And othe house of Israel will never again defile My holy name, neither they nor their kings, by their harlotry and by pthe carcasses of their kings when they die.
8 q¶ When they set their threshold by My threshold, and their door post by My door post, and the wall between Me and them, they defiled My holy name by their abominations that they committed. Therefore, I have consumed them in My anger.
9 “Now let them put far from Me their harlotry and the carcasses of their kings. Then I will dwell in the midst of them forever.
10 ¶ “You son of man, rshow the temple to the house of Israel so that they may be ashamed of their iniquities. And let them measure the plan.
11 “And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, show them the design of the temple, its structure, its exits, its entrances, all its designs, all its statues, and all its laws. And write it in their sight so that they may observe its whole design and all its statutes and ‘do them.
12 “This is the law of the temple. On ‘the top of the mountain its whole area all around will be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the temple.

The Altar
13 ¶ “And these are the measurements of the ‘altar according to cubits “(the cubit is a cubit and a hand width). The bottom will be a cubit and the width a cubit, and its border by its edge all around will be a span. And this will be the higher place of the altar.
14 “And from the bottom on the ground even to the lower ledge will be two cubits, and the width one cubit. And from the lesser ledge even to the greater ledge will be four cubits, and the width one cubit.
15 “So the altar will be four cubits. And from the altar and upward will be four ‘horns.
16 “And the altar will be twelve cubits long, twelve wide, ‘square on its four sides.

17 “And the ledge will be fourteen cubits long and fourteen wide in its four squares. And the border around it will be half a cubit. And its bottom will be a cubit all around, and ‘its stairs will face the east.”
18 ¶ And He said to me, “Son of man, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘These are the ordinances of the altar in the day when they will make it, to offer ‘burnt offerings on it and to ‘sprinkle blood on it.
19 ‘Now you will give to ‘the priests the Levites who are of the seed of ‘Zadok, who approach to Me to minister to Me,” says the Lord GOD, ‘a young bull for a sin offering.
20 ‘And you will take of its blood and put it on its four horns and on the four corners of the ledge and on the border all around. Thus you will cleanse and purge it.
21 ‘You will take the bull also of the sin offering and he will ‘burn it in the appointed place of the temple, ‘outside the sanctuary.
22 ‘And on the second day you will offer a kid of the goats without blemish for a sin offering. And they will cleanse the altar as they cleansed it with the bull.
23 ‘When you have cleansed it, you will offer a young bull without blemish and a ram out of the flock without blemish.
24 ‘And you will offer them before the LORD, and bthe priests will cast salt on them. And they will offer them up for a burnt offering to the LORD.
25 ‘For ‘seven days you will prepare every day a goat for a sin offering. They will also prepare a young bull and a ram out of the flock without blemish.
26 ‘For seven days they will purge the altar and purify it, and they will consecrate themselves.
27 ‘Now when these days are completed, it will be on the eighth day and onward that the priests will make your burnt offerings on the altar and your peace offerings. Then I will ‘accept you,” says the Lord GOD.”

Chapter 44
Prince, Levites and Priests
¶ Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outside sanctuary "that faces toward the east. And it was shut.

2 Then the LORD said to me, “This gate will be shut. It will not be opened, and no man will enter in by it. ³Because the LORD, the God of Israel, has entered in by it, therefore, it will be shut.

3 “It is for the ‘prince. The prince, he will sit in it to ⁴eat bread before the LORD. He will enter by the way of the porch of that gate and will go out by the same way.”

4 ¶ Then he brought me by the way of the north gate in front of the temple. And I looked, and ⁵behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple of the LORD. ⁶And I fell on my face.

5 Then the LORD said to me, ⁷"Son of man, mark well, and behold with your eyes and hear with your ears all that I say to you concerning all the ⁸ordinances of the house of the LORD, and all its laws. Mark well the entrance of the temple, with every exit from the sanctuary.

6 “And you will say to the ‘rebellious, ⁹even to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, ¹⁰Enough of all your abominations, O house of Israel,

7 ¹¹in that you have brought into My sanctuary ¹²foreigners, ¹³uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to defile it, even My house, when you offer ¹⁴My bread, ¹⁵the fat and the blood, and they have broken My covenant because of all your abominations.

8 “And you have not ¹⁶kept charge of My holy things. But you have set foreigners to keep charge of My sanctuary.”

9 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart nor uncircumcised in flesh, will enter into My sanctuary, of any foreigner who is among the children of Israel.

10 ¶ But the Levites who went far from Me when Israel went astray, who went astray from Me after their idols, they will bear their iniquity.

11 So they will be ministers in My sanctuary, ¹²as gatekeepers of the gates of the house and ministering to the house. ¹³They will slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people. And ¹⁴they will stand before them to minister to them.

12 “Because they ministered to them before their idols, and ‘caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore, I have ‘lifted up My hand against them,” says the Lord GOD, “and they will bear their iniquity.

13 ¶ "So they will not come near to Me to do the office of a priest to Me, nor come near to any of My holy things in the most holy place. But they will ¹⁵bear their shame and their abominations that they have committed.

14 “But I will make them ¹⁶keepers in charge of the house for all its service, and for all that will be done in it.

15 ¶ "But the priests, the Levites, ¹⁷the sons of Zadok, who kept the charge of My sanctuary ¹⁸when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they ¹⁹will come near to Me to minister to Me. And they will stand before Me to offer to Me the ²⁰fat and the blood,” says the Lord GOD.

16 ¶ They will ²¹enter into My sanctuary and they will come near to ²²My table to minister to Me. And they will keep My charge.

17 “And it will come to pass when they enter in at the gates of the inner court, ²³they will be clothed with linen garments. And no wool will come on them while they minister in the gates of the inner court, or in the house.

18 ²⁴They will have linen turbans on their heads and will have linen undergarments on their loins. They will not gird themselves with anything that makes them sweat.

19 “And when they go out into the outer court, ²⁵even into the outer court to the people, ²⁶they will put off their garments in which they ministered and lay them in the holy chambers. Then they will put on other garments. And in their holy garments they will ²⁷not sanctify the people.

20 ¶ "Neither will they shave their heads, nor allow their locks to grow ²⁸long. They will keep their hair trimmed

21 ¶ "Neither will any priest drink wine when
they enter into the inner court.

22 “Neither will they take for their wives a widow, nor she who has been put away. But they will take virgins from the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow who before had a priest.

23 “And they will teach My people the difference between the holy and profane. And they will cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 “And in a dispute they will stand in judgment. They will judge according to My judgments. And they will keep My laws and My statutes in all My assemblies. And they will sanctify My sabbaths.

25 “And they will not come near a dead person to defile themselves. But for father or for mother, or for son or daughter, for brother or sister who has had no husband, they may defile themselves.

26 “Then after he is cleansed, they will number him to seven days.

27 “And in the day that he goes into the sanctuary, to the inner court, in order to minister in the sanctuary, he will offer his sin offering, says the Lord GOD.

28 “And it will be to them for an inheritance. I am their inheritance. And you will give them no possession in Israel. I am their possession.

29 “They will eat the grain offering and the sin offering and the trespass offering. And every dedicated thing in Israel will be theirs.

30 “And the first of all the firstfruits of all things, and every contribution of every kind, from all your contributions, will be for the priests. You will also give to the priest the first of your dough so that he may cause a blessing to rest on your house.

31 “The priests will not eat any bird or beast that has died a natural death or has been torn to pieces.

Chapter 45
Division of the Land

1 ¶ “Furthermore, when you divide by allotment the land for inheritance, you will offer an allotment to the LORD, a holy portion of the land. The length will be the length of 25,000 cubits and the width will be 10,000 cubits. It will be holy within all its boundary all around.

2 “Out of this there will be for the holy place a square five hundred by five hundred cubits all around, and fifty cubits for its open space all around.

3 “And of this measure you will measure the length of 25,000 cubits, and the width of 10,000 cubits. And in it will be the sanctuary and the most holy place.

4 “The holy portion of the land will be for the priests, the ministers of the sanctuary who come near to minister to the LORD. And it will be a place for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary.

5 “And the 25,000 cubits in length and the 10,000 cubits width will belong to the Levites, the ministers of the temple. They will have twenty houses as a possession.

6 ¶ “And you will appoint the possession of the city 5,000 cubits wide and 25,000 cubits long, adjacent to the allotment of the holy portion. It will be for the whole house of Israel.

7 ¶ “And a portion will be for the prince on one side and on the other side of the allotment of the holy portion, and of the possession of the city, before the allotment of the holy portion, and before the possession of the city, from the west side westward and from the east side eastward. And the length will be side by side with one of the tribal portions, from the west border to the east border.

8 “In the land will be his possession in Israel. And My princes will no longer oppress My people. And the rest of the land they will give to the house of Israel according to their tribes.”

9 ¶ “Thus says the Lord GOD, “Enough, O princes of Israel. Remove violence and plunder, and execute righteousness and justice. Take away your expropriations from My people,” says the Lord GOD.

10 “You will have just balances, and a just ephah, and a just bath.

11 “The ephah and the bath will be the same quantity, that the bath may contain the tenth part of a homer and the ephah the tenth part of
a homer. Its measure will be after the homer.

12 “And the shekel will be twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, fifteen shekels will be your maneh.

Offerings and Holy Days

13 ¶ “This is the oblation that you will offer: the sixth part of an ephah of a homer of wheat, and you will give the sixth part of an ephah of a homer of barley.

14 “Concerning the ordinance of oil, the bath of oil, you will offer the tenth part of a bath out of the kor that is a homer of ten baths, for ten baths are a homer.

15 “And one lamb out of the flock, out of two hundred, out of the fat pastures of Israel, for a grain offering and for a burnt offering and for peace offerings, to make reconciliation for them,” says the Lord GOD.

16 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “The gate of the inner court that faces toward the east will be shut the six aworking days, but on the Sabbath it will be opened. And on the day of the new moon it will be opened.

17 “And the prince will enter by way of the vestibule of that gate from outside, and will stand by the door post of the gate. And the priests will prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he will worship at the threshold of the gate. Then he will go out, but the gate will not be shut until the evening.

18 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “In the first month, in the first day of the month, you will take a young bull without blemish and cleanse the sanctuary.

19 “And the priest will take of the blood of the sin offering and put it on the door posts of the house and on the four corners of the ledge of the altar and on the door posts of the gate of the inner court.

20 “And so you will do the seventh day of the month for everyone who errs unintentionally and for him who is in ignorance. So will you make atonement for the temple.

21 ¶ “In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, you will have the Passover, a feast of seven days. Unleavened bread will be eaten.

22 “And on that day the prince will prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bull for a sin offering.

23 “And seven days of the feast he will prepare a burnt offering to the LORD, seven bulls and seven rams without blemish daily the seven days. And a kid of the goats daily for a sin offering.

24 ¶ “And he will prepare a grain offering of an ephah for a bull, and an ephah for a ram, and a hin of oil for an ephah.

25 “In the seventh month, in the fifteenth day of the month, he will do the same in the feast of the seven days, according to the sin offering, according to the burnt offering and according to the grain offering and the oil.”

Chapter 46

1 ¶ ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “The gate of the inner court that faces toward the east will be shut the six working days, but on the Sabbath it will be opened. And on the day of the new moon it will be opened.

2 ¶ “And the prince will enter by way of the vestibule of that gate from outside, and will stand by the door post of the gate. And the priests will prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he will worship at the threshold of the gate. Then he will go out, but the gate will not be shut until the evening.

3 ¶ “Likewise, the people of the land will worship at the door of this gate before the LORD on the sabbaths and on the new moons.

4 ¶ “And the burnt offering that the prince will offer to the LORD on the Sabbath Day will be six lambs without blemish, and a ram.

5 ¶ “And the grain offering will be an ephah for a ram, and the grain offering for the lambs as he will be able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

6 ¶ “And on the day of the new moon it will be a young bull without blemish, and six lambs and a ram. They will be without blemish.

7 ¶ “And he will prepare a grain offering, an ephah for a bull and an ephah for a ram, and with the lambs as much as he is able, and a hin of oil with an ephah.

8 ¶ “And when the prince enters, he will go in by the way of the porch of that gate, and he
9 ¶ "But when the people of the land come before the LORD in the solemn feasts, he who enters in by the way of the north gate to worship will go out by the way of the south gate. And he who enters by the way of the south gate will go out by the way of the north gate. He will not return by the way of the gate by which he came in, but will go out opposite it. 10 "And the prince in the midst of them, when they go in, will go in. And when they go out, he will go out.

11 "And at the feasts and at the appointed feasts, the grain offering will be an ephah to a bull and an ephah to a ram, and to the lambs as he is able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

12 ¶ "Now when the prince prepares a voluntary burnt offering or peace offerings voluntarily to the LORD, one will then open for him the gate that faces toward the east. And he will prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings as he did on the Sabbath Day. Then he will go out, and after he goes out, one will shut the gate.

13 "And you will provide daily a lamb a year old without blemish for a burnt offering to the LORD. You will prepare it every morning.

14 "And you will prepare a grain offering for it every morning, the sixth part of an ephah and the third part of a hin of oil, to moisten with the fine flour, and a grain offering continually by a perpetual ordinance to the LORD.

15 "Thus they will prepare the lamb and the grain offering and the oil, every morning for a continual burnt offering.

16 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, "If the prince gives a gift out of his inheritance to any of his sons, it will belong to his sons. It is their possession by inheritance.

17 "But if he gives a gift of his inheritance to one of his servants, then it will be his to the year of liberty. Afterward, it will return to the prince. But his inheritance will belong to his sons. It will become theirs.

18 "Furthermore, the prince will not take of the people’s inheritance by oppression, to throw them out of their possession. He will give his sons inheritance out of his own possession, so that My people not be scattered any man from his possession."

19 ¶ Afterward, He brought me through the entry that was at the side of the gate, into the holy rooms of the priests that faced toward the north. And behold, there was a place on the two sides westward.

20 Then he said to me, "This is the place where the priests will boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, where they will bake the grain offering so that they may not bring them out into the outer court ‘to transmit holiness to the people.’

21 Then He brought me out into the outer court and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court. And behold, in every corner of the court there was a court.

22 In the four corners of the court were enclosed courts forty cubits long and thirty wide. These four corners were the same size.

23 And there was a row of building stones all around them, all around the four of them. And it was made with boiling places under the rows all around.

24 Then he said to me, “These are the places for those who boil, where the ministers of the temple will boil the sacrifices of the people.”

Chapter 47
River from the Temple

1 ¶ Afterward, He brought me again to the door of the temple. And behold, waters flowed eastward out from under the threshold of the temple. And the waters were flowing down from under, from the right side of the temple, from south of the altar.

2 Again he measured a thousand cubits, and brought me through the waters. The waters were to the ankles.

3 ¶ And when the man who had the line in his hand went out eastward, he measured a thousand cubits. Then he brought me through the waters. The waters were to the ankles.

4 Again he measured a thousand cubits, and brought me through the waters. The waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thou-
sand cubits and brought me through. The waters were to the waist.
5 Afterward he measured a thousand, and it was a river that I could not pass over, for the waters had risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.
6 ¶ Then He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen this?” Then he brought me and caused me to return to the brink of the river.
7 Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were many trees on the one side and on the other.
8 Then he said to me, “These waters go out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, then into the sea. And being brought out into the sea, the waters will be healed.
9 “And it will come to pass that everything that lives, that moves, wherever the rivers will go, will live. And there will be a great multitude of fish because these waters will go there. For they will be healed, and everything will live where the river goes.
10 “And it will come to pass that the fishermen will stand on it from Engedi even to Eneglaim. There will be places to spread forth nets. Their fish will be according to their kinds, as the fish of the Great Sea, very many.
11 “But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh. They will be given to salt.
12 “And by the river on its bank, on this side and on that side, will grow all trees for food, whose leaf will not fade, nor will their fruit be consumed. They will bring forth new fruit according to their months, because their waters flowed out of the sanctuary. And their fruit will be for food and their leaf for medicine.”

Boundaries of the Land
13 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD, “This will be the border by which you will inherit the land according to the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph will have two portions.
14 “You will divide it for an inheritance, each one equally with the other, for I swore to give it to your forefathers. And this land will fall to you as an inheritance.
15 “And this will be the border of the land toward the north side, from the Great Sea, by the way of Hethlon, as men go to Zedad;
16 “Hamath, Berothah, Sibraim, that is between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath, to Hazar Hatticon, that is by the coast of Hauran.
17 “And the border from the sea will be Hazar Enan, the border of Damascus, and the north northward, and the border of Hamath. And this is the north side.
18 “And the east side will measure from Hauran and from Damascus and from Gilead and from the land of Israel by the Jordan, from the border to the east sea. And this is the east side.
19 “And the south side southward, from Tamar even to the waters of strife in Kadesh, the river to the Great Sea. And this is the south side southward.
20 “The west side also will be the great sea from the border, until a man comes opposite Hamath. This is the west side.
21 ¶ “So you will divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel.
22 “And it will come to pass that you will divide it by lot for an inheritance to you, and to the foreigners who sojourn among you, who will beget children among you. And they will be to you as born in the country among the children of Israel. They will have an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.
23 “And it will come to pass that in what tribe the foreigner sojourns, there you will give him his inheritance,” says the Lord GOD.

Chapter 48
Division of the Land
1 ¶ “Now these are the names of the tribes. From the north end to the coast along the way to Hethlon, as one goes to Hamath, Hazarenan, the border of Damascus northward, to the coast of Hamath, running from east to west, Dan, one portion.
2 “And by the border of Dan, from the east side to the west side, a portion for Asher.
3 “And by the border of Asher, from the east side even to the west side, a portion for Naphtali.
4 “And by the border of Naphtali, from the east side to the west side, a portion for the children of Manasseh.

5 “And by the border of Manasseh, from the east side to the west side, a portion for the children of Ephraim.

6 “And by the border of Ephraim, from the east side even to the west side, a portion for the children of Reuben.

7 “And by the border of Reuben, from the east side to the west side, a portion for the children of Judah.

8 ¶ “And by the border of Judah, from the east side to the west side, will be the district that you will set apart, 25,000 cubits in width, and in length as one of the other parts, from the east side to the west side. And the sanctuary will be in the middle of it.

9 ¶ “The district that you will set apart to the LORD will be of 25,000 cubits in length and of 10,000 cubits in width.

10 “The holy allotment will be for these, namely for the priests, toward the north 25,000 cubits in length, toward the west 10,000 in width, toward the east 10,000 in width, and toward the south 25,000 in length. And the sanctuary of the LORD will be in the middle of it.

11 k ¶ “It will be for the priests who are sanctified of the sons of Zadok, who have kept My charge, who did not go astray when the children of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray.

12 ¶ “And this district of the land that is set apart will be to them a thing most holy by the border of the Levites.

13 ¶ “And opposite the border of the priests the Levites will have 25,000 cubits in length and 10,000 in width. The whole length will be 25,000 cubits and the width 10,000.

14 ¶ “And they will not sell it, nor exchange, nor alienate the firstfruits of the land, for it is holy to the LORD.

15 ¶ “The remainder, 5,000 cubits in width and 25,000 in length, will be for common use for the city, for dwellings and for open spaces. And the city will be in its middle.

16 ¶ These will be its measurements: the north side 4,500 cubits, the south side 4,500 cubits, the east side 4,500 cubits, and the west side 4,500 cubits.

17 ¶ “The city will have open spaces: on the north 250 cubits, on the south 250 cubits, on the east 250 cubits, and on the west 250 cubits.

18 ¶ “And the remainder in length alongside the district of the holy portion will be 10,000 cubits eastward and 10,000 westward. And it will be alongside the district of the holy portion. And its increase will be for food for those who serve the city.

19 ¶ “The workers of the city, out of all the tribes of Israel, will cultivate it.

20 ¶ “The whole district will be 25,000 by 25,000 cubits. You will set apart the holy allotment, a square, with the property of the city.

21 ¶ ¶ “The remainder will be for the prince, on the one side and on the other of the holy allotment and of the property of the city. In front of the 25,000 cubits of the allotment toward the east border and westward in front of the 25,000 toward the west border, alongside the portions, it will be for the prince. And the holy allotment and the sanctuary of the house will be in the middle of it.

22 ¶ “Furthermore, from the possession of the Levites and from the possession of the city, being in the middle of that which belongs to the prince, between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin, will be for the prince.

23 ¶ “As for the rest of the tribes, from the east side to the west side, Benjamin will have a portion.

24 ¶ “And by the border of Benjamin, from the east side to the west side, Simeon will have a portion.

25 ¶ “And by the border of Simeon, from the east side to the west side, Issachar a portion.

26 ¶ “And by the border of Issachar, from the east side to the west side, Zebulun a portion.

27 ¶ “And by the border of Zebulun, from the east side to the west side, Gad a portion.

28 ¶ “And by the border of Gad, at the south side southward, the border will be even from Tamar to the waters of strife in Kadesh,
to the river toward the Great Sea.

