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Front matter

unfoldingWord® Literal Text-English

an unrestricted literal version of the Bible intended for translation into any language as a tool for use by Bible translators

Overview

The ULT began as an open-licensed adaptation of The American Standard Version . It has since undergone a careful comparison to the original biblical languages, using the best tools that are available to modern scholarship, and made to reflect the forms of those languages as far as English grammar and understanding will allow. The ULT is thus intended to provide a ‘form-centric’ rendering of the biblical text from the original biblical languages (Biblical Hebrew, Biblical Aramaic, and Koiné Greek) into English. This increases a translator’s understanding of the lexical and grammatical composition of the biblical text by adhering closely to the grammatical (i.e. parts of speech) and syntactic (i.e. word order) structures of the original languages. For translators who do not speak English, we intend to translate the ULT into the other major languages of the world.

Viewing

To read or print the ULT, see the latest published version of the ULT project on Door43 at https://door43.org/u/Door43-Catalog/en_ult/. (Any ongoing development may be seen at https://door43.org/u/unfoldingWord/en_ult/.)

Contributors

Contributors to this work are listed in the `contributor` field in the manifest file at https://git.door43.org/Door43-Catalog/en_ult/src/master/manifest.yaml.

Introducing the ULT

The ULT (unfoldingWord® Literal Text) is a form-centric (and thus “literal”) version of the Bible in English. It is intended to be used alongside the UST (unfoldingWord® Simplified Text) and other translation resources to give English-speaking mother-tongue translators (MTTs) a more complete understanding of the messages communicated in the Bible. The purpose of the ULT text is to allow a Bible translator who does not have reading knowledge of the original biblical languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek) to “see” the grammatical forms of those languages. Therefore, the goal of the ULT text as a translation resource is to copy the Original Language (OrigL) form as much as possible yet still be understandable in English or other Gateway Language (GL). For MTTs who cannot read the OrigL text, the ULT provides a sense of how these messages of the Bible were communicated in the OrigL. It is anticipated that the ULT and other resources will be translated from English into the world’s GLs so that MTTs worldwide can use them as a set of resources for making accurate translations of the Bible into their own languages.

The ULT stands in the range of literalness somewhere between a very literally translated user Bible (such as the New American Standard Bible [NASB]) and an English interlinear text. An English interlinear text is designed to render OrigL words into their individual and basic (“literal”) English meanings without regard to understandability of the overall English text. On the other hand, a very literally translated user Bible tries to adhere as closely as possible to the OrigL but must sometimes compromise in favor of English idiom and expression in order for the text to be both grammatically correct and readily understood. The ULT negotiates a path between these two kinds

of texts. For example, the ULT reproduces the OrigL idioms even when they are not English idioms, relying on a translation note to explain the meaning. In that way, the translator can see the original expression, and also the meaning. The ULT does not substitute English idioms or expressions. However, if an OrigL grammatical form would give the wrong meaning or no meaning at all, the ULT will use the English form in that case so that the ULT can also meet the demand of reasonable understandability in English.

Retaining Original Forms and Structures

The unfoldingWord® Literal Text (ULT) is designed to be used as a tool for Bible translation in conjunction with the unfoldingWord® Simplified Text (UST) which can be viewed at https://git.door43.org/Door43-Catalog/en_ust, the unfoldingWord® Translation Words (UTW) at https://git.door43.org/Door43-Catalog/en_tw, and the unfoldingWord® Translation Notes (UTN) at https://git.door43.org/Door43-Catalog/en_tn. It is not an end-user Bible, which seeks to transform all of the structures of the original biblical languages into those that are natural and idiomatic in the target language. Instead, unlike the UST and unlike an end-user Bible, the ULT is designed to reflect the *forms* of the source languages, so that the MTT can see what they are. By using the ULT, the MTT can “look through” it to see how the original Bible expressed the biblical ideas.

Therefore, the editors of the ULT have retained the grammatical and syntactic structures of the original as much as the target language (English or other Gateway Language) will reasonably allow. If the original structure is ungrammatical in the target language, then it has been changed into a structure that is grammatical in the target language. It does no good to have a translation that a MTT using this tool cannot understand. But as much as the target language will allow, the structures of the original have been retained while translating the ULT. For English, it is often possible to retain nouns as nouns, verbs as verbs, etc., but their order in the original sentence often has needed to be changed.

In addition to the grammatical forms, the ULT has also retained the idioms and the figures of speech found in the original languages so that the MTT can consider them and use them if they communicate the right thing in his target language (i.e. a minority or Other Language [OL], not Gateway Language). If these aspects of the original language text are changed in the English version (or other Gateway Language translation) of the ULT, then the OL translator will never see them. Furthermore, their accompanying explanations (found in the unfoldingWord® Translation Notes) will not make sense.

The ULT and the UST are designed to be complementary tools for use by an OL translator. These tools are made to be as useful as possible, which means that the ULT retains original language structures that would not always be retained in an end-user Bible. Therefore, you must understand that the ULT will often lack naturalness (and sometimes also lack clarity) because it aims to reproduce the original language structures and figures of speech that the GL may not normally use. However, in places where the ULT lacks clarity, there will be BOTH a Translation Note to explain the meaning of the structure for the OL translator AND a clear rendering of the original meaning in the UST. Together, the UTN and the UST will provide the meaning of the text wherever that meaning is in doubt in the ULT. In this way, the various tools work together to provide an OL translator with more complete information about both the form and the meaning of the biblical text as written in the original languages.

One specific way in which the ULT and UST are complementary tools concerns the selection of meaning in the original language texts. There are many instances in the biblical text where the meaning of a word or phrase in the original languages is ambiguous. In those cases, the ULT should retain the ambiguity of meaning, if possible. In contrast, the UST should select the most probable meaning and express that meaning according to its own translation method. NOTE: Where the meaning of the original language is linguistically ambiguous but seems clear from the context, the ULT has often selected that meaning.

Further information

Further details about translation decisions in the ULT can be seen at https://git.door43.org/Door43-Catalog/en_ult#overview.

Alignment of the ULT with the Original Languages

The words and phrases of the ULT have been manually aligned with the original Hebrew or Greek words that they were translated from. Because this is a literal translation, the alignments are largely one-to-one (compared to the UST which has much more complex alignments). The alignment information is stored within custom z-aln fields in the USFM source files. Alignments can be viewed graphically in the translationCore checking program downloadable from <https://www.translationcore.com/>, and in translationCore Create and translationCore Study apps.

Ongoing Development

Development of the ULT is ongoing and although the bulk of the work has now been completed, consistency checking within the ULT and detailed checks against the original languages are still in early stages, especially for Old Testament books other than Ruth, Ezra, Esther, Obadiah, and Jonah. Any suggested improvements can be passed to the ULT team via the Issues page at https://git.door43.org/unfoldingWord/en_ult/issues.

Genesis

Chapter 1

¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²Now the earth was formless and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the deep waters, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. ⁴And God saw the light, that it was good. Then God separated between the light and the darkness. ⁵And God called the light " Day," and the darkness he called "Night." Then there was evening, and there was morning, one day.

⁶Then God said, " Let there be an expanse in the middle of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the expanse and separated between the waters that were under the expanse and the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse "Heavens." Then there was evening, and there was morning, the second day.

⁹Then God said, " Let the waters under the heavens be gathered to one place, and let the dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰And God called the dry ground "Land," and the gathered waters he called " Seas." And God saw that it was good.

¹¹Then God said, "Let the land sprout vegetation on the earth, plants that yield seeds and fruit trees that bear fruit according to their kinds that have their seeds inside them." And it was so: ¹²So the land produced vegetation, plants that yield seeds, each according to its kind, and trees that bear fruit that has its seeds inside it, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³Then there was evening, and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴Then God said, " Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate between the day and the night. And let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years. ¹⁵And let them be as lights in the expanse of the heavens to shine on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶So God made the two great lights, the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night, and the stars. ¹⁷And God put them in the expanse of the heavens to shine on the earth, ¹⁸and to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate between the light and the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹Then there was evening, and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the expanse of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, which the waters swarm with, each according to its kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²Then God blessed them by saying, " Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." ²³Then there was evening, and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴Then God said, "Let the land produce living creatures, each according to its kind, livestock, and creatures that crawl and living creatures of the earth, each according to its kind." And it was so. ²⁵So God made the living creatures of the earth, each according to its kind, and the livestock according to their kind, and every creature that crawls on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, " Let us make mankind in our image, according to our likeness, and let them rule 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 moving creature that moves on the earth." ²⁷Then God created mankind in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸Then God blessed them and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it. And rule over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over every living creature that moves on the earth."

²⁹Then God said, " Behold, I have given to you every plant that yields seeds that is on the surface of the whole earth, and every tree that bears fruit that yields seeds inside it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰And to every living creature of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to every creature that moves on the earth that has the breath of life in it, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

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

Chapter 2

¹So the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their hosts. ²And by the seventh day God had finished his work that he had done, so he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because on it he rested from all his work of creating that God had done.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day when Yahweh God made the earth and the heavens. ⁵Now every shrub of the fields had not yet appeared on the earth, and every plant of the fields had not yet sprung up, because Yahweh God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to work the ground. ⁶But mist came up from the earth and watered the entire surface of the ground. ⁷Then Yahweh God formed the man out of dust from the ground, and he breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

⁸Now Yahweh God had planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

⁹And Yahweh God had made every tree to grow from the ground that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, including the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰And a river went out from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four headwaters.

¹¹The name of the first is the Pishon. It winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹²And the gold of that land is good. Bdellium and onyx stones are also there. ¹³And the name of the second river is the Gihon. It winds through the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴And the name of the third river is the Tigris. It goes east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵And Yahweh God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and tend it. ¹⁶Then Yahweh God commanded the man by saying, "From every tree of the garden you may freely eat, ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it you will surely die."

¹⁸Then Yahweh God said, " It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable helper for him." ¹⁹Now Yahweh God had formed from the ground every living creature of the fields and every bird of the sky. So he brought them to the man to see what he would call each one, and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰And the man gave names to all the livestock and to the birds of the sky and to all the living creatures of the fields, but a suitable helper was not found for the man.

²¹So Yahweh God caused a deep sleep to fall on the man, and while he was sleeping, then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²Then Yahweh God made the rib which he had taken from the man into a woman, and he brought her to the man. ²³And the man said,

"This one now has bones from my bones and flesh from my flesh!

She will be called 'woman', because it was from a man that she was taken."

²⁴For that reason a man will leave his father and his mother, and he will cling to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

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

Chapter 3

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than all the living creatures of the fields that Yahweh God had made. And he said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree of the garden'?" ²Then the woman said to the serpent, " We may eat from the fruit of the trees of the garden, ³except from the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden. God said, 'You must not eat from it and you must not touch it, or else you will die!' " ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that on the day you eat from it, then your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God in knowing good and evil." ⁶And the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. Then she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate it. ⁷Then the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and made aprons for themselves.

⁸Then they heard the sound of Yahweh God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, but the man and his wife hid from the presence of Yahweh God among the trees of the garden. ⁹So Yahweh God called to the man and said to him, " Where are you?" ¹⁰And he said, "I heard your sound in the garden, but I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid." ¹¹Then he said, " Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ¹²Then the man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it." ¹³Then Yahweh God said to the woman, " What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, so I ate it."

¹⁴Then Yahweh God said to the serpent,

" Because you have done this,
you are cursed above all the livestock
and above all the living creatures of the fields!
You will move on your belly
and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will also put hostility between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring.
He will strike you on the head, and you will strike him on the heel."

¹⁶To the woman he said,
"I will greatly multiply your pain and your childbearing;
in pain you will bear children.
Yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷Then he said to Adam,
" Since you listened to the voice of your wife
and you ate from the tree that I commanded you
by saying, 'You must not eat from it,'
the ground is cursed because of you;

by painful toil you will eat from it all the days of your life.

¹⁸And it will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the fields.

¹⁹By the sweat of your brow you will eat bread,
until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken.
For you are dust, and to dust you will return."

²⁰Then the man called the name of his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living people. ²¹Then Yahweh God made garments from animal skins for Adam and his wife, and he clothed them.

²²Then Yahweh God said, "Behold! The man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. And now he must not be allowed to reach out his hands and also take fruit from the tree of life and eat it and live forever!" ²³So Yahweh God sent him out of the garden of Eden to work the ground which he had been taken from. ²⁴And after he drove the man out, then he placed on the east side of the garden of Eden cherubim angels and a flaming sword that was turning in every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

Chapter 4

¹Then the man knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain. And she said, "I have obtained a man with Yahweh!" ²Then she continued on to bear his brother Abel. Now Abel became a keeper of flocks, and Cain became a worker of the ground. ³And it happened in the course of days that Cain brought some of the fruit of the ground as an offering to Yahweh. ⁴And Abel also brought some of the firstborn of his flocks, and some of their fat. And Yahweh looked favorably on Abel and his offering. ⁵However he did not look favorably on Cain and his offering. So Cain burned with intense anger and his face fell. ⁶Then Yahweh said to Cain, "Why are you burning with anger? And why is your face fallen? ⁷If you do right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do right, sin is crouching at the door, and its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

⁸Then Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And it happened while they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

⁹Then Yahweh said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he replied, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰Then he said, "What have you done?! The voice of your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! ¹¹So now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²When you work the ground, it will not continue to yield its strength for you. You will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

¹³Then Cain said to Yahweh, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. ¹⁴Behold! Today you are driving me from the surface of the ground, and I will be hidden from your presence and I will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and it will be everyone who finds me will kill me!" ¹⁵Then Yahweh replied to him, "For that reason, anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over!" Then Yahweh put a mark on Cain so that everyone who found him would not kill him. ¹⁶Then Cain went away from the presence of Yahweh and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

¹⁷Then Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he was building a city, so he called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch. ¹⁸Then to Enoch was born Irad. Then Irad fathered Mehujael, then Mehujael fathered Methushael, then Methushael fathered Lamech.

¹⁹Then Lamech took two wives for himself. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah.

²⁰And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who live in tents and own livestock. ²¹And the name of his brother was Jubal. He was the father of all who play harps and flutes.

²²And Zillah also bore Tubal Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal Cain was Naamah.

²³And Lamech said to his wives,

" Adah and Zillah, listen to my voice. Wives of Lamech, hear my words:

For I killed a man for my wound, even a young man for my bruise.

²⁴If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech is avenged seventy-seven times!"

²⁵Then Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son, and she called his name Seth, because she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring in place of Abel, since Cain killed him." ²⁶And to Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh.

Then people began to call on the name of Yahweh.

Chapter 5

¹This is the written account of the generations of Adam: On the day God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. ²He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called their name "mankind," on the day they were created.

³And Adam lived 130 years, then he fathered a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and he called his name Seth. ⁴And Adam's days after he fathered Seth were 800 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

⁵So all Adam's days that he lived were 930 years, then he died.

⁶And Seth lived 105 years, then he fathered Enosh. ⁷Then after he fathered Enosh, Seth lived 807 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ⁸So all Seth's days were 912 years, then he died.

⁹And Enosh lived 90 years, then he fathered Kenan. ¹⁰Then after he fathered Kenan, Enosh lived 807 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ¹¹So all Enosh's days were 905 years, then he died.

¹²And Kenan lived 70 years, then he fathered Mahalalel. ¹³Then after he fathered Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ¹⁴So all Kenan's days were 910 years, then he died.

¹⁵And Mahalalel lived 65 years, then he fathered Jared. ¹⁶Then after he fathered Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ¹⁷So all Mahalalel's days were 895 years, then he died.

¹⁸And Jared lived 162 years, then he fathered Enoch. ¹⁹Then after he fathered Enoch, Jared lived 800 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ²⁰So all Jared's days were 962 years, then he died.

²¹And Enoch lived 65 years, then he fathered Methuselah. ²²Then after he fathered Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 more years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ²³So all Enoch's days were 365 years. ²⁴And Enoch walked with God, then he was not there, because God took him away.

²⁵And Methuselah lived 187 years, then he fathered Lamech. ²⁶Then after he fathered Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ²⁷So all Methuselah's days were 969 years, then he died.

²⁸And Lamech lived 182 years, then he fathered a son, ²⁹and he called his name Noah, because he said, "This son will comfort us from our labors and from the toil of our hands because of the ground which Yahweh has cursed."

³⁰Then after he fathered Noah, Lamech lived 595 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ³¹So all Lamech's days were 777 years, then he died.

³²And Noah was a son of 500 years, then Noah fathered Shem, Ham and Japheth.

Chapter 6

¹Now it happened when mankind began to multiply on the surface of the earth and daughters were born to them, ²then the sons of God saw the daughters of mankind that they were beautiful, so they took wives for themselves from any of them that they chose. ³Then Yahweh said, "My Spirit will not strive with mankind forever, because they are indeed flesh. So their days will be 120 years."

⁴The Nephilim were on the earth in those days and also after that, when the sons of God went to the daughters of mankind, and they bore children for them. They were the mighty men who were from long ago, men of renown.

⁵And Yahweh saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil all day long. ⁶So Yahweh was sorry that he had made mankind on the earth, and he was grieved in his heart. ⁷Then Yahweh said, "I will wipe away mankind whom I created off the surface of the ground--both mankind and animals, and creatures that crawl and the birds of the sky--because I am sorry that I made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of Yahweh.

⁹These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a righteous man. He was without blemish in his generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰And Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. ¹¹Now the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹²And God saw the earth and behold it was corrupt, because all flesh on the earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³So God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before me, because the earth is filled with violence because of them, so behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴Make an ark for yourself out of gopher wood. Make the ark with rooms, and cover it inside and outside with pitch. ¹⁵And this is how you must make it: the length of the ark must be 300 cubits, its width 50 cubits and its height 30 cubits. ¹⁶Make a roof for the ark and finish the walls of it to within one cubit from the roof. And put the door of the ark in its side. Make a lower, a second and a third deck. ¹⁷And behold, I am bringing floodwaters on the earth to destroy all flesh that has the breath of life in it from under the heavens. Everything that is on the earth will die! ¹⁸But I will establish my covenant with you, so you must go into the ark — you and your sons and your wife and the wives of your sons with you. ¹⁹And from every living creature, from all flesh, you must bring two from each kind into the ark to keep alive with you. They must be male and female. ²⁰From the birds according to their kinds, and from the animals according to their kinds, from every creature that moves on the ground according to its kind, two from every kind will come to you to keep alive. ²¹And you must take with you some of every food that is eaten and store it with you, and it will be food for you and for them." ²²So Noah did that; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.

Chapter 7

¹Then Yahweh said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. ²Take with you seven male and female pairs of every clean animal, and a male and female pair of every animal that is not clean, ³also seven male and female pairs of every bird of the sky, to keep their offspring alive on the surface of the whole earth, ⁴because in seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe away every living thing that I have made off the surface of the ground." ⁵Then Noah did all that Yahweh had commanded him.

⁶Now Noah was a son of 600 years when the flood-waters came on the earth. ⁷And Noah and his sons and his wife and the wives of his sons went with him into the ark from the presence of the waters of the flood. ⁸Clean animals and animals that are not clean and birds and everything that moves on the ground ⁹went in pairs to Noah into the ark, male and female pairs, just as God had commanded Noah.