29 This is the land that you will divide by allotment to the tribes of Israel for an inheritance, and these are their portions,” says the Lord GOD.

Gates of the City

30 ¶ “And these are the exits from the city on the north side, 4,500 cubits by measurement.

31 And the gates of the city will be after the names of the tribes of Israel: three gates northward, one gate of Reuben, one gate of Judah, one gate of Levi.

32 “And on the east side, 4,500 cubits; and three gates, and one gate of Joseph, one gate of Benjamin, one gate of Dan.

33 “And at the south side, 4,500 by measurement; and three gates, one gate of Simeon, one gate of Issachar, one gate of Zebulun.

34 At the west side, 4,500, with their three gates; one gate of Gad, one gate of Asher, one gate of Naphtali.

35 “The city will be 18,000 cubits all around. And the name of the city from that day will be, ‘The LORD is there.’”

DANIEL

Chapter 1

Daniel in Babylon

1 ¶ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he carried them to the land of Shinar to the house of his god. And he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

3 ¶ Then the king spoke to Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring some of the youth of Israel and of the king’s seed and of the princes,

4 youth in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in all wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king’s palace, and whom they might teach the literature and the language of the Chaldeans.

5 And the king assigned them a daily portion of the king’s food and the wine that he drank. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king’s service.

6 Now among these were of the youth of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

7 The chief official gave new names to them. To Daniel he gave the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah, Shadrach, to Mishael, Meshach, and to Azariah, Abednego.

8 ¶ But Daniel determined in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s food, nor with the wine that he drank. Therefore, he requested of the chief official that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God had brought Daniel into favor and tender love with the chief official.

10 And the official said to Daniel, “I fear my lord the king, who has assigned your food and your drink, for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would endanger my head before the king.”

11 ¶ Then Daniel said to Melzar, whom the chief official had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,

12 “Please test your servants for ten days. Let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink.

13 “Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who eat of the portion of the king’s food. Then as you see, deal with your servants.”

14 ¶ So he consented to them in this matter and tested them ten days.

15 Then at the end of ten days their appearance appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the youth who ate of the portion of the king’s food.

16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their food and the wine that they should drink, and gave them vegetables.
And for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom. And Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the chief official brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

And the king spoke with them. And among all of them there was found no one like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. Therefore, they stood before the king.

And in all matters of wisdom and understanding that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm.

So Daniel continued even to the first year of King Cyrus.

Chapter 2
Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream

And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams by which his spirit was troubled and his sleep went from him.

Then the king commanded to call the magicians and the astrologers and the sorcerers and the Chaldeans, in order to reveal to the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

And the king said to them, “I have dreamed a dream and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.”

Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, “O king, live forever. Tell your servants the dream and we will reveal the interpretation of it.”

The king answered and said, “I know for certain that you are bargaining for time because you see that my command is firm.

“But if you will not make known to me the dream, there is but one decree for you, for you have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me until the situation is changed. Therefore, tell me the dream and I will know that you can reveal to me its interpretation.”

The Chaldeans answered before the king and said, “There is no man on the earth who can reveal the king’s matter. Therefore, there is no king, lord, nor ruler, who asked such things from any magician or astrologer or Chaldean.

“And it is a rare thing that the king requires, and there is no one else who can reveal it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.”

For this reason the king was angry and very furious. And he commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain. So they sought Daniel and his companions in order to be slain.

Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king’s guard who had gone out to slay the wise men of Babylon.

He answered and said to Arioch the king’s captain, “Why is the decree so urgent from the king?” Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

Then Daniel went in and asked the king that he would give him time and that he would reveal to the king the interpretation.

And the king said to them, “I have dreamed a dream and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.”

Then Daniel spoke and said to Arioch the king’s captain, “Did you not make known to him that I am a Chaldean who has understood the interpretation of dreams and the interpretation of visions?”

Then Daniel went to his house and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, his companions,

so that they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret, in order that Daniel and his companions should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel answered and said, “Blessed be
the name of God forever and ever, because wisdom and might are His.

21 And He changes the times and the seasons. He removes kings and sets up kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.

22 He reveals the profound and hidden things. He knows what is in the darkness and the light dwells with Him.

23 I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers, who has given me wisdom and might and has made known to me now what we desired of You, for You have now made known to us the king’s matter.”

Daniel’s Interpretation

24 ¶ Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had commissioned to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said to him, “Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon. Bring me in before the king and I will reveal to the king the interpretation.”

25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste and said thus to him, “I have found a man of the captives of Judah who will make known to the king the interpretation.”

26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, “Are you able to make known to me the dream that I have seen and its interpretation?”

27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king and said, “The secret that the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, cannot reveal to the king.

28 But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets and makes known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed.

29 As for you, O king, your thoughts that came into your mind on your bed are what would come to pass after this. And He who reveals secrets makes known to you what will come to pass.

30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any living man, but for their sakes who will make known the interpretation to the king and that you might know the thoughts of your mind.

31 ¶ “You, O king, saw and beheld a great image. This great image, whose brightness was extraordinary, stood before you. And its form was awesome.

32 This image’s head was of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze,

33 its legs of iron, its feet part of iron and part of clay.

34 “You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands that smote the image on its feet that were of iron and clay. And it broke them in pieces.

35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold, were together broken in pieces. And they became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors. And the wind carried them away so that no trace was found of them.

36 This is the dream. Now we will tell its interpretation before the king.

37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power and strength and glory.

38 And wherever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand. And He has made you ruler over all of them. You are this head of gold.

39 And after you will arise another kingdom inferior to you, and another third kingdom of bronze that will rule over all the earth.

40 And the fourth kingdom will be strong as iron, forasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and subdues all things. And as iron that breaks all these, it will break in pieces and bruise.

41 And whereas you saw the feet and toes, part of potters’ clay and part of iron, the kingdom will be divided. But there will be in it the strength of the iron, forasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with miry clay.

42 “And as the toes of the feet were part of...
iron and part of clay, so the kingdom will be partly strong and partly broken.  
43 And whereas you saw iron mixed with miry clay, they will mingle themselves with the seed of men. But they will not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.  
44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed. And the kingdom will not be left to other people. It will break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms. And it will stand forever.  
45 Forasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass hereafter. Now the dream is certain and its interpretation sure.”  
46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and worshiped Daniel. And he gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense.  
47 The king answered Daniel and said, “It is a truth that your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing you could reveal this secret.”  
48 Then the king made Daniel a great man. And he gave him many great gifts and made him ruler over the whole province of Babyl on, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babyl on.  
49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babyl on. But Daniel sat at the gate of the king.  

Chapter 3  

Golden Image and Fiery Furnace  

1 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits and its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babyl on.  
2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent word to gather the princes, the governors and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs and all the rulers of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.  
3 Then the princes, the governors and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs and all the rulers of the provinces were gathered together to the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. And they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.  
4 Then a herald loudly proclaimed, “To you it is commanded, O people, nations and languages,  
5 that at the moment you hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer and all kinds of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up.  
6 And whoever does not fall down and worship will the same hour be cast into the midst of a fiery furnace.”  
7 Now at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery and all kinds of music, all the people, the nations and the languages, fell down and worshiped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.  
8 Therefore at that time, certain Chaldeans came near and accused the Jews.  
9 They spoke and said to King Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live forever.  
10 You, O king, have made a decree that every man who hears the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery and all kinds of music, will fall down and worship the golden image.  
11 And whoever does not fall down and worship, he should be cast into the midst of a fiery furnace.  
12 There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babyl on, namely Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, these, O king, have not regarded your desires. They do not serve your gods, nor worship the golden image that you have set up.”  
13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and
fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So they brought these men before the king.

14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke and said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego that you do not serve my gods, nor worship the golden image that I have set up?

15 “Now if you are ready, at the moment you hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, very well. But if you do not worship, you will be cast the same hour into the midst of a fiery furnace. And who is this God who will deliver you out of my hands?”

16 ¶ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter.

17 “If it is so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the fiery furnace. And He will deliver us out of your hand, O king.

18 “But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods, nor worship the golden image that you have set up.”

19 ¶ Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and his facial expression was altered toward Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He then spoke and commanded to heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

20 Then he commanded the most mighty men who were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

21 Then these men were bound in their mantles, their tunics, their turbans and their other garments. And they were cast into the midst of the fiery furnace.

22 Therefore, because the king’s commandment was urgent and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego fell down bound into the midst of the fiery furnace.

24 ¶ Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished and rose up in haste. He spoke and said to his counsellors, “Did we not cast three bound men into the midst of the fire?” They answered and said to the king, “True, O king.”

25 He answered and said, “Behold, I see four men loose and walking in the midst of the fire. And they are not harmed. And the form of the fourth is like a son of the gods.”

26 ¶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the fiery furnace and spoke. And he said, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, you servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” Then Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the midst of the fire.

27 And the princes, governors and captains and the king’s counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was a hair of their head singed, nor were their garments affected, nor had the smell of fire even come upon them.

28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spoke and said, “Blessed is the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who has sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him. And they have defied the king’s word, and yielded up their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God.

29 “Therefore, I make a decree that all people, nations or languages, who speak anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who has sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him. And they have defied the king’s word, and yielded up their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God.

30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

Chapter 4

Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream of the Tree

1 ¶ Nebuchadnezzar the king, to all people, nations and languages who dwell in all the earth, “Peace be multiplied to you.

2 “I thought it good to show the signs and wonders that the High God has worked toward me.

3 “How great are His signs! And how mighty are His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom and His dominion is from generation to generation.
4 ¶ “I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my house and prospering in my palace.
5 “I saw a dream that made me afraid. And the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.
6 “Therefore, I made a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me so that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.
7 ¶ “Then the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans and the soothsayers came. And I told the dream before them, but they did not make known to me its interpretation.
8 “But at last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods. And before him I told the dream, saying,
9 ¶ “O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and no secret troubles you, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen and its interpretation.
10 ¶ These were the visions of my head in my bed. I saw and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth and its height was great.
11 ¶ The tree grew and was strong, and its height reached to heaven. And it was visible to all the earth.
12 ¶ Its leaves were beautiful and its fruit bountiful. And in it was food for all. The beasts of the field had shade under it and the birds of the heaven dwelt in its branches, and all creatures were fed from it.
13 ¶ “I saw in the visions of my head on my bed, and behold, a watcher and a holy one came down from heaven.
14 ¶ He cried aloud and said thus, ¶ “Cut down the tree and cut off his branches. Shake off its leaves and scatter its fruit. ¶ Let the beasts get away from under it and the birds from its branches.
15 ¶ Nevertheless, leave the stump of its roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and bronze in the tender grass of the field. And let it be wet with the dew of heaven and let its portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth.
16 ¶ “Let his heart be changed from man’s and let a beast’s heart be given to him. And let seven times pass over him.
17 ¶ “This matter is by the decree of the watchers and the demand by the word of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whoever He wills and sets over it the lowliest of men.”
18 ¶ This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, O Belteshazzar, declare its interpretation since all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known to me the interpretation. But you are able, ¶ for the Spirit of the Holy God is in you.””

Daniel’s Interpretation
19 ¶ Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for one hour. And his thoughts troubled him. The king spoke and said, “Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation trouble you.” Belteshazzar answered and said, “My lord, the dream favors those who hate you and its interpretation to your enemies.
20 ¶ “The tree that you saw that grew and was strong, whose height reached to the heaven and was visible to all the earth,
21 ¶ whose leaves were fair and its fruit abundant, and in it was food for all, under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and in whose branches the birds of the sky lodged—
22 ¶ it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong. For your greatness is grown and reaches to heaven, ¶ and your dominion to the end of the earth.
23 ¶ ¶ And inasmuch as the king saw a watcher and a holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, ¶ “Cut the tree down and destroy it, but leave the stump of its roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and bronze in the tender grass of the field, and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field until seven times pass by for him.’
24 ¶ ¶ This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High who has come on my lord the king:
25 “They will drive you from men and your dwelling will be with the beasts of the field. And they will make you eat grass as oxen, and they will wet you with the dew of heaven. And seven times will pass over you until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whoever He wills.

26 ¶ “And inasmuch as they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots, your kingdom will be sure to you after you come to know that Heaven rules.

27 “Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you and break off your sins by doing righteousness and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a prolonging of your prosperity.”

Fulfillment of the Dream

28 ¶ All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.

29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

30 The king spoke and said, “Is not this great Babylon that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power and for the honor of my majesty?”

31 ¶ While the word was in the king’s mouth there fell a voice from heaven, saying, “O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken, ‘The kingdom has departed from you.’

32 “And they will drive you from men and your dwelling will be with the beasts of the field. They will make you eat grass as oxen, and seven times will pass over you until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whoever He wills.”

33 The same hour the thing was fulfilled on Nebuchadnezzar. And he was driven from men and ate grass as oxen. And his body was wet with the dew of heaven until his hair was grown like eagles’ feathers and his nails like birds’ claws.

34 ¶ “And at the end of the days, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven and my understanding returned to me. And I blessed the Most High and I praised and honored Him who lives forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion and His kingdom is from generation to generation.

35 ¶ “And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing. And He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. And no one can restrain His hand or say to Him, ‘What are You doing?’

36 ¶ “At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and brightness returned to me. And my counsellors and my lords sought me, and I was established in my kingdom and excellent majesty was added to me.

37 “Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and honor the King of heaven, call whose works are truth and His ways justice. And those that walk in pride He is able to humble.”

Chapter 5

Writing on the Wall

1 ¶ Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords. And he drank wine before the thousand.

2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the gold and silver vessels that his father, Nebuchadnezzar, had taken out of the temple that was in Jerusalem, in order that the king and his princes, his wives and his concubines, might drink from them.

3 So they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God that was at Jerusalem. Then the king and his princes, his wives and his concubines, drank from them.

4 They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and of silver, of bronze, of iron, of wood and of stone.

5 ¶ In the same hour fingers of a man’s hand came forth and wrote opposite the candlestick on the plaster of the wall of the king’s palace. And the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

6 Then the king’s countenance was changed. And his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loose, and his knees smote one against another.
The king cried aloud to bring in the "men of Babylon, "Whoever will read this writing and show me its interpretation will be clothed with scarlet and have a chain of gold around his neck. And he will be the third ruler in the kingdom.”

Then all the king’s wise men came in. But they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king its interpretation. Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled and his countenance was changed in him. And his lords were perplexed.

¶ Then the queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house. The queen spoke and said, “O king, live forever. Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance be changed.

There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods. In the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him. And King Nebuchadnezzar, your father, your father the king, appointed him chief of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans and soothsayers.

Inasmuch as an excellent spirit and knowledge and understanding, interpreting of dreams and solving riddles, and solving of difficult problems, were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called and he will show the interpretation.”

¶ Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke and said to Daniel, “Are you the Daniel who was of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Judah?

I have even heard of you, that the Spirit of God is in you and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you.

And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me so that they should read this writing and make known to me its interpretation. But they could not reveal the interpretation of the thing.

Now I have heard of you, that you are able to give interpretations and solve difficult problems. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you will be clothed with scarlet and have a chain of gold around your neck. And you will be the third ruler in the kingdom.”

¶ Then Daniel answered and said before the king, “Let your gifts be to yourself and give your rewards to another. Nevertheless, I will read the writing to the king and make known to him the interpretation.

O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty and glory and honor.

Because of the majesty that He gave him, all peoples, nations and languages, trembled and feared before him. Whomever he wished he slew, and whomever he wished he saved, he allowed to live. And whomever he wished he elevated, and whomever he wished he humbled.

But when his heart was lifted up and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne and they took his glory from him.

And he was driven from the sons of men. And his heart was made like the beasts and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. They fed him with grass like oxen and his body was wet with the dew of heaven until he realized that the Most High God ruled in the kingdom of men and that He appoints over it whomever He so chooses.

And you his son, O Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, though you knew all this.

But you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And they have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines, have drunk wine in them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, that do not see nor hear, nor know. And the God in whose hand your breath is, and whose are all your ways, you have not glorified.

Then was the part of the hand sent from Him, and this writing was written.
857 ¶ “And this is the writing that was written, 'MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.'
26 “This is the interpretation of the message. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom and finished it.
27 TEKEL: bYou are weighed in the balances and are found lacking.
28 ‘PERES: Your kingdom is divided and given to the cMedes and dPersians.’
29 Then Belshazzar commanded and they clothed Daniel with scarlet and put a chain of gold around his neck and made a proclamation concerning him, ethat he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.
30 Then Belshazzar, the king of the Chaldeans, was slain.
31 gAnd Darius the Mede took the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

Chapter 6
Daniel and the Lion’s Den
1 ¶ It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom 120 princes who should be over the whole kingdom,
2 and over these three presidents (of whom Daniel was first), so that the princes might give account to them, and the king would suffer no loss.
3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes because an excellent spirit was in him. And the king planned to set him over the whole realm.
4 bThen the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom. But they could find no occasion or fault, forasmuch as he was faithful, nor was there any error or fault found in him.
5 Then these men said, ‘We will not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.’
6 ¶ Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king and said thus to him, ‘King Darius, live forever.
7 ‘All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors and the princes, the counsellors and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever will ask a petition from any god or man for thirty days, besides you, O king, he will be cast into the den of lions.
8 “Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing so that it not be changed according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.”
9 Therefore, King Darius signed the writing and the decree.
10 ¶ Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house. And his windows being open in his room toward Jerusalem, he kneeled on his knees three times a day and prayed. And he gave thanks before his God, as he always did.
11 Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.
12 Then he went and spoke before the king concerning the king’s decree, “Have you not signed a decree that every man who will ask a petition of any god or man within thirty days, besides from you, O king, will be cast into the den of lions?” The king answered and said, “The thing is true according to the law of the Medes and Persians, that may not be revoked.”
13 Then they answered and said before the king, “That Daniel who is of the children of the captivity of Judah pays no attention to you, O king, or to the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.”
14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself. So he set his heart on Daniel to deliver him. And he labored until the setting of the sun to deliver him.
15 Then these men assembled to the king and said to the king, “Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is that no decree or statute that the king establishes may be changed.”
16 Then the king commanded and they brought Daniel. And they cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spoke and said to Daniel, “Your God whom you serve continually, He will deliver you.”
17 aAnd a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den. And the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords
so that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

18 ¶ Then the king went to his palace and passed the night fasting. Neither were instruments of music brought before him, and ²his sleep went from him.

19 Then ³the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions.

20 And when he came to the den, he cried out in a tone of anguish to Daniel. The king spoke and said to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, ⁴is your God whom you serve continually able to deliver you from the lions?”

21 Then Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever.

22 ⁵“My God has sent His angel and has ⁶shut the lions’ mouths so that they have not hurt me. Inasmuch as before him innocency was found in me, and also before you, O king, I have committed no crime.”

23 Then the king was exceedingly glad for him. And he commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den and no manner of harm was found on him ⁷because he believed in his God.

24 ¶ Then the king commanded and ⁸they brought those men who had accused Daniel. And they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children and their wives. And the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces before they came at the bottom of the den.

25 ¶ ⁹Then King Darius wrote to all people, nations and languages who dwell in all the earth, “Peace be multiplied to you.

26 ¹⁰I make a decree, that in every dominion of my kingdom men ¹¹tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. ¹²For He ¹³is the living God and enduring forever. And His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed and His dominion will be forever.

27 “He delivers and rescues, and ¹⁴He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.”

28 ¶ So this Daniel prospered ¹⁵in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.
11 "I then looked because of the voice of the great words that the horn spoke. I looked even until the beast was slain and his body destroyed and given to the burning flame.

12 "As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away. Yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

13 ¶ "I saw in the night visions, and behold, one unike the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven. And He came to the Ancient of Days. And they brought Him near before Him.

14 ¶ "And there was given Him dominion and glory and sovereignty, so that wall peoples, nations and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an xeverlasting dominion that will not pass away. And His sovereignty will not be destroyed.

Interpretation of Daniel' s Dream

15 ¶ "I, Daniel, was distressed in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

16 ¶ "I came near to one of them who stood by and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made me know the interpretation of the things.

17 ¶ "These great beasts that are four, are four kings who will arise out of the earth.

18 ¶ "But the saints of the Most High will take the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.

19 ¶ "Then I desired to know the truth of the fourth beast that was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, whose teeth were of iron and his nails of bronze, who devoured, broke in pieces and trampled down the remainder with its feet,

20 ¶ "and of the ten horns that were in its head, and the other horn that came up and before whom three fell, even of the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke very great things, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

21 ¶ "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints and prevailed against them

22 ¶ "until the Ancient of Days came and a judgment was given to the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

23 ¶ "Thus he said, 'The fourth beast will be the fourth kingdom on earth that will be different from all kingdoms. And it will devour the whole earth and will trample it down and break it in pieces.

24 ¶ 'And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that will arise. And another will rise after them, and he will be different from the first. And he will subdue three kings.

25 ¶ 'And he will speak great words against the Most High, and will wear down the saints of the Most High. And he will intend to change times and laws. And they will be given into his hand for a time, times and half a time.

26 ¶ 'But the court will have its session, and they will take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it forever.

27 ¶ 'And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, will be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. And all dominions will serve and obey Him.'

28 ¶ "At this point the word ended. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed in me. But I kept the matter in my heart."

Chapter 8

Vision of the Ram and Goat

1 ¶ In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me, even to me Daniel, after that which appeared to me aat the first.

2 ¶ I saw in a vision. Now it came to pass when I looked that I was at Shushan in the palace, that is in the province of Elam. And I saw in a vision and I was by the River Ulai.

3 ¶ Then I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, there stood before the river a ram that had two horns. And the two horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

4 ¶ I saw the ram pushing westward and north-
ward and southward, so that no beast could stand before him, nor was there any that could deliver out of his hand. *But he did according to his desire and became great.

And as I was considering, behold, a male goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth. And it did not touch the ground. And the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

Then he came to the ram that had two horns that I saw standing before the river. And he ran to him in the fury of his power.

And I saw him come close to the ram, and he was moved with rage against him. And he smote the ram and broke his two horns. And there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could deliver the ram out of his hand. *But he did according to his desire and became great.

Therefore, the male goat became very great. And when he was strong, the great horn was broken. And in its place came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

And out of one of them came forth a little horn that became exceedingly great toward the south and toward the east and toward the south and toward the whole earth. And it did not touch the ground. And it was moved with rage against him. And he ran to him in the fury of his power.

Then he came to the ram that had the appearance of a man. *And out of one of them came forth a little horn that became exceedingly great toward the east.

Therefore, the army will be given over to the horn along with the regular sacrifice. And it will cast truth to the ground and perform its will and prosper.

Then I heard one saint speaking and another saint said to that certain saint who spoke, “How long will the vision concerning the daily sacrifice and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?”

And he said to me, “For 2,300 days. Then the sanctuary will be cleansed.”

**Interpretation of Daniel’s Vision**

Now it came to pass when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and sought for the meaning, then behold, there stood before me one who had the appearance of a man.

And I heard a man’s voice between the banks of Ulai that called and said, “Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.”

So he came near where I stood. And when he came, I was afraid and fell on my face. But he said to me, “Son of man, understand that the vision refers to the time of the end.”

Now as he was speaking with me, I fainted to the ground on my face. But he touched me and set me upright.

Then he said, “Behold, I will make you know what will be in the last end of the indignation, for at the appointed time the end will come.

“The ram that you saw having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

“And the male goat is the king of Greece. And the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

“The broken horn and the four horns that stood up in its place represent four kingdoms that will arise from his nation, but not with his power.

“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fulness, a king of fierce appearance, understanding sinister schemes, will stand up.

“And his power will be mighty, but not by his own power. And he will destroy fearfully and will prosper and thrive, and will destroy the mighty and the holy people.

“And through his policy also he will cause deceit to prosper in his hand. And he will magnify himself in his heart and by peace will destroy many. *He will also stand up against the Prince of princes, but he will be broken without human means.

“And the vision of the evening and the morning that was told is true. Therefore, seal up the vision, for it will be for many days in the future.”
§ 27 ¶ And I Daniel fainted and was sick many days. Afterward, I rose up and did the king’s business. And I was astonished at the vision, but no one understood it.

Chapter 9
Daniel’s Prayer
1 ¶ In the first year of aDarius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans, 2 in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by scrolls the number of the years revealed as the word of the LORD to bJeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

3 Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make requests by prayer and supplications, with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.

4 And I prayed to the LORD my God and made my confession. And I said, “O Lord, the great and awesome God who keeps the covenant and mercy with those who love Him and with those who keep His commandments.

5 “We have sinned and have committed iniquity. And we have done wickedly and have rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and from Your judgments.

6 “Neither have we hearkened to Your servants the prophets who spoke in Your name to our kings, our princes and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

7 “O Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day, to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to all Israel who are near and who are far off, throughout all the countries to which You have driven them because of their trespass that they have trespassed against You.

8 “O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, to our princes and to our fathers, because we have sinned against you.

9 “To the Lord our God belongs mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against Him.

10 “Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God to walk in His laws that He set before us by His servants the prophets.

11 “Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, even by departing, that they might not obey Your voice. Therefore, the curse is poured on us and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against Him.

12 “And He has confirmed His words that He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing on us a great evil. For under the whole heaven it has not been done as it has been done on Jerusalem.

13 “As it is written in the law of Moses that all this evil has come on us. Yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God so that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.

14 “Therefore, the LORD has watched on the calamity and brought it upon us. For the LORD our God is righteous in all His works that He does. For we did not obey His voice.

15 ¶ “And now, O Lord our God who has brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and made a name for Yourself, as it is this day—we have sinned. We have done wickedly.

16 “O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I beseech You, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain. Because of our sins and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and your people have become a reproach to all who are around us.

17 “Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord’s sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary that is desolate.

18 “O my God, incline Your ear and hear. Open Your eyes and behold our desolations, and the city that is called by Your name. For we do not present our supplications before You for our righteousnesses, but for Your great mercies.

19 “O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive. O Lord, hearken and act. For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay. For Your city and Your people are called by Your name.”
The Seventy “Sevens”

20 ¶ And while I was speaking and praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God,
21 yes, while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening offering.
22 And he informed me and talked with me. And he said, “O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.
23 “At the beginning of your supplications the command came forth and I have come to show you, for you are greatly beloved. Therefore, understand the matter and consider the vision.
24 ¶ “Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.
25 “Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the command to restore and to build Jerusalem until the Messiah the Prince will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks. The street will be built again and the wall, even in distressful times.
26 “And after sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off, but not for Himself. And the people of the prince who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will be with a flood, and to the end of the war desolations are decreed.
27 “And he will confirm the covenant with many for one week. And in the midst of the week, he will cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease. And on the wing of abominations will be one who makes desolate, ‘even until the consummation that is determined, is poured out on the desolate.’ ”

Chapter 10

Daniel’s Vision of a Man

1 ¶ In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. And the message was true, but the time appointed was of great conflict. And he understood the message and had an understanding of the vision.
2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three full weeks.
3 I ate no delicacies, nor did meat or wine come into my mouth. Neither did I anoint myself at all until three whole weeks were fulfilled.
4 ¶ And in the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is the Tigris,
5 that I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in fine linen whose waists was clothed with fine gold from Uphaz.
6 His body also was like beryl and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire and his arms and his feet like the color of polished bronze. And the sound of his words was like the sound of a multitude.
7 And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision. For the men who were with me did not see the vision, but a great fear fell on them so that they fled in order to hide themselves.
8 Therefore, I was left alone and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me. For my natural color turned to a deathly pallor, and I retained no strength.
9 Yet I heard the voice of his words. And when I heard the voice of his words, I fell unconscious with my face to the ground.
10 ¶ And behold, a hand touched me so that it set me on my knees and on the palms of my hands.
11 And he said to me, “O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you and discipline yourself before your God, byour words were heard and I have come in response to your words.
13 “But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days. But behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

14 “Now I have come to make you understand what will befall your people in the latter days, for the vision pertains to the days yet to come.”

15 ¶ And when he had spoken such words to me, I turned my face toward the ground and I became speechless.

16 And behold, one like the appearance of the sons of men touched my lips. Then I opened my mouth and spoke. And he said to him who stood before me, “O my lord, by the vision my sorrows have overwhelmed me and I have retained no strength.

17 “For how can the servant of this my lord talk with you my lord? As for me, there remains no strength in me, nor is there breath left in me.”

18 ¶ Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man. And he strengthened me.

19 ¶ And he said, “O man greatly beloved, do not fear. Peace be to you. Be strong, yes, be strong.” And when he had spoken to me, I was strengthened. And I said, “Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.”

20 Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia. And when I have gone out, behold, the prince of Greece will come.

21 “But I will show you that which is inscribed in the scripture of truth. And there is no one who upholds me against these, but Michael your prince.

Chapter 11

1 ¶ “Also in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and to strengthen him.

Kings of the South and North

2 “And now I will tell you the truth. Behold, there will stand up yet three kings in Persia, and the fourth will be far richer than all of them. And by his strength through his riches he will stir up all against the realm of Greece.

3 ¶ Then ‘a mighty king will stand up who will rule with great dominion and do according to his will.

4 “And when he has arisen, ‘his kingdom will be broken and will be divided toward the four winds of heaven, and not among his posterity, nor according to his dominion that he ruled. For his kingdom will be plucked up, even for others beside those.

5 “And the king of the south will become strong, along with one of his princes. And he will be strong above him and have dominion. His dominion will be a great dominion.

6 “After some years they will form an alliance, for the king’s daughter of the south will come to the king of the north to make an agreement. But she will not retain her position of power, nor will he remain with his power. But she will be given up, along with those who brought her in and the one who begat her, as well as he who supported her in those times.

7 “But out of a branch of her roots will one stand up in his place who will come with an army. And he will enter into the fortress of the king of the north and will deal with them and will prevail.

8 ¶ And he will also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold. And he will continue more years than the king of the north.

9 “But one will come against the realm of the king of the south, but will return to his own land.

10 “However, his sons will be stirred up and will assemble a multitude of great forces. And one will certainly come and overflow and pass through. Then he will return and be stirred up, even to his fortress.

11 ¶ “And the king of the south will be moved with rage, and will go out and fight with him, even with the king of the north. And he will set forth a great multitude, but the multitude will be given into his hand.
12 “When he has taken away the multitude, his heart will be lifted up, and he will cast down tens of thousands. But he will not prevail.
13 “Then the king of the north will return and will set forth a multitude greater than the former, and he will certainly come after certain years with a great army and with great riches.
14 ¶ “And in those times many will stand up against the king of the south. Also, the violent men of your people will exalt themselves to establish the vision, but they will fall.
15 “So the king of the north will come and cast up a mount and take the most fortified cities. And the arms of the south will not withstand, nor his chosen people, nor will there be any strength to withstand.
16 “But he who comes against him will do according to his own will and no one will stand against him. And he will stand in the glorious land and will have power over it.
17 “He will also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him. And thus he will do. And he will give him the daughter of women, corrupting her. But she will not stand on his side or be for him.
18 “After this he will turn his face to the coastlands and will take many. But a ruler will bring to an end the reproach against them. And with reproach removed, he will turn back on him.
19 “Then he will turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land. But he will stumble and fall, and not be found.
20 ¶ “Then there will stand up in his place a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom. But within a few days he will be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle.
21 “And in his place will stand up a vile person to whom they will not give the honor of the kingdom. But he will come in peaceably and obtain the kingdom by intrigue.
22 “And with the arms of a flood they will be flooded away from before him, and will be broken, yes, also the ruler of the covenant.
23 “And after the alliance made with him, he will work deceitfully. For he will come up and will become strong with a few people.
24 “He will enter peaceably even on the fertile places of the province. And he will do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers’ fathers. He will distribute among them the plunder, the spoil and the riches. And he will devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.
25 “Then he will stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army. And the king of the south will be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army, but he will not stand. For they will devise plans against him.
26 “Yes, those who feed from the portion of his food will destroy him, and his army will be swept away. And many will fall down slain.
27 “Then both of these kings’ hearts will be to do mischief. And they will speak lies at one table, but to no avail, for the end still be at the appointed time.
28 “Then he will return into his land with great riches, and his heart will be against the holy covenant. And he will take action and then return to his own land.
29 ¶ “At the appointed time he will return and come toward the south. But it will not be as the former, or as the latter.
30 ¶ “For the ships of Chittim will come against him. Therefore, he will be grieved and return and have indignation against the holy covenant. So will he do. He will even return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.
31 “And forces will stand on his side and they will desecrate the sanctuary of strength, and will take away the daily sacrifice. And they will place there the abomination of desolation.
32 “And such as do wickedly against the covenant, he will corrupt by flattery. But the people who do know their God will be strong, and take action.
33 “And those who understand among the people will instruct many. Yet for many days they will fall by the sword and by flame, by captivity and by plunder.
34 ¶ “Now when they fall, they will be aided with a little help. But many will cleave to them with flattery.
35 “And some of them of understanding will fall, to test them, and to purge and to make
them white, even to the time of the end, because it is yet for an appointed time.

The King Who Exalts Himself

36 ¶ “And the king will do according to his will. And he will exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and will speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and will prosper until the indignation is accomplished. For that which is determined will be done.

37 “Neither will he regard the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god. For he will magnify himself above all.

38 “But in his place he will honor the god of fortresses. And a god whom his fathers did not know he will honor with gold and silver and with precious stones and pleasant things.

39 “Thus he will attack the strongest strongholds with a strange god whom he will acknowledge and increase with glory. And he will cause them to rule over many and will divide the land for gain.

40 ¶ “And at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack him. And the king of the north will come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots and with horsemen and with many ships. And he will enter into the countries and will overwhelm them and pass over.

41 “He will enter also into the glorious land and many countries will be overthrown. But these will escape out of his hand, even Edom and Moab, and the prominent of the children of Ammon.

42 “He will stretch forth his hand also on the countries. And the land of Egypt will not escape.

43 “But he will have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt. And the Libyans and the Ethiopians will be at his heels.

44 “But news out of the east and out of the north will trouble him. Therefore, he will go forth with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.

45 “And he will plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas on the glorious holy mountain. But he will come to his end and no one will help him.

Chapter 12

End of Times

1 ¶ “And at that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people. And there will be a time of trouble such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time. And at that time your people will be found written on the scroll.

2 “And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

3 “And those who are wise will shine as the brightness of the firmament. And those who turn many to righteousness has the stars for a time of the end.

4 “But you, O Daniel, seal up the words and seal the scroll, until the time of the end. Many will run to and fro and knowledge will be increased.”

5 ¶ Then I, Daniel, looked, and there were two others standing, one on this side of the bank of the river and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen who was on the waters of the river, “How long will it be to the end of these wonders?”

7 And I heard the Man clothed in linen who was on the waters of the river, when He held up His right hand and His left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it will be for a time, times, and a half. And when the power of the holy people has been scattered, all these things will be finished.

8 And I heard, but did not understand. Then I said, “O my Lord, what will be the end of these things?”

9 Then he said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end.

10 “Many will be purified and made white and tested, but the wicked will do wickedly. And none of the wicked will understand. How-
ever, “the wise will understand.
11 “And from the time that the daily sacrifice will be taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,280 days.
12 “Blessed is he who waits and attains to 1,335 days.
13 “But go your way to the end, for you will enter into rest and rise for your inheritance at the end of the ages.”

HOSEA

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of aUzziah, bJotham, cAhaz and dHezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of eJeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

Hosea’s Family

2 The beginning of the word of the LORD through Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, f“Go, take for yourself a wife of harlotry and children of harlotry, for the land has committed great harlotry, departing from the LORD.”
3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim. She conceived and bore him a son.
4 ¶ And the LORD said to him, “Call his name Jezreel, for yet a little while and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel on the house of Jehu and will bring to an end the kingdom of the house of Israel.
5 j“And it will come to pass in that day that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.”
6 ¶ And she conceived again and bore a daughter. And God said to him, “Call her name Lo-Ruhamah, for I will no longer have mercy on the house of Israel. But I will utterly take them away.
7 l“But I will have mercy on the house of Judah and will save them by the LORD their God. And I will not deliver them by bow, sword, battle, horses or horsemen.”
8 ¶ Now when she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.
9 Then the Lord said, “Call his name Lo-Ammi, for you are not My people and I will not be your God.”
10 Yet the number of the children of Israel will be as the sand of the sea that cannot be measured or numbered. And it will come to pass that in the place where it was said to them, “You are not My people,” it will be said to them, “You are the sons of the living God.”
11 ‘Then the children of Judah and the children of Israel will be gathered together and appoint themselves one head. And they will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.

Chapter 2

1 ¶ “Say to your brethren, ‘Ammi,’ and to your sisters, ‘Ru-hamah.’

Punishment and Restoration

2 ¶ “Contend with your mother. Contend, for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband. Therefore, let her put away her harlotry out of her sight and her adultery from between her breasts,
3 “lest I strip her naked and set her as in the day that she was born and make her as a wilderness, and I set her like a dry land and slay her with thirst.
4 “I will not have mercy on her children, for they are the children of harlotry.
5 “For their mother has played the harlot. She who conceived them has practiced shameful things. For she said, ‘I will go after my lovers who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.’
6 ¶ “Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns and make a wall so that she will not find her paths.
7 “And she will eagerly pursue after her lovers, but she will not overtake them. And she will seek them, but will not find them. Then
she will say, “I will go and return to my first husband, for then was it better with me than now.”

8 “For she did not know that I gave her grain and wine and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold which they prepared for Baal.

9 ¶ Therefore, I will return and take back My grain in its time and My wine in its season. And I will take back My wool and My flax, given to cover her nakedness.

10 And now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers and no one will deliver her out of My hand.

11 ¶ “I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, her sabbaths and all her solemn feasts.

12 And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, of which she has said, ‘These are my rewards that my lovers have given me.’ And I will make them a forest and the beasts of the field will eat them.

13 ¶ Therefore, behold, I will allure her and bring her into the wilderness. And I speak kindly to her.

14 ¶ Then the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by her friend, and an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel who look to other gods and love raisin cakes.”

15 So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley.

16 And I said to her, “You will dwell with me many days. You will not play the harlot and you will not be for another man; so will I also be toward you.”

17 ¶ “Therefore, behold, I will allure her and bring her into the wilderness. And I speak kindly to her.

18 And I will give her her vineyards from there and the Valley of Achor for a door of hope. And she will sing there as in the days of her youth and in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

19 And it will be at that day,” says the LORD, “that you will call me Ishi. And you will no longer call Me Baali.

20 ¶ “I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and justice, and in lovingkindness and mercy.

21 ¶ “I will even betroth you to Me in faithfulness. And you will know the LORD.

22 ¶ “And it will come to pass in that day that I will hear,” says the LORD. “I will hear the heavens and they will hear the earth.

23 ¶ “And the earth will hear the grain and the wine and the oil, and they will hear Jezreel.

Chapter 3
Reconciliation

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by her friend, and an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel who look to other gods and love raisin cakes.”

2 ¶ “So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley.

3 Then I said to her, “You will dwell with me many days. You will not play the harlot and you will not be for another man; so will I also be toward you.”

4 For the children of Israel will abide many days without a king and without a prince, and without a sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without an ephod and without household idols.

5 ¶ Afterward, the children of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. And they will fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.

Chapter 4
Case Against Israel

1 ¶ Hear the word of the LORD you children of Israel, for the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land because there is no truth or mercy or knowledge of God in the land.

2 By swearing and lying and killing and stealing and committing adultery, they break all restraint and blood touches blood.

3 Therefore, the land will mourn and...
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**International King James Version**

**Hosea 5**

15 ¶ Though you, Israel, play the harlot, yet
do not let Judah offend. And “do not come to
Gilgal, nor go up to ‘Bethaven,’ nor swear, “As
the LORD lives.’”

16 For Israel “slides back as a backsliding
heifer. Can the LORD now feed them as a lamb
in a large pasture?

17 Ephraim is joined to idols. “Let him alone.

18 Their drink is sour. They have committed
harlotry continually. “Their rulers dearly love
shame.

19 ¶ The wind has bound her up in her wings,
and “they will be ashamed because of their sac-
rifices.

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**Chapter 5**

**Judgment of Israel**

1 ¶ “Hear this, O priests, and hearken, O house
of Israel. Give ear, O house of the king, for
judgment applies to you because “you have
been a snare on Mizpah and a net spread on
Tabor.

2 “And the rebels are “deeply involved in
slaughter, though I rebuke them all.

3 “I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hidden
from Me. For now, O Ephraim, “you commit
harlotry and Israel is defiled.

4 “They will not direct their deeds to turn to
their God, for the “spirit of harlotry is in the
midst of them and they have not known the
LORD.

5 ¶ “And the haughtiness of Israel testifies to
his face. Therefore, Israel and Ephraim will
fall in their iniquity. Judah also will fall with
them.

6 ¶ They will go with their flocks and with
their herds to seek the LORD, but they will
not find “Him. He has withdrawn Himself from
them.

7 ¶ They have “dealt treacherously against the
LORD, for they have begotten foreign chil-
dren. Now a new moon will devour them with
their heritage.

8 ¶ “Blow the cornet in Gibeah “and the trum-
pet in Ramah. “Cry out aloud at “Bethaven,
‘Behind you, Benjamin!’”