¹⁰So it was after the seven days, then the waters of the flood came on the earth. ¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the springs of the great deep burst open, and the windows of the heavens were opened, ¹²so that the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³On that same day Noah and Shem, and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and the wife of Noah and the three wives of his sons with them, went into the ark, ¹⁴they and every living creature according to its kind, and every livestock according to its kind, and every creature that moves on the earth according to its kind, and every bird according to its kind, every bird of every wing. ¹⁵So pairs of all flesh that have the breath of life in them went to Noah into the ark. ¹⁶And those that went in were male and female from all flesh; they went in just as God had commanded him. Then Yahweh shut him in.

¹⁷Then the flood came on the earth for forty days, and the waters increased and lifted the ark so that it rose up off the earth. ¹⁸So the waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the waters. ¹⁹And the waters rose very greatly on the earth, so that all the high mountains that were under the entire heavens were covered. ²⁰The waters rose fifteen cubits above them, so that the mountains were covered. ²¹Then all flesh that moved on the earth died, including the birds, and the livestock, and the living creatures, and all the creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. ²²Everything that had the breath of the spirit of life in its nostrils, everything that lived on dry land, died. ²³So he wiped away every living thing that was on the surface of the ground, including mankind and livestock and creatures that crawl and also the birds of the sky. They were wiped off the earth, and only Noah was left and those who were with him in the ark.

²⁴And the waters prevailed over the earth for 150 days.

Chapter 8

¹But God remembered Noah and all the living creatures and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. So God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided. ²And the springs of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, and the rain from the heavens was stopped. ³Then the waters receded steadily from the earth, and at the end of the 150 days the waters had decreased, ⁴so that in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark rested on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵Then the waters continued to decrease until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first of the month, the tops of the mountains could be seen.

⁶Then it happened at the end of forty days that Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made, ⁷and he sent out a raven, and it kept flying out and returning until the waters dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent out a dove from him to see if the waters had subsided from the surface of the ground. ⁹But the dove did not find a resting place for the sole of its feet, so it returned to him in the ark, because the waters were over the surface of the entire earth. And he reached out his hand and took it and brought it to him into the ark. ¹⁰Then he waited another seven days and again sent out the dove from the ark. ¹¹Then the dove returned to him in the evening, and behold there was a freshly picked olive leaf in its beak. So Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth. ¹²Then he waited another seven days, and he sent out the dove, but it did not return to him again.

¹³So it happened in the 601st year, in the first month, on the first of the month, the waters were drying up from the earth. Then Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked around, and behold the surface of the ground was becoming dry. ¹⁴Then in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the land was dry.

¹⁵Then God said to Noah, saying, ¹⁶"Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and the wives of your sons with you. ¹⁷Bring out with you every living creature that is with you, all flesh, including the birds and the livestock

and every creature that moves on the earth, so that they will abound on the earth and be fruitful and multiply over the earth." ¹⁸Then Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and the wives of his sons with him. ¹⁹Every living thing, every crawling thing and every bird, everything that moves on the earth went out of the ark by their families.

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to Yahweh, and he took from every clean animal and from every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹And Yahweh smelled the pleasant aroma, and Yahweh said in his heart, "Never again will I curse the ground because of mankind, though the inclination of mankind's hearts is evil from their youth. And never again will I destroy every living thing as I have done.

²²While all of the days of the earth continue, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night will not cease."

Chapter 9

¹Then God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. ²And the fear of you and the dread of you will be on every living creature of the earth, including on every bird of the sky, on everything that moves on the ground, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. ³Every moving creature that lives will be food for you. Just as the green plants, I give you everything. ⁴But you must not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. ⁵And surely I will demand your blood for your lives. From the hand of every living creature I will demand it. Also, from the hand of mankind--from the hand of a man regarding his brother--I will demand the life of the man.

⁶The one shedding the blood of a man, by mankind his blood must be shed, because in the image of God he made mankind.

⁷" And you, be fruitful and multiply. Abound on the earth and multiply on it. "

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, ⁹" And I, behold I am establishing my covenant with you and with your offspring after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you: with the birds, with the livestock, and with every living creature of the earth with you, from all that came out of the ark, to every living creature of the earth. ¹¹And I am establishing my covenant with you that never again will all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

¹²Then God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I am making between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for generations forever: ¹³I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴And it will be when I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵then I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature among all flesh, that never again will waters become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶So the rainbow will be in the clouds, and I will see it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature, with all flesh that is on the earth."

¹⁷Then God said to Noah, "That is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

¹⁸And the sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, and Ham and Japheth; and Ham, he was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹Those three were the sons of Noah, and from them the whole earth was overspread.

²⁰Now Noah began to be a man of the soil and planted a vineyard. ²¹Then he drank some of the wine, and he became drunk, and he uncovered himself inside his tent. ²²Then Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father's nakedness, and he told his two brothers outside. ²³But Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it across the shoulders of the two of them and walked backward and covered their father's nakedness, and their faces were turned away so that they did not see their father's nakedness.

²⁴Then Noah woke up from his wine, and he learned what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵and he said,
"Cursed be Canaan!
He will be a slave of slaves for his brothers." ²⁶Then he said,
"Praised be Yahweh, the God of Shem!
And may Canaan be a slave for him.
²⁷May God enlarge Japheth,
and may he live in Shem's tents.
And may Canaan be a slave for him."
²⁸And after the flood, Noah lived 350 years. ²⁹So all the days of Noah were 950 years, then he died.

Chapter 10

¹Now these are the generations of Noah's sons Shem, Ham and Japheth; and sons were born to them after the flood.

²The sons of Japheth were Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

³And the sons of Gomer were Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

⁴And the sons of Javan were Elishah and Tarshish, the Kittim and the Dodanim.

⁵From those the coastland peoples spread out into their lands, each with its own language, according to their clans, in their nations.

⁶And the sons of Ham were Cush, and Mizraim, and Put and Canaan.

⁷And the sons of Cush were Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabteca. And the sons of Raamah were Sheba, and Dedan. ⁸Cush also fathered Nimrod, who began to be mighty on the earth. ⁹He was a mighty hunter before Yahweh. For that reason it is said, "Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before Yahweh." ¹⁰And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Akkad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹From that land he went to Asshur and he built Nineveh, and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah, ¹²and Resen, between Nineveh and Calah, which is the great city.

¹³And Mizraim fathered the Ludim, and the Anamim, and the Lehabim, and the Naphtuhim, ¹⁴and the Pathrusim, and the Casluhim (whom the Philistim came from), and the Capthorim.

¹⁵And Canaan fathered Sidon his firstborn, then Heth, ¹⁶and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, and the Girgashites, ¹⁷and the Hivites, and the Arkites, and the Sinites ¹⁸and the Arvadites, and the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. And afterward the clans of the Canaanites scattered, ¹⁹so the borders of the Canaanites were from Sidon then you go toward Gerar as far as Gaza, then you go to Sodom, and Gomorrah, and Admah and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.

²⁰Those are the sons of Ham according to their clans, according to their languages, in their lands, in their nations.

²¹And sons were also born to Shem; he was the father of all the sons of Eber and the brother of Japheth the elder.

²²The sons of Shem were Elam, and Asshur, and Arpachshad, and Lud, and Aram.

²³And the sons of Aram were Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash.

²⁴And Arpachshad fathered Shelah, then Shelah fathered Eber. ²⁵Then two sons were born to Eber: the name of the one was Peleg, because in his days the earth was divided. And the name of his brother was Joktan. ²⁶And Joktan fathered Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah, ²⁷and Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah, ²⁸and Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba, ²⁹and Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab. All those were the sons of Joktan. ³⁰And their dwelling was from Mesha, then you go to Sephar, the mountains of the east.

³¹Those are the sons of Shem according to their clans, according to their languages, in their lands, according to their nations.

³²Those are the clans of the sons of Noah, according to their generations, in their nations. And from those the nations spread out on the earth after the flood.

Chapter 11

¹Now the whole earth was one language and the same words. ²And it happened as they migrated from the east, then they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³Then they said to each other, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them with fire." And they had bricks for stones, and they had tar for mortar. ⁴Then they said, "Come, let us build a city for ourselves and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, so that we are not scattered over the face of the whole earth."

⁵Then Yahweh came down to see the city and the tower that the sons of mankind had built, ⁶and Yahweh said, "Behold, they are one people and they all have one language, so this is what they have begun to do, and now everything that they plan to do will not be withheld from them. ⁷Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand each other's language." ⁸Then Yahweh scattered them from there over the face of the whole earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹For that reason they called its name Babel, because there Yahweh confused the language of the whole earth, and from there Yahweh scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

¹⁰These are the generations of Shem:

Shem was the son of 100 years, then he fathered Arpachshad two years after the flood. ¹¹Then after he fathered Arpachshad, Shem lived 500 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

¹²And Arpachshad lived 35 years, then he fathered Shelah. ¹³Then after he fathered Shelah, Arpachshad lived 403 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

¹⁴And Shelah lived 30 years, then he fathered Eber. ¹⁵Then after he fathered Eber, Shelah lived 403 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

¹⁶And Eber lived 34 years, then he fathered Peleg. ¹⁷Then after he fathered Peleg, Eber lived 430 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

¹⁸And Peleg lived 30 years, then he fathered Reu. ¹⁹Then after he fathered Reu, Peleg lived 209 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

²⁰And Reu lived 32 years, then he fathered Serug. ²¹Then after he fathered Serug, Reu lived 207 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

²²And Serug lived 30 years, then he fathered Nahor. ²³Then after he fathered Nahor, Serug lived 200 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

²⁴And Nahor lived 29 years, then he fathered Terah. ²⁵Then after he fathered Terah, Nahor lived 119 years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

²⁶And Terah lived 70 years, then he fathered Abram, Nahor and Haran.

²⁷Now these are the generations of Terah: Terah fathered Abram, Nahor and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot.

²⁸Later Haran died in the presence of Terah his father, in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Kasdim. ²⁹Then Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. ³⁰But Sarai was barren; she did not have a child.

³¹Then Terah took his son Abram and Lot, Haran's son, his son's son, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and they went out together from Ur of the Kasdim to go to the land of Canaan. But they came to Haran, and they settled there. ³²And when Terah's days were 205 years, then Terah died in Haran.

Chapter 12

¹Then Yahweh said to Abram, "You yourself must go from your country and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you, and I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³And I will bless those who bless you, but whoever curses you I will curse. And through you, all the families of the earth will be blessed."

⁴Then Abram went, just as Yahweh had told him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was the son of 75 years when he set out from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot the son of his brother, and all their possessions that they had accumulated and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. And when they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶then Abram passed through the land as far as the place of Shechem, to the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were in the land at that time. ⁷Then Yahweh appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your offspring." So he built an altar there to Yahweh, who had appeared to him.

⁸Then from there he went on to the mountains to the east of Bethel and pitched his tents, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to Yahweh, and he called on the name of Yahweh. ⁹Then Abram set out and continued to travel toward the Negev.

¹⁰Then there was a famine in the land, so Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there because the famine was severe in the land. ¹¹And it happened that as he was about to enter Egypt, then he said to Sarai his wife, "Behold now, I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance. ¹²So it will happen when the Egyptians see you, then they will say, 'This is his wife!' and they will kill me but let you live. ¹³Please say that you are my sister, so that it will go well for me for your sake and my life will live because of you."

¹⁴Then it happened, when Abram came into Egypt, then the Egyptians saw the woman that she was very beautiful.

¹⁵And when the officials of Pharaoh saw her, then they praised her to Pharaoh, and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. ¹⁶Then he treated Abram well for her sake, so that he had sheep and cattle, and male donkeys, and male slaves and female slaves, and female donkeys and camels.

¹⁷But Yahweh struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues on account of Sarai the wife of Abram. ¹⁸So Pharaoh called for Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? ¹⁹Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to me as a wife? Now then, behold your wife. Take her and go!" ²⁰Then Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him, and they sent him away and his wife and everything that belonged to him.

Chapter 13

¹Then Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, he and his wife and everything that belonged to him, and Lot with him. ²And Abram was very wealthy in livestock, in silver and in gold. ³Then from the Negev he went on his journey as far as Bethel, to the place where his tents had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, ⁴to the place of the altar that he had made there at first, and there Abram called on the name of Yahweh.

⁵Now Lot, who was traveling with Abram, also had sheep and cattle and tents. ⁶But the land could not support them while they stayed together, because their possessions were great so that they were not able to stay together. ⁷Then there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. And the Canaanites and the Perizzites were living in the land at that time.

⁸So Abram said to Lot, "Please do not let there be strife between me and you, or between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, because we are men, brothers. ⁹Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If you go to the left, then I will go right, or if you go to the right, then I will go left."

¹⁰Then Lot lifted his eyes and saw the entire Plain of the Jordan as you go to Zoar, that all of it was well watered, like the garden of Yahweh, like the land of Egypt, before Yahweh destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. ¹¹So Lot chose for himself the entire Plain of the Jordan, and Lot traveled to the east, and they separated from each other. ¹²Abram settled in the land of Canaan, and Lot settled in the cities of the plain and moved his tents as far as Sodom. ¹³Now the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against Yahweh.

¹⁴Then Yahweh said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift your eyes now from the place where you are there, and look to the north, and to the south, and to the east and to the west, ¹⁵because all the land that you see, I will give to you and to your offspring forever. ¹⁶And I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, which if anyone were able to count the dust of the earth, your offspring could also be counted. ¹⁷Get up and walk through the land, through its length and through its width, because I am giving it to you." ¹⁸So Abram moved his tents and went and settled near the terebinth trees of Mamre that were near Hebron, and there he built an altar to Yahweh.

Chapter 14

¹Now it happened in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Kedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of the Goiim, ²they made war against Bera king of Sodom, and against Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar. ³All these joined together in the Siddim Valley, which is now the Salt Sea.

⁴For twelve years they had served Kedorlaomer, but the thirteenth year they rebelled. ⁵Then in the fourteenth year Kedorlaomer and the kings who were with him went and struck the Rephaim in Ashteroth-Karnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh-Kiriathaim, ⁶and the Horites in their hill country of Seir as far as El Paran, which is by the wilderness. ⁷Then they turned back and came to En Mishpat, which is Kadesh, and they struck the entire territory of the Amalekites and also the Amorites who were living in Hazon Tamar. ⁸Then 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, went out into the Siddim Valley and arranged themselves for battle ⁹against Kedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings against the five.

¹⁰Now the Siddim Valley had many tar pits, and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell there, and those who remained fled to the hill country. ¹¹Then they took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food and left. ¹²And they took Lot and his possessions, the son of Abram's brother, when they left, since he was living in Sodom.

¹³Then someone who escaped came and reported to Abram the Hebrew. And he was living by the terebinth trees of Mamre the Amorite, the brother of Eshcol and the brother of Aner, and they were owners of a covenant with Abram. ¹⁴And when Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, then he led out his 318 trained men who had been born in his house, and he pursued his enemies as far as Dan. ¹⁵Then he divided against them during the night, he and his servants, and struck them and pursued them to Hobah, which is north of Damascus. ¹⁶And he brought back all the possessions, and he also brought back his relative Lot and his possessions, and also the women and the other people.

¹⁷Then the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Shaveh Valley, which is the King's Valley, after he returned from striking Kedorlaomer and the kings who were with him. ¹⁸Then Melchizedek the king of Salem brought out bread and wine. And he was a priest to God Most High, ¹⁹and he blessed him and said, "May Abram be blessed by God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth! ²⁰And praised be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand!" Then he gave to him a tenth of everything. ²¹Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give to me the people, but the possessions take for yourself." ²²But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to Yahweh, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, ²³that I will not take from a thread even to a sandal strap, and I will not take from anything that belongs to you, so that you will not say, 'I made Abram rich.' ²⁴I will take nothing, except what the young men have eaten and the share of the other men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol and Mamre. Let them take their share."

Chapter 15

¹After those things, the word of Yahweh came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram! I am a shield for you, your reward will be very great." ²But Abram said, "My Lord, Yahweh, what will you give to me, since I go childless, and the son of the inheritance of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³Then Abram said, "Behold, you have not given a child to me, so that behold, a servant of my house will inherit what is mine!" ⁴Then behold, the word of Yahweh came to him, saying, "That man will not be your heir, but rather a son who comes from your bowels, he will be your heir." ⁵Then he brought him outside and said, "Look now at the heavens and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So will your offspring be."

⁶And he trusted in Yahweh, and he counted it to him as righteousness. ⁷Then he said to him, "I am Yahweh who brought you out of Ur of the Kasdim to give to you this land to possess it." ⁸Then he said, "My Lord, Yahweh, how will I know that I will possess it?" ⁹Then he said to him, "Bring to me a three-year-old heifer, and a three-year-old she-goat, and a three-year-old ram, and a turtledove and a young pigeon." ¹⁰So he brought all those to him. Then he cut them in two down the middle and laid the halves opposite to each other, but the birds he did not cut in two. ¹¹Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.

¹²Then it happened, the sun was setting and a deep sleep fell on Abram, and behold, terror, great darkness fell on him. ¹³Then he said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be strangers in a land * that is not theirs, and they will serve them, and * they will oppress them 400 years. ¹⁴But also, the nation that they serve I will judge, and after that they will come out with great possessions. ¹⁵And you, you will go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶Then in the fourth generation they will come back here, because the sin of the Amorites will not be complete until then."

¹⁷Then it happened, the sun went down and darkness came, and behold, there was a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch that passed between those pieces. ¹⁸On that day Yahweh cut a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates River, ¹⁹the land of the Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, ²⁰and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaim, ²¹and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites and the Jebusites."

Chapter 16

¹Now Sarai, the wife of Abram, had not born children for him, but she had an Egyptian maidservant, and her name was Hagar. ²So Sarai said to Abram, "Behold, Yahweh has prevented me from bearing children. Please go to my maidservant. Perhaps I can be built up from her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. ³So Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar, her Egyptian maidservant, at the end of ten years that Abram had lived in the land of Canaan, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife for him. ⁴Then he went to Hagar and she conceived. And she saw that she had conceived, and her mistress was despised in her eyes.

⁵Then Sarai said to Abram, "My wrong is on you! I myself put my maidservant into your arms, but she sees that she has conceived, and I am despised in her eyes! May Yahweh judge between me and you!" ⁶Then Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your maidservant is in your hand. Do to her what is good in your eyes."

Then Sarai mistreated her, and she fled from her presence. ⁷Then an angel of Yahweh found her at a spring of water in the wilderness, at the spring beside the road of Shur. ⁸And he said, "Hagar, maidservant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?" And she said, "I am fleeing from the face of my mistress Sarai." ⁹Then the angel of Yahweh said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit under her hands."

¹⁰Then the angel of Yahweh said to her, "I will greatly increase your offspring, so that they can not be counted because of their abundance."

¹¹Then the angel of Yahweh said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant, and you will bear a son, and you must call his name Ishmael, because Yahweh has listened to your misery. ¹²And he will be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone, and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in the face of all of his brothers."

¹³Then she called the name of Yahweh who had spoken to her, "You are El Roi," because she said, "Have I really seen here the back of the One who sees me?" ¹⁴For that reason they call the well Beer Lahai Roi. Behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.

¹⁵Then Hagar bore a son for Abram, and Abram called the name of his son whom Hagar bore Ishmael. ¹⁶And Abram was a son of 86 years when Hagar bore Ishmael for Abram.

Chapter 17

¹Then Abram was a son of 99 years, and Yahweh appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am El Shaddai. Walk before my face and be without blemish. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and I will multiply you very greatly."

³Then Abram fell on his face, and God spoke with him saying, ⁴"I, behold, my covenant with you is that you will be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵So your name will not be called Abram any more, rather your name will be Abraham, because I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶So I will make you very, very fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings will come from you. ⁷And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations as an eternal covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ⁸And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, as an eternal possession, and I will be God to them."

⁹Then God said to Abraham, "And you, you must keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. ¹⁰This is my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you which you must keep: Every male among you must be circumcised. ¹¹Indeed you must be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you. ¹²So a son of eight days must be circumcised, every male among you throughout your generations, those born in your house and those bought with money from any sons of foreigners, who are not your offspring. ¹³They must surely be circumcised, whether those born in your house or

those bought with your money. So my covenant will be in your flesh as an eternal covenant. ¹⁴And as for an uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, indeed that person must be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

¹⁵Then God said to Abraham, " Sarai your wife, do not call her name Sarai, rather her name will be Sarah. ¹⁶And I will bless her, and I will also give to you a son from her. Indeed I will bless her and she will become nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

¹⁷Then Abraham fell on his face, and he laughed and said in his heart, "Will a child be born to a son of 100 years? And will Sarah who is a daughter of 90 years bear a child?" ¹⁸Then Abraham said to God, " If only Ishmael might live before your face!" ¹⁹Then God said, "No, Sarah your wife will bear a son for you, and you must call his name Isaac. And I will establish my covenant with him as an eternal covenant for his offspring after him.

²⁰" And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I will bless him and I will make him fruitful and will multiply him very greatly. He will father twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹However, my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear for you by this time in the next year." ²²Then he finished speaking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

²³Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born of his house and all those bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins on that very day, just as God had told him. ²⁴And Abraham was a son of 99 years when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, ²⁵and Ishmael his son was a son of thirteen years when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁶On that very day Abraham was circumcised, and Ishmael his son. ²⁷And all the males of his house, those born of his house and those bought with money from sons of foreigners, were circumcised with him.

Chapter 18

¹Then Yahweh appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, and he was sitting at the entrance of the tent in the heat of the day. ²And he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing nearby him. And when he saw them, then he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them. Then he bowed to the ground, ³and he said, "My lords, if I have found favor in your eyes, please do not pass by your servant. ⁴Please let a little water be brought, then you can wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵And I will bring a morsel of bread, then you can refresh your hearts before you go away, since you have come to your servant." And they said, " Very well, do as you have said."

⁶Then Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Hurry! Knead three seahs of fine flour, and make loaves."

⁷Then Abraham ran to the herd and selected a tender and choice calf. Then he gave it to a servant and he hurried to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and he set it before them. Then he stood by them under the tree and they ate.

⁹Then they said to him, " Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "Behold, in the tent." ¹⁰Then he said, " I will surely return to you at the time of life, and behold your wife Sarah will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance of the tent, and it was behind him. ¹¹And Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in days; the way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. ¹²So Sarah laughed within herself and said, "After I am worn out, will I have pleasure? And my lord is old!" ¹³But Yahweh said to Abraham, " Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really bear a child when I am old?' ¹⁴Is anything too hard for Yahweh? At the appointed time I will return to you, at the time of life, and Sarah will have a son." ¹⁵But Sarah denied it by saying, "I did not laugh," because she was afraid. But he said, " No, but you did laugh. "

¹⁶Then the men got up from there and looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to send them off. ¹⁷And Yahweh said, " Should I hide from Abraham what I am doing? ¹⁸And Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed. ¹⁹For I have known him so that he will

command his children and his house after him, and they will keep the way of Yahweh by doing righteousness and justice, so that Yahweh will bring about for Abraham what he said to him."

²⁰Then Yahweh said, "Because the outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great and because their sin is very grievous, ²¹I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to its outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

²²Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, and Abraham was still standing before Yahweh. ²³Then Abraham approached him and said, "Will you really sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are 50 righteous in the city? Will you really sweep away and not spare the place for the sake of the 50 righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do something like that, killing the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous are like the wicked! Far be it from you! Will not the One who judges all the earth do justice?" ²⁶Then Yahweh said, "If I find in Sodom 50 righteous in the city, then I will spare the whole place for their sake."

²⁷Then Abraham spoke up and said, "Behold please, I have taken it upon myself to speak to my Lord, although I am dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose the 50 righteous lack five? Will you destroy the whole city because of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it, if I find 45 there."

²⁹Then he continued again to speak to him and said, "Suppose 40 are found there?" And he said, "I will not do it for the sake of the 40."

³⁰Then he said, "Please do not let my Lord be angry, and let me speak: Suppose 30 are found there?" And he said, "I will not do it, if I find 30 there."

³¹Then he said, "Behold please, I have taken it upon myself to speak to my Lord: Suppose 20 are found there?" And he said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the 20."

³²Then he said, "Please do not let my Lord be angry, and let me speak just once more: Suppose ten are found there?" And he said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the ten." ³³Then Yahweh left as soon as he finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Chapter 19

¹Then the two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. And Lot saw them, and he got up to meet them and bowed his face to the ground. ²Then he said, "Behold please, my lords. Please turn aside to the house of your servant and spend the night, and wash your feet, then you can get up early and go on your way." But they said, "No, rather we will spend the night in the street." ³But he urged them strongly, so that they turned aside with him and entered into his house. Then he prepared a feast for them, and he baked unleavened bread, and they ate. ⁴Before they lay down, then the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, from the young and to the old, all the people from the edges. ⁵Then they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can know them!" ⁶Then Lot went out to them at the entrance and shut the door behind him, ⁷and he said, "Please, my brothers, do not do evil! ⁸Behold please, I have two daughters who have not known a man. Please let me bring them out to you, and you do to them as is good in your eyes. But do not do anything to these men, because for that reason they have come under the shadow of my rafters." ⁹But they said, "Get back!" Then they said, "This one came to sojourn, and now he is judging us! We will treat you worse than them!" Then they pressed hard against the man Lot and came near to break down the door. ¹⁰But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house to them and shut the door. ¹¹Then they struck the men who were at the entrance of the house with blindness, from the small and to the great, so that they became weary trying to find the door.

¹²Then the men said to Lot, "Who else is here with you? Sons-in-law and your sons and your daughters and anyone who is with you in the city, take them out from this place, ¹³because we are destroying this place. For their outcry

before Yahweh is great, so Yahweh has sent us to destroy it." ¹⁴Then Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law who were to take his daughters, and he said, "Get up, get out of this place, because Yahweh is destroying the city!" But it seemed like he was joking in the eyes of his sons-in-law. ¹⁵Then when the dawn came, the angels urged Lot by saying, "Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, so that you are not swept away in the punishment of the city." ¹⁶But he lingered, so the men grabbed his hand and the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters, because of Yahweh's mercy for him, and brought him out and set him outside the city. ¹⁷And it happened when they had brought them out to the outside, then he said, "Flee for your life! Do not look behind you, and do not stop anywhere in the plain! Escape to the mountains, so that you are not swept away!" ¹⁸Then Lot said to them, "Please, no, my lords! ¹⁹Behold please, your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have magnified your mercy that you have shown to me by saving my life. But I am not able to escape to the mountains because the disaster will overtake me and I will die. ²⁰Behold please, that town there is near to flee to, and it is a little one. Please let me escape there. Isn't it a little one? Then my life will live." ²¹Then he said to him, "Behold, I have also lifted up your face concerning this thing, so I will not overthrow the town that you are talking about. ²²Hurry up, escape there, because I am not able to do a thing until you go there." For that reason he called the name of the town Zoar.

²³The sun rose over the land and Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴Then Yahweh rained down on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Yahweh out of the heavens, ²⁵and he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all the inhabitants of the cities and the vegetation of the ground. ²⁶But his wife from behind him looked back and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷Abraham got up early in the morning and went to the place where he had stood before Yahweh, ²⁸and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the surface of the land of the plain, and he looked and behold, smoke was rising from the land like smoke from a furnace.

²⁹So it was when God destroyed the cities of the plain that God remembered Abraham, and he sent Lot out of the middle of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities which Lot had lived in.

³⁰Then Lot went up from Zoar and settled in the mountains, and his two daughters were with him, because he was afraid to settle in Zoar. So he lived in a cave, he and his two daughters. ³¹Then the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old and there is not a man on the earth to come to us as is the way of all the earth. ³²Come on, let us get our father to drink wine, then let us lie with him, so that we will give life to offspring through our father." ³³So they got their father to drink wine on that night, and the firstborn went and lay with her father, but he did not know when she lay down or when she got up. ³⁴Then it happened on the next day that the firstborn said to the younger, "Behold, last night I lay with my father. Let us get him to drink wine again tonight, then you go lie with him, so that we will give life to offspring through our father." ³⁵So on that night also they got their father to drink wine. Then the younger went and lay with him, but he did not know when she lay down or when she got up. ³⁶So both of the daughters of Lot became pregnant from their father. ³⁷Then the firstborn bore a son, and she called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸Then the younger, she also bore a son, and she called his name Ben-Ammi. He is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.

Chapter 20

¹Then Abraham traveled from there to the land of the Negev, and he settled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar. ²And Abraham said about Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." So Abimelech the king of Gerar sent for Sarah and took her. ³But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night and said to him, "Behold, you are dead because of the woman whom you have taken, because she is married to a husband!" ⁴Now Abimelech had not gone near to her, so he said, "My Lord, will you kill a nation even though it is righteous? ⁵Did not he himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself also said, 'He is my brother'. I did this in the integrity of my heart and in the innocence of my hands!" ⁶Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you did this, and indeed I kept you from sinning against me. For that reason I did not allow you to touch her. ⁷So

now you must return the wife of the man, because he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you will live. But if you do not return her, know that you will surely die, you and all who belong to you!"

⁸So Abimelech got up early in the morning and called for all of his servants, and he told all those things in their ears, and the men were very afraid. ⁹Then Abimelech called for Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you so that you brought a great sin on me and on my kingdom? You have done deeds to me that should not be done!" ¹⁰Then Abimelech said to Abraham, "What were you looking for when you did this thing?" ¹¹And Abraham answered, "Because I said, 'Surely there is no fear of God in this place, so they will kill me because of my wife.' ¹²And also she truly is my sister, the daughter of my father but not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. ¹³And it happened when God caused me to wander from the house of my father, then I said to her, 'This is your kindness that you can do for me: At every place where we go, say about me, "He is my brother."' " ¹⁴Then Abimelech brought flocks and herds and men slaves and women slaves and gave them to Abraham, and he returned Sarah his wife to him. ¹⁵Then Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before your face. Settle wherever is good in your eyes." ¹⁶And to Sarah he said, "Behold, I am giving 1,000 shekels of silver to your brother. Behold, that is for you a covering of the eyes before all who are with you, so that you are vindicated for everything." ¹⁷Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his slave women, so that they bore children, ¹⁸because Yahweh had completely closed up every womb in the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, the wife of Abraham.

Chapter 21

¹Then Yahweh visited Sarah just as he had said, and Yahweh did for Sarah just as he had said, ²so that Sarah conceived and bore a son for Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time which God had told him. ³And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore for him, Isaac. ⁴And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac, a son of eight days, just as God had commanded him.

⁵And Abraham was a son of 100 years when Isaac his son was born to him. ⁶And Sarah said, "God has brought laughter to me! Everyone who hears will laugh with me!" ⁷And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have born a son in his old age!"

⁸Then the child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day Isaac was weaned. ⁹And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had born for Abraham, was mocking, ¹⁰so she said to Abraham, "Drive away that slave woman and her son, because the son of that slave woman will not inherit with my son, with Isaac!" ¹¹And the matter was very distressing in the eyes of Abraham on account of his son. ¹²But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed in your eyes because of the boy and because of your slave woman. All that Sarah says to you, listen to her voice, because in Isaac offspring will be called yours. ¹³And I will also make the son of the slave woman into a nation, because he is your offspring."

¹⁴Then Abraham got up early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar, putting them on her shoulder. Then with the child he sent her away, and she left and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba. ¹⁵And when the water from the skin was gone, then she threw the child under one of the bushes, ¹⁶and she went and sat down by herself at a distance, as far away as they shoot a bow, because she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." Then as she sat at a distance, she lifted her voice and sobbed.

¹⁷And God heard the voice of the boy, so the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid, because God has listened to the voice of the boy where he is there. ¹⁸Get up, lift the boy and hold on to him with your hand, because I will make him into a great nation." ¹⁹Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰And God was with the boy. And he grew up, and he lived in the wilderness and he became a bow shooter. ²¹And while he was living in the wilderness of Paran, then his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

²²And it happened at that time that Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, said to Abraham saying, "God is with you in all that you do. ²³So now swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my children or with my descendants. According to the kindness that I have done to you, do to me and to the land which you are sojourning in." ²⁴And Abraham said, "I swear."

²⁵Then Abraham complained to Abimelech on account of the well of water that the servants of Abimelech had seized. ²⁶Then Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing. And also you did not tell me, and also I have not heard about it until today."

²⁷Then Abraham took sheep and cattle, and he gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them cut a covenant.

²⁸Then Abraham set apart seven ewe lambs from the flock by themselves. ²⁹So Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart by themselves?" ³⁰And he said, "Because you must accept the seven ewe lambs from my hand, so that it can be a witness for me that I dug this well." ³¹For that reason he called that place Beersheba, because there the two of them swore an oath.

³²So they cut the covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, got up and returned to the land of the Philistines. ³³Then he planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba, and there he called on the name of Yahweh, the Eternal God. ³⁴Then Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines many days.

Chapter 22

¹Then it happened after those things that God tested Abraham. And he said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Behold me." ²Then he said, "Please take your son, your only son whom you love, Isaac, and go yourself to the land of Moriah and sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I will tell to you."

³So Abraham got up early in the morning and saddled his donkey. And he took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son, and he cut wood for the burnt offering. Then he got up and left for the place that God had told to him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and he saw the place from a distance. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here by yourselves with the donkey, and I and the boy will go over there and bow down, then we will come back to you."

⁶Then Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and put it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hands the fire and the knife. Then the two of them went on together, ⁷and Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?" And he said, "Behold me, my son." Then he said, "Behold the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" ⁸And Abraham said, "God will see for himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." Then the two of them went on together.

⁹Then they came to the place that God had told to him, and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. Then he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But an angel of Yahweh called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham! Abraham!" And he said, "Behold me." ¹²Then he said, "Do not reach out your hand against the boy! And do not do anything to him, because now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

¹³Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and behold a ram was behind him, caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place "Yahweh-Yireh," as it is said to this day, "On the mountain of Yahweh it will be seen."

¹⁵Then the angel of Yahweh called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "I swear by myself, a declaration of Yahweh, that it is because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷that I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your offspring as the stars of the heavens and as the sand

that is on the shore of the sea, and your offspring will possess the gates of their enemies, ¹⁸and through your Offspring all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you listened to my voice."

¹⁹Then Abraham returned to his young men, and they got up and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham stayed at Beersheba.

²⁰Then it happened after those things that it was told to Abraham saying, "Behold, Milcah, she too, has born sons for Nahor your brother: ²¹Uz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram, ²²and Kesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel." ²³And Bethuel fathered Rebekah. Those are the eight sons Milcah bore for Nahor, the brother of Abraham. ²⁴And his concubine, and her name was Reumah, and she also bore Tebah, and Gaham, and Tahash and Maacah.

Chapter 23

¹Now the life of Sarah was 127 years; the years of the life of Sarah. ²Then Sarah died in Kiriath Arba, that is, Hebron, in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. ³Then Abraham got up from beside his dead one and he spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, ⁴"I am a foreigner and a sojourner among you. Give to me property for a burial place among you, so that I can bury my dead from before me." ⁵Then the sons of Heth replied to Abraham by saying to him, ⁶" Listen to us, my lord. You are a mighty prince among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places. Each of us will not refuse from you his burial place to bury your dead."

⁷Then Abraham got up and bowed before the people of the land, before the sons of Heth, ⁸and he said to them, saying, "If it is your will to bury my dead from before me, listen to me and intercede for me with Ephron, the son of Zohar, ⁹so that he will give to me the cave of Machpelah, which belongs to him, which is at the end of his field. For full price let him give it to me among you as property for a burial place." ¹⁰Now Ephron was sitting among the sons of Heth, so Ephron the Hittite responded to Abraham in the ears of the sons of Heth, for everyone who had come to the gate of his city, by saying, ¹¹" No, my lord. Listen to me: I give to you the field, and I give to you the cave that is in it. I give it to you before the eyes of the sons of my people. Bury your dead."

¹²Then Abraham bowed before the people of the land, ¹³and he spoke to Ephron in the ears of the people of the land, saying, "Rather if you would, please listen to me. I will give the price of the field. Take it from me, then I will bury my dead there." ¹⁴Then Ephron answered Abraham by saying to him, ¹⁵" My lord, listen to me. Land worth 400 shekels of silver-between me and you, what is that? So bury your dead." ¹⁶So Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out to Ephron the price that he had mentioned in the ears of the sons of Heth, 400 shekels of silver, the currency among the merchants.

¹⁷So the field of Ephron that was in Machpelah which was before Mamre, the field and the cave that was in it, and every tree that was in the field that was within all of its surrounding borders, was deeded ¹⁸to Abraham as his possession before the eyes of the sons of Heth, before everyone who had come to the gate of his city. ¹⁹Then after that, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre, that is, Hebron, in the land of Canaan. ²⁰So the field and the cave that was in it were deeded to Abraham as property for a burial place from the sons of Heth.

Chapter 24

¹Now Abraham was old, advanced in days, and Yahweh had blessed Abraham in everything. ²Then Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house who was in charge of everything that belonged to him, "Please put your hand under my thigh, ³and I will have you swear by Yahweh, the God of the heavens and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites whom I am living among, ⁴but you will go to my country and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son, for Isaac."

⁵Then the servant said to him, "Suppose the woman is not willing to come with me to this land? Should I take your son back to the country that you came from?" ⁶Then Abraham said to him, "Be sure that you do not take my son back there. ⁷Yahweh, the God of the heavens, who took me from the house of my father and from the land of my relatives and who spoke to me and who swore to me saying, 'To your offspring I will give this land,' he will send his angel before you, and you will take a wife for my son from there. ⁸But if the woman is not willing to come with you, then you are clear from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there!"

⁹Then the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning this matter.

¹⁰Then the servant took ten camels from the camels of his master and left, and all kinds of good things from his master were in his hand, and he got up and went to Aram Naharaim, to the city of Nahor. ¹¹Then he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at evening time, at the time the women who draw water come out.