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*d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z Zp 1:3 * Dt 17:12 * f Jr 15:8 * g Is 5:13 * h Ez 22:26 * i Sm 2:30 * j Is 24:2 * k Lv 26:26 * l Is 5:12; 28:7 * m Jr 2:27 * n Is 44:19,20 * o Is 1:29; 57:5,7 * p Am 7:17 * q Dt 23:18 * r Hs 9:15; 12:11 * s 1 Kg 12:29 * t Am 8:14 * u Jr 3:6; 7:24; 8:9 * v Mt 15:14 * w Mc 3:11 * x Jr 51:1 * y Is 1:29 * Chapter 5: a Hs 6:9 * b Is 29:15 * c Am 3:2; 5:12 * d Hs 4:17 * e Hs 4:12 * f Hs 7:10 * g Pk 1:28 * h Jr 3:20 * i Ji 2:1 * j Is 10:30 * k Ja 7:2*
9 “Ephraim will be desolate in the day of re-
buke. Among the tribes of Israel I have made
known that which will surely be.
10 “The princes of Judah were like those who
remove the boundary. Therefore, I will pour
out My wrath on them like water.
11 “Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judg-
ment because he willingly walked after the
commandment of men.
12 “Therefore, I will be to Ephraim as a moth,
and to the house of Judah as rottenness.
13 When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah
saw his wound, then Ephraim went to the As-
syrian and sent to King Jareb. However, he could
not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.
14 “For I will be to Ephraim as a lion, and as
a young lion to the house of Judah. I, even I,
will tear and go away. I will take away and no
one will rescue him.
15 “I will go and return to My place until they
acknowledge their offense and seek My face.
In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.”

Chapter 6
Defiant Israel
1 ¶ aCome, and let us return to the LORD, for
Hb He has torn us and Hc He will heal us. He has
smitten and He will bind us up.
2 He will revive us after two days. In the third
day He will raise us up and we will live in His
sight.
3 Then we will know if we press on to know
the LORD. His going forth is prepared as the
morning, and He will come to us as the rain,
as the latter and former rain to the earth.
4 ¶ “O Ephraim, what will I do to you? O
Judah, what will I do to you? For your good-
ness is as a morning cloud, and as the early
dew it goes away.
5 Therefore, I have hewn them by the proph-
ets. I have slain them by the words of My
mouth, and the judgments on you are as the
light that goes forth.
6 “For I desired mercy and not sacrifice, and
the knowledge of God more than burnt offer-
ings.
7 “But they like men have transgressed the
covenant. There they have dealt treacherously
with Me.
8 Gilead is a city of those who work iniqu-
ity and defiled with blood.
9 “And as gangs of raiders wait for a man, so
the company of priests murder in the way by
consent, for they commit lewdness.
10 “I have seen a horrible thing in the house
of Israel. There is the harlotry of Ephraim. Is-
rael is defiled.
11 “Also, O Judah, there is a harvest appointed
for you, when I returned the captives of My
people.

Chapter 7
1 ¶ “When I would have healed Israel, then
the iniquity of Ephraim was uncovered, and
the wickedness of Samaria. For they commit
falsehood, and the thief comes in, and the gang
of raiders plunders outside.
2 “And they do not consider in their hearts
that I remember all their wickedness. Now
their own deeds have engulf them. They are
before My face.
3 They make the king glad with their wick-
edness and the princes with their lies.
4 ¶ “They are all adulterers as an oven heated
by the baker, who ceases from stirring after he
has kneaded the dough until it is leavened.
5 In the day of our king the princes have
made him sick with bottles of wine. He
stretched out his hand with scoffers.
6 “For they have made ready their heart like
an oven, while they lie in wait. Their baker
sleeps all night, in the morning it burns as a
flaming fire.
7 They are all hot as an oven and have de-
voured their judges. All their kings are fallen.
There is no one among them who calls to
Me.
8 Ephraim has mixed himself among the
people. Ephraim is a cake not turned.
9 “Foreigners have devoured his strength, and
he does not know it. Yes, gray hairs are here
and there on him, yet he he does not know.
10 “And the haughtiness of Israel testifies to his face. And they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek Him for all this.

11 ¶ “Ephraim also is like a silly dove without a heart. They call to Egypt. They go to Assyria.

12 “When they go, I will spread My net over them. I will bring them down as the birds of the heaven. I will chastise them according to what their assembly has heard.

13 ¶ “Woe to them, for they have fled from Me. Destruction to them because they have transgressed against Me. Though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against Me. Destruction to them because they have transgressed My law, but they do not return to the Most High. Their sacrifices will not be accepted. Now He will remember their iniquity and visit their sins. They will return to Egypt.

14 ¶ “And they have not cried out to Me with their heart when they wailed on their beds. They are like a deceitful bow. Their princes will fall by the sword for the curses of their iniquity and visit their sins. They will return to Egypt.

15 “Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet they imagine mischief against Me.

16 ¶ “They return, but not to the Most High. They are like a deceitful bow. Their princes will fall by the sword for the curses of their tongue. This will be their derision in the land of Egypt.

Chapter 8
Reaping Consequences of Sin

1 ¶ “Put the trumpet to your mouth. He will come as an eagle against the house of the LORD because they have transgressed My covenant and trespassed against My law.

2 ¶ “Israel will cry out to Me, ‘My God, ‘we know You.’

3 ¶ “Israel has cast off the thing that is good. The enemy will pursue him.

4 ¶ “They have set up kings, but not by Me. They have made princes, and I did not know it. With their silver and their gold they have made idols for themselves so that they might be cut off.

5 ¶ “Your calf, O Samaria, has cast you off. My anger is kindled against them. How long will it be until they attain innocence?

6 ¶ “For from Israel is even this. The ‘craftsmen made it, therefore it is not God. So the calf of Samaria will be broken in pieces.

7 ¶ “For they have sown the wind and they will reap the whirlwind. It has no stalk. The bud will yield no meal. If it should yield, the foreigners will swallow it up.

8 ¶ “Israel is swallowed up. Now they will be among the nations as a vessel wherein is no pleasure.

9 ¶ “For they have gone up to Assyria, a wild donkey alone by himself. Ephraim has hired lovers.

10 ¶ “Yes, though they have hired among the nations, now I will gather them and they will begin to waste away under the oppression of the mighty king.

11 ¶ “Because Ephraim has made many altars to sin, they have become for him altars to sin.

12 ¶ “I have written to him the great things of My law, but they were counted as a foreign thing.

13 ¶ “They sacrifice meat for the sacrifices of My offerings, and eat it. But the LORD does not accept them. Now He will remember their iniquity and visit their sins. They will return to Egypt.

14 ¶ “For Israel has forgotten his Maker and built temples, and Judah has multiplied fortified cities. But I will send fire on his cities, and it will devour its palaces.”

Chapter 9
Punishment of Israel

1 ¶ “Do not rejoice for joy, O Israel, as other people. For you have gone whoring from your God. You have loved harlots hire on every threshing floor.

2 The threshing and the winepress will not feed them and the new wine will fail them.

3 ¶ “They will not dwell in the ‘LORD’S land. But Ephraim will return to Egypt and they will eat unclean things in Assyria.

4 ¶ “They will not offer wine offerings to the LORD, nor will their sacrifices be pleasing to Him. Their sacrifices will be to them as the
bread of mourners. All who eat of it will be polluted. For their bread for their soul will not come into the house of the LORD.

5 What will you do in the solemn day and in the day of the feast of the LORD?

6 For behold, they are gone because of destruction. Egypt will gather them up. Memphis will bury them. bWeeds will take over their treasures of silver. Thorns will be in their tents.

7 ¶ The days of visitation have come. The days of repayment have come. Israel will know it. The prophet is a fool and the spiritual man mad, for the multitude of your iniquity and the great hatred.

8 The watchman of Ephraim was with my God. The prophet is a snare for the bird in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God.

9 They have deeply corrupted themselves as in the days of Gibeah. Therefore, He will remember their iniquity. He will visit their sins. He will bring their iniquity, their iniquity, and their abominations were as the thing they loved.

10 ¶ “I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness. I saw your fathers as the pearliest fruit in the fig tree in its first season. But they went to Baal-peor and separated themselves to that shame, and their abominations were as the thing they loved.

11 “As for Ephraim, their glory will fly away like a bird, from the birth and from the womb and from the conception.

12 “Though they bring up their children, yet I will bereave them so that there will not be a man left. 13 Yes, woe also to them when I depart from them!

13 Ephraim, as I saw Tyre, is planted in a pleasant place. But Ephraim will bring forth his children to the murderer.”

14 ¶ Give them, O LORD—what will You give? Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

15 ¶ “All their wickedness is in Gilgal, for there I hated them. For the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of My house. I will love them no more. aAll their princes are rebels.

16 Ephraim is a heifer that is taught, and loves to tread out the grain. But I will come over her fair neck with a yoke. I will make...

Chapter 10

1 ¶ Israel is a spreading vine. He brings forth fruit for himself. According to the multitude of his fruit bhe has increased the altars. According to the goodness of his land, they have made his sacred pillars.

2 Their heart is divided. Now they will be found guilty. He will break down their altars. He will plunder their sacred pillars.

3 ¶ For now they will say, “We have no king because we did not fear the LORD. What then would a king do for us?”

4 They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant. Thus judgment springs up as a poisonous weed in the furrows of the field.

5 The inhabitants of Samaria will fear because of the calves of Bethaven. Indeed, its people will mourn for it. And its idolatrous priests will cry out over it, over its tglory, because it has departed from it.

6 It will also be carried to Assyria for a present to King Jareb. Ephraim will receive shame and Israel will be ashamed of its own counsel.

7 As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam on the water.

8 The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, will be destroyed. The thorn and the thistle will come up on their altars, and they will say to the mountains, “Cover us,” and to the hills, “Fall on us.”

9 ¶ “O Israel, you have sinned from the days of Gibeah. There they stood in the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity who did not overtake them.

10 “It is in My desire that I should chastise them. And the people will be gathered against them when they are bound for their double iniquity.

11 “Ephraim is as a heifer that is taught, and loves to tread out the grain. But I will come over her fair neck with a yoke. I will make...
Ephraim plow. Judah will plow and Jacob will break his clods.”

12 ¶ Sow to yourselves in righteousness. Reap in mercy. Break up your fallow ground. For it is time to seek the LORD until He comes and rains righteousness on you.

13 ¶ You have plowed wickedness. You have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, because you trusted in your way, in the multitude of your mighty men.

14 Therefore, a tumult will arise among your people and all your fortresses will be plundered as Shalman plundered Beth-arbel in the day of battle. The mother was dashed in pieces with her children.

15 So will Bethel do to you because of your great wickedness. At dawn the king of Israel will be cut off utterly.

Chapter 11
God’s Abiding Love

1 ¶ “When Israel was a child, I loved him and called My son out of Egypt.

2 As they called them, so they went from them. They sacrificed to the Baals and burned incense to graven images.

3 ¶ I taught Ephraim also to walk, taking them by their arms. But they did not know that I healed them.

4 ¶ I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love. And I was to them as those who take off the yoke from their jaws. And I laid food before them.

5 ¶ He will not return to the land of Egypt, but the Assyrian will be his king because they refused to repent.

6 ¶ And the sword will abide on his cities and will consume his branches and devour them because of their own counsels.

7 ¶ And My people are bent on backsliding from Me. Even if they call to the Most High, He will by no means exalt them.

8 ¶ “How will I give you up, Ephraim? How will I deliver you, Israel? How will I make you as Admah? How will I set you as Zeboim? My heart is turned within Me. My heart is changed within Me.

9 ¶ I will not execute the fierceness of My anger. I will not return to destroy Ephraim. ¶ For I am God and not a man, the Holy One in the midst of you. And I will not come in wrath.

10 ¶ “They will walk after the LORD. ¶ He will roar like a lion. When he roars, then the children will tremble from the west.

11 ¶ “They will tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria. And I will place them in their houses,” says the LORD.

Chapter 12
Israel’s Sin

12 ¶ “Ephraim surrounds Me with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit. But Judah is unruly against God, even against the faithful Holy One.”

Chapter 12
Ephraim feeds on wind and follows after the east wind. He daily increases lies and desolation. And they make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried into Egypt.

2 The LORD has also a controversy with Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways, according to his deeds He will repay him.

3 He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he struggled with God.

4 Yes, he struggled with the angel and prevailed. He wept and made supplication to him. He found him in Bethel and there he spoke with us,

5 even the LORD God of armies. The LORD is his memorial name.

6 ¶ Then turn to your God. Keep mercy and justice and wait on your God continually.

7 ¶ A merchant, in whose hands are dishonest balances, loves to oppress.

8 And Ephraim said, ¶ Surely I have become rich. I have found for myself wealth.

9 ¶ Surely I have become rich. I have found for myself wealth. In all my labors they will find no iniquity in me that would be sin.”

10 ¶ “But I am the LORD your God since the land of Egypt and will again make you dwell in tents as in the days of the solemn feast.

11 ¶ I have also spoken by the prophets and I have multiplied visions and used parables
Chapter 13
God's Anger Against Israel

1 When Ephraim spoke, men trembled. He was exalted in Israel. But when he offended in Baal, he died.
2 And now they sin more and more, and have made for themselves molten images with their silver and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen. They say of them, “Let the men who sacrifice kiss the calves.”
3 Therefore, they will be as the morning cloud and as the early dew that passes away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the threshingfloor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.
4 “Yet I am the LORD your God from the land of Egypt and you will know no god but Me. For there is no savior besides Me.
5 “I did know you in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.
6 “According to their pasture, so were they filled. They were filled and their heart was exalted. Therefore, they have forgotten Me.
7 “Therefore, I will be to them as a lion. As a leopard by the way I will observe them.
8 “I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps, and will tear open their chests. And there I will devour them like a lion. The wild beast will tear them.
9 “O Israel, you have destroyed yourself, but in Me is your help.
10 Where now is your king that he may save you in all your cities, and your judges of whom you requested, “Give me a king and princes”?
11 I gave you a king in My anger and took him away in My wrath.
12 ¶ “The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up. His sin is kept in store for him.
13 ¶ “The sorrows of a travailing woman will come on him. He is an unwise son, for it is not the time that he should delay at the opening of the womb.
14 “I will ransom them from the power of the grave. I will redeem them from death. O death, I will be your plagues. O grave, I will be your destruction. ¶Compassion will be hidden from My eyes.

Chapter 14
Repentance Brings Blessing

1 ¶ O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have fallen by your iniquity.
2 Take with you words and turn to the LORD. Say to Him, “Take away all iniquity and receive us graciously so that we render the fruit of our lips.
3 “Asshur will not save us. We will not ride on horses. Neither will we say anymore to the work of our hands, ’You are our gods.’ For in You the fatherless find mercy.”
4 ¶ “I will heal their backsliding. I will love them freely. For My anger has turned away from him.
5 “I will be as the dew to Israel. He will grow as the lily and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.
6 “His branches will spread and his beauty through the ministry of the prophets.”
11 ¶ Is there iniquity in Gilead? Surely they are vanity. They sacrifice bulls in Gilgal. Yes, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields.
12 Now Jacob fled into the country of Syria and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.
13 ¶ And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet he was preserved.
14 Ephraim provoked Him to anger most bitterly. Therefore, the Lord will leave his blood on him and bring back his reproach to him.
will be as the olive tree, and his 1smell as Lebanon.

7 " Those who dwell under his shadow will return. They will revive as the grain and grow as the vine. Its scent will be as the wine of Lebanon.

8 ¶ "O Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like a green cypress tree. 1From Me comes your fruit."

9 ¶ Who is wise and will understand these things? Who is prudent and will know them? For the ways of the LORD are right and the just will walk in them. But the transgressors will fall in them.

JOEL

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

Blight of the Locusts

2 Hear this you old men, and give ear all you inhabitants of the land. 1Has this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

3 Tell your children of it and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

4 ¶ That which the gnawing locust has left the swarming locust has eaten. And that which the swarming locust has left the creeping locust has eaten. And that which the creeping locust has left the stripping locust has eaten.

5 Awake you drunkards and weep. Wail all you drinkers of wine because of the new wine, for it is cut off from your mouth.

6 For a nation has come up on My land, strong and without number, 1whose teeth are the teeth of a lion. And he has the fangs of a great lion.

7 He has laid My vine waste, and splintered My fig tree. He has stripped it bare and cast it away. Its branches are made white.

8 ¶ Lament like a virgin dressed with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

9 The grain offering and the drink offering are withheld from the house of your God. The priests, the LORD’S ministers, mourn.

10 The field is wasted. The land mourns, for the grain is wasted. The new wine has dried up. The oil languishes.

11 Be ashamed, O you farmers. Wail, O you vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley, because the harvest of the field has perished.

12 ¶ The vine has dried up and the fig tree languishes. The pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field have withered. Surely joy has withered away from the sons of men.

Call to Repentance

13 ¶ Gird yourselves and lament you priests. Wail you ministers of the altar. Come and lie all night in sackcloth you ministers of my God. For the grain offering and the drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.

14 Consecrate a fast. Call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God and cry out to the LORD.

15 ¶ Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand. And it will come as destruction from the Almighty.

16 Is not the grain cut off before our eyes and joy and gladness from the house of our God?

17 The seed is shrivel under their clods. The storehouses are desolate. The barns are broken down, for the grain has withered.

18 How the beasts groan! The herds of cattle wander aimlessly because there is no pasture for them. Yes, the flocks of sheep are decimated.

19 O LORD, to You I will cry out. For the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness and the flame has burned all the trees of the field.
The beasts of the field cry out also to You, for the rivers of water have dried up and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Chapter 2
Army of Locusts

1 ¶ Blow the trumpet in Zion and sound an alarm in My holy mountain. Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, because it is close at hand.

2 It is a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, as the morning spreads on the mountains. A great and strong people is coming. There has never been anything like it, nor will there be again, even for many successive generations.

3 A fire devours before them. And behind them a flame burns. The land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness. Yes, and nothing will escape them.

4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so will they run.

5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains they will leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

6 Before their face the people will be greatly pained. All faces will turn pale.

7 They will run like mighty men. They will climb the wall like men of war, and everyone will march in line. And they will not break their ranks.

8 Neither will one thrust another. Everyone will walk in his path. And when they fall on the sword, they will not be wounded.

9 They will run to and fro in the city. They will run on the wall. They will climb up on the houses. They will enter in at the windows like a thief.

10 The earth will quake before them. The heavens will tremble. The sun and the moon will be dark and the stars will withdraw their brightness.

11 ¶ Then the LORD will utter His voice before His army, for His camp is very great. For He is strong who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible, and who can endure it?

Rend Your Heart

12 ¶ “Now, therefore,” says the LORD, “Turn to Me with all your heart, and with fasting and with weeping and with mourning.

13 ¶ And rend your heart and not your garments.” Now turn to the LORD your God. For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in kindness and relenting of evil.

14 ¶ Who knows if He will return and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him, even a grain offering and a drink offering to the LORD your God?

15 ¶ Blow the trumpet in Zion. Sanctify a fast. Call a solemn assembly.

16 Gather the people. Sanctify the assembly. Assemble the elders. Gather the children and those who suck the breasts. Let the bridegroom come out of his room and the bride out of her closet.

17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar. And let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and do not give Your heritage to reproach, so that the nations should rule over them. Therefore, why should they say among the people, ‘Where is their God?’”

Answer of the Lord

18 ¶ Then the LORD will be jealous for His land and pity His people.

19 Yes, the LORD will answer and say to His people, “Behold, I will send you grain and wine and oil. And you will be satisfied with it. And I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.

20 “But I will remove far off from you the northern army and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the
east sea and his rear guard toward the western sea. And his stench and his foul smell will come up because he has done great things.”

21 ¶ Do not fear, O land. Be glad and rejoice, for the LORD will do great things.

22 Do not be afraid you beasts of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness have turned green, for the tree bears her fruit, the fig tree and the vine yield in full.

23 Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God. For He has given you the former rain faithfully, and He will cause the rain to come down for you, the former rain and the latter rain as before.

24 And the threshing floors will be full of wheat and the vats will overflow with wine and oil.

25 “Then I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the creeping locust, the stripping locust and the gnawing locust, My great army that I sent among you.

26 ¶ And you will eat in plenty and be satisfied. And you will praise the name of the LORD your God who has dealt wondrously with you. And My people will never be put to shame.

27 ¶ You will know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God and no one else. And My people will never be put to shame.”

The Day of the Lord

28 ¶ “Now it will come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh. And your sons and your daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams. Your young men will see visions.

29 ¶ And also on the servants and on the handmaids in those days I will pour out My Spirit.

30 ¶ And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

31 ¶ The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

32 ¶ And it will come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD will be delivered. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance as the LORD has said, even among the remnant whom the LORD will call.

Chapter 3

Judgment of the Nations

1 ¶ “For behold, in those days and at that time, when I will bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

2 ¶ I will also gather all nations and will bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And I will enter into judgment with them there for My people and for My heritage Israel whom they have scattered among the nations and divided up My land.

3 ¶ And they have cast lots for My people, and have given a boy for a harlot and sold a girl for wine so that they might drink.

4 ¶ “Yes, and what have you to do with Me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Palestine? Will you render Me a recompense? And if you recompense Me, swiftly and speedily I will return your recompense on your own head.

5 Because you have taken My silver and My gold, and have carried into your temples My precious treasures,

6 “and the children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem you have sold to the Greeks so that you might remove them far from their border,

7 ¶ Behold, I will raise them out of the place to which you have sold them. And I will return your recompense on your own head.