¹²Then he said, "Yahweh, God of my master Abraham, please cause it to happen before me today that you show kindness toward my master Abraham. ¹³Behold, I am standing by this spring of water, and the daughters of the people of the city are coming out to draw water. ¹⁴And let it be that the young woman whom I say to her, 'Please let down your jar so that I may drink,' and she says, 'Drink and I will also water your camels,' let her be the one you have appointed for your servant, for Isaac. And by her I will know that you have shown kindness toward my master."

¹⁵Then it happened before he had finished speaking, then behold Rebekah was coming out, who was born to Bethuel, the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, the brother of Abraham. And her water jar was on her shoulder.

¹⁶And the young woman was a very beautiful-looking virgin, and a man had not known her. And she went down to the spring, and filled her jar and came up.

¹⁷Then the servant ran to meet her and said, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar." ¹⁸And she said, "Drink, my lord." Then she hurried and lowered her jar to her hands and gave him a drink. ¹⁹And after she finished giving him a drink, then she said, "I will also draw water for your camels until they have finished drinking." ²⁰Then she hurried and emptied her jar into the trough, and ran back to the well to draw water, and she drew water for all his camels. ²¹And the man watched her silently to know whether Yahweh had made his journey succeed or not.

²²Then it happened, when the camels had finished drinking, then the man took out a gold nose ring, its weight was a beka, and two gold bracelets for her arms, their weight was ten shekels. ²³And he said, "Whose daughter are you? Please tell me. Is there a place at the house of your father for us to lodge?" ²⁴Then she said to him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son of Milcah, whom she bore for Nahor." ²⁵Then she said to him, "Plenty of both straw and fodder are with us. There is also a place to lodge." ²⁶Then the man bowed down and prostrated himself before Yahweh, ²⁷and said, "Praised be Yahweh, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and his faithfulness toward my master. As for me, Yahweh has led me on the road to the home of the relatives of my master!"

²⁸Then the young woman ran and told the household of her mother about those things. ²⁹Now Rebekah had a brother and his name was Laban, and Laban ran to the man outside at the spring. ³⁰And it was when he had seen the nose ring, and the bracelets on the arms of his sister, and when he had heard the words of Rebekah his sister saying, 'This is what the man said to me,' then he went to the man, and behold he was standing by the camels at the spring. ³¹Then he said, "Come, blessed of Yahweh. Why are you standing out here? For I have prepared the house and a place for the camels."

³²So the man went to the house. Then he unloaded the camels and gave straw and fodder to the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him. ³³Then food was set before him to eat, but he said, "I will not eat until I have spoken my words." So he said, "Speak."

³⁴Then he said, "I am a servant of Abraham. ³⁵And Yahweh has greatly blessed my master so that he has become great. And he has given him flocks and herds, and silver and gold, and men slaves and women slaves, and camels

and donkeys. ³⁶And Sarah, the wife of my master, bore a son for my master after her old age, and he has given to him everything that belongs to him. ³⁷And my master made me swear by saying, 'You must not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites whose land I am living in, ³⁸but rather you must go to the house of my father, and to my clan, and take a wife for my son.' ³⁹Then I said to my master, 'Suppose the woman will not come with me?' ⁴⁰And he said to me, 'Yahweh, whom I walk before, will send his angel with you and make your journey succeed, so that you will take a wife for my son from my clan, and from the house of my father. ⁴¹Then you will be clear from my oath when you go to my clan. And if they will not give her to you, then you will be clear from my oath.'

⁴²" Then today I came to the spring, and I said, 'Yahweh, God of my master Abraham, if it is your will, please make my journey succeed that I have come on. ⁴³Behold, I am standing by this spring of water. And let it be that the young woman who comes out to draw water and I say to her, "Please give me a little water to drink from your jar," ⁴⁴and she says to me, " Both you drink and I will also draw water for your camels," let her be the wife whom Yahweh has chosen for the son of my master.'

⁴⁵"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, then behold Rebekah was coming out and her jar was on her shoulder, and she went down to the spring and drew water. Then I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.' ⁴⁶And she hurried and lowered her jar from her and said, 'Drink and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷Then I asked her and said, 'Whose daughter are you?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, a son of Nahor whom Milcah bore for him.' Then I put the ring on her nose and the bracelets on her arms, ⁴⁸and I bowed down and prostrated myself before Yahweh and I praised Yahweh, the God of my master Abraham, who led me on the right way to take the daughter of my master's brother for his son. ⁴⁹And now if it is your will to show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me, and if not, tell me, so that I will turn to the right or to the left."

⁵⁰Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, " The thing has come from Yahweh; we are not able to tell you bad or good. ⁵¹Behold, Rebekah is before you. Take her and go, and let her be the wife of the son of your master, as Yahweh has spoken." ⁵²Then it happened, when the servant of Abraham heard their words, then he bowed down to the ground before Yahweh. ⁵³Then the servant brought out jewelry of silver and jewelry of gold, and clothing, and gave them to Rebekah, and he gave valuable things to her brother and to her mother.

⁵⁴Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and lodged. Then in the morning they got up, and he said, "Send me to my master." ⁵⁵But her brother and her mother said, " Let the young woman stay with us a few days, at least ten. After that she will go." ⁵⁶But he said to them, "Do not detain me, since Yahweh has made my journey succeed. Send me off so that I will go to my master." ⁵⁷Then they said, " Let's call for the young woman and ask her mouth."

⁵⁸So they called for Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" And she said, " I will go." ⁵⁹Then they sent off Rebekah their sister and her nurse and the servant of Abraham and his men. ⁶⁰And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

"Our sister, may you become thousands of myriads,

and may your offspring possess the gates of those who hate them!" ⁶¹Then Rebekah got up and her maids, and they mounted the camels and went with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

⁶²Meanwhile Isaac came from going to Beer Lahai Roi, and he was living in the land of the Negev. ⁶³And Isaac went to meditate in the field as it was turning toward evening, and he lifted his eyes and saw that behold, camels were coming. ⁶⁴And Rebekah lifted her eyes and saw Isaac. Then she dismounted from the camel, ⁶⁵and she said to the servant, " Who is that man in the field who is coming to meet us?" And the servant said, "He is my master." So she took the veil and covered herself.

⁶⁶Then the servant reported to Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷Then Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother, and he took Rebekah, and she became a wife to him. And Isaac loved her and he was comforted after his mother.

Chapter 25

¹Then Abraham added and took a wife, and her name was Keturah. ²And she bore for him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. ³And Jokshan fathered Sheba and Dedan. And the descendants of Dedan were the Asshurim, and the Letushim, and the Leummim. ⁴And the sons of Midian were Ephah, and Epher, and Hanoch, and Abida, and Eldaah. All of those were the descendants of Keturah.

⁵And Abraham gave everything that belonged to him to Isaac. ⁶And to the sons of the concubines who belonged to Abraham, Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still alive he sent them eastward to the land of Kedem, away from Isaac his son.

⁷And these are the days of the years of the life of Abraham that he lived: 175 years. ⁸Then Abraham exhaled and died at a good old age, elderly and full, and he was gathered to his people. ⁹Then Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which was before Mamre, ¹⁰the field that Abraham had bought from the sons of Heth. There Abraham was buried, and Sarah his wife. ¹¹And it happened after the death of Abraham, then God blessed Isaac his son, and Isaac lived near Beer Lahai Roi.

¹²Now these are the generations of Ishmael the son of Abraham, whom Hagar the Egyptian, the maidservant of Sarah, had born for Abraham. ¹³And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names according to their births: the firstborn of Ishmael was Nebaioth, then Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, ¹⁴and Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, ¹⁵Hadad, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish and Kedermah. ¹⁶Those were the sons of Ishmael, and those are their names by their settlements and by their camps, twelve rulers according to their tribes. ¹⁷And these are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. Then he exhaled and died, and was gathered to his people. ¹⁸And they settled from Havilah to Shur that is near Egypt as you go toward Asshur. He fell in the face of all his brothers.

¹⁹And these are the generations of Isaac the son of Abraham: Abraham fathered Isaac, ²⁰then Isaac was a son of 40 years when he took Rebekah for himself as a wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹And Isaac entreated Yahweh on behalf of his wife because she was barren. So Yahweh was entreated by him, and Rebekah his wife conceived. ²²And the children struggled against each other inside her, so she said, "Why is this so? Why am I like this?" And she went to inquire of Yahweh. ²³And Yahweh said to her,

"Two nations are inside your womb, and two peoples will be divided from inside your womb.

And one people will be stronger than the other people, and the older will serve the younger."

²⁴Then her days were fulfilled to deliver, and behold, twins were inside her womb. ²⁵And the first came out red, all of him was like a garment of hair, so they called his name Esau. ²⁶Then after that, his brother came out and his hand was grabbing on to the heel of Esau, so he called his name Jacob. And Isaac was a son of 60 years when she bore them.

²⁷Then the boys grew up, and Esau became a man who knew hunting, a man of the field, and Jacob was a quiet man who stayed among the tents. ²⁸And Isaac loved Esau, because he liked game meat in his mouth, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹Now Jacob was cooking stew, and Esau came in from the field and he was exhausted. ³⁰Then Esau said to Jacob, "Please let me devour some of that very red stuff because I am exhausted!" For that reason they called his name Edom. ³¹But Jacob said, "On this day sell your birthright to me." ³²And Esau said, "Behold, I am about to die! So for what use is that to me, a birthright?" ³³But Jacob said, "Swear to me on this day!" So he swore to him and sold his

birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave to Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

Chapter 26

¹Then there was a famine in the land, besides the earlier famine that was in the days of Abraham. So Isaac went to Abimelech the king of the Philistines in Gerar. ²Then Yahweh appeared to him and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land that I tell you. ³Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and I will bless you. For I will give to you and to your offspring all these lands, and I will confirm the oath that I swore to Abraham your father: ⁴that I will multiply your offspring as the stars of the heavens, and I will give to your offspring all these lands, and through your Offspring all the nations of the earth will be blessed, ⁵because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws."

⁶So Isaac stayed in Gerar. ⁷Then the men of the place asked about his wife, and he said, " She is my sister," because he was afraid to say, "She is my wife." He thought, " The men of the place might kill me on account of Rebekah because she is beautiful in appearance." ⁸Then it happened when the days had been long for him there, then Abimelech the king of the Philistines looked down from a window and saw that behold, Isaac was laughing with Rebekah his wife. ⁹So Abimelech called for Isaac and said, "Behold she is really your wife! So how could you say, 'She is my sister?'" And Isaac said to him, " Because I said, 'I might die because of her.' " ¹⁰Then 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 on us!" ¹¹Then Abimelech ordered all the people by saying, " Whoever touches this man or his wife will surely be killed!"

¹²Then Isaac sowed seeds in that land, and in that year he acquired a hundredfold, and Yahweh blessed him. ¹³And the man became great, and he continued to become even greater until he was exceedingly great. ¹⁴And he had possession of flocks and possession of herds and many servants. So the Philistines envied him, ¹⁵and the Philistines stopped up all the wells that the servants of his father had dug in the days of Abraham his father and filled them with dirt.

¹⁶Then Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us, because you are more powerful than we are." ¹⁷So Isaac went from there and camped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there. ¹⁸Then Isaac again dug out the water wells that they had dug in the days of Abraham his father and that the Philistines had stopped up after the death of Abraham, and he called them names like the names that his father had called them.

¹⁹Then the servants of Isaac dug in the valley and found a well of living water there. ²⁰But the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with the herdsmen of Isaac by saying, " The water belongs to us!" So he called the name of the well Esek, because they disputed with him. ²¹Then they dug another well, but they quarreled over it too, so he called its name Sitnah. ²²Then he moved from there and he dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it, so he called its name Rehoboth and he said, "Because now Yahweh has made space for us and we will be fruitful in the land."

²³Then from there he went up to Beersheba. ²⁴And Yahweh appeared to him during that night and said, " I am the God of Abraham your father. Do not be afraid, because I am with you. And I will bless you and I will multiply your offspring for the sake of Abraham my servant." ²⁵Then he built an altar there and he called on the name of Yahweh. And he pitched his tents there, and the servants of Isaac dug a well there.

²⁶Then Abimelech came to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath his friend and Phicol the commander of his army. ²⁷And Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, since you hate me and you sent me away from you?" ²⁸And they said, " We have clearly seen that Yahweh has been with you, so we said, 'There should be an oath between us' — between us and you. So let us cut a covenant with you, ²⁹that you will not do evil against us, just as we did not touch you, and just as we did only good to you and sent you away in peace. Now you are blessed by Yahweh."

³⁰Then he made a feast for them, and they ate and drank. ³¹Then they got up early in the morning and swore to each other. Then Isaac sent them on their way, and they left from him in peace.

³²Then it happened on that day, the servants of Isaac came and told him about the matter of the well that they had been digging and said to him, "We have found water!" ³³So he called it Shebah. For that reason the name of the city is Beersheba to this day.

³⁴And Esau was a son of 40 years, and he took a wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. ³⁵And they were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah.

Chapter 27

¹Then it happened, when Isaac was old and his eyes were too dim to see, then he called Esau his older son and said to him, "My son." And he said to him, "Behold me." ²Then he said, "Behold please, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. ³So now, please take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out in the field and hunt game for me. ⁴Then prepare tasty food for me such as I love, and bring it to me so I can eat it, so that my soul can bless you before I die."

⁵And Rebekah was listening while Isaac spoke to Esau his son, then Esau went to the field to hunt game to bring it back. ⁶Then Rebekah said to Jacob her son, saying, "Behold, I heard your father tell Esau your brother, saying, ⁷'Bring game for me and prepare tasty food for me so that I can eat it and I can bless you in the presence of Yahweh, before my death.' ⁸So now, my son, listen to my voice, to what I command you. ⁹Please go to the flock and bring to me from there two good kids of the goats so that I will prepare from them tasty food for your father such as he loves. ¹⁰Then you take it to your father and he will eat it, so that he will bless you before his death."

¹¹Then Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, "Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, but I am a smooth man. ¹²Suppose my father touches me? Then I will be in his eyes as a deceiver, and I will bring a curse on me and not a blessing." ¹³But his mother said to him, "Let your curse be on me, my son. Just listen to my voice and go get them for me." ¹⁴So he went and got them and brought them to his mother. Then his mother prepared tasty food such as his father loved. ¹⁵Then Rebekah took the best clothes of Esau her older son that were with her in the house and put them on Jacob her younger son. ¹⁶And she put the skins of the kid goats over his hands and over the smooth part of his neck.

¹⁷Then she gave the tasty food and the bread that she had made into her son Jacob's hands, ¹⁸and he went to his father and said, "My father." And he said, "Behold me. Who are you, my son?" ¹⁹Then Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau, your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please get up, sit and eat some of my game, so that your soul will bless me." ²⁰Then Isaac said to his son, "How is this you were quick to find it, my son?" And he said, "Because Yahweh your God caused it to happen before me."

²¹Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Please come close, so that I can touch you, my son, and know whether you are really my son Esau or not." ²²So Jacob went close to Isaac his father, and he touched him and said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau." ²³So he did not recognize him because his hands were hairy like the hands of Esau his brother, and he was about to bless him. ²⁴But he said, "Are you really my son Esau?" And he said, "I am." ²⁵Then he said, "Bring the food to me, and I will eat some of my son's game, so that my soul will bless you." Then he brought it to him and he ate, and he brought wine to him and he drank.

²⁶Then Isaac his father said to him, "Please come close and kiss me, my son." ²⁷So he went close and kissed him. And he smelled the smell of his clothes, so he blessed him and said,

"See, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that Yahweh has blessed!

²⁸And may God give to you from the dew of the heavens

and from the fatness of the earth,

and an abundance of grain and wine.

²⁹May peoples serve you, and may nations bow down to you.

Be master over your brothers,

and may the sons of your mother bow down to you.

May those who curse you be cursed,

and may those who bless you be blessed."

³⁰Then it happened just as Isaac finished blessing Jacob, and it happened scarcely had Jacob just left from the presence of Isaac his father when Esau his brother came in from his hunt. ³¹Then he too prepared tasty food, and he brought it to his father and said to his father, "Let my father get up and eat from his son's game, so that your soul can bless me." ³²But Isaac his father said to him, "Who are you?" And he said, "I am your son, your firstborn Esau." ³³Then Isaac trembled a very great tremble and he said, "Then who was it that hunted game and brought it to me? And I ate from it all just before you came, and I blessed him. Indeed he will be blessed." ³⁴When Esau heard the words of his father, then he cried out a great and exceedingly bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me, me too, my father!" ³⁵And he said, "Your brother came in deceit and took your blessing." ³⁶Then he said, "Is it because his name is called Jacob that he has defrauded me these two times? He took my birthright, and behold now he has taken my blessing!"

Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?" ³⁷But Isaac responded and said to Esau, "Behold, I have made him master over you, and I have given all his brothers to him as servants. And I have sustained him with grain and wine. So then, what can I do for you, my son?" ³⁸But Esau said to his father, "Is there one blessing that you have, my father? Bless me, me too, my father!" Then Esau lifted his voice and sobbed. ³⁹Then Isaac his father responded and said to him,

"Behold, your dwelling will be away from the fatness of the earth

and away from the dew of heaven from above.

⁴⁰And you will live by your sword, and you will serve your brother.

But when you become restless, then you will break his yoke off of your neck."

⁴¹Then Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing that his father had blessed him with, and Esau said in his heart, "The days of the mourning of my father are near, then I will kill Jacob my brother." ⁴²But the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah, so she sent and called for Jacob her younger son and said to him, "Behold, Esau your brother is consoling himself about you, planning to kill you. ⁴³So now, my son, listen to my voice and get up, flee for yourself to Laban my brother in Haran! ⁴⁴And stay with him for a few days until the fury of your brother turns away, ⁴⁵until the anger of your brother turns away from you and he forgets what you have done to him. Then I will send and get you from there. Why should I also lose both of you in one day?"

⁴⁶Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am disgusted with my life because of the daughters of Heth! If Jacob takes a wife from the daughters of Heth like these, from daughters of the land, what would life be to me?"

Chapter 28

¹Then Isaac called for Jacob and blessed him, and commanded him and said to him, "Do not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. ²Get up, go to Paddan Aram, to the home of Bethuel the father of your mother, and take a wife for yourself from there, from the daughters of Laban the brother of your mother. ³And may God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you so that you become as a multitude of peoples. ⁴And may he give

the blessing of Abraham to you, to you and to your offspring with you, so that you possess the land of your sojournings, which God gave to Abraham." ⁵Then Isaac sent Jacob, and he went to Paddan Aram, to Laban, the son of Bethuel the Aramean and the brother of Rebekah, the mother of Jacob and Esau.

⁶Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and had sent him to Paddan Aram to take a wife for himself from there, and that when he blessed him, then he commanded him, saying, "Do not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan!" ⁷and that Jacob listened to his father and to his mother and went to Paddan Aram. ⁸Then Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan were displeasing in the eyes of Isaac his father. ⁹So Esau went to Ishmael and he took as a wife Mahalath, the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebaioth, in addition to his wives who belonged to him.

¹⁰And Jacob left from Beersheba and set out for Haran. ¹¹Then he reached a certain place, and he stopped there because the sun had gone. And he took one of the stones of the place and put it under his head, and he lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed, and behold, a stairway was set up on the earth and its top reached to the heavens, and behold, angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And behold, Yahweh was standing above it, and he said, "I am Yahweh, the God of Abraham your grandfather and the God of Isaac. The land that you are lying on I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴And your offspring will be like 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 through you and through your offspring, all the families of the earth will be blessed. ¹⁵And behold, I am with you and I will watch over you in every place that you go, and I will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." ¹⁶Then Jacob woke up from his sleep and said, "Surely Yahweh is in this place, but I did not know it!" ¹⁷So he was afraid and said, "How awesome this place is! This is nothing other than the house of God, and this is the gateway of heaven!"

¹⁸Then in the morning Jacob got up early, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and stood it up as a pillar, and he poured oil on its top. ¹⁹And he called the name of that place Bethel, even though Luz had been the name of the town at first.

²⁰Then Jacob vowed a vow by saying, "If God will be with me and watch over me on this road that I am walking on and he gives to me bread to eat and clothes to wear, ²¹and I return in peace to the home of my father, then Yahweh will be God to me, ²²and this stone that I have stood up as a pillar will be the house of God, and all that you give to me I will tithe a tenth to you."

Chapter 29

¹Then Jacob lifted his feet and went to the land of the sons of the east. ²And he looked and behold, a well was in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep were lying there near it, because from that well the flocks were watered, and the stone over the mouth of the well was large. ³And all the flocks would be gathered there, then they would roll the stone from over the mouth of the well and water the sheep. Then they would return the stone to its place over the mouth of the well.

⁴Then Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where are you from?" And they said, "We are from Haran." ⁵Then he said to them, "Do you know Laban the grandson of Nahor?" And they said, "We know him." ⁶Then he said to them, "Are things well for him?" And they said, "Things are well. And behold, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep." ⁷Then he said, "Behold, the day is still large. It is not time for the livestock to be gathered. Water the sheep, and go pasture them." ⁸But they said, "We can't until all the flocks are gathered and they roll the stone from over the mouth of the well. Then we will water the sheep."

⁹He was still talking with them, then Rachel came with the sheep that belonged to her father, because she was tending them. ¹⁰Then it happened, when Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, then Jacob went over and rolled the stone from over the mouth of the well, and watered the sheep of Laban his mother's brother. ¹¹Then Jacob kissed Rachel and lifted his voice and cried.

¹²Then Jacob told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and that he was a son of Rebekah. Then she ran and told her father.

¹³And it happened, when Laban heard the news about Jacob the son of his sister, then he ran to meet him. Then he hugged him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Then he told Laban all these things, ¹⁴and Laban said to him, "You are indeed my bone and my flesh!"

Then he stayed with him a month of days. ¹⁵Then Laban said to Jacob, " Because you are my relative, should you then serve me for nothing? Tell me, what are your wages?" ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷And the eyes of Leah were delicate, but Rachel was lovely of form and beautiful of appearance. ¹⁸And Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, "I will serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter." ¹⁹And Laban said, " It is better for me to give her to you than for me to give her to another man. Stay with me." ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, but in his eyes they were like a few days because of his love for her.

²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife, because my days are completed, then I will go to her." ²²Then Laban gathered all the people of the place and made a feast. ²³But it happened in the evening that he took Leah his daughter and brought her to him, and he went to her. ²⁴And Laban gave to her Zilpah his maidservant, to Leah his daughter, to be a maidservant.

²⁵Then it happened in the morning that behold she was Leah! So he said to Laban, " What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? So for what reason have you deceived me?" ²⁶But Laban said, "It is not done so in our place to give the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Fulfill the seven days of this daughter, then we will also give you this one for service that you will serve with me for another seven years."

²⁸So Jacob did so, and he fulfilled that daughter's week. Then he gave to him Rachel his daughter as a wife for him. ²⁹And Laban gave Bilhah his maidservant to Rachel his daughter as a maidservant for her. ³⁰Then he also went to Rachel, and he loved Rachel more than Leah. And he served him for another seven years.

³¹Now Yahweh saw that Leah was hated, so he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. ³²Then Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben, because she said, " Because Yahweh has looked on my misery, surely now my husband will love me."

³³Then she conceived again and bore a son, and she said, "Because Yahweh heard that I am hated, then he gave to me this son also." So she called his name Simeon.

³⁴Then she conceived again and bore a son, and she said, " This time now my husband will be joined to me, because I have born three sons for him." For that reason he called his name Levi.

³⁵Then she conceived again and bore a son, and she said, "This time I will praise Yahweh." For that reason she called his name Judah. Then she stopped bearing.

Chapter 30

¹Now Rachel saw that she was not bearing children for Jacob, so Rachel envied her sister, and she said to Jacob, "Give me children, and if not, I will die!" ²And Jacob's anger burned against Rachel, and he said, " Am I in the place of God, who has kept the fruit of the womb from you?" ³Then she said, "Behold my servant woman Bilhah. Go to her, so that she will bear children on my knees, and I also will be built up from her." ⁴And she gave to him Bilhah her maidservant as a wife, and Jacob went to her.

⁵Then Bilhah conceived and bore a son for Jacob, ⁶and Rachel said, " God has vindicated me, and indeed, he has listened to my voice and given to me a son!" For that reason she called his name Dan.

⁷Then Bilhah the maidservant of Rachel conceived again and bore a second son for Jacob. ⁸So Rachel said, * "With mighty wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister. Indeed I have prevailed!" And she called his name Naphtali.

⁹Now Leah saw that she had ceased from bearing children, so she took Zilpah her maidservant and gave her to Jacob as a wife. ¹⁰Then Zilpah the maidservant of Leah bore a son for Jacob, ¹¹and Leah said, " What good fortune!" So she called his name Gad.

¹²Then Zilpah the maidservant of Leah bore a second son for Jacob, ¹³and Leah said, "How blessed I am! For women will call me blessed." So she called his name Asher.

¹⁴Then in the days of the wheat harvest, Reuben went out and found mandrakes in the field, and he brought them to Leah his mother. Then Rachel said to Leah, " Please give to me some of your son's mandrakes." ¹⁵But she said to her, "Is it a small matter you have taken my husband? And would you also take my son's mandrakes?" Then Rachel said, " Therefore he may lie with you for the night for your son's mandrakes."

¹⁶Then Jacob came from the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him and said, "You must come to me, because I have surely hired you with my son's mandrakes." So he lay with her during that night, ¹⁷and God listened to Leah, and she conceived and bore a fifth son for Jacob. ¹⁸Then Leah said, " God has given me my reward because I gave my maidservant to my husband." So she called his name Issachar.

¹⁹Then Leah conceived again and bore a sixth son for Jacob. ²⁰And Leah said, "God has presented me a good present. This time my husband will honor me because I have born six sons for him." So she called his name Zebulun.

²¹Then later she bore a daughter and called her name Dinah.

²²Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb. ²³Then she conceived and bore a son, and she said, " God has taken away my disgrace!" ²⁴And she called his name Joseph, saying, "May Yahweh add another son to me."

²⁵Then it happened, after Rachel bore Joseph, then Jacob said to Laban, " Send me off, so that I may go to my place and to my land. ²⁶Give me my wives and my children whom I have served you for, so that I may go. For you yourself know the service that I have served you."

²⁷Then Laban said to him, "Please stay, if I have found favor in your eyes. I have learned by divination that Yahweh has blessed me because of you." ²⁸Then he said, " Name your wages to me, and I will give them." ²⁹And he said to him, "You yourself know how I have served you and how your livestock have been with me. ³⁰For there was little that was yours before me, and it has prospered to abundance, and Yahweh has blessed you at my feet. But now, when will I also do something for my household?"

³¹Then he said, " What should I give to you?" And Jacob said, "Do not give anything to me. If you will do this thing for me, I will continue tending your flocks watching over them: ³²I will pass through all your flocks today to remove from there every speckled and spotted lamb and every dark-colored lamb among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled young among the goats. And that will be my wages. ³³So my righteousness will testify for me in future days when you go over my wages in front of you: any that is not speckled and spotted among the goats and dark-colored among the sheep, it was stolen if it is with me."

³⁴And Laban said, " Behold, let it be according to your word." ³⁵Then on that day he removed the male goats that were streaked and spotted, and all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, any that had white on it, and all the dark-colored ones among the lambs. Then he gave them into the hand of his sons, ³⁶and he put a three-day journey between himself and Jacob. And Jacob was tending the rest of Laban's flocks.

³⁷Then Jacob took for himself fresh-cut branches of poplar and almond and plane trees, and peeled white stripes in them, exposing the white that was inside the branches. ³⁸Then he put the branches that he had peeled in the troughs, in the water troughs where the flocks came to drink, in front of the flocks. And they were in heat when

they came to drink,³⁹ and the flocks would mate by the branches, and the flocks would bear streaked, speckled and spotted young.⁴⁰ Then Jacob set apart the lambs, and he made the faces of the flocks look at the streaked and all the dark-colored animals in the flocks of Laban. And he put flocks for himself by themselves, and he did not put them with the flocks of Laban.

⁴¹So it happened whenever the strong animals were in heat, then Jacob put the branches in the troughs before the eyes of the flocks so that they would mate by the branches.⁴² But when the animals were weak, he did not put them in. So it was the weak ones went to Laban, and the strong ones to Jacob,⁴³ so that the man prospered very greatly, and he owned large flocks, and maidservants and menservants, and camels and donkeys.

Chapter 31

¹Now Jacob heard the words of Laban's sons, that they said, "Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and it is from our father's possessions that he has gotten all this wealth."² Jacob saw the look on Laban's face. He saw that his attitude toward him had changed.³ Then Yahweh said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you."⁴ Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field to his flock⁵ and said to them, "I see your father's attitude toward me has changed, but the God of my father has been with me.⁶ You know that it is with all my strength that I have served your father.⁷ Your father has deceived me and changed my wages ten times, but God has not permitted him to hurt me.⁸ If he said, 'The speckled animals will be your wages,' then all the flock bore speckled young. If he said, 'The striped will be your wages,' then the whole flock bore striped young.⁹ In this way God has taken away the livestock of your father and given them to me.¹⁰ Once at the time of breeding season, I saw in a dream the male goats that were mating with the flock. The male goats were striped, speckled, and spotted.¹¹ The angel of God said to me in the dream, 'Jacob.' I said, 'Here I am.'¹² He said, 'Lift up your eyes and see all the male goats that are breeding with the flock. They are striped, speckled, and spotted, for I have seen everything that Laban is doing to you.¹³ I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar, where you made a vow to me. Now rise up and leave this land and return to the land of your birth.'" ¹⁴Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, "Is there any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house? ¹⁵Are we not treated by him as foreigners? For he has sold us and has also completely devoured our money.¹⁶ For all the riches that God has taken away from our father are now ours and our children's. Now then, whatever God has said to you, do it."

¹⁷Then Jacob arose and placed his sons and his wives upon the camels.¹⁸ He drove all his livestock ahead of him, along with all his property, including the livestock he had acquired in Paddan Aram. Then he set out to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan.¹⁹ When Laban had gone to shear his sheep, Rachel stole her father's household gods.²⁰ Jacob also deceived Laban the Aramean, by not telling him that he was leaving.²¹ So he fled with all that he had and quickly passed over the River, and headed toward the hill country of Gilead.

²²On the third day Laban was told that Jacob had fled.²³ So he took his relatives with him and pursued him for a seven days' journey. He overtook him in the hill country of Gilead.²⁴ Now God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream at night and said to him, "Be careful that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad."²⁵ Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the hill country. Laban also camped with his relatives in the hill country of Gilead.
^[1] ²⁶Laban said to Jacob, "What have you done, that you deceived me and carried away my daughters like prisoners of war? ²⁷Why did you flee secretly and trick me and did not tell me? I would have sent you away with celebration and with songs, with tambourine and with harps.²⁸ You did not allow me to kiss my grandsons and my daughters good bye. Now you have done foolishly.²⁹ It is in my power to do you harm, but the God of your father spoke to me last night and said, 'Be careful that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad.'³⁰ Now you have gone away because you longed to return to your father's house. But why did you steal my gods?" ³¹Jacob answered and said to Laban, "Because I was afraid and thought that you would take your daughters from me by force I left secretly.³² Whoever has stolen your gods will not continue to live. In the presence of our relatives, identify whatever with me is yours and take it." For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them.

³³Laban went into Jacob's tent, into Leah's tent, and into the tent of the two female servants, but he did not find them. He went out of Leah's tent and entered into Rachel's tent. ³⁴Now Rachel had taken the household gods, put them in a camel's saddle, and sat upon them. Laban searched the whole tent, but did not find them. ³⁵She said to her father, "Do not be angry, my master, that I cannot stand up before you, for I am having my period." So he searched but did not find his household gods.

³⁶Jacob was angry and argued with Laban. He said to him, "What is my offense? What is my sin, that you have hotly pursued after me? ³⁷For you have searched all my possessions. What have you found of all your household goods? Set them here before our relatives, so that they may judge between us two. ³⁸For twenty years I have been with you. Your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried, nor have I eaten any rams from your flocks. ³⁹What was torn by beasts I did not bring to you. Instead, I bore the loss of it. You always made me pay for every missing animal, whether stolen by day or stolen by night. ⁴⁰There I was; in the day the heat consumed me, and the frost by night; and I went without sleep. ⁴¹These twenty years I have been in your household. I worked for you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock. You have changed my wages ten times. ⁴²Unless the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the one Isaac fears, had been with me, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. God has seen my oppression and how hard I worked, and he rebuked you last night."

⁴³Laban answered and said to Jacob, "The daughters are my daughters, the grandchildren are my grandchildren, and the flocks are my flocks. All that you see is mine. But what can I do today to these my daughters, or to their children whom they have borne? ⁴⁴So now, let us make a covenant, you and I, and let it be for a witness between you and me." ⁴⁵So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. ⁴⁶Jacob said to his relatives, "Gather stones." So they took stones and made a pile. Then they ate there by the pile. ⁴⁷Laban called it Jegar Saha Dutha, but Jacob called it Galeed. ⁴⁸Laban said, "This pile is a witness between me and you today." Therefore its name was called Galeed. ⁴⁹It is also called Mizpah, because Laban said, "May Yahweh watch between you and me, when we are out of sight one from another. ⁵⁰If you mistreat my daughters, or if you take any wives besides my daughters, although no one else is with us, see, God is witness between you and me." ⁵¹Laban said to Jacob, "Look at this pile, and look at the pillar, which I have set between you and me. ⁵²This pile is a witness, and the pillar is a witness, that I will not pass beyond this pile to you, and that you will not pass beyond this pile and this pillar to me, to do harm. ⁵³May the God of Abraham, and the god of Nahor, the gods of their father, judge between us." Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac. ⁵⁴Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain and called his relatives to eat a meal. They ate and spent the entire night on the mountain. ⁵⁵Early in the morning Laban got up, kissed his grandsons and his daughters and blessed them. Then Laban left and returned home.

31:25 ^[1] .

Chapter 32

¹Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him. ²When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is God's camp," so he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

³Jacob sent messengers on ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, in the region of Edom. ⁴He commanded them, saying, "This is what you will say to my master Esau: This is what your servant Jacob says: 'I have been staying with Laban, and have delayed my return until now. ⁵I have oxen, donkeys, and flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent this message to my master, so that I may find favor in your eyes.'" ⁶The messengers returned to Jacob and said, "We went to your brother Esau. He is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." ⁷Then Jacob was very afraid and upset. So he divided the people who were with him into two camps, and also the flocks, the herds, and the camels. ⁸He said, "If Esau comes to one camp and attacks it, then the camp that is left will escape." ⁹Jacob said, "God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, Yahweh, who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your kindred, and I will prosper you,' ¹⁰I am not worthy of all your acts of covenant faithfulness and of all the trustworthiness that you have done for your servant. For with only my staff I passed over this Jordan, and now I have become two camps. ¹¹Please rescue me from the hand of

my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I am afraid of him, that he will come and attack me and the mothers with the children. ¹²But you said, 'I will certainly make you prosper. I will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for their number.'"

¹³Jacob stayed there that night. He took some of what he had with him as a gift for Esau, his brother: ¹⁴two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, ¹⁵thirty milking camels and their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. ¹⁶These he gave into the hand of his servants, every herd by itself. He said to his servants, "Go on ahead of me and put a space between each of the herds." ¹⁷He instructed the first servant, saying, "When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, saying, 'To whom do you belong? Where are you going? Whose animals are these that are in front of you?' ¹⁸Then you will say, 'They are your servant Jacob's. They are a gift sent to my master Esau. See, he is also coming after us.'" ¹⁹Jacob also gave instructions to the second group, the third, and all the men who followed the herds. He said, "You will say the same thing to Esau when you meet him. ²⁰You must also say, 'Your servant Jacob is coming after us.'" For he thought, "I will appease him with the gifts that I am sending ahead of me. Then later, when I will see him, perhaps he will receive me." ²¹So the gifts went on ahead of him. He himself stayed that night in the camp.

²²Jacob got up during the night, and he took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons. He sent them across the ford of the Jabbok. ²³In this way he sent them across the stream along with all his possessions. ²⁴Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he could not defeat him, he struck Jacob's hip. Jacob's hip was dislocated as he wrestled with him. ²⁶The man said, "Let me go, for the dawn is breaking." Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷The man said to him, "What is your name?" Jacob said, "Jacob." ²⁸The man said, "Your name will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel. For you have struggled with God and with men and have prevailed." ²⁹Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." He said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there. ³⁰Jacob called the name of the place Peniel for he said, "I have seen God face to face, and my life is delivered." ³¹The sun rose on Jacob as he passed Peniel. He was limping because of his hip. ³²That is why to this day the people of Israel do not eat the ligaments of the hip which are at the hip joint, because the man injured those ligaments while dislocating Jacob's hip.

Chapter 33

¹Jacob looked up and, behold, Esau was coming, and with him were four hundred men. Jacob divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and the two female servants. ²Then he put the female servants and their children in front, followed by Leah and her children, and followed by Rachel and Joseph last of all. ³He himself went on ahead of them. He bowed toward the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. ⁴Esau ran to meet him, embraced him, hugged his neck, and kissed him. Then they wept. ⁵When Esau looked up, he saw the women and the children. He said, "Who are these people with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." ⁶Then the female servants came forward with their children, and they bowed down. ⁷Next Leah also and her children came forward and bowed down. Finally Joseph and Rachel came forward and bowed down. ⁸Esau said, "What do you mean by all these groups that I met?" Jacob said, "To find favor in the sight of my master." ⁹Esau said, "I have enough, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself." ¹⁰Jacob said, "No, please, if I have found favor in your eyes, then accept my gift from my hand, for indeed, I have seen your face, and it is like seeing the face of God, and you have accepted me. ¹¹Please accept my gift that was brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." Thus Jacob urged him, and Esau accepted it. ¹²Then Esau said, "Let us be on our way. I will go before you." ¹³Jacob said to him, "My master knows that the children are young, and that the sheep and the cattle are nursing their young. If they are driven hard even one day, all the animals will die. ¹⁴Please let my master go on ahead of his servant. I will travel more slowly, at the pace of the livestock that are before me, and at the pace of the children, until I come to my master in Seir." ¹⁵Esau said, "Let me leave with you some of my men who are with me." But Jacob said, "Why do that? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." ¹⁶So Esau that day started on his way back to Seir. ¹⁷Jacob traveled to Succoth, built himself a house, and made shelters for his livestock. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

¹⁸When Jacob came from Paddan Aram, he arrived safely at the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan. He camped near the city. ¹⁹Then he bought the piece of ground where he had pitched his tent from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, for a hundred pieces of silver. ²⁰There he set up an altar and called it El Elohe Israel.