8 ¶ And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabians, to a people far off,” for the LORD has spoken it.

9 ¶ Proclaim this among the Gentiles. Prepare war. Wake up the mighty men. Let all the men of war draw near. Let them come up.

10 ¶ Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weak say, “I am strong.”

11 Assemble yourselves and come all you
nations, and gather yourselves together all around. Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones.

12 Let the nations be wakened and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations all around. Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones.

13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come! Go down, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their wickedness is great.

14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision. For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

15 The sun and the moon will be darkened and the stars will withdraw their brightness.

16 The LORD also will roar out of Zion and utter His voice from Jerusalem. And the heavens and the earth will shake. But the LORD will be the hope of His people and the strength of the children of Israel.

17 Then you will know that I am your God dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem will be holy, and there no foreigners will pass through her anymore.

Blessing on God’s People

18 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that the mountains will drop down new wine and the hills will flow with milk. And all the rivers of Judah will flow with water and a fountain will come out of the house of the LORD. And it will water the Valley of Shittim.

19 Egypt will be a desolation, and Edom will be a desolate wilderness because of the violence done against the children of Judah, for they have shed innocent blood in their land.

20 But Judah will dwell forever and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

21 For I will acquit them of the guilt of bloodshed, whom I had not acquitted; for the LORD dwells in Zion.

AMOS

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The words of Amos who was among the herdsmen of Tekoa, that he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

2 And he said, “The LORD will roar from Zion and utter His voice from Jerusalem. Then the pastures of the shepherds will mourn and the top of Carmel will wither.”

Judgment of the Nations

3 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of Damascus and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron.

4 ¶“But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael that will devour the palaces of Benhadad.

5 ¶I will break also the bar of Damascus and cut off the inhabitant from the Valley of Aven, and the one who holds the scepter from the house of Eden. And the people of Syria will go into captivity to Kir,” says the LORD.

6 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of Gaza and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because they carried away captive the whole captivity in order to deliver them up to Edom.

7 ¶“But I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza that will devour its palaces.

8 ¶“And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod and the one who holds the scepter from Ashkelon. And I will turn My hand against Ekron. And the remnant of the Philistines will perish,” says the Lord GOD.

9 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of Tyre and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom and did not remember the brotherly covenant.

10 ¶“But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyre that will devour its palaces.”

11 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three trans-
gressions of Edom and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because he pursued his ‘brother with the sword and cast off all pity. And his anger tore perpetually, and he kept his wrath forever.

12 “But I will send a fire on Teman that will devour the palaces of Bozrah.”

13 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of the children of Ammon and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead so that they might enlarge their border.

14 “But I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah and it will devour its palaces, with shouting in the day of battle, with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind.

15 And their king will go into captivity, he and his princes together,” says the LORD.

Chapter 2

1 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of Moab and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime.

2 “But I will send a fire on Moab and it will devour the palaces of Kirioth. And Moab will die with tumult, with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

3 “And I will cut off the judge from the midst of it and will slay all its princes with him,” says the LORD.

4 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of Judah and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because they have despised the law of the LORD and have not kept His commandments. And their lies caused them to err, lies after which the fathers followed.

5 ¶“But I will send a fire on Judah and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem.”

Judgment on Israel

6 ¶ Thus says the LORD, “For three transgressions of Israel and for four, I will not turn away its punishment because they sold the righteous for silver and the poor for a pair of shoes.

7 “They pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor and pervert the way of the meek. And a man and his father will go in to the same girl to profane My holy name.

8 “And they lie down by every altar on clothes taken in pledge. And they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.

9 ¶ “Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks. Yet I destroyed his fruit from above and his roots from beneath.

10 ¶“I also brought you up from the land of Egypt and led you forty years through the wilderness in order to possess the land of the Amorite.

11 “Then I raised up of your sons for prophets and of your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even as this, O you children of Israel?” says the LORD.

12 “But you gave the Nazarites wine to drink, and commanded the prophets, saying, ‘Do not prophesy.’

13 ¶ “Behold, I will crush you, as a cart is weighed down when full of sheaves.

14 ¶“Therefore, flight will perish from the swift, and the strong will not strengthen his force, nor will the mighty deliver himself.

15 “Neither will he stand who handles the bow. And he who is swift of foot will not deliver himself.

16 “And he who is courageous among the mighty will flee away naked in that day,” says the LORD.

Chapter 3

Witness Against Israel

1 ¶ Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family that He brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,

2 ¶“You only I have known of all the families...
of the earth. Therefore, I will punish you for all your iniquities.”

3 Can two walk together, except they have agreed?

4 Will a lion roar in the forest when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den if he has taken nothing?

5 Can a bird fall in a snare on the earth where no trap is for it? Will one take up a snare from the earth and have taken nothing at all?

6 Will a trumpet be blown in the city and the people not be afraid? If a calamity occurs in a city has not the LORD done it?

7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing without first revealing His plans to His servants the prophets.

8 The lion has roared. Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken. Who can but prophesy?

9 ¶ Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say, “Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria and behold the great unrest in its midst and the oppressed in its midst.

10 “For they do not know how to do right,” says the LORD, “who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.”

11 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “An adversary will be throughout the land. And he will bring down your strength from you and your palaces will be plundered.”

12 Thus says the LORD, “As the shepherd takes out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so will the sons of Israel dwelling in Samaria be snatched away—in the corner of a bed and the cover of a couch!

13 “Hear and testify in the house of Jacob,” says the Lord GOD, the God of armies.

14 “For in the day that I will visit the transgressions of Israel on him I will also visit the altars of Bethel. And the horns of the altar will be cut off and fall to the ground.

15 “And I will smite the winter house with the summer house. And the houses of ivory will perish, and the great houses will have an end,” says the LORD.
11 “I have destroyed some of your cities, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning. Yet you have not returned to Me,” says the LORD.

12 ¶ “Therefore, thus I will do to you, O Israel. And because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel.”

13 For behold, He who forms the mountains and creates the wind, and declares to man what is his thoughts, who makes the morning darkness and treads on the high places of the earth, the LORD God of armies is His name.

Chapter 5
Call to Repentance

1 ¶ Hear you this word that I take up against you, even a lamentation, O house of Israel.

2 The virgin of Israel has fallen. She will no longer rise. She is forsaken on her land. There is no one to raise her up.

3 For thus says the Lord GOD, “The city that went out by a thousand will have a hundred left, and that which went out by a hundred will have ten left to the house of Israel.”

4 ¶ For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel, “Seek Me and you will live.”

5 “But do not seek Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal. And do not pass to Beersheba. For Gilgal will surely go into captivity and Bethel will come to nought.

6 “Seek the LORD 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 justice to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the earth,

8 “seek Him who makes the Pleiades 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 on the face of the earth. The LORD is his name.”

9 ¶ He causes ruin to burst forth on the strong, and brings destruction on the fortress.

10 “They hate him who rebukes in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks uprightly.
ings of your fat beasts.  
23 “Take away from Me the noise of your songs, for I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments.  
24 “But let justice run down as waters and righteousness as an overflowing stream.

Chapter 6
Woe to the Indifferent

1 Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and who trust in the mountain of Samaria, who are named foremost among the nations, to whom the house of Israel comes!

2 Go over to Calneh and see. And from there go to Hamath the great. Are they better than these kingdoms, or their border greater than your border?

3 Woe to you who put off the day of calamity and who bring near the seat of violence,

4 who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves on their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock and the calves out of the midst of the stall,

5 who sing idly to the sound of the stringed instruments, and invent for themselves instruments of music like David,

6 who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the chief ointments, but are not grieved because of the affliction of Joseph.

7 Therefore, they will go captive with the first who go captive. And those who recline at banquets will be removed.

Abhorence of Israel’s Pride

8 The Lord GOD has sworn by Himself, says the LORD the God of hosts, “I abhor the pride of Jacob and hate his palaces. Therefore, I will deliver up the city with all who are in it.”

9 And it will come to pass that if there remains ten men in one house, they will die.

10 Then a man’s relative will take him up, or he who burns the bodies will lift him up to carry out his bones from the house. Then he will say to the one who is in the innermost part of the house, “Is there still any with you?” And he will say, “No.” Then he will say, “Keep quiet. For the name of the LORD is not to be mentioned.”

11 For behold, the LORD commands and He will smite the great house into bits and the little house into pieces.

12 Will horses run on the rock? Will one plow there with oxen? For you have turned justice into gall and the fruit of righteousness into wormwood,

13 you who rejoice in the conquest of Lo Debar, who say, “Have we not by our own strength taken Karnaim for ourselves?”

14 “For behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel,” says the LORD the God of armies. And they will afflict you from the entrance of Hamath to the valley of the Arabah.”

Chapter 7
Judgment

1 Thus has the Lord GOD showed to me, and behold, He formed the locust swarms at the beginning of the late crop. And lo, it was the late crop after the king’s mowing.

2 Now it came to pass when they had finished eating the grass of the land, that I said, “O Lord GOD, forgive, I beseech You. By whom will Jacob arise, for he is small?”

3 The LORD relented from this. “It will not be,” says the LORD.

4 Thus has the Lord GOD showed to me. And behold, the Lord GOD called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep and ate up part of the land.
5 ¶ Then I said, “O Lord GOD, please stop, I beseech You. cBy whom will Jacob arise, for he is small?”
6 The LORD relented from this. “This also will not be,” says the Lord GOD.
7 ¶ Therefore, He showed me, and behold, the Lord stood on a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in His hand.
8 Thus the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “Behold, dI will set a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel. eI will not again pass by them anymore.
9 fAnd the high places of Isaac will be desolate and the sanctuaries of Israel will be laid waste. And gI will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

Amos and Amaziah
10 ¶ Then Amaziah the hpriest of iBethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words.
11 “For thus Amos says, ‘Jeroboam will die by the sword and Israel will surely be led away captive out of their own land.’”
12 Amaziah also said to Amos, “Go, you seer. Flee away into the land of Judah and there eat bread and prophesy there.
13 But ldo not prophesy again anymore at Bethel, mfor it is a sanctuary of the king and a royal residence.”
14 ¶ Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, “I was no prophet, nor was I a prophet’s son. But I was a oherdsman and a gatherer of sycamore figs.
15 “And the LORD took me as I followed the flock and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, oprophesy to My people Israel.’
16 “Now therefore hear the word of the LORD. You are saying, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel and odo not speak against the house of Isaac.’
17 “Therefore, thus says the LORD, oYour wife will be a harlot in the city and your sons and your daughters will fall by the sword. And your land will be measured and divided. And you will die in a 'defiled land, and Israel will surely go into captivity out of his land.’”

Chapter 8
Basket of Summer Fruit
1 ¶ Thus has the Lord GOD showed to me, and behold a basket of summer fruit.
2 And He said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.” Then the LORD said to me, a“The end has come on My people of Israel. bI will not again pass by them anymore.
3 “And the csongs of the temple will be wailings in that day,” says the Lord GOD. “There will be many dead bodies in every place. dThey will cast them out with silence.
4 ¶ “Hear this, O you who swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,
5 e‘saying, ‘When will the new moon be gone so that we may sell grain, and the fSabbath so that we may market wheat, gmaking the ephah small and the shekel great, and cheat with hdishonest scales,
6 ‘so that we may buy the poor for hsilver and the needy for a pair of shoes, and that we may sell the sweepings of the wheat?’”
7 ¶ The LORD has sworn by the ipride of Jacob, “Surely jI will never forget any of their works.
8 k“Will not the land tremble because of this, and everyone mourn who dwells in it? And it will rise up like the Nile. And it will be tossed about and subside llike the Nile of Egypt.
9 “Then it will come to pass in that day,” says the Lord GOD, m“that I will cause the sun to go down at noon and I will darken the earth in the clear day.
10 ¶ Then I said, “O Lord GOD, please stop, I beseech You. cBy whom will Jacob arise, for he is small?”
6 The LORD relented from this. “This also will not be,” says the Lord GOD.
7 ¶ Therefore, He showed me, and behold, the Lord stood on a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in His hand.
8 Thus the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “Behold, dI will set a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel. eI will not again pass by them anymore.
9 fAnd the high places of Isaac will be desolate and the sanctuaries of Israel will be laid waste. And gI will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

Amos 8
“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord God, “that I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. And they will wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east. They will run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and will not find it. In that day the fair virgins and young men will faint because of thirst. They who swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, ‘Your god, O Dan, lives,’ and ‘The way of Beersheba lives,’ even they will fall and never rise up again.”

Chapter 9
Destruction of Israel

I saw the Lord standing by the altar. And He said, “Strike the lintel of the door so that the posts may shake. And break them on the heads of them all. And I will slay the last of them with the sword. He who flees of them will not flee away. And he who escapes of them will not be delivered. Though they dig into Sheol, from there My hand will take them. Though they climb up to heaven, from there I will bring them down. And though they hide themselves on the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out from there. And though they hide from My sight in the bottom of the sea, from there I will command the serpent, and he will bite them. And though they go into captivity before their enemies, from there I will command the sword, and it will slay them. And I will set My eyes on them for calamity and not for good.”

And the Lord God of armies is He who touches the land, and it will melt, and all who dwell in it will mourn. And it will rise up like the Nile and subside like the Nile of Egypt.

It is He who builds his lofty place in the heavens, and has set His foundation on the earth. He who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the face of the earth, the Lord is His name.

Are you not as children of the Ethiopians to me, O children of Israel? says the Lord. Have I not brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt, and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?

Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are on the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth. Nevertheless, I will not totally destroy the house of Jacob,” says the Lord.

For behold, I will command and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like grain is sifted in a sieve, yet a kernel will not fall to the ground.

All the sinners of My people will die by the sword, those who say, ‘The calamity will not overtake or confront us.’

Restoration of Israel

In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that has fallen and close up its breaches. And I will raise up its ruins and I will build it as in the days of old, so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by My name,” says the Lord who does this.

Behold, “the days are coming,” says the Lord, “when the plowman will overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed. And the mountains will drip sweet wine and all the hills will be dissolved.

And I will bring again the captivity of My people of Israel and they will build the ruined cities and inhabit them. And they will plant vineyards and drink their wine. They will also make gardens and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them in their land and they will never again be pulled up out of their land that I have given them,” says the Lord your God.
OBADIAH

1 ¶ The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom, "We have heard a rumor from the LORD and an ambassador is sent among the nations, 'Arise, and let us rise up against her in battle.'

2 "Behold, I will make you small among the nations. You will be greatly despised.

3 "The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high, who says in his heart, 'Who will bring me down to the ground?'

4 "Though you exalt yourself as the eagle, and though you set your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down," says the LORD.

5 ¶ "If thieves came to you, if robbers by night—Oh, how you would be cut off—would they not have stolen until they had enough? If the grape gatherers came to you, would they not leave some grapes?

6 "Oh, how the things of Esau are ransacked! How his hidden things are sought after!

7 "All the men of your alliance have brought you even to the border. The men who were at peace with you have prevailed over you. Those who eat your bread have laid a trap for you. There is no one aware of it.

8 "Will I not in that day," says the LORD, "even destroy the wise men out of Edom and understanding out of the mountains of Esau?

9 "And your mighty men, O Teman, will be dismayed, to the end that everyone of the mountains of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

10 ¶ "For your violence against your brother Jacob, shame will cover you and you will be cut off forever.

11 "In the day you stood on the other side, in the day that the foreigners carried away captive his forces and foreigners entered into his gates and cast lots on Jerusalem, even you were as one of them.

12 "But you should not have looked on the day of your brother in the day that he became a foreigner. Neither should you have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction. Neither should you have spoken proudly in the day of their distress.

13 "You should not have entered into the gate of My people in the day of their calamity. Yes, you should not have gloated over their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor laid hands on their possessions in the day of their calamity.

14 "Neither should you have stood in the fork of the road to cut off those of his who escaped. Neither should you have delivered up those of his who remained in the day of distress.

15 ¶ "For the day of the LORD is near on all the nations. As you have done, so it will be done to you. Your reward will return on your own head.

16 ¶ "For as you have drunk on My holy mountain, so will all the nations drink continually. Yes, they will drink and they will swallow down. And they will be as though they had never been.

17 "But on Mount Zion there will be deliverance and there will be holiness. And the house of Jacob will possess their possessions.

18 "And the house of Jacob will be a fire and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble. And they will kindle in them and devour them. And there will not be any remaining of the house of Esau," for the LORD has spoken it.

19 ¶ Then those of the south will possess the mountain of Esau, and those of the plain the Philistines. And they will possess the fields of Ephraim and the fields of Samaria. And Benjamin will possess Gilead.

20 And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel will possess the land of the Canaanites, even to Zarephath. And the captivity of Jerusalem that is in Sepharad, will possess the cities of the south.

21 And saviors will come up on Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau, and the kingdom will be the LORD’S.
Chapter 1
The Flight of Jonah

1 ¶ Now the word of the LORD came to aJonah the son of Amittai, saying,
2 “Arise! Go to bNineveh, that  cgreat city, and cry out against it. For dtheir wickedness has come up before Me.”

3 But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. And he went down to eJoppa. There he found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid its fare and went down into it in order to go with them to fTarshish gfrom the presence of the LORD.

4 ¶ But hthe LORD sent out a great wind onto the sea and there was a mighty storm on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up.

5 Then the sailors were afraid, and every man cried out to his god. Then they cast the cargo that was in the ship into the sea in order to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the hold of the ship, lain down and fallen sound asleep.

6 So the shipmaster came to him and said to him, “What do you mean by this, O sleeper? Arise! Call on your God,  kif possible your God will be concerned about us so that we not perish.”

7 And everyone said to his companion, “Come, and let us lcast lots so that we may know for whose cause this calamity has come upon us.” So they cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.

8 Then they said to him, m“Tell us now for whose cause this calamity has come upon us. What do you do? And from where have you come? What is your country? And from what people are you?”

9 Then he said to them, “I am a Hebrew. And I fear the LORD, the God of heaven,  nwho has made the sea and the dry land.”

10 ¶ Then the men were exceedingly afraid. And they said to him, “Why have you done this?” For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD because he had told them.

11 Then they said to him, “What will we do to you so that the sea may be calm for us?”— for it was becoming increasingly tempestuous.

12 And he said to them, ““Take me up and cast me out into the sea. Then the sea will be calm for you. For I know that for my sake this great tempest has come upon you.”

13 Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring it to the land,  bbut they could not because the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them.

14 Therefore, they cried out to the LORD and said, “We beseech You, O LORD, we beseech You. Let us not perish for this man’s life; and  dnot lay on us innocent blood, for You, O LORD, have done as it pleased You.”

15 So they took up Jonah and cast him out into the sea. And sthe sea ceased from its raging.

Chapter 2
The Prayer of Jonah

1 ¶ Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God out of the fish’s belly.

2 And he said, “I acried out to the LORD because of my affliction and bHe heard me. Out of the belly of Sheol I cried out and You heard my voice.

3 “For You had cast me into the deep in the midst of the seas. And the waters surrounded me.  dAll Your billows and Your waves passed over me.

4 “Then I said, ‘I am cast out of Your sight. Still I will look again toward Your holy temple.’

5 “The  swaters surrounded me, even to the

JONAH:  Chapter 1:  a 2 Kg 14:25  b Is 37:37  c Gn 10:11,12  d Gn 18:20  e Ja 19:46  f Is 23:1  g Gn 4:16  h Ps 107:25  i 1 Sm 24:3  j Ps 107:28  k Jl 2:14  l Ja 7:14  m Ja 7:19  n Ne 9:6  o Jn 11:50  p Ps 21:30  q Dt 21:8  r Ps 115:3  s Ps 89:9  107:29  t At 5:11  u Mt 12:40  Chapter 2:  a Ps 120:1  b Ps 65:2  c Ps 88:6  d Ps 42:7  e Ps 31:22  f 1 Kg 8:38  g Lm 3:54
soul. The deep closed around me and the sea weeds were wrapped around my head.

6 “I went down to the bottoms of the mountains. The earth with its bars was around me forever. Still You have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God.

7 “When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD. And my prayer came in to You, into Your holy temple.

8 “Those who revere useless idols forsake their faithfulness.

9 “But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving. I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is from the LORD.”

10 ¶ Then the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited out Jonah on dry land.

Chapter 3

The Submission of Jonah

1 ¶ Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying,

2 “Arise! Go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.”

3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city of three days’ journey around it.

4 ¶ Then Jonah began to enter into the city a day’s journey. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown.”

5 So the people of Nineveh believed God. And they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

6 Then word came to the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne and he laid aside his robe. Then he covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes.

7 dAnd he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, “Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them neither feed, nor drink water.

8 “But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth and cry out mightily to God. Yes, let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.

9 “Who can tell if God may turn and relent and withdraw His burning anger so that we do not perish?”

10 ¶ And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil ways. Then God relented of the calamity that He had said that He would do to them. And He did not do it.

Chapter 4

The Frustration of Jonah

1 ¶ But it displeased Jonah exceedingly and he was very angry.

2 Then he prayed to the LORD and said, “Please O LORD, was this not what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore, I fled before to Tarshish. For I knew that You are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness, and One who relents from doing harm.

3 “Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

4 ¶ Then the LORD said, “Do you have any right to be angry?”

5 So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. And there he made for himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade until he might see what would become of the city.

6 Now the LORD God prepared a gourd and made it to come up over Jonah so that it might be a shade over his head, to deliver him from his grief. Now Jonah was exceedingly glad for the gourd.

7 But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day. And it smote the gourd so that it withered.

8 Now it came to pass when the sun arose that God prepared a scorching east wind. And the sun beat on the head of Jonah so that he fainted. And he wished in himself to die. Then he said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

9 Then God said to Jonah, “Did you have a right to be angry about the gourd?” And he said, “I have good reason to be angry, even to death.”

10 ¶ Then the LORD said, “You had pity on
the gourd for which you had not labored, neither did you make it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night.

11 “And should I not spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than 120,000 persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand, and also many animals?”

MICAH

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to a Micah the Morasthite in the days of b Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, that he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Judgment Against Samaria & Jerusalem

2 ¶ Hear, all you people. Hearken, O earth and all who are on it. And let the Lord GOD be a witness against you, the Lord from His holy temple.

3 For behold, the LORD comes forth out of His realm and will come down and tread on the high places of the earth.

4 And the mountains will melt beneath Him and the valleys will split apart, as wax before the fire, as water rushing down a slope.

5 All this is because of the rebellion of Jacob and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria? And what are the high places of Judah? Are they not Jerusalem?

6 Therefore, I will make Samaria as a heap of the field and as places for planting a vineyard. And I will pour down her stones into the valley and will uncover her foundations.

7 And all her graven images will be beaten to pieces and all her temple gifts will be burned with fire. And I will lay desolate all her idols, for she gathered it from the wages of prostitutes, as the wages of prostitutes they will again be used.

Lamentation

8 ¶ Therefore, I will lament and wail. I will go stripped and naked. I will make a wailing like the jackals and mourning as the owls.

9 For her wound is incurable, for it has come to Judah. He has come to the gate of My people, even to Jerusalem.

10 Do not declare it at Gath. Do not weep at all. In Beth Ophrah roll yourself in the dust.

11 Go your way, inhabitant of Saphir, in shameful nakedness. The inhabitant of Zaanan did not come out in the mourning. Beth Ezel mourns. Its place to stand is taken away from you.

12 For the inhabitant of Maroth becomes weak waiting for good. But calamity came down from the LORD to the gate of Jerusalem.

13 O you inhabitant of Lachish, harness the chariot to the swift beast. She is the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion, for the transgressions of Israel were found in you.

14 Therefore, you will give parting gifts to Moresheth Gath. The houses of Achzib will be a lie to the kings of Israel.

15 Yet I will bring an heir to you, O inhabitant of Mareshah. He will come to Adullam the glory of Israel.

16 Make yourself bald and cut off your hair because of the children of your delight. Extend your baldness like the vulture, for they will go from you into exile.

Chapter 2

Plans of Man and God

1 ¶ Woe to those who devise iniquity and work evil on their beds! When the morning is light, they practice it because it is in the power of their hand.

2 And they covet fields and take them by violence, and houses, and take them away. So they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

3 Therefore, thus says the LORD, “Behold, against this family I devise a calamity, from which you will not remove your necks, neither will you walk haughtily, for it will be an evil time.

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8 “In that day one will take up a parable against you and lament with a bitter lamentation. He will say, ‘We are utterly plundered. He has changed the portion of my people. How he has removed it from me! To the apostate He divided our fields.’

5 “Therefore, you will have no one who will cast a cord by lot in the assembly of the LORD.”

False Prophets

6 ¶ “Do not prophesy,” they say to those who prophesy. But if they do not speak out concerning these things, reproaches will not be turned back.

7 Should this be said, O house of Jacob?, “Is the Spirit of the LORD angry? Are these His deeds? Do not My words do good to him who walks uprightly?”

8 “Lately My people have risen up as an enemy. You strip off the robe with the garment from those who trust you, as they pass by like men returned from war.

9 “The women of My people you have cast out from their pleasant houses. From their children you have taken away My glory forever.

10 “Arise and depart, for this is not your rest. Because it is defiled, it will destroy you, even with a great destruction.

11 “If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood lie, saying, ‘I will prophesy to you of wine and of strong drink,’ he will even be the spokesman to this people.

Promise of Deliverance

12 ¶ “I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of you. I will surely gather the remnant of Israel. I will put them together as the sheep in a pen, as the flock in the midst of their fold. They will make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.

13 “The one who breaks open the way will come up before them. They will break out, pass through the gate, and go out by it. And their king will pass before them, with the LORD at their head.”

Chapter 3

Rebuke of the Leadership

1 ¶ And I said, “Hear now O heads of Jacob, and you princes of the house of Israel. Is it not for you to know justice?

2 “You who hate the good and love the evil, who strip their skin from off them and the flesh from off their bones;

3 “who also eat the flesh of My people and flay their skin from off them, and they break their bones and chop them in pieces, as for the pot and as flesh in the caldron.”

4 Then they will cry out to the LORD, but He will not hear them. He will even hide His face from them at that time because they have behaved themselves wickedly in their deeds.

5 ¶ Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who make My people stray, who chew with their teeth and cry out, “Peace,” but against him who puts nothing in their mouths they declare holy war.

6 “Therefore, you will have night without vision, and you will have darkness without divination. And the sun will go down over the prophets and the day will be dark over them.

7 Then the seers will be ashamed and the diviners confounded. Yes, they will all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.”

8 ¶ But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD, and of justice and of might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.

9 Hear this you heads of the house of Jacob and princes of the house of Israel who abhor justice and pervert all equity.

10 They build up Zion with blood and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11 Her heads judge for a bribe and her priests teach for hire. And her prophets divine for money. Yet they will lean on the LORD and say, “Is not the LORD among us? Calamity will not come upon us.”

12 Therefore, on account of you Zion will be plowed as a field and Jerusalem will become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.
Chapter 4

The Mountain of the Lord

1 ¶ But in the last days it will come to pass that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established on the top of the mountains. And it will be exalted above the hills, and people will flow unto it.

2 And many nations will come and say, “Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

3 And He will judge among many people and rebuke strong nations afar off. And they will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up a sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore.

4 But every man will sit under his vine and under his fig tree and no one will make them afraid. For the mouth of the LORD of armies has spoken it.

5 For all people will walk in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

God’s Eternal Plan

6 ¶ “In that day,” says the LORD, “I will assemble the lame and gather the outcasts, even those whom I have afflicted.

7 “I will make the lame a remnant and the outcasts a strong nation. And the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion from now on, even forever.

8 And you, O tower of the flock, the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, to you it will come, even the former dominion. The kingdom will come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

9 ¶ “Now why do you cry out aloud? Is there no king in your midst? Has your counsellor perished? For pangs have taken you as a woman in labor pains.

10 “Be in pain and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in labor pains. For now you will go forth out of the city and you will dwell in the field, and you will go even to Babylon. There you will be delivered. There the LORD will redeem you from the hand of your enemies.

11 “Now many nations have gathered against you who say, ‘Let her be defiled and let our eye look on Zion.’

12 “But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD, nor understand His counsel. For He will gather them as the sheaves into the threshing floor.

13 Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion. For I will make your horn iron and I will make your hoofs bronze. And you will beat in pieces many people. And I will consecrate their gain to the LORD and their substance to the Lord of the whole earth.

Chapter 5

The Promised Ruler

1 ¶ “Now gather yourself into troops, O daughter of troops. He has laid siege against us. They will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.

2 But you, Bethlehem Ephratah, though you are small among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you He will come forth to Me who is to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting.”

3 Therefore, He will give them up until the time when she who labors in pain has brought forth. Then the remnant of His brethren will return to the children of Israel.

4 And He will stand and feed His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God. And they will remain, because His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

5 Now this One will be the peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, and when he treads in our palaces, then we will raise up against him seven shepherds and eight leaders of men.

6 And they will rule the land of Assyria with the sword and the land of Nimrod in its entrances. Thus He will deliver us from the As-
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syrian when He comes into our land and when He treads within our borders.

7 ¶ And the remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many people as dew from the LORD, as the showers on the grass that wait for no man, nor wait for the sons of men.

8 And the remnant of Jacob will be among the nations in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, if he passes through, tramples down and tears and there is no one to rescue.

9 Your hand will be lifted up on your adversaries and all your enemies will be cut off.

10 ¶ "Then it will come to pass in that day," says the LORD, "that I will cut off your horses out of the midst of you and I will destroy your chariots.

11 And I will cut off the cities of your land and throw down all your strongholds.

12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of your hand, and you will have no more usoothsayers.

13 "Your graven images also I will cut off, and your standing images out of the midst of you. And you will no longer worship the work of your hands.

14 And I will root up your Asherim from among you and I will destroy your cities.

15 And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury on the nations, such as they have not heard."

Chapter 6

God's Charge Against Israel

1 ¶ Hear now what the LORD says. "Arise! Plead your case before the mountains and let the hills hear your voice.

2 "Hear O mountains the LORD'S complaint, and you strong foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a complaint with His people, and He will contend with Israel.

3 "O My people, what have I done to you? And how have I wearied you? Testify against Me.

4 "For I brought you up out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of servants. And I sent you before Moses, Aaron and Miriam.

5 "O My people, remember now what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim to Gilgal, so that you may know the righteousness of the LORD."

6 ¶ With what will I come before the LORD and bow myself before the High God? Will I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousand rivers of oil? Will I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He has shown you, O man, what is good and what the LORD requires of you, but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

Israel's Guilt and Punishment

9 ¶ The LORD'S voice cries out to the city—it is sound wisdom to fear Your name. "Hear the rod! Who has appointed it?

10 "Are there still the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked and the short measure that is abominable?

11 "Will I acquit a man with the wicked balances and a bag of deceitful weights?

12 "For her rich men are full of violence and her inhabitants have spoken lies. And their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

13 "Therefore, I will also make you sick in striking you, in making you desolate because of your sins.

14 "You will eat, but not be satisfied. And your vileness will be in the midst of you. And you will take hold, but will not deliver. And what you rescue I will give up to the sword.

15 "You will sow, but you will not reap. You will tread the olives, but you will not anoint yourself with oil, and make sweet wine, but will not drink wine.

16 "For the statutes of Omri are kept and all the works of the house of Ahab are done. And you walk in their counsels, so that I should make you a desolation and your inhabitants a hissing. Therefore, you will bear the reproach of My people."
Chapter 7
Israel's Woe
1 ¶ Woe is me! For I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grape gleanings of the vintage. There is no cluster to eat. My soul desired the first-ripe fruit.

2 The good man has perished out of the land. And there is no one upright among men. They all lie in wait for blood. Each of them hunts the other with a net.

3 So that they may do evil earnestly with both hands, the prince and the judge ask for a bribe. And the great one utters his mischievous desire. So they weave it together.

4 The best of them is as a brier. The most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge. The day of your watchmen and your visitation is coming. Then their confusion will occur.

5 Do not trust in a friend. Do not put confidence in a guide. Guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your bosom.

6 For the son dishonors the father. The daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. A man’s enemies are the men of his own house.

7 Therefore, I will look to the LORD. I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me.

8 ¶ Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy. When I fall, I will arise. When I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to me.

9 ¶ I will bear the indignation of the LORD, because I have sinned against Him, until He pleads my cause and executes justice for me. He will bring me forth to the light and I will behold His righteousness.

10 Then my enemy will see and shame will cover her who said to me, “Where is the LORD your God?” My eyes will behold her.

Now she will be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

11 In the day that your walls are to be built, in that day the decree will go far and wide.

12 In that day also they will come even to you from Assyria and from the cities of Egypt, and from Egypt even to the Euphrates, and from sea to sea, and from mountain to mountain.

13 Yet the land will be desolate because of those who dwell in it, because of the fruit of their deeds.

Prayer and Praise

14 ¶ Feed Your people with Your staff, the flock of Your heritage who dwell solitarily in the forest in the midst of Carmel. Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old.

15 ¶“According to the days of your coming out of the land of Egypt I will show to him marvellous things.”

16 ¶ The nations will see and be confounded at all their might. They will lay their hand on their mouths and their ears will become deaf.

17 They will lick the dust like a serpent. They will crawl out of their holes like worms of the earth. They will be afraid of the LORD our God and will be afraid because of You.

18 ¶Who is a God like unto You, who pardons iniquity and passes by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever because He delights in mercy.

19 He will turn again. He will have compassion on us. He will tread our iniquities underfoot, and You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20 ¶You will be true to Jacob, and show mercy to Abraham, as You have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

NAHUM

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

2 God is jealous and the LORD revenges. The LORD revenges and is furious. The LORD
will take vengeance on His adversaries and He reserves wrath for His enemies.

3 The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked. The LORD has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet.

4 He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, and dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither. The blossoms of Lebanon wither.

5 The mountains quake because of Him and the hills melt. And the earth is burned because of His presence, yes, the world and all who dwell in it.

6 Who can stand before His indignation? And who can endure the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire and the rocks are thrown down by Him.

7 The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble. And He knows those who trust in Him.

8 But with an overflowing flood He will make a complete end of its site. And darkness will pursue His enemies.

9 What do you imagine against the LORD? He will make a complete end. Affliction will not rise up the second time.

10 For while they are entangled as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they will be devoured as dry stubble.

11 There is one who comes out of you who imagines evil against the LORD, a wicked counselor.

12 Thus says the LORD, “Though they have many allies and are numerous, yet they will be cut down when He passes through. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more. For now I will break his yoke from off you and will burst your bonds asunder.”

13 And the LORD has given a commandment concerning you, “Your name will no longer be perpetuated. Out of the house of your gods I will cut off the graven image and the molten image. I will make your grave, for you are vile.”

14 Behold on the mountains the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace! O Judah, keep your solemn feasts. Perform your vows, for the wicked will never again pass through you. He is utterly cut off.

Chapter 2

The Fall of Nineveh

1 ¶ He who scatters has come up before your face. Man the fortress. Watch the way. Make strong your flanks. Fortify your power mightily.

2 For the LORD will restore the excellency of Jacob as the excellency of Israel, though the devastators have devastated them and ruined their vine branches.

3 ¶ The shields of his mighty men are made red. The valiant men are in scarlet. The chariots are with flaming torches in the day of his preparation and the spears are brandished.

4 The chariots race in the streets. They jostle one against another in the broad ways. They seem like torches. They run like the lightnings.

5 ¶ He summons his picked troops. They stumble in their walk. They make haste to its wall and the defense is prepared.

6 The gates of the rivers are opened and the palace is dissolved.

7 And it is decreed: She is led away captive. She is brought up and her handmaids lead her as with the voice of doves, beating their breasts.

8 ¶ Though Nineveh of old was like a pool of water, yet they will flee away. “Stand, stand,” they will command, but no one will look back.

9 Take the spoil of silver. Take the spoil of gold. For there is no end of the treasure or wealth of all its treasures.

10 She is empty and void and waste, and the heart melts and the knees knock together. And anguish is in the whole body and all their faces are grown pale!

11 ¶ Where now is the dwelling of the lions and the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion, lioness and lion’s cub walked, with nothing to disturb them?

12 The lion tore in pieces enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses. And he filled his caves with prey and his dens with torn flesh.

13 ¶ “Behold, I am against you,” says the LORD of armies, “and I will burn her chariots
in the smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions. And I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your “messengers will no longer be heard.”

Chapter 3

Woe to Nineveh

1 ¶ Woe to the city of blood! It is all full of lies and robbery. The prey does not depart.

2 The noise of a whip and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the galloping horses and of the jolting chariots.

3 The horseman lifts up both the bright sword and the gleaming spear. And there is a multitude of slain and a great number of corpses. And there is no end of their corpses. They stumble over their corpses,

4 because of the multitude of harlotries of the seductive harlot who sells nations through her harlotries and families through her sorceries.

5 ¶ “Behold, I am against you,” says the LORD of armies. “And I will lift up your skirts over your face and will show the nations your nakedness and the kingdoms your shame.

6 Then I will cast abominable filth on you and make you evil. And I will set you as a spectacle.

7 Then it will come to pass that all those who look on you will flee from you and say, Nineveh is laid waste. Who will grieve over her? From where will I seek comforters for you?”

8 ¶ Are you better than No Amon that was situated among the rivers, that had the waters around her, whose rampart was the sea and her wall was from the sea?

9 Ethiopia and Egypt were her strength, and it was without limits. Put and Lubim were your helpers.

10 Yet she was carried away. She went into captivity. Her young children also were dashed to pieces at the head of all the streets. And they cast lots for her honorable men and all her great men were bound in chains.

11 You also will be drunk. You will go into hiding. You also will seek refuge because of the enemy.

12 ¶ All your strongholds will be like fig trees with the ripened figs. If they are shaken, they will fall into the mouth of the eater.

13 Behold, your people in the midst of you are women. The gates of your land will be set wide open unto your enemies. The fire will devour your bars.

14 Draw waters for the siege. Fortify your strongholds. Go into clay and tread the mortar. Make strong the brick kiln.

15 There the fire will devour you. The sword will cut you off. It will eat you up like the locust. Make yourself many as the creeping locust. Multiply yourself as the swarming locust.

16 You have multiplied your merchants above the stars of heaven. The creeping locust strips and flies away.

17 Your guards are as the locusts and your captains as the great locusts that camp in the hedges in the cold day, but when the sun arises they flee away, and the place where they are is not known.

18 ¶ Your shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria. Your nobles will dwell in the dust. Your people are scattered on the mountains and no man gathers them.

19 There is no healing of your bruise. Your wound is grievous. All who hear about you will clap the hands. For on whom has your wickedness not passed continually?

HABAKKUK

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The burden that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

Habakkuk’s First Complaint

2 ¶ O LORD, how long will I cry out and you will not hear! I even cry out to you about violence, and You will not save!

3 Why do you show me iniquity and cause me
to behold injustice? For plunder and violence are before me. And there are those who raise up strife and contention.

4 Therefore, the law is powerless and judgment never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous. Therefore, justice goes forth perverted.

The Lord Answers

5 ¶ **Look among the nations and wonder and be astonished. For I will work a work in your days that you will not believe, though it is told to you.**

6 **For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, that bitter and impetuous nation, that will march through the breadth of the land to possess the dwelling places that are not theirs.**

7 **They are terrible and dreadful. Their justice and their dignity will proceed from themselves.**

8 **Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves. And their horsemen press on proudly. And their horsemen will come from afar. They will fly as the eagle that hastens to eat.**

9 **They will all come for violence. Their faces are set as the east wind, and they will gather the captivity as the sand.**

10 **And they will scoff at the kings, and the princes will be a scorn to them. They will ride every stronghold, for they will heap earthen mounds and take it.**

11 **Then his mind will change and he will pass over and offend, ascribing this power to his god.**

Habakkuk’s Second Complaint

12 ¶ **Are You not from everlasting, O LORD my God, My Holy One? We will not die. O LORD, You have ordained them for judgment. And O Mighty God, You have established them for correction.**

13 **Your eyes are too pure to look upon evil. And You cannot look on iniquity. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously and hold Your tongue when the wicked devours the one who is more righteous than he?**

14 **Why do You make men as the fish of the sea, as the creeping things who have no ruler over them?**

15 **They take up all of them with the hook. They catch them in their net and gather them in their dragnet. Therefore, they rejoice and are glad.**

16 **Therefore, they sacrifice to their net and burn incense to their dragnet, because by them their share is large and their food plentiful.**

17 **Will they, therefore, empty their net and continually slay the nations without pity?**

Chapter 2

The Lord's Answer

1 ¶ **I will stand on my watch and set myself on the ramparts. And I will watch to see what He will say to me and what I will answer when I am corrected.**

2 ¶ **Then the LORD answered me and said, “Write the vision and make it plain on tablets so that he may run who reads it.**

3 **For the vision is yet for an appointed time. But at the end it will speak and not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it, because it will surely come. It will not tarry.**

4 ¶ **Behold the proud, his desires are not upright. But the just will live by his faith.**

5 ¶ **Indeed, wine betrays him. He is an arrogant man and does not stay at home. He enlarges his desire as Sheol. And as death, he cannot be satisfied. But he gathers to himself all nations and heaps to himself all people.**

6 ¶ **Will not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, ‘Woe to him who increases that which is not his—for how long—and loads himself with many pledges?’**

7 **Will not your creditors rise up suddenly, and those who collect from you awaken? In- deed, you will become plunder for them.**

8 **Because you have plundered many nations, all the remnant of the people will plunder you, because of men’s blood and for the violence of the land and of the city and of all who dwell in it.**

9 ¶ **Woe to him who gets evil gain for his house so that he may set his nest on high, so that he may be delivered from the power of evil!”**
10 “You have devised shame for your house by cutting off many people, and have sinned against your soul.
11 “For the stone will cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber will answer it.
12 ¶ “Woe to him who builds a town with blood and establishes a city by iniquity!
13 “Behold, has not the Lord Almighty determined that the people’s labor is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing?
14 “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.
15 ¶ “Woe to him who gives his neighbor drink, who puts your bottle to him and makes him drunken also, so that you may look on their nakedness!
16 “You are filled with shame instead of glory. Now you drink and be exposed. The cup of the LORD’S right hand will come to you and complete disgrace will be on your glory.
17 “For the violence done to Lebanon will cover you, and the devastation of its beasts that made them afraid, because of men’s blood and the violence of the land and of the city, and of all who dwell in it.
18 ¶ “What profit is the graven image when its maker has carved it, the molten image and a teacher of lies? For its maker trusts in his own handiwork when he fashions speechless idols.
19 “Woe to him who says to the wood, ‘Awake,’ and to the speechless stone, ‘Arise.’ Will it be your teacher? Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all inside it.
20 “But the LORD is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.”