Chapter 34

¹Now Dinah, Leah's daughter whom she bore to Jacob, went out to meet the young women of the land. ²Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her. He took her and lay with her, and he humiliated her. ³He was drawn to Dinah, the daughter of Jacob. He loved the young woman and spoke tenderly to her. ⁴Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, "Get this young woman for me as a wife." ⁵Now Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter. His sons were with his livestock in the field, so Jacob held his peace until they came. ⁶Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to speak with him. ⁷The sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard of the matter. The men were offended. They were very angry because he had disgraced Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, for such a thing should not have been done. ⁸Hamor spoke with them, saying, "My son Shechem loves your daughter. Please give her to him as a wife. ⁹Intermarry with us, give your daughters to us, and take our daughters for yourselves. ¹⁰You will live with us, and the land will be open to you to live and trade in, and to acquire property." ¹¹Shechem said to her father and to her brothers, "Let me find favor in your eyes, and whatever you tell me I will give. ¹²Ask me for as great a bride price and gift as you will, and I will give whatever you say to me, but give me the young woman as a wife." ¹³The sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father with deceit, because Shechem had defiled Dinah their sister. ¹⁴They said to them, "We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to anyone who is uncircumcised; for that would be a disgrace to us. ¹⁵Only on this condition will we agree with you: If you will become circumcised as we are, if every male among you is circumcised. ¹⁶Then will we give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters to ourselves, and we will live with you and become one people. ¹⁷But if you do not listen to us and become circumcised, then we will take our sister and we will leave."

¹⁸Their words pleased Hamor and his son Shechem. ¹⁹The young man did not delay to do what they said, because he delighted in Jacob's daughter, and because he was the most honored person in all his father's household. ²⁰Hamor and Shechem his son went to the gate of their city and spoke with the men of their city, saying, ²¹"These men are at peace with us, so let them live in the land and trade in it for, really, the land is large enough for them. Let us take their daughters as wives, and let us give them our daughters. ²²Only on this condition will the men agree to live with us and become one people: If every male among us is circumcised, as they are circumcised. ²³Will not their livestock and their property—all their animals be ours? So let us agree with them, and they will live among us." ²⁴All the men of the city listened to Hamor and Shechem, his son. Every male was circumcised. ²⁵On the third day, when they were still in pain, two of the sons of Jacob (Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers), each took his sword and they attacked the city that was certain of its security, and they killed all the males. ²⁶They killed Hamor and his son Shechem with the edge of the sword. They took Dinah from Shechem's house and went away. ²⁷The other sons of Jacob came to the dead bodies and looted the city, because the people had defiled their sister. ²⁸They took their flocks, their herds, their donkeys, and everything in the city and in the surrounding fields with ²⁹all their wealth. All their children and their wives, they captured. They even took everything that was in the houses. ³⁰Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have brought trouble on me, to make me stink to the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites and the Perizzites. I am few in number. If they gather themselves together against me and attack me, then I will be destroyed, I and my household." ³¹But Simeon and Levi said, "Should Shechem have dealt with our sister as with a prostitute?"

Chapter 35

¹God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel, and stay there. Build an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from Esau your brother." ²Then Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the

foreign gods that are among you, purify yourselves, and change your clothes. ³Then let us depart and go up to Bethel. I will build an altar there to God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and has been with me wherever I have gone." ⁴So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that were in their hand, and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob buried them under the oak that was near Shechem. ⁵As they traveled, God made panic to fall on the cities that were around them, so those people did not pursue the sons of Jacob. ⁶So Jacob arrived at Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him. ⁷He built an altar there and called the place El Bethel, because there God had revealed himself to him, when he was fleeing from his brother. ⁸Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died. She was buried down from Bethel under the oak tree, so it was called Allon Bakuth.

⁹When Jacob came from Paddan Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him. ¹⁰God said to him, "Your name is Jacob, but your name will no longer be called Jacob. Your name will be Israel." So God called his name Israel. ¹¹God said to him, "I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations will come from you, and kings will be among your descendants. ¹²The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac, I will give to you. To your descendants after you I also give the land." ¹³God went up from him in the place where he spoke with him. ¹⁴Jacob set up a pillar in the place where God had spoken to him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering over it and poured oil on it. ¹⁵Jacob called the name of the place where God spoke with him, Bethel.

¹⁶They journeyed on from Bethel. While they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel went into labor. She had hard labor. ¹⁷While she was in hardest labor, the midwife said to her, "Do not be afraid, for now you will have another son." ¹⁸As she was dying, with her dying breath she named him Ben-Oni, but his father called him Benjamin. ¹⁹Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem). ²⁰Jacob set up a pillar upon her grave. It is the marker of Rachel's grave to this day. ²¹Israel traveled on and pitched his tent beyond the watchtower of the flock. ²²While Israel was living in that land, Reuben lay with Bilhah his father's concubine, and Israel heard of it.

Now Jacob had twelve sons. ²³His sons by Leah were Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, and Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. ²⁴His sons by Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin. ²⁵His sons by Bilhah, Rachel's female servant, were Dan and Naphtali. ²⁶The sons of Zilpah, Leah's female servant, were Gad and Asher. All these were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan Aram. ²⁷Jacob came to Isaac, his father, in Mamre in Kiriath Arba (the same as Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had lived.

²⁸Isaac lived for one hundred eighty years. ²⁹Isaac breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his ancestors, an old man full of days. Esau and Jacob, his sons, buried him.

Chapter 36

¹These were the descendants of Esau (also called Edom). ²Esau took his wives from the Canaanites. These were his wives: Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite; Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, the granddaughter of Zibeon the Hivite; ³and Basemath, Ishmael's daughter, sister of Nebaioth. ⁴Adah bore Eliphaz to Esau, and Basemath bore Reuel. ⁵Oholibamah bore Jeush, Jalam, and Korah. These were the sons of Esau who were born to him in the land of Canaan. ⁶Esau took his wives, his sons, his daughters, and all the members of his household, his livestock—all his animals, and all his possessions, which he had gathered in the land of Canaan, and went into a land away from his brother Jacob. ⁷He did this because their possessions were too many for them to stay together. The land where they had settled could not support them because of their livestock. ⁸So Esau, also known as Edom, settled in the hill country of Seir.

⁹These were the descendants of Esau, the ancestor of the Edomites in the hill country of Seir. ¹⁰These were the names of Esau's sons: Eliphaz son of Adah, the wife of Esau; Reuel son of Basemath, the wife of Esau. ¹¹The sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, Gatam, and Kenaz. ¹²Timna, a concubine of Eliphaz, Esau's son, bore Amalek. These were the grandsons of Adah, Esau's wife. ¹³These were the sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and

Mizzah. These were the grandsons of Basemath, Esau's wife. ¹⁴These were the sons of Oholibamah, Esau's wife, who was the daughter of Anah and the granddaughter of Zibeon. She bore to Esau Jeush, Jalam, and Korah.

¹⁵These were the clans among Esau's descendants: the descendants of Eliphaz, the firstborn of Esau: Teman, Omar, Zepho, Kenaz, ¹⁶Korah, Gatam, and Amalek. These were the clans descended from Eliphaz in the land of Edom. They were the grandsons of Adah. ¹⁷These were the clans from Reuel, Esau's son: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, Mizzah. These were the clans descended from Reuel in the land of Edom. They were the grandsons of Basemath, Esau's wife. ¹⁸These were the clans of Oholibamah, Esau's wife: Jeush, Jalam, Korah. These are the clans that descended from Esau's wife Oholibamah, daughter of Anah. ¹⁹These were the sons of Esau (who was known as Edom), and these were their chiefs.

²⁰These were the sons of Seir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, ²¹Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan. These were the clans of the Horites, the inhabitants of Seir in the land of Edom. ²²The sons of Lotan were Hori and Heman, and Timna was Lotan's sister. ²³These were the sons of Shobal: Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho, and Onam. ²⁴These were the sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. This is Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness, as he was pasturing donkeys of Zibeon his father. ²⁵These were the children of Anah: Dishon and Oholibamah, the daughter of Anah. ²⁶These were the sons of Dishon: Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Keran. ²⁷These were the sons of Ezer: Bilhan, Zaavan, and Akan. ²⁸These were the sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran. ²⁹These were the clans of the Horites: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, and Anah, ³⁰Dishon, Ezer, Dishan: These were clans of the Horites, according to their clan lists in the land of Seir.

³¹These were the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the Israelites: ³²Bela son of Beor, reigned in Edom, and the name of his city was Dinhabah. ³³When Bela died, then Jobab son of Zerah of Bozrah, reigned in his place. ³⁴When Jobab died, Husham who was of the land of the Temanites, reigned in his place. ³⁵When Husham died, Hadad son of Bedad who defeated the Midianites in the land of Moab, reigned in his place. The name of his city was Avith. ³⁶When Hadad died, then Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place. ³⁷When Samlah died, then Shaul of Rehoboth by the river reigned in his place. ³⁸When Shaul died, then Baal-Hanan son of Akbor reigned in his place. ³⁹When Baal-Hanan son of Akbor, died, then Hadar reigned in his place. The name of his city was Pau. His wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the granddaughter of Me Zahab.

⁴⁰These were the names of the heads of clans from Esau's descendants, according to their clans and their regions, by their names: Timna, Alvah, Jetheth, ⁴¹Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, ⁴²Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, ⁴³Magdiel, and Iram. These were the clan heads of Edom, according to their settlements in the land they possessed. This was Esau, the father of the Edomites.

Chapter 37

¹Jacob lived in the land where his father was staying, in the land of Canaan. ²These were the events concerning Jacob. Joseph, who was a young man seventeen years old, was guarding the flock with his brothers. He was with the sons of Bilhah and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives. Joseph brought an unfavorable report about them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons because he was the son of his old age. He made him a beautiful garment. ⁴His brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers. They hated him and would not speak kindly to him.

⁵Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told his brothers about it. They hated him even more. ⁶He said to them, "Please listen to this dream which I dreamed. ⁷Behold, we were tying bundles of grain in the field and behold, my bundle rose and stood upright, and behold, your bundles came around and bowed down to my bundle." ⁸His brothers said to him, "Will you really reign over us? Will you actually rule over us?" They hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. ⁹He dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers. He said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream: The sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down to me." ¹⁰He told it to his father just as to his brothers, and his father rebuked him. He said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Will your mother

and I and your brothers actually come to bow down to the ground to you?" ¹¹His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

¹²His brothers went to tend their father's flock in Shechem. ¹³Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers tending the flock in Shechem? Come, and I will send you to them." Joseph said to him, "I am ready." ¹⁴He said to him, "Go now, see whether it is well with your brothers and well with the flock, and bring me word." So Jacob sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and Joseph went to Shechem. ¹⁵A certain man found Joseph. Behold, Joseph was wandering in a field. The man asked him, "What do you seek?" ¹⁶Joseph said, "I am seeking my brothers. Tell me, please, where they are tending the flock." ¹⁷The man said, "They left this place, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

¹⁸They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they plotted against him to kill him. ¹⁹His brothers said to one another, "Look, this dreamer is approaching. ²⁰Come now, therefore, let us kill him and cast him into one of the pits. We will say, 'A wild animal has devoured him.' We will see what will become of his dreams." ²¹Reuben heard it and rescued him from their hand. He said, "Let us not take his life." ²²Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood. Throw him into this pit that is in the wilderness, but lay no hand upon him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand to bring him back to his father. ²³It came about that when Joseph reached his brothers, they stripped him of his beautiful garment. ²⁴They took him and threw him into the pit. The pit was empty with no water in it.

²⁵They sat down to eat bread. They lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites was coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing spices and balm and myrrh. They were traveling to carry them down to Egypt. ²⁶Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? ²⁷Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands upon him. For he is our brother, our flesh." His brothers listened to him. ²⁸The Midianite merchants passed by. His brothers drew Joseph up and lifted him up out of the pit. They sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. The Ishmaelites carried Joseph into Egypt.

²⁹Reuben returned to the pit, and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit. He tore his clothes. ³⁰He returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is not there! And I, where can I go?" ³¹They slaughtered a goat and then took Joseph's garment and dipped it into the blood. ³²Then they brought it to their father and said, "We found this. Please see whether it is your son's clothing or not." ³³Jacob recognized it and said, "It is my son's clothing. A wild animal has devoured him. Joseph has certainly been torn to pieces." ³⁴Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth upon his loins. He mourned for his son many days. ³⁵All his sons and daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. He said, "Indeed I will go down to Sheol mourning for my son." His father wept for him. ³⁶The Midianites sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the bodyguard.

Chapter 38

¹It came about at that time that Judah left his brothers and stayed with a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah. ²He met there a daughter of a Canaanite man whose name was Shua. He took her and he went in to her. ³She became pregnant and had a son. He was named Er. ⁴She became pregnant again and had a son. She called his name Onan. ⁵She again had a son and called his name Shelah. It was at Kezib where she gave birth to him. ⁶Judah found a wife for Er, his firstborn. Her name was Tamar. ⁷Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of Yahweh. Yahweh killed him. ⁸Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife. Do the duty of a brother-in-law to her, and raise up a child for your brother." ⁹Onan knew that the child would not be his. Whenever he went in to his brother's wife, he spilled the semen on the ground so he would not have a child for his brother. ¹⁰What he did was evil in the sight of Yahweh. Yahweh killed him also. ¹¹Then Judah said to Tamar, his daughter-in-law, "Remain a widow in your father's house until Shelah, my son, grows up." For he feared, "He might also die, just like his brothers." Tamar left and lived in her father's house.

¹²After a long time, Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died. Judah was comforted and went up to his sheepshearers at Timnah, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. ¹³Tamar was told, "Look, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep." ¹⁴She took off the clothing of her widowhood and covered herself with her veil and wrapped herself. She sat in the gate of Enaim, which is by the road to Timnah. For she saw that Shelah had grown up but she had not been given to him as a wife. ¹⁵When Judah saw her he thought that she was a prostitute because she had covered her face. ¹⁶He went to her by the road and said, "Come, please let me lie with you"—for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law—and she said, "What will you give me so you can lie with me?" ¹⁷He said, "I will send you a young goat from the flock." She said, "Will you give me a pledge until you send it?" ¹⁸He said, "What pledge can I give you?" She replied, "Your seal and cord, and the staff that is in your hand." He gave them to her and he went in to her, and she became pregnant by him. ¹⁹She got up and went away. She took off her veil and put on the clothing of her widowhood. ²⁰Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order that he might receive the pledge back from the woman's hand, but he did not find her. ²¹Then the Adullamite asked the men of the place, "Where is the cultic prostitute who was at Enaim by the road?" They said, "There has not been a cultic prostitute here." ²²He returned to Judah and said, "I did not find her. Also, the men of the place said, 'There has not been a cultic prostitute here.'" ²³Judah said, "Let her keep the things, that we not be put to shame. Indeed, I sent this young goat, but you did not find her."

²⁴It came about after about three months that it was told to Judah, "Tamar your daughter-in-law has committed prostitution, and indeed, she is pregnant by it." Judah said, "Bring her here and let her be burned." ²⁵When she was brought out, she sent to her father-in-law a message, "By the man who owns these I am pregnant." She said, "Determine please whose these are, the seal and cords and staff." ²⁶Judah recognized them and said, "She is more righteous than I am, since I did not give her as a wife to Shelah, my son." He did not lie with her again. ²⁷It came about at the time for her to give birth that, behold, twins were in her womb. ²⁸It came about as she was giving birth one put out a hand, and the midwife took a scarlet thread and tied it on his hand and said, "This one came out first." ²⁹But then he drew back his hand, and, behold, his brother came out first. The midwife said, "How you have broken out!" So he was named Perez. ³⁰Then his brother came out, who had the scarlet thread upon his hand, and he was named Zerah.

Chapter 39

¹Joseph was brought down to Egypt. Potiphar, an official of Pharaoh who was captain of the guard and an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites, who had brought him down there. ²Yahweh was with Joseph and he became a prosperous man. He lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³His master saw that Yahweh was with him and that Yahweh prospered everything that he did. ⁴Joseph found favor in his sight. He served Potiphar. Potiphar made Joseph manager over his house, and everything that he possessed, he put under his care. ⁵It came about from the time that he made him manager over his house and over everything he possessed, that Yahweh blessed the Egyptian's house because of Joseph. The blessing of Yahweh was on everything that Potiphar had in the house and in the field. ⁶Potiphar put everything that he had under Joseph's care. He did not have to think about anything except the food that he ate. Now Joseph was handsome and attractive. ⁷It came about after this that his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." ⁸But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not pay attention to what I do in the house, and he has put everything that he owns under my care. ⁹No one is greater in this house than I am. He has not kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" ¹⁰She spoke to Joseph day after day, but he refused to lie with her or to be with her. ¹¹It came about one day that he went into the house to do his work. None of the men of the house were there in the house. ¹²She caught him by his clothes and said, "Lie with me." He left his clothing in her hand, fled, and went outside. ¹³It came about, when she saw that he had left his clothing in her hand and had fled outside, ¹⁴that she called to the men of her house and told them, "See, Potiphar has brought in a Hebrew to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I screamed. ¹⁵It came about when he heard me scream, that he left his clothing with me, fled, and went outside." ¹⁶She set his clothing next to her until his master came

home. ¹⁷She told him this explanation, “The Hebrew servant whom you brought to us, came in to mock me. ¹⁸It came about that when I screamed, he left his clothing with me and fled outside.”

¹⁹It came about that, when his master heard the explanation his wife told him, “This is what your servant did to me,” he became very angry. ²⁰Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined. He was there in the prison. ²¹But Yahweh was with Joseph and showed covenant faithfulness to him. He gave him favor in the sight of the prison warden. ²²The prison warden gave into Joseph’s hand all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever they did there, Joseph was in charge of it. ²³The prison warden did not worry about anything that was in his hand, because Yahweh was with him. Whatever he did, Yahweh prospered.

Chapter 40

¹It came about that after these things, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and king’s baker offended their master, the king of Egypt. ²Pharaoh was angry with his two officials, the chief of the cupbearers and the chief of the bakers. ³He put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the same prison where Joseph was confined. ⁴The captain of the guard assigned Joseph to them, and he served them. They remained in custody for some time. ⁵Both of them dreamed a dream—the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt who were confined in the prison—each man had his own dream in the same night, and each dream had its own interpretation. ⁶Joseph came to them in the morning and saw them. Behold, they were sad. ⁷He asked Pharaoh’s officials who were with him in custody in his master’s house, saying, “Why do you look so sad today?” ⁸They said to him, “We have both dreamed a dream and no one can interpret it.” Joseph said to them, “Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me, please.”

⁹The chief of the cupbearers told his dream to Joseph. He said to him, “In my dream, behold, a vine was in front of me. ¹⁰In the vine were three branches. As it budded, its blossoms came out and the clusters of grapes ripened. ¹¹Pharaoh’s cup was in my hand. I took the grapes and squeezed them into Pharaoh’s cup, and I placed the cup into Pharaoh’s hand.” ¹²Joseph said to him, “This is the interpretation of it. The three branches are three days. ¹³Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your office. You will put Pharaoh’s cup into his hand, just as when you were his cupbearer. ¹⁴But think of me when it goes well with you, and please show kindness to me. Mention me to Pharaoh and bring me out of this prison. ¹⁵For indeed I was abducted out of the land of the Hebrews. Here also have I done nothing that they should put me in this dungeon.”

¹⁶When the chief of the bakers saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Joseph, “I also had a dream, and, behold, three baskets of bread were on my head. ¹⁷In the top basket there were all kinds of baked goods for Pharaoh, but the birds ate them out of the basket on my head.” ¹⁸Joseph answered and said, “This is the interpretation. The three baskets are three days. ¹⁹Within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head from you and will hang you on a tree. The birds will eat your flesh off you.” ²⁰It came about on the third day that it was Pharaoh’s birthday. He made a feast for all his servants. He lifted up the head of the chief of the cupbearers and the head of the chief of the bakers, among his servants. ²¹He restored the chief of the cupbearers to his responsibility, and he put the cup into Pharaoh’s hand again. ²²But he hanged the chief of the bakers, just as Joseph had interpreted to them. ²³Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot about him.

Chapter 41

¹It came about at the end of two full years that Pharaoh had a dream. Behold, he stood by the Nile. ²Behold, seven cows came up out of the Nile, desirable and fat, and they grazed in the reeds. ³Behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the Nile, undesirable and thin. They stood by the other cows on the bank of the river. ⁴Then the undesirable and thin cows ate the seven desirable and fat cows. Then Pharaoh woke up. ⁵Then he slept and dreamed a second time. Behold, seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, wholesome and good. ⁶Behold, seven heads, thin and scorched by the east wind, sprouted up after them. ⁷The thin heads swallowed up the seven

wholesome and full heads. Pharaoh woke up, and, behold, it was a dream. ⁸It came about in the morning that his spirit was troubled. He sent and called for all the magicians and wise men of Egypt. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

⁹Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "Today I am thinking about my offenses. ¹⁰Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, the chief baker and me. ¹¹We dreamed a dream the same night, he and I. We dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream. ¹²There was with us there a young Hebrew man, a servant of the captain of the guard. We told him and he interpreted for us our dreams. He interpreted for each of us according to his dream. ¹³It came about as he interpreted for us, so it happened. Pharaoh restored me to my post, but the other one he hanged."

¹⁴Then Pharaoh sent and called for Joseph. They quickly took him out of the dungeon. He shaved himself, changed his clothes, and came in to Pharaoh. ¹⁵Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, but there is no interpreter for it. But I have heard about you, that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." ¹⁶Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me. God will answer Pharaoh with favor." ¹⁷Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, "In my dream, behold, I stood on the bank of the Nile. ¹⁸Behold, seven cows came up out of the Nile, fat and desirable, and they grazed among the reeds. ¹⁹Behold, seven other cows came up after them, weak, very undesirable, and thin. I never saw in all the land of Egypt such undesirableness like them. ²⁰The thin and undesirable cows ate up the first seven fat cows. ²¹When they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them, for they were still as undesirable as before. Then I awoke. ²²I looked in my dream, and, behold, seven heads came up upon one stalk, full and good. ²³Behold, seven more heads—withered, thin, and scorched by the east wind—sprang up after them. ²⁴The thin heads swallowed up the seven good heads. I told these dreams to the magicians, but there was none that could explain it to me."

²⁵Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are the same. What God is about to do, he has declared to Pharaoh. ²⁶The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads are seven years. The dreams are the same. ²⁷The seven thin and undesirable cows that came up after them are seven years, and also the seven thin heads scorched by the east wind will be seven years of famine. ²⁸That is the thing which I spoke to Pharaoh. What God is about to do he has revealed to Pharaoh. ²⁹Look, seven years of great abundance will come throughout all the land of Egypt. ³⁰Seven years of famine will come after them, and all the abundance will be forgotten in the land of Egypt, and the famine will devastate the land. ³¹The abundance will not be remembered in the land because of the famine that will follow, for it will be very severe. ³²That the dream was repeated to Pharaoh is because the matter has been established by God, and God will soon do it. ³³Now let Pharaoh look for a man discerning and wise, and put him over the land of Egypt. ³⁴Let Pharaoh appoint officials over the land, and let them take a fifth of the crops of Egypt in the seven abundant years. ³⁵Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, for food to be used in the cities. They should preserve it. ³⁶The food will be a supply for the land for the seven years of famine which will be in the land of Egypt. In this way the land will not be devastated by the famine."

³⁷This advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. ³⁸Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a man as this, in whom is the Spirit of God?" ³⁹So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰You 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." ⁴¹Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have put you over all the land of Egypt." ⁴²Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it upon Joseph's hand. He clothed him with clothes of fine linen, and put a gold chain on his neck. ⁴³He had him ride in the second chariot which he possessed. Men shouted before him, "Bend the knee." Pharaoh put him over all the land of Egypt. ⁴⁴Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and apart from you, no man will lift his hand or his foot in all the land of Egypt." ⁴⁵Pharaoh called Joseph's name "Zaphenath-Paneah." He gave him Asenath, the daughter of Potiphara priest of On, as a wife. Joseph went out over the land of Egypt.

⁴⁶Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt. ⁴⁷In the seven bountiful years the land produced abundantly. ⁴⁸He gathered up all the food of the seven years that was in the land of Egypt and put the food in the cities. He put into each city the food from the fields that surrounded it. ⁴⁹Joseph stored up grain like the sand of the sea, so much that he stopped counting, because it was beyond counting. ⁵⁰Joseph had two sons before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Potiphra priest of On, bore to him. ⁵¹Joseph called the name of his firstborn Manasseh, for he said, "God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household." ⁵²He called the name of the second son Ephraim, for he said, "God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction." ⁵³The seven years of abundance that was in the land of Egypt came to an end. ⁵⁴The seven years of famine began, as Joseph had said. There was famine in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was food. ⁵⁵When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people loudly called on Pharaoh for food. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do what he says." ⁵⁶The famine was over all the face of the whole land. Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians. The famine was severe in the land of Egypt. ⁵⁷All the earth was coming to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the earth.

Chapter 42

¹Now Jacob became aware that there was grain in Egypt. He said to his sons, "Why do you look at one another?" ²He said, "See here, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt. Go down there and buy for us from there so we may live and not die." ³Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. ⁴But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with his brothers, for he said, "I fear that harm might come to him." ⁵The sons of Israel came to buy among those who came, for the famine was in the land of Canaan. ⁶Now Joseph was the governor over the land. He was the one who sold to all the people of the land. Joseph's brothers came and bowed down to him with their faces to the ground. ⁷Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, but he disguised himself to them and spoke harshly with them. He said to them, "Where have you come from?" They said, "From the land of Canaan to buy food." ⁸Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. ⁹Then Joseph remembered the dreams he had dreamed about them, and he said to them, "You are spies! You have come to see the undefended parts of the land." ¹⁰They said to him, "No, my master. Your servants have come to buy food." ¹¹We are all one man's sons. We are honest men. Your servants are not spies." ¹²He said to them, "No, you have come to see the undefended parts of the land." ¹³They said, "We your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan. See, the youngest is this day with our father, and one brother is no longer alive." ¹⁴Joseph said to them, "It is what I said to you; you are spies. ¹⁵By this you will be tested. By the life of Pharaoh, you will not leave here, unless your youngest brother comes here. ¹⁶Send one of yourselves and let him get your brother. You will remain in prison, that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you. Or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies." ¹⁷He put them all in custody for three days.

¹⁸Joseph said to them on the third day, "Do this and live, for I fear God. ¹⁹If you are honest men, let one of your brothers be confined in this prison, but you go, carry grain for the famine of your houses. ²⁰Bring your youngest brother to me so your words will be verified and you will not die." So they did so. ²¹They said to one another, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother in that we saw the distress of his soul when he pleaded with us and we would not listen. Therefore this distress has come upon us." ²²Reuben answered them, "Did I not tell you, 'Do not sin against the boy,' but you would not listen? Now, see, his blood is required of us." ²³They did not know that Joseph understood them, for there was an interpreter between them. ²⁴He turned from them and wept. He returned to them and spoke to them. He took Simeon from among them and bound him before their eyes. ²⁵Then Joseph commanded his servants to fill his brothers' bags with grain, and to put every man's money back into his sack, and to give them provisions for the journey. It was done for them.

²⁶The brothers loaded their donkeys with their grain and departed from there. ²⁷As one of them opened his sack to give his donkey feed in the lodging place, he saw his money. Behold, it was in the opening of his sack. ²⁸He said to his brothers, "My money has been put back. Look at it; it is in my sack." Their hearts sank and they turned

trembling to one another, saying, "What is this that God has done to us?" ²⁹They went to Jacob, their father in the land of Canaan and told him all that had happened to them. They said, ³⁰"The man, the lord of the land, spoke roughly with us and thought that we were spies in the land. ³¹We said to him, 'We are honest men. We are not spies. ³²We are twelve brothers, sons of our father. One is no longer alive, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.' ³³The man, the lord of the land, said to us, 'By this I will know that you are honest men. Leave one of your brothers with me, take grain for the famine in your houses, and go your way. ³⁴Bring your youngest brother to me. Then I will know that you are not spies, but that you are honest men. Then I will release your brother to you, and you will trade in the land."

³⁵It came about as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bag of silver was in his sack. When they and their father saw their bags of silver, they were afraid. ³⁶Jacob their father said to them, "You have bereaved me of my children. Joseph is no longer alive, Simeon is gone, and you will take Benjamin away. All these things are against me." ³⁷Reuben spoke to his father, saying, "You may kill my two sons if I do not bring Benjamin back to you. Put him in my hands, and I will bring him to you again." ³⁸Jacob said, "My son will not go down with you. For his brother is dead and he alone is left. If harm comes to him on the road in which you go, then you will bring down my gray hair with sorrow to Sheol."

Chapter 43

¹The famine was severe in the land. ²It came about when they had eaten the grain that they had brought out of Egypt, their father said to them, "Go again; buy us some food." ³Judah told him, "The man solemnly warned us, 'You will not see my face unless your brother is with you.' ⁴If you send our brother with us, we will go down and buy you food. ⁵But if you do 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.'" ⁶Israel said, "Why did you treat me so badly by telling the man that you had another brother?" ⁷They said, "The man asked details about us and our family. He said, 'Is your father still alive? Do you have another brother?' We answered him according to these questions. How could we have known that he would say, 'Bring your brother down?'" ⁸Judah said to Israel his father, "Send the boy with me. We will rise and go that we may live and not die, both we, you, and also our children. ⁹I will be a guarantee for him. You will hold me responsible. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever. ¹⁰For if we had not delayed, surely by now we would have come back here a second time." ¹¹Their father Israel said to them, "If it be so, now do this. Take some of the best products of the land in your bags. Carry down to the man a gift—some balm and honey, spices and myrrh, pistachio nuts and almonds. ¹²Take double money in your hand. The money that was returned in the opening of your sacks, carry again in your hand. Perhaps it was a mistake. ¹³Take also your brother. Rise and go again to the man. ¹⁴May God Almighty give you mercy before the man, so that he may release to you your other brother and Benjamin. If I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved." ¹⁵The men took this gift, and in their hand they took double the amount of money, along with Benjamin. They got up and went down to Egypt and stood before Joseph.

¹⁶When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his house, "Bring the men into the house, slaughter an animal and prepare it, for the men will eat with me at noon." ¹⁷The steward did as Joseph said. He brought the men to Joseph's house. ¹⁸The men were afraid because they were brought to Joseph's house. They said, "It is because of the money that was returned in our sacks the first time we were brought in, that he may seek an opportunity against us. He might arrest us and take us as slaves, and take our donkeys." ¹⁹They approached the steward of Joseph's house, and they spoke to him at the door of the house, ²⁰saying, "My master, we came down the first time to buy food. ²¹It came about, when we reached the lodging place, that we opened our sacks, and, behold, every man's money was in the opening of his sack, our money in full weight. We have brought it back in our hands. ²²Other money we have also brought down in our hand to buy food. We do not know who put our money in our sacks." ²³The steward said, "Peace be to you, do not fear. Your God and the God of your father must have put your money in your sacks. I received your money." The steward then brought Simeon out to them. ²⁴The steward

took the men into Joseph's house. He gave them water, and they washed their feet. He gave feed to their donkeys. ²⁵They prepared the gifts for Joseph's coming at noon, for they had heard that they would eat there.

²⁶When Joseph came home, they brought the gifts which were in their hand into the house, and bowed down before him to the ground. ²⁷He asked them about their welfare and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?" ²⁸They said, "Your servant our father is well. He is still alive." They prostrated themselves and bowed down. ²⁹When he lifted up his eyes he saw Benjamin his brother, his mother's son, and he said, "Is this your youngest brother of whom you spoke to me?" Then he said, "May God be gracious to you, my son." ³⁰Joseph hurried to go out of the room, for he was deeply moved about his brother. He sought somewhere to weep. He went to his room and wept there. ³¹He washed his face and came out. He controlled himself, saying, "Serve the food." ³²The servants served Joseph by himself and the brothers by themselves. The Egyptians there ate with him by themselves because the Egyptians could not eat bread with the Hebrews, for that is detestable to the Egyptians. ³³The brothers sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth. The men were astonished together. ³⁴Joseph sent portions to them from the food in front of him. But Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of his brothers. They drank and were merry with him.

Chapter 44

¹Joseph 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 opening. ²Put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's opening of the youngest, and also his money for the grain." The steward did as Joseph had said. ³The morning dawned, and the men were sent away, they and their donkeys. ⁴When they were out of the city but were not yet far off, Joseph said to his steward, "Get up, follow after the men, and when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why have you returned evil for good? ⁵Is this not the cup from which my master drinks, and the cup that he uses for divination? You have done evil, this thing that you have done.'" ⁶The steward overtook them and spoke these words to them. ⁷They said to him, "Why does my master speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants that they would do such a thing. ⁸Look, the money that we found in our sacks' openings, we brought again to you out of the land of Canaan. How then could we steal out of your master's house silver or gold? ⁹With whomever of your servants it is found, let him die, and we also will be my master's slaves." ¹⁰The steward said, "Now also let it be according to your words. He with whom the cup is found will be my slave, and you others will be innocent." ¹¹Then each man hurried and brought his sack down to the ground, and each man opened his sack. ¹²The steward searched. He began with the oldest and finished with the youngest, and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. ¹³Then they tore their clothes. Each man loaded his donkey and returned to the city.

¹⁴Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house. He was still there, and they bowed before him to the ground.

¹⁵Joseph said to them, "What is this that you have done? Do you not know that a man like me practices divination?"

¹⁶Judah said, "What can we say to my master? What can we speak? Or how can we justify ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants. Look, we are my master's slaves, both we and he also in whose hand the cup was found." ¹⁷Joseph said, "Far be it from me that I should do so. The man in whose hand the cup was found, that person will be my slave, but as for you others, go up in peace to your father."

¹⁸Then Judah came near to him and said, "My master, please let your servant speak a word in my master's ears, and do not let your anger burn against your servant, for you are just like Pharaoh. ¹⁹My master asked his servants, saying, 'Do you have a father or a brother?' ²⁰We said to my master, 'We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one. But his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loves him.' ²¹Then you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me that I may see him.' ²²After that, we said to my master, 'The boy cannot leave his father. For if he should leave his father his father would die.' ²³Then you said to your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you will not see my face again.' ²⁴Then it came about when we went up to your servant my father, we told him the words of my master. ²⁵Our father said, 'Go again, buy us some food.' ²⁶Then we said, 'We cannot go down. If our youngest brother is with us, then will we go down, for we

will not be able to see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.' ²⁷Your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons. ²⁸One of them went out from me and I said, "Surely he is torn in pieces, and I have not seen him since." ²⁹Now if you also take this one from me, and harm comes to him, you will bring down my gray hair with sorrow to Sheol.' ³⁰Now, therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the lad is not with us, since his life is bound up in the boy's life, ³¹it will come about, when he sees the boy is not with us, he will die. Your servants will bring down the gray hair of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. ³²For your servant became a guarantee for the boy to my father and said, 'If I do not bring him to you, then I will bear the guilt to my father forever.' ³³Now therefore, please let your servant stay instead of the boy as slave to my master, and let the boy go up with his brothers. ³⁴For how can I go up to my father if the boy is not with me? I am afraid to see the evil that would come on my father."

Chapter 45

¹Then Joseph could not control himself before all the servants who stood by him. He said loudly, "Everyone must leave me." So no servant stood by him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²He wept loudly, the Egyptians heard it, and the house of Pharaoh heard of it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" His brothers could not answer him, for they were shocked in his presence. ⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." They came near. He said, "I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵Do not be grieved or angry with yourselves that you sold me here, for God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. ⁶For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me ahead of you to preserve you as a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. ⁸So now it was not you who sent me here but God, and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, master of all his house, and ruler of all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says, "God has made me master of all Egypt. Come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You will live in the land of Goshen, and you will be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks and your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there, for there are still five years of famine, so that you do not come to poverty, you, your household, and all that you have.'" ¹²Look, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You will tell my father about all my honor in Egypt and of all that you have seen. You will hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴He hugged his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck. ¹⁵He kissed all his brothers and wept over them. After that his brothers talked with him.

¹⁶The news of the matter was told in Pharaoh's house: "Joseph's brothers have come." It pleased Pharaoh and his servants very much. ¹⁷Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: Load your animals and go to the land of Canaan. ¹⁸Get your father and your households and come to me. I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and you will eat the fat of the land.' ¹⁹Now you are commanded, 'Do this, take carts out of the land of Egypt for your children and for your wives. Get your father and come. ²⁰Do not be concerned about your possessions, for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

²¹The sons of Israel did so. Joseph gave them carts, according to the command of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey. ²²To all of them he gave each man changes of clothing, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of clothing. ²³For his father he sent this: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt; and ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and other supplies for his father for the journey. ²⁴So he sent his brothers away and they left. He said to them, "See that you do not quarrel on the journey." ²⁵They went up out of Egypt and came to the land of Canaan, to Jacob their father. ²⁶They told him saying "Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." His heart was astonished, for he could not believe what they told him. ²⁷They told him all the words of Joseph that he had said to them. When Jacob saw the carts that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived. ²⁸Israel said, "It is enough. Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

Chapter 46

¹Israel made his journey with all that he had and went to Beersheba. There he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. ²God spoke to Israel in a vision at night, saying, "Jacob, Jacob." He said, "Here I am." ³He said, "I am God, the God of your father. Do not fear to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you a great nation. ⁴I will go down with you into Egypt, and I will surely bring you up again and Joseph will close your eyes with his own hand." ⁵Jacob rose up from Beersheba. The sons of Israel transported Jacob their father, their children, and their wives, in the carts that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. ⁶They took their livestock and their possessions that they had accumulated in the land of Canaan. They came into Egypt, Jacob and all his descendants with him. ⁷He brought with him to Egypt his sons and his sons' sons, his daughters and his sons' daughters, and all his descendants.