Chapter 3
Habakkuk’s Prayer
1 ¶ A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet on Shigionoth.
2 O LORD, I have heard your speech and was afraid. O LORD, revive Your work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make it known. In wrath remember mercy.
3 ¶ God came from Teman and the Holy One from Mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens and the earth was full of His praise.
4 And His brightness was as the light. He had rays flashing from His hand. And there His power was hidden.
5 Before Him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at His feet.
6 He stood and measured the earth. He beheld, and startled the nations. ¶And the everlasting mountains were scattered. The perpetual hills bowed. His ways are everlasting.
7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction. The curtains of the land of Midian trembled.
8 ¶ Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? Was Your anger against the rivers? Was Your wrath against the sea, that You rode on Your horses and Your chariots of salvation?
9 Your bow was made bare according to the oaths of the tribes, even Your word. You divided the earth with waters.
10 The mountains saw You and they trembled. The overflowing of the water passed by. The deep uttered its voice and lifted up its hands on high.
11 The sun and moon stood still in their habitation. At the light of Your arrows they went, at the shining of Your glittering spear.
12 You marched through the land in indignation. You threshed the nations in anger.
13 You went forth for the salvation of Your people, for salvation with Your anointed one. You crushed the head of the house of the wicked. You stripped him from head to foot.
14 With his own spear You pierced his head when they came out as a whirlwind to scatter us. Their rejoicing was like those who devour the poor in secret.
15 ¶ You walked through the sea with Your horses, through the heap of great waters.
16 ¶ When I heard, ‘my stomach trembled. My lips quivered at the voice. Decay entered into my bones and I trembled in myself, so that I might rest in the day of trouble. When he comes up to the people, he will invade them with his troops.
17 ¶ Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold
and there be no herd in the stalls, 18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD. I rejoice in the God of my salvation. 19 The LORD God is my strength and He will make my feet like the feet of gazelle. And He will make me walk on my heights. (For the chief singer on my stringed instruments.)

ZEPHANIAH

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

Warning of Destruction

2 ¶ “I will utterly consume all things from off the land,” says the LORD.
3 “I will consume man and beast. I will consume the birds of the heaven and the fish of the sea, and the ruins along with the wicked. And I will cut off man from the face of the earth,” says the LORD.

Judgment Against Judah

4 “I will also stretch out My hand on Judah and on all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And I will cut off every trace of Baal from this place and the name of the Chemarims with the priests,
5 “and those who worship the host of heaven on the housetops, and those who worship and swear by the LORD, and who swear by Molech,
6 “and those who have turned back from following the LORD, and those who have not sought the LORD, nor inquired from Him.
7 ¶ “Hold your peace at the presence of the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand. For the LORD has prepared a sacrifice. He has consecrated His guests.
8 “And it will come to pass in the day of the LORD’S sacrifice that I will punish the princes and the king’s children, and all who clothe themselves with foreign garments.
9 “In the same day also I will punish all those who leap on the threshold, who fill their masters’ houses with violence and deceit.
10 ¶ “And it will come to pass in that day,” says the LORD, “that there will be the sound of a cry from the Fish Gate, and a wail from the Second Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills.
11 ¶ “Wail you inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the merchant people are cut down. All those who bear silver are cut off.
12 “And it will come to pass at that time that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men who are stagnant in spirit, who say in their heart, ‘The LORD will not do good, nor will He do evil.’
13 “Therefore, their goods will become a booty and their houses a desolation. They will also build houses, but not inhabit them. And they will plant vineyards, but not drink their wine.”

The Great Day of the Lord

14 ¶ “The great day of the LORD is near! It is near, and coming very quickly. Listen! The cry of the day of the LORD. In it the mighty men will cry out bitterly.
15 ¶ “That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 “a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fortified cities, and against the high towers.
17 “And I will bring distress on men so that they will walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD. And their blood will be poured out as dust and their flesh as the dung.
18 “Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD’S wrath. But the whole land will be devoured by the fire of His jealousy. For He will make a
sudden end of all those who dwell in the land.”

**Chapter 2**

1 ¶ Gather yourselves together, yes, gather together, O undesirabyle nation,

2 before the decree is issued, before the day passes as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD comes on you, before the day of the LORD’S anger comes on you.

3 Seek the LORD all you meek of the earth who have upheld His justice, who seek righteousness and meekness. It may be that you will be hidden in the day of the LORD’S anger.

**Judgment Against Philistia**

4 ¶ For Gaza will be forsaken, and Ashkelon a desolation. They will drive out Ashdod at the noonday, and Ekron will be rooted up.

5 Woe to the inhabitants of the seacoast, the nation of the Cherethites! The word of the LORD is against you, O Canaan, the land of the Philistines. “I will even destroy you so that there will be no inhabitant.”

6 And the seacoast will be dwellings and caves for shepherds and folds for flocks.

7 And the coast will be for the remnant of the house of Judah. They will feed upon it. In the houses of Ashkelon they will lie down in the evening, for the LORD their God will visit them and turn away their captivity.

**Judgment Against Moab and Ammon**

8 ¶ “I have heard the reproach of Moab and the revilings of the children of Ammon, by which they have taunted My people and become arrogant against their territory.

9 “Therefore, as I live,” says the LORD of armies, the God of Israel, “Surely Moab will be as Sodom and the people of Ammon as Gomorrah, even a place possessed by nettles and salt pits, and a perpetual desolation. The remainder of My people will plunder them, and the remnant of My people will possess them.”

10 This they will have for their pride, because they have taunted and magnified themselves against the people of the LORD of armies.

11 The LORD will be terrifying to them. For He will starve all the gods of the land. And the nations on every shore will worship Him, everyone in its own land.

**Judgment Against Ethiopia**

12 ¶ “You Ethiopians also, you will be slain by My sword.”

**Judgment Against Assyria**

13 ¶ And He will stretch out His hand against the north and destroy Assyria. And He will make Nineveh a desolation and dry like a wilderness.

14 And flocks will lie down in the midst of her and all the beasts of the nations. Both the desert owl and the bittern will lodge on her columns. Their voice will sing in the windows. Desolation will be in the thresholds, for He will expose the cedar work.

15 This is the rejoicing city that dwelt securely, that said in her heart, “I am and there is no one besides me.” How she has become a desolation, a place in which beasts lie down! Everyone who passes by her will hiss and shake their fist.

**Chapter 3**

**Future of Jerusalem**

1 ¶ Woe to her who is filthy and polluted. Woe to the oppressing city!

2 She does not obey the voice. She does not receive correction. She does not trust in the LORD. She does not draw near to her God.

3 a Her princes within her are roaring lions. Her judges are evening wolves. They leave nothing for the morning.

4 Her prophets are reckless and treacherous persons. Her priests have defiled the sanctuary. They have done violence to the law.

5 The LORD is righteous within her. He will not do injustice. Every morning He brings His justice to light. He does not fail. But the unjust knows no shame.

6 “I have cut off the nations. Their towers are
desolate. I made their streets waste so that no one passes by. Their cities are destroyed so that there is no man, so that there is not one inhabitant.

7 “I said, ‘Surely you will fear Me. You will receive instruction.’ So her dwelling will not be cut off according to all that I have appointed concerning her. But they rose early and corrupted all their deeds.

8 ¶ Therefore, wait on Me,” says the LORD, “until the day that I rise up to the prey. For My determination is to gather the nations so that I may assemble the kingdoms to pour on them My indignation, even all My fierce anger. For all the earth will be devoured with the fire of My jealousy.

9 “For then I will turn to the people a purified language so that they may all call on the name of the LORD, to serve Him with one accord.

10 ¶ From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My worshipers, even the daughter of My dispersed, will bring My offering.

11 “In that day you will not be ashamed of all your deeds wherein you have transgressed against Me. For then I will take away out of the midst of you those who rejoice in your pride, and you will no longer be arrogant on My holy mountain.

12 “I will also leave in the midst of you a humble and lowly people, and they will trust in the name of the LORD.

13 ¶ The remnant of Israel will do no wrong, nor speak lies. Neither will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth. For they will feed and lie down and no one will make them afraid.”

14 ¶ Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

15 The LORD has taken away your judgments. He has cast out your enemy. ¶ The king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of you. You will not see evil anymore.

16 In that day ¶ it will be said to Jerusalem, “Do not fear,” and to Zion, “Do not let your hands be weak.”

17 “The LORD your God in the midst of you is mighty. He will save. ¶ He will rejoice over you with joy. He will be quiet in His love. He will rejoice over you with singing.

18 ¶ I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, who are of you, to whom its reproach was a burden.

19 ¶ Behold, at that time I will deal with all who afflict you. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast. And I will give them praise and honor in every land where they were put to shame.

20 ¶ At that time ¶ I will bring you again, even in the time that I gather you. For I will give you fame and praise among all people of the earth when I return your captives before your eyes,” says the LORD.
7 ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, “Consider your ways.  
8 “Go up to the mountain and bring wood, and build the house. And I will take pleasure in it and I will be glorified,” says the LORD.  
9 ¶*You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?” says the LORD of armies. “Because of My house that is in ruins while each of you runs to his own house.  
10 “Therefore, the heaven over you has withheld its dew, and the earth has withheld her fruit.  
11 ¶*Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him. And the people feared before the LORD.
12 ¶ Then Haggai, the LORD’S messenger spoke the LORD’S message to the people, saying, “I am with you,” says the LORD.
13 Then Haggai, the LORD’S messenger spoke the LORD’S message to the people, saying, “I am with you,” says the LORD.  
14 ¶ Then the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, ‘governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people. ‘And they came and worked on the house of the LORD of armies their God,  
15 in the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

Chapter 2

Glory of the House

1 ¶ In the seventh month, in the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying,  
2 ¶*Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying,  
3 ¶*Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? And how do you see it now? *Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison?  
4 ¶*Yet now be strong, O Zeru-bbabel,’ says the LORD, ‘and be strong, O Joshua, son of Jozadak, the high priest. And be strong all you people of the land,’ says the LORD, ‘and work, for I am with you,’ says the LORD of armies.  
5 ¶*According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so ‘My Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’  
6 ¶*For thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Yet once again in a little while I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land.  
7 ¶*And I will shake all nations, and they will come to the desire of all nations. And I will fill this house with glory,’ says the LORD of armies.  
8 ¶*The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,’ says the LORD of armies. 
9 ¶*The glory of this latter house will be greater than of the former,’ says the LORD of armies. ‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the LORD of armies.”

Blessing of the People

10 ¶ In the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying,  
11 ¶*Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Ask the priests now what the law says,  
12 ¶*If one carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and with his skirt touches bread or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any other food, will it be holy?’ And the priests answered and said, “No.”  
13 Then Haggai answered and said, “If one who is unclean by a dead body touches any of these, will it be unclean?” And the priests answered and said, “No.”  
14 ¶ Then Haggai said, “If one who is unclean by a dead body touches any of these, will it be unclean?” And the priests answered and said, “It will be unclean.”  
15 Then Haggai said, “If one who is unclean by a dead body touches any of these, will it be unclean?” And the priests answered and said, “It will be unclean.”
15 ¶ “But now give careful consideration from this day and onward, from before one stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the LORD,
16 since those days when one came to a heap of twenty ephahs, there were but ten, when one came to the wine vat to draw fifty vessels out of the vat, and there were only twenty.
17 ¶ I smote you with a blasting wind and with mildew and with hail in all the labors of your hands. Yet you did not turn to Me,” says the LORD.
18 Consider now from this day onward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the LORD’S temple was laid, consider it.
19 ¶ Is the seed still in the barn? As yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, have not yielded fruit. From this day I will bless you.”

Zerubbabel and the Signet Ring
20 ¶ And again the word of the LORD came to Haggai in the twenty-fourth day of the month, saying,
21 “Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, ¶ I will shake the heavens and the earth.
22 ¶ And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations. And I will overthrow the chariots and those who ride in them. And the horses and their riders will come down, everyone by the sword of his brother.
23 ¶ In that day,” says the LORD of armies, ¶ I will take you, O Zerubbabel, My servant, the son of Shealtiel,” says the LORD, ¶ and will make you as a signet. For I have chosen you,” says the LORD of armies.

ZECHARIAH

Chapter 1
Return to the Lord
1 ¶ In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,
2 ¶ The LORD has been very angry with your fathers.
3 ¶ Therefore, say to them, ¶ Thus says the LORD of armies, ¶ ‘Return to Me,’ says the LORD of armies, ¶ and I will return to you,” says the LORD of armies.
4 ¶ Do not be as your fathers to whom the former prophets cried out, saying, ¶ ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, ¶ ¶ Turn now from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.’” But they did not hear, nor hearken to Me,” says the LORD.
5 ¶ Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever?
6 ¶ Did not My words and My statutes that I commanded My servants the prophets overtake your fathers? So they returned and said, ¶ ¶ As the LORD of armies thought to do to us, according to our ways, and according to our deeds, so He has dealt with us.’” ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶

Men Among the Myrtle Trees
7 ¶ On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, that is the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet.
8 During the night I had a vision, and behold, ¶ a man riding on a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the valley bottom. And behind him there were red horses, speckled and white.
9 Then I said, ¶ ¶ O my lord, what are these?” And the angel who talked with me said, ¶ ¶ I will show you what these are.”
10 Then the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, ¶ ¶ These are those whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth.”
11 ¶ ¶ And they answered the angel of the LORD who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, ¶ ¶ We have walked to and fro throughout the
earth, and behold, all the earth sits still and is at rest.”

12 ¶ Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, “O LORD of armies, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against whom You have had indignation these seventy years?”

13 Then the LORD answered the angel who talked with me with good words and comforting words.

14 So the angel who communed with me said to me, “Cry out, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, “I am zealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great zeal.

15 “And I am very displeased with the nations that are at ease. For while I was only a little angry, they increased the calamity.”

16 Therefore, thus says the LORD, “I have returned to Jerusalem with mercies. My house will be built in it,” says the LORD of armies, “and a measuring line will be stretched over Jerusalem.”

17 “Cry out again, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, “My cities through prosperity will again be spread abroad. And the LORD will again comfort Zion and will again choose Jerusalem.” ’ ”

Four Horns and Craftsmen

18 ¶ Then I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold four horns.

19 And I said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these?” And he answered me, “These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel and Jerusalem.”

20 And the LORD showed me four craftsmen.

21 Then I said, “What are these coming to do?” And He said, “These are the horns that have scattered Judah, so that no man lifts up his head. But these have come to terrify them, to cast out the horns of the nations that lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.”

Chapter 2

The Measuring Line

1 ¶ I lifted up my eyes again and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand.

2 Then I said, “Where are you going?” And he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see how wide it is and how long it is.”

3 And behold, the angel who talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him.

4 And he said to him, “Run! Speak to this young man, saying, ‘Jerusalem will be inhabited as towns without walls because of the multitude of men and cattle within it.’

5 For I,” says the LORD, “will be to her a wall of fire all around. And I will be the glory in her midst.”

6 ¶ “Ho there! Flee from the land of the north,” says the LORD. “For I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven,” says the LORD.

7 “Deliver yourself, O Zion, who dwells with the daughter of Babylon.”

8 ¶ For thus says the LORD of armies, “After glory he has sent me to the nations that plundered you. For he who touches you touches the apple of His eye.

9 “For behold, I will shake My hand on them and they will be plunder for their servants. And you will know that the LORD of armies has sent me.

10 ¶ “Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion. For behold, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of you,” says the LORD.

11 ¶ “And many nations will be joined to the LORD in that day, and will be My people. And I will dwell in the midst of you and you will know that the LORD of armies has sent Me to you.

12 “And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the holy land and will choose Jerusalem again.

13 ¶ “Be silent before the LORD all flesh, for He has aroused Himself out of His holy habitation.”

Chapter 3

Clean Clothes for the High Priest

1 ¶ Then he showed me Joshua the high priest...
standing before the angel of the LORD and bSatan standing at his right hand to resist him. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebukes you, O Satan, even the LORD who dhas chosen Jerusalem rebukes you. eIs not this a brand plucked out of the fire?” 3 Now Joshua was clothed with ffilthy garments and stood before the angel. 4 And he answered and spoke to those who stood before him, saying, “Take away the filthy garments from him.” Again he said to him, “Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you and gI will clothe you with rich garments.” 5 Then I said, “Let them set a clean hturban on his head.” So they set a clean turban on his head, and clothed him with rich garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by. 6 ¶ Then the angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying, 7 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘If you will walk in My ways, and if you will ikeep My commandments, then you will also jjudge My house and will also keep My courts. And I will give you the right of access among those who are kstanding here. 8 ‘Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your companions who sit before you—for indeed they are men who are la sign. For behold, I am going to bring in mMy Servant the nBranch. 9 ‘For behold, the stone that I have laid before Joshua. There are oseven eyes on that stone. Behold, I will engrave an inscription,’ says the LORD of armies, ‘and qI will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. 10 ‘In that day,’ says the LORD of armies, ‘you will invite every man his neighbor sunder the vine and under the fig tree.’”

Chapter 4
Golden Lampstand
1 ¶ And the aangel who talked with me came again and awakened me, 2 as a man who is awakened out of his sleep. 2 And he said to me, “What do you see?” And I said, “I have looked, and beheld a lampstand all of gold with a bowl on the top of it, 4and its seven lamps, and seven spouts to the seven lamps that are on its top. 3 “And two olive trees are by it, one on the right side of the bowl and the other on its left side.” 4 Then I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, “What are these, my lord?” 5 Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, “Do you know what these are?” And I said, “No, my lord.” 6 Then he answered and spoke to me, saying, “This is the word of the LORD to 7Zerubbabel, saying, a“Not by might, nor by power, but bby My Spirit,’ says the LORD of armies. 7 ‘Who are you, cO great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become a plain. And he will bring forth the ’capstone 7with shouts of “Grace, grace to it!” ’” 8 ¶ Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 9 “The hands of Zerubbabel dhave laid the foundation of this house. His hands ewill also finish it. And fu will know that the 7LORD of armies has sent me to you. 10 “For who has despised the day of osmall things? For they will rejoice and will see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven. pThey are the eyes of the LORD that run throughout the whole earth.”

The Two Olive Trees
11 ¶ Then I answered and said to him, “What are these 7two olive trees on the right side of the lampstand and on its left side?” 12 And I answered again and said to him, “What are these 7two olive branches that through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil from themselves?” 13 And he answered me and said, “Do you not know what these are?” And I said, “No, my lord.” 14 Then he said, “These are the two anointed ones 7who stand by the Lord of the whole earth.”
Chapter 5
The Flying Scroll

Then I turned and lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a flying scroll.

And he said to me, “What do you see?” And I answered, “I see a flying scroll. Its length is twenty cubits and its width is ten cubits.”

Then he said to me, “This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole land. For everyone who steals will be cut off according to the writing on one side. And everyone who swears will be cut off according to the writing on the other side.

“I will bring it forth,” says the LORD of armies, “and it will enter into the house of the thief and into the house of him who swears falsely by My name. And it will remain in the midst of his house and will consume it with its timber and its stones.”

Woman in a Basket

Then the angel who talked with me went out and said to me, “Lift up now your eyes and see what is going forth.”

Then I said, “What is it?” And he said, “This is a basket that goes forth.” Furthermore, he said, “This is the iniquity throughout all the land.

And behold, the cover of lead was raised. And this is a woman who sits inside the basket.

And he said, “This is wickedness.” Then he cast it into the midst of the basket. And he cast the weight of lead on its opening.

Then I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings. For they had wings like the wings of a stork. And they lifted up the basket between the earth and the heaven.

Then I said to the angel who talked with me, “Where are they taking the basket?”

And he said to me, “To build from it a house in the land of Shinar. When it is ready, the basket will be set there on its own pedestal.”

Chapter 6
The Four Chariots

Then I turned and lifted up my eyes. And I looked, and behold, there came four chariots out between two mountains. And the mountains were mountains of bronze.

With the first chariot were red horses, and with the second chariot black horses,

and with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot strong dappled gray horses.

Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

Then the angel answered and said to me, “These are the four spirits of the heavens who go out from standing before the Lord of all the earth.

The one with the black horses is going forth into the north country, and the white are going forth after them, and the dappled gray are going forth toward the south country.

And the strong steeds went forth, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth.” And he said, “Go! Walk to and fro throughout the earth.” So they walked to and fro throughout the earth.

Then he cried out to me and spoke to me, saying, “Behold, these that go toward the north country have appeased My Spirit in the north country.”

A Crown for Joshua

And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

“Take an offering from the exiles, even from Heldai, from Tobijah and from Jedaiah who have come from Babylon, and go the same day and enter into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah.

Then take silver and gold, and make crowns. And set them on the head of Joshua the son of Jozadak, the high priest.

Then speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, “Behold, the Man whose name is the Branch. He will branch out from His place, and He will build the temple of the LORD.

Even He will build the temple of the LORD. And He will bear the glory, and will
sit and rule on His throne. And “He will be a priest on His throne. And the counsel of peace will be between them both.”’

14 “And the crown will become a reminder in the temple of the LORD to Helem and to Tobijah and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah.

15 “And those who are far off will come and build in the temple of the LORD. Then you will know that the LORD of armies has sent me to you. And this will come to pass, if you will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.”

Chapter 7
Justice and Mercy

1 ¶ Now it came to pass in the fourth year of King Darius, that the word of the LORD came to Zechariah in the fourth day of the ninth month, which is Chisleu.

2 Now those of Bethel sent Sherezer and Regem Melech, and their men in order to pray before the LORD,

3 and to speak to the priests who were in the house of the LORD of armies, and to the prophets, saying, “Should I weep in the fifth month, and abstain as I have done these many years?”

4 ¶ Then the word of the LORD of armies came to me, saying,

5 “Speak to all the people of the land and to the priests, saying, ‘When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months, even those seventy years, was it actually for Me that you fasted?’

6 ‘And when you ate, and when you drank, did you not eat for yourselves and drink for yourselves?

7 ‘Should you not hear the words that the LORD has cried out by the former prophets when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and its cities around her, when men inhabited the Negev and the plain?’”

8 ¶ And the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying,

9 “Thus speaks the LORD of armies, saying, ‘Execute true justice and show mercy and compassion everyone to his brother.’

10 “And do not oppress the widow, nor the fatherless, the foreigner, or the poor. And ‘do not allow any of you to imagine in your heart evil against his brother.’

11 “But they refused to hearken and ‘turned a stubborn shoulder. And they ‘stopped their ears so that they would not hear.

12 “Yes, they made their ‘hearts as flint, ‘lest they should hear the law and the words that the LORD of armies had sent in His Spirit by the former prophets. Therefore, there came ‘great wrath from the LORD of armies.

13 “Therefore, it has come to pass just as He called and they would not hear. So ‘they called and I would not hear,” says the LORD of armies.

14 “But ‘I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they did not know. “Thus the land was desolate behind them so that no man passed through nor returned, for they made the pleasant land desolate.”

Chapter 8
Promises for Jerusalem

1 ¶ Again the word of the LORD of armies came to me, saying,

2 “Thus says the LORD of armies, a ‘I was zealous for Zion with great zeal, and I was zealous for her with great fury.’

3 “Thus says the LORD, b ‘I have returned to Zion and will c dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And Jerusalem d will be called a city of truth and the e mountain of the LORD of armies the holy mountain.’

4 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘There f men and old women will again dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff because of age.

5 ‘And the streets of the city will be g full of boys and girls playing in its streets.’

6 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘If it is marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, ‘should it also be marvellous in My eyes?’ says the LORD of armies.

7 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘Behold, I will save My people from the east country and from the west country.

8 ‘Then I will bring them and they will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they will be My people and I will be their God in truth and in righteousness.’

9 ¶ ‘Thus says the LORD of armies, “Let your hands be strong, you who are listening in these days to these words from the mouth of the prophets, those who spoke in the day when the foundation of the house of the LORD of armies was laid, to the end that the temple might be built.

10 ‘For before these days there were no wages for man, nor any hire for beast, nor was there any peace for him who went out or came in because of the affliction. For I set all men one against another.

11 ‘But now I will not be to the remnant of this people as in the former days,’ says the LORD of armies.

12 ‘For the seed will be prosperous. The vine will give her fruit and the ground will give her increase, and the heavens will give their dew. And I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

13 ‘And it will come to pass that as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so will I save you and you will be a blessing. Do not fear, but let your hands be strong.’

14 ¶ ‘For thus says the LORD of armies, “As I thought to punish you when your fathers provoked Me to wrath,” says the LORD of armies, ‘and I have not relented,

15 ‘so again I have thought in these days to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. Do not fear.

16 ‘These are the things that you will do: Every man speak truth to his neighbor. Give the judgment in your gates for truth, justice and peace.

17 ‘And let none of you devise evil in your heart against his neighbor. And love no false oath. For all these are things that I hate,’ says the LORD.”

18 ¶ Now the word of the LORD of armies came to me, saying,

19 “Thus says the LORD of armies, “The fast of the fourth month and the fast of the fifth and the fast of the seventh and the fast of the tenth, will be joy and gladness and cheerful feasts for the house of Judah. Therefore, love the truth and peace.’

20 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘It will yet come to pass that there will come people and the inhabitants from many cities.

21 ‘And the inhabitants of one city will go to another, saying, “Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD and to seek the LORD of armies in Jerusalem and to pray before the LORD.”

22 ‘Yes, many peoples and strong nations will come to seek the LORD of armies in Jerusalem and to pray before the LORD.’

23 “Thus says the LORD of armies, ‘In those days it will come to pass that ten men from every language of the nations will take hold of the garment of him who is a Jew, saying, “We will go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.”’”

Chapter 9
Judgment on the Nations

1 ¶ The burden of the word of the LORD in the land of Hadrach, with Damascus as its resting place (for the eyes of men, and all the tribes of Israel, will be toward the LORD),

2 and “Hamath also, that borders on it, and Tyre and ‘Sidon, though they are very wise.

3 And Tyre built herself a stronghold and heaped up silver as the dust and fine gold as the mire of the streets.

4 Behold, the Lord will cast her out and He will smite her power in the sea. And she will be devoured with fire.

5 Ashkelon will see it and fear. Gaza also will see it and be very sorrowful. Also ‘Ekron, for her expectation has been frustrated. And the king will perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon will not be inhabited.

6 “And a mongrel race will dwell in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.

7 “And I will take away his blood out of his mouth, and his abominations from between his
teeth. But he who remains, even he will be for our God. And he will be as a governor in Judah, and Ekron as a Jebusite.

8 And I will camp around My house because of the army, because of him who passes by, and because of him who returns. And no oppressor will pass through them anymore, for now I have seen with My eyes.

**Coming of the King**

9 ¶ “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your King is coming to you. He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

10 “And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be cut off. And He will speak peace to the nations. And His dominion will be from sea even to sea and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

11 ¶ “As for you also, because of the blood of your covenant I have set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

12 “Return to the stronghold, you prisoners of hope. Even today I declare that I will render double to you.

13 “For I have bent Judah as My bow. I will fill the bow with Ephraim. And I will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece. And I will make you like a warrior’s sword.”

** Appearing of the Lord**

14 ¶ Then the LORD will be seen over them, and His arrow will go forth as the lightning. And the Lord GOD will blow the trumpet, and will go with whirlwinds of the south.

15 The LORD of armies will defend them. And they will devour and subdue with sling stones. And they will drink and make a noise as if with wine. And they will be filled like bowls and as the corners of the altar.

16 And the LORD their God will save them in that day as the flock of His people. For they will be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign in his land.

17 For how great is His goodness and how great is His beauty! Grain will make the young men cheerful and new wine the maids.

**Chapter 10**

**Compassion for Judah**

1 ¶ Ask from the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make the storm clouds. And He will give them showers of rain, to everyone grass in the field.

2 For the idols have spoken vanity and the diviners have seen a lie, and have told false dreams. They comfort in vain. Therefore, they went their way as a flock. They were troubled because there was no shepherd.

3 “My anger was kindled against the shepherds and I punished the goats. For the LORD of armies has visited His flock the house of Judah and has made them as His majestic horse in the battle.

4 “From him came forth the cornerstone, from him the tent peg, out of him the battle bow, from him every ruler, all of them together.

5 “And they will be as mighty men that tread down their enemies in the mire of the streets in the battle. And they will fight because the LORD is with them, and the riders on horses will be shamed.

6 ¶ “And I will strengthen the house of Judah and I will save the house of Joseph. And I will bring them again to place them, for I have mercy on them. And they will be as though I had not cast them off, because I am the LORD their God and will hear them.

7 “And those of Ephraim will be like a mighty man, and their heart will rejoice as with wine. Yes, their children will see it and be glad. Their heart will rejoice in the LORD.

8 “I will whistle for them and gather them, for I have redeemed them. And they will live with their children and come back.

9 “And I will sow them among the people. And they will remember Me in far countries, and they will come back.

10 ¶ “I will also bring them again out of the land of Egypt and gather them out of Assyria.
And I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, until no place will be found for them.

And he will pass through the sea with affliction, and will strike the waves in the sea. And all the depths of the river will dry up. And the pride of Assyria will be brought down and the sceptre of Egypt will depart away.

Then I will strengthen them in the LORD. And they will walk up and down in His name,” says the LORD.

¶ Open your doors, O Lebanon, so that the fire may devour your cedars.

Wail, O cypress, because the cedar has fallen, because the mighty are destroyed. Wail, O you oaks of Bashan, for the thick forest has come down.

There is a voice of the wailing of the shepherds, for their glory is ruined. A voice of the roaring of young lions, for the pride of Jordan is ruined.

¶ Thus says the LORD my God, “Feed the flock destined to slaughter.

Those who buy them slay them and go unpunished, and each of those who sell them says, ‘Blessed is the LORD, for I am rich.’ And their own shepherds do not pity them.

“For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land,” says the LORD. “But behold, I will deliver each man into his neighbor’s hand, and into the hand of his king. And they will strike the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

So I will feed the flock for slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took for myself two staffs. One I called Grace and the other I called Unity. Then I fed the flock.

I also cut off three shepherds in one month. And my soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

Then I said, “I will not feed you. What is to die, let it die. And that which is to be cut off, let it be cut off. And let the remainder eat the flesh of one another.”

Then I took my staff, even Grace, and cut it in two so that I might break the covenant that I had made with all the people.

So it was broken in that day. Thus the poor of the flock who waited on me knew that it was the word of the LORD.

¶ Then the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter that goodly wage at which I was valued by them.” And I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

¶ Then the LORD said to me, “Throw again for yourself the instruments of a foolish shepherd.

“For behold, I will raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young one, nor heal that which is broken, nor feed that which still stands. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their claws in pieces.

Woe to the worthless shepherd who leaves the flock! The sword will be on his arm and on his right eye. His arm will be completely dried up and his right eye will be utterly darkened.”

¶ The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel. The LORD, who stretches forth the heavens and lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him, says,

Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of reeling to all the people all around. And when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah.

And in that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all people. All who burden themselves with it will be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth are gathered together against it.
“In that day,” says the LORD, “I will strike every horse with astonishment and his rider with madness. And I will open My eyes on the house of Judah and will strike every horse of the people with blindness.

Then the governors of Judah will say in their heart, ‘The inhabitants of Jerusalem will be my strength in the LORD of armies, their God.’

In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a firepan in the forest, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf. And they will devour all the people all around on the right hand and on the left. But Jerusalem will be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

¶ The LORD will also save the tents of Judah first so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And he who is feeble among them in that day will be as David. And the house of David will be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them.

And it will come to pass in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

¶ Then I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplications. And they will look on Me whom they have pierced and they will mourn for Him k as one mourns for his only son. And they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

Mourning Over the Pierced One

¶ “Then I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplications. And they will look on Me whom they have pierced and they will mourn for Him k as one mourns for his only son. And they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

In that day there will be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

And it will come to pass in that day,” says the LORD of armies, “that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they will no longer be remembered. And I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land.

And it will come to pass that when any would still prophesy, then his father and his mother who begat him will say to him, ‘You will not live, for you speak lies in the name of the LORD.’ And his father and his mother who begat him will thrust him through when he prophesies.

¶ “Now it will come to pass in that day that each of the prophets will be ashamed of his vision when he has prophesied. Neither will they wear a hairy garment to deceive.

But he will say, ‘I am not a prophet. I am a farmer, for man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.’

Then one will say to him, ‘What are these wounds on your body?’ Then he will answer, ‘Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.’

¶ “Awake, O sword, against My shepherd and against the man who is my companion,” says the LORD of armies. “Strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered. And I will turn My hand on the little ones.

Now it will come to pass that in all the land,” says the LORD, “two-thirds in it will be cut off and die, but one-third will be left in it.

And I will bring the one-third through the fire and will refine them as silver is refined.
And I will test them as gold is tested. sThey will call on My name and I will hear them. tI will say, ‘It is My people.’ And they will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’”

**Chapter 14**

*Reign of the Lord*

1 ¶ Behold, the a day of the LORD is coming and your plunder will be divided in the midst of you.

2 For b I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be taken and the houses plundered and the women ravished. And half of the city will go forth into captivity and the remnant of the people will not be cut off from the city.

3 ¶ Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations as when He fought in the day of battle.

4 And His feet will stand in that day on the Mount of Olives that is in front of Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives will divide in its middle from the east and from the west. d There will be a very great valley. And half of the mountain will move toward the north and half of it toward the south.

5 And you will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel. Yes, you will flee as you fled before the e earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. And f the LORD my God will come and g all the saints with You.

6 Then it will come to pass in that day that there will be no light. The lights will dwindle. 7 But it will be a day b that is known to the LORD, neither day nor night. But it will come to pass that in evening it will be light.

8 ¶ And it will be in that day that living waters will go out from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea. It will be in summer and in winter.

9 And the LORD will be k King over all the earth. In that day there will be l one LORD and His name one.

10 All the land will be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. And it will be lifted up and m inhabited in her place from Benjamin’s Gate to the place of the First Gate, to the Corner Gate, n and from the Tower of Hananeel to the king’s winepresses.

11 And men will dwell in it, and there will be o no more utter destruction. p But Jerusalem will be safely inhabited.

12 ¶ And this will be the plague with which the LORD will smite all the people who have fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh will consume away while they stand on their feet and their eyes will consume away in their sockets, and their tongue will consume away in their mouths.

13 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day that a q great tumult from the LORD will be among them. And everyone will take hold of the hand of his neighbor, and r his hand will rise up against the hand of his neighbor.

14 And Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And s the wealth of the nations all around will be gathered together, gold and silver and apparel, in great abundance.

15 And so will be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel and of the donkey, and of all the cattle that will be in those camps.

16 ¶ Then it will come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations who came against Jerusalem will u go up from year to year to v worship the King, the LORD of armies, and to keep the w feast of tabernacles.

17 And it will be x that whoever does not come up of all the families of the earth to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of armies, there will be no rain on them.

18 And if the family of y Egypt does not go up and enter, z they will have no rain. There will be the plague with which the LORD will smite the nations that do not come up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

19 This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all nations that do not come up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

20 ¶ In that day there will be on the bells of the horses, “HOLY TO THE LORD,” And the b pots in the LORD’S house will be like the bowls before the altar.
Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to the LORD of armies. And all those who sacrifice will come and take from them, and cook in them. And in that day the Canaanite will no longer be in the house of the LORD of armies.

Chapter 1

¶ The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

Jacob and Esau

¶ “I have loved you,” says the LORD. “Yet you say, ‘How have You loved us?’ Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” says the LORD. “Yet I loved Jacob, and I hated Esau. And I laid waste his mountains and his heritage for the jackals of the wilderness.”

Though Edom has said, “We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places,” thus says the LORD of armies: “They will build, but I will throw down. And they will call them, ‘The Territory of Wickedness,’ and ‘The people against whom the LORD has indignation forever.’

 ¶ “And your eyes will see and you will say, ‘Great is the Lord beyond the border of Israel.’

Rebuke of Religious Leaders

¶ “A son honors his father and a servant his master. § If then I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My reverence?” says the LORD of armies to you priests who despise My name. And you say, ‘In what have we despised Your name?’

¶ “You offer defiled food on My altar. And you say, ‘In what have we defiled You?’ In that you say, ‘The table of the LORD is contemptible.’

¶ “And if you offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And if you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? Offer it now to your governor. Will he be pleased with you, or accept you favorably?” says the LORD of armies.

¶ “But now entreat God’s favor so that He may be gracious to us. ¶ With such an offering on your part, will He show favor to any of you?” says the LORD of armies.

¶ “Who is there even among you who will shut the doors so that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain? I have no pleasure in you,” says the LORD of armies, “nor will I accept an offering from your hands.

¶ “For from the rising of the sun even to the going down of the same My name will be great among the Gentiles. And in every place incense will be offered to My name and a pure offering. ¶ For My name will be great among the nations,” says the LORD of armies.

¶ “But you have profaned it, in that you say, ‘The table of the LORD is defiled, and its fruit, even its food, is contemptible.’

¶ “You also said, ‘Behold, what a weariness it is.’ And you have disdainfully sniffed at it,” says the LORD of armies. “And you bring the stolen, the lame and the sick. Thus you bring an offering. ¶ Should I accept this from your hands?” says the LORD.

¶ “But cursed is the deceiver who has in his flock a male, and vows and sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished. For I am a great King,” says the LORD of armies, “and My name is feared among the nations.”

Chapter 2

Admonition to the Priests

¶ “And now, O you priests, this commandment is for you.

¶ “If you will not hear, and if you will not take it to heart to give glory to My name,” says the LORD of armies, “I will even send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already because you do not take it to heart.

¶ “Behold, I will rebuke your seed and spread refuse on your faces, even the refuse of your offerings. Then one will take you away with it.
4 "And you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, so that My covenant might be with Levi," says the LORD of armies.  
5 "My covenant was with him, one of life and peace. And I gave them to him for the fear with which he feared Me and was afraid before My name.  
6 "The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, and turned many away from iniquity.

7 "For the priest’s lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law from his mouth. For he is the messenger of the LORD of armies.  
8 "But you have departed out of the way. You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," says the LORD of armies.  
9 "Therefore, I have also made you despised and base before all the people, according as you have not kept My ways, but have been partial in the law.

10 ¶ "Do we all not have one father? Did not one God create us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother by profaning the covenant of our fathers?  
11 "Judah has dealt treacherously and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the holiness of the LORD that he loved and has married the daughter of a foreign god.

12 "May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob the man who does this, being awake and aware, yet who brings an offering to the LORD of armies.  
13 ¶ "And another thing you do: You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with crying out, insomuch that He does not regard the offering anymore, nor receive it with goodwill from your hand.

14 "Yet you say, 'For what reason?' It is because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and the wife of your covenant.

15 "And did not He make them one? In flesh and spirit they are His. And why one? Because He was seeking a godly offspring. Therefore, take heed to your spirit and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

16 "I hate divorce," says the Lord God of Israel, "and I hate a man’s covering himself with violence as well as with his garment," says the LORD of armies. "Therefore, take heed to your spirit so that you do not deal treacherously."

The Day of Judgment

17 ¶ "You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, "Wherein have we wearied Him?" When you say, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights in them," or, "Where is the God of justice?"

Chapter 3

1 ¶ "Behold, I will send My messenger and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," says the LORD of armies.  
2 "But who may endure the day of His coming? And who will stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire, and like launderer’s soap.

3 "And He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver. And He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver so that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness.

4 Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

5 "Then I will come near to you for judgment. And I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against perjurers and against those who exploit wage earners, the widow and the fatherless, and those who turn aside the foreigner and do not
fear Me,” says the LORD of armies.

Robbing God

6 ¶ “For I am the LORD. I do not change. Therefore, you sons of Jacob are not consumed.
7 “Even from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me and I will return to you,” says the LORD of armies. “But you said, ‘How will we return?’
8 “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed You?’
9 In tithes and offerings.
10 ¶ “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the LORD of armies, “so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.
11 “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he will not destroy the fruits of your ground. Neither will your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field,” says the LORD of armies.
12 “And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,” says the LORD of armies.
13 ¶ “Your words have been harsh against Me,” says the LORD. “Yet you say, ‘What have we spoken against you?’
14 ¶ “You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. And what profit is it that we have kept His ordinance and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of armies?’
15 ‘And now we call the proud happy. Yes, those who work wickedness are built up. Yes, they tempt God and go free.’

Chapter 4

The Day of the Lord

1 ¶ “For behold, the day comes that will burn as an oven. And all the proud, yes, and all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day that comes will burn them up,” says the LORD of armies, “so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.
2 “But to you who fear My name, the Sun of Righteousness will arise with healing in His wings. And you will go forth and grow up as calves of the stall.
3 ¶ “And you will tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I will do this,” says the LORD of armies.
4 ¶ “Remember the law of Moses My servant that I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.
5 ¶ “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD.
6 ¶ “And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”