⁸These were the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt: Jacob and his sons, Reuben, Jacob's firstborn; ⁹the sons of Reuben, Hanok, Pallu, Hezron, and Karmi; ¹⁰the sons of Simeon, Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jakin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanite woman; ¹¹and the sons of Levi, Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. ¹²The sons of Judah were Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, and Zerah, (but Er and Onan had died in the land of Canaan). The sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul. ¹³The sons of Issachar were Tola, Puah, Lob, and Shimron; ¹⁴The sons of Zebulun were Sered, Elon, and Jahleel ¹⁵These were the sons of Leah whom she bore to Jacob in Paddan Aram, along with his daughter Dinah. His sons and his daughters numbered thirty-three. ¹⁶The sons of Gad were Zephon, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, and Areli. ¹⁷The sons of Asher were Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, and Beriah; and Serah was their sister. The sons of Beriah were Heber and Malkiel ¹⁸These were the sons of Zilpah, whom Laban had given to Leah his daughter. These sons she bore to Jacob—sixteen in all. ¹⁹The sons of Jacob's wife Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin. ²⁰In Egypt Manasseh and Ephraim were born to Joseph by Asenath, the daughter of Potiphera priest of On. ²¹The sons of Benjamin were Bela, Beker, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Huppim, and Ard. ²²These were the sons of Rachel who were born to Jacob—fourteen in all. ²³The son of Dan was Hushim. ²⁴The sons of Naphtali were Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shillem. ²⁵These were the sons born to Jacob by Bilhah, whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter—seven in all. ²⁶All those who went to Egypt with Jacob, who were his descendants, not counting Jacob's sons' wives, were sixty-six in all. ²⁷With the two sons of Joseph who were born to him in Egypt, the members of his family who went to Egypt were seventy in all.

²⁸Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to show the way before him to Goshen, and they came to the land of Goshen. ²⁹Joseph prepared his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father in Goshen. He saw him, hugged his neck, and wept on his neck a long time. ³⁰Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face, that you are still alive." ³¹Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's house, "I will go up and tell Pharaoh, saying, 'My brothers and my father's house, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me. ³²The men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of livestock. They have brought their flocks, their herds, and all that they have.' ³³It will come about, when Pharaoh calls you and asks, 'What is your occupation?' ³⁴that you should say, 'Your servants have been keepers of livestock from our youth until now, both we, and our forefathers.' Do this so that you may live in the land of Goshen, for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."

Chapter 47

¹Then Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, "My father and my brothers, their flocks, their herds, and all that they own, have arrived from the land of Canaan. See, they are in the land of Goshen." ²He took five of his brothers and introduced them to Pharaoh. ³Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?" They said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, as our ancestors." ⁴Then they said to Pharaoh, "We come as temporary residents in the land. There is no pasture for your servants' flocks, because the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. So now, please let your servants live in the land of Goshen." ⁵Then Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Your father and your brothers have come to you. ⁶The land of Egypt is before you. Settle your father and your brothers in the best region, the land of Goshen. If you know any capable men among them, put them in charge of my livestock." ⁷Then

Joseph brought in Jacob his father and presented him to Pharaoh. Jacob blessed Pharaoh. ⁸Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How long have you lived?" ⁹Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my travels are a hundred and thirty. The years of my life have been few and painful. They have not been as long as those of my ancestors." ¹⁰Then Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from his presence. ¹¹Then Joseph settled his father and his brothers. He gave them a territory in the land of Egypt, the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. ¹²Joseph provided food for his father, his brothers, and all his father's household, according to the number of their dependents.

¹³Now there was no food in all the land; for the famine was severe. The land of Egypt and the land of Canaan wasted away because of the famine. ¹⁴Joseph gathered all the money that was in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, by selling grain to the inhabitants. Then Joseph brought the money to Pharaoh's palace. ¹⁵When all the money of the lands of Egypt and Canaan was spent, all the Egyptians came to Joseph saying, "Give us food! Why should we die in your presence because our money is gone?" ¹⁶Joseph said, "If your money is gone, bring your livestock and I will give you food in exchange for your livestock." ¹⁷So they brought their livestock to Joseph. Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses, for the flocks, for the herds, and for the donkeys. He fed them with bread in exchange for all their livestock that year. ¹⁸When that year was ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We will not hide from my master that our money is all gone, and the herds of cattle are my master's. There is nothing left in the sight of my master, except our bodies and our land. ¹⁹Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land in exchange for food, and we and our land will be servants to Pharaoh. Give us seed that we may live and not die, and that the land may not become desolate."

²⁰So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh. For every Egyptian sold his field, because the famine was very severe. In this way, the land became Pharaoh's. ²¹As for the people, he made them slaves from one end of Egypt's border to the other end. ²²It was only the land of the priests that Joseph did not buy, because the priests were given an allowance. They ate from the allotment which Pharaoh gave them. Therefore they did not sell their land. ²³Then Joseph said to the people, "See, I have bought you and your land today for Pharaoh. Now here is seed for you, and you will plant the land. ²⁴At the harvest, you must give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four parts will be your own, for seed of the field and for food for your households and your children." ²⁵They said, "You have saved our lives. May we find favor in your eyes. We will be Pharaoh's servants." ²⁶So Joseph made it a statute which is in effect in the land of Egypt to this day, that one-fifth belongs to Pharaoh. Only the land of the priests did not become Pharaoh's.

²⁷So Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in the land of Goshen. His people gained possessions there. They were fruitful and multiplied greatly. ²⁸Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years, so the years of Jacob's life were one hundred forty-seven years. ²⁹When the time approached for Israel to die, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, put your hand under my thigh, and show me faithfulness and trustworthiness. Please do not bury me in Egypt. ³⁰When I sleep with my fathers, you will carry me out of Egypt and bury me in my forefathers' burial place." Joseph said, "I will do as you have said." ³¹Israel said, "Swear to me," and Joseph swore to him. Then Israel bowed down at the head of his bed.

Chapter 48

¹It came about after these things, that one said to Joseph, "Look, your father is sick." So he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. ²When Jacob was told, "Look, your son Joseph has arrived to see you," Israel gathered strength and sat up in bed. ³Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan. He blessed me ⁴and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful, and multiply you. I will make of you an assembly of nations. I will give this land to your descendants as an everlasting possession.' ⁵Now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you into Egypt, they are mine. Ephraim and Manasseh will be mine, just as Reuben and Simeon are mine. ⁶The children you have after them will be yours; they will be listed under the names of their brothers in their inheritance. ⁷But as for me, when I came from Paddan, to my

sorrow Rachel died in the land of Canaan on the way, while there was still some distance to go to Ephrath. I buried her there on the way to Ephrath" (that is, Bethlehem).

⁸When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Whose are these?" ⁹Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." Israel said, "Bring them to me, that I may bless them." ¹⁰Now Israel's eyes were failing because of his age, so he could not see. So Joseph brought them near to him, and he kissed them and embraced them. ¹¹Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face again, but God has even allowed me to see your children." ¹²Joseph brought them out from between Israel's knees, and then he bowed with his face to the earth. ¹³Joseph 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 brought them close to him. ¹⁴Israel reached out with his right hand and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head. He crossed his hands, for Manasseh was the firstborn. ¹⁵Israel blessed Joseph, saying,

"The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked,
the God who has cared for me to this day,

¹⁶the angel who has protected me from all harm, may he bless these boys.

May my name be named in them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac.

May they grow into a multitude on the earth."

¹⁷When Joseph saw his father place his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him. He took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. ¹⁸Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father; for this is the firstborn. Put your right hand upon his head." ¹⁹His father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He also will become a people, and he also will be great. Yet his younger brother will be greater than he, and his descendants will become a multitude of nations." ²⁰Israel blessed them that day with these words,

"The people of Israel will pronounce blessings by your names saying,

'May God make you like Ephraim and like Manasseh.'"

In this way, Israel put Ephraim before Manasseh. ²¹Israel said to Joseph, "See, I am about to die, but God will be with you, and will bring you back to the land of your fathers. ²²To you, as one who is above your brothers, I give to you the mountain slope that I took from the Amorites with my sword and my bow."

Chapter 49

¹Then Jacob called for his sons, and said:

"Gather yourselves together,
that I may tell you what will happen to you in the future.

²Assemble yourselves and listen, you sons of Jacob.

Listen to Israel, your father.

³Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might,
and the beginning of my strength,
outstanding in dignity, and outstanding in power.

⁴Uncontrollable as rushing water,

you will not have the preeminence,
because you went up to your father's bed.
Then you defiled it; you went up to my couch.

⁵Simeon and Levi are brothers.

Weapons of violence are their swords.

⁶O my soul, do not come into their council;

do not join in their meetings,
for my heart has too much honor for that.

For in their anger they killed men.

It was for pleasure that they hamstringed oxen.

⁷May their anger be cursed,

for it was fierce—and their fury, for it was cruel.

I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.

⁸Judah, your brothers will praise you.

Your hand will be on the neck of your enemies.

Your father's sons will bow down before you.

⁹Judah is a lion's cub. My son,

you have gone up from your victims.

He stooped down, he crouched like a lion, like a lioness.

Who would dare to awaken him?

¹⁰The scepter will not depart from Judah,

nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until Shiloh comes. The nations will obey him.

¹¹Binding his donkey to the vine,

and his donkey's colt to the choice vine,

he has washed his garments in wine,

and his robe in the blood of grapes.

¹²His eyes will be as dark as wine,

and his teeth as white as milk.

¹³Zebulun will live by the shore of the sea.

He will be a harbor for ships,

and his border will extend to Sidon.

¹⁴Issachar is a strong donkey,
lying down between the sheepfolds.

¹⁵He sees a good resting place and the pleasant land.
He will bend his shoulder to the burden
and become a servant for the task.

¹⁶Dan will judge his people
as one of the tribes of Israel.

¹⁷Dan will be a snake beside the road,
a poisonous snake in the path
that bites the horse's heels,
so that his rider falls backward.

¹⁸I wait for your salvation, Yahweh.

¹⁹Gad—raiders will attack him,
but he will attack them at their heels.

²⁰Asher's food will be rich,
and he will provide royal delicacies.

²¹Naphtali is a doe let loose;
he will have beautiful fawns.

²²Joseph is a fruitful bough,
a fruitful bough near a spring,
whose branches climb over the wall.

²³The archers will attack him
and shoot at him and harass him.

²⁴But his bow will remain steady,
and his hands will be skillful
because of the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob,
because of the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel.

²⁵The God of your father will help you
and the Almighty God will bless you
with blessings of the sky above,

blessings of the deep that lies beneath,
and blessings of the breasts and womb.

²⁶The blessings of your father
are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains
or the desirable things of the ancient hills.
May they be on the head of Joseph,
even upon the crown of the head of the prince of his brothers.

²⁷Benjamin is a hungry wolf.
In the morning he will devour the prey,
and in the evening he will divide the plunder.”

²⁸These are the twelve tribes of Israel. This is what their father said to them when he blessed them. Each one he blessed with an appropriate blessing. ²⁹Then he instructed them and said to them, “I am about to go to my people. Bury me with my forefathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, ³⁰in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is near Mamre in the land of Canaan, the field that Abraham bought for a burial place from Ephron the Hittite. ³¹There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah. ³²The field and the cave that is in it were purchased from the people of Heth.” ³³When Jacob finished these instructions to his sons, he pulled his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and went to his people.

Chapter 50

¹Then Joseph was so distressed that he collapsed on the face of his father, and he wept over him, and he kissed him. ²Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel. ³They took forty days, for that was the full time for embalming. The Egyptians wept for him seventy days.

⁴When the days of weeping were over, Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh, saying, “If now I have found favor in your eyes, please speak to Pharaoh, saying, ⁵My father made me swear, saying, “See, I am about to die. Bury me in my tomb that I dug for myself in the land of Canaan. There you will bury me.” Now let me go up and bury my father, and then I will return.” ⁶Pharaoh answered, “Go and bury your father, as he made you swear.” ⁷Joseph went up to bury his father. All the officials of Pharaoh went with him—the elders of his household, all the senior officials of the land of Egypt, ⁸with all Joseph’s household and his brothers, and his father’s household. But their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the land of Goshen. ⁹Chariots and horsemen also went with him. It was a very large group of people. ¹⁰When they came to the threshing floor of Atad on the other side of the Jordan, they mourned with very great and grievous sorrow. There Joseph made a seven-day mourning for his father. ¹¹When the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said, “This is a very sad occasion for the Egyptians.” That is why the place was called Abel Mizraim, which is beyond the Jordan. ¹²So his sons did for Jacob just as he had instructed them. ¹³His sons carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre. Abraham had bought the cave with the field for a burial place. He had bought it from Ephron the Hittite. ¹⁴After he had buried his father, Joseph returned into Egypt, he, along with his brothers, and all who had accompanied him to bury his father.

¹⁵When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “What if Joseph holds on to anger against us and wants to repay us in full for all the evil we did to him?” ¹⁶So they commanded the presence of Joseph, saying, “Your father gave instructions before he died, saying, ¹⁷Tell Joseph this, “Please forgive the transgression of your

brothers and their sin when they did evil to you.” Now please forgive the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also went and lay facedown before him. They said, “See, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph answered them, “Do not be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant to harm me, but God meant it for good, to preserve the lives of many people, as you see today. ²¹So now do not be afraid. I will provide for you and your little children.” He comforted them in this way and spoke kindly to their hearts.

²²Joseph lived in Egypt, together with his father’s family. He lived one hundred ten years. ²³Joseph saw Ephraim’s children to the third generation. He also saw the children of Machir son of Manasseh, who were placed on the knees of Joseph. ²⁴Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die; but God will surely come to you and lead you up out of this land to the land which he swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” ²⁵Then Joseph made the people of Israel swear an oath. He said, “God will surely come to you. At that time you must carry up my bones from here.” ²⁶So Joseph died, 110 years old. They embalmed him and he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

Exodus

Chapter 1

¹And these are the names of the sons of Israel, the ones who came to Egypt. They came in with Jacob, a man and his house: ²Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, ³Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, ⁴Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. ⁵And all the lives, going out of the loins of Jacob, were 70 lives. And Joseph was in Egypt. ⁶And Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation died. ⁷And the sons of Israel were fruitful and propagated and multiplied and were mighty, with great greatness; and the land was filled with them.

⁸And a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of the sons of Israel are many and mighty compared to us. ¹⁰Come, let us act wisely towards him; lest he multiplies, and it happens that a battle occurs, and he even adds himself onto the ones hating us, and he fights with us, and he leaves from the land." ¹¹And they set over him overseers of labor gangs in order to afflict him by their burdens. And he built Pithom and Rameses, cities of storage for Pharaoh. ¹²And insofar as they afflicted him, thus he multiplied and thus he spread out. And they felt a sickening dread from the face of the sons of Israel. ¹³And the Egyptians enslaved the sons of Israel with rigor. ¹⁴And they embittered their lives by hard slavery, by mortar and by bricks, and by all kinds of slave labor in the fields; all their work with which they worked for them was with rigor.

¹⁵And the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the second was Puah. ¹⁶And he said, "When you assist the Hebrew women as midwives and you see on the birth stool, if he is a son, then you shall cause him to die; but if she is a daughter, then she shall live." ¹⁷But the midwives feared God and did not do according to what the king of Egypt spoke to them; and they let the sons live. ¹⁸And the king of Egypt called out to the midwives, and he said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and let the sons live?"

¹⁹And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and, before the midwife comes to them, they have given birth." ²⁰And God caused good to the midwives. And the people multiplied and became very mighty. ²¹And it came about, since the midwives feared God, that he made houses for them.

²²And Pharaoh commanded to all of his people, saying, "You shall throw every new-born son into the river, but every daughter you shall let live."

Chapter 2

¹And a man from the house of Levi went and took a daughter of Levi. ²And the woman conceived, and she birthed a son. And she saw him, that he was good, and she hid him three months. ³And she was not able to hide him still, and she took for him an ark of papyrus reeds and she daubed it with bitumen and with pitch. And she placed the child in it, and she placed it in the reeds along the shore of the river. ⁴And his sister stationed herself at a distance to know what would be done to him.

⁵And a daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash at the river, and her young women were walking along the hand of the river. And she saw the ark in the middle of the reeds, and she sent her slave woman, and she took it ⁶and opened, and she saw him, the child; and behold, a crying boy. And she had compassion on him, and she said, "This one is from the children of the Hebrews."

⁷And his sister said to the daughter of Pharaoh, "Should I go and call for you a nursing woman from the Hebrews? And she could cause the child to nurse for you."

⁸And the daughter of Pharaoh said to her, "Go." And the girl went and called the mother of the child. ⁹And the daughter of Pharaoh said to her, "Take this child and cause him to nurse for me, and I shall give your wages." And the woman took the child and caused him to nurse. ¹⁰And the child grew older, and she brought him to the daughter of Pharaoh, and he became as a son to her. And she called his name Moses and she said, "For out of the water I drew him."

¹¹And it happened in those days that Moses had grown up and went out to his brothers, and he saw their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian man striking a Hebrew man from his brothers. ¹²And he turned this way and that way, and he saw that there was no man, and he struck the Egyptian, and he hid him in the sand. ¹³And he went out the second day, and behold, two Hebrew men were fighting. And he said to the guilty one, "Why are you striking your companion?"

¹⁴And he said, "Who set you as the ruler man and judge over us? Are you saying to kill me like you killed the Egyptian?"

And Moses feared and said, "Certainly the thing is known." ¹⁵And Pharaoh heard this thing, and he sought to kill Moses. And Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh.

And he dwelt in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well. ¹⁶And the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew and filled up the troughs to cause the flock of their father to drink water. ¹⁷And the men who were shepherding came and drove them away, but Moses arose and saved them and caused their flock to drink water.

¹⁸And they came to Reuel their father, and he said, "Why have you hurried coming today?"

¹⁹And they said, "An Egyptian man rescued us from the hand of the men who were shepherding. And he even drew especially for us and caused the flock to drink water."

²⁰And he said to his daughters, "And where is he? What is this? You left the man? Call him and he shall eat bread!"

²¹And Moses was willing to dwell with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses. ²²And she birthed a son, and he called his name Gershom; for he said, "I have become a foreigner in a foreign land."

²³And it happened in these many days. And the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel groaned from the slavery. And they cried out, and their plea ascended to God from their slavery. ²⁴And God heard their groaning; and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. ²⁵And God saw the sons of Israel, and God knew.

Chapter 3

¹And Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock beyond the wilderness, and he came to the mountain of God-to Horeb. ²And the angel of Yahweh appeared to him in a flame of fire from the middle of a bush. And he looked, and behold, the bush was burning in the fire, but the bush was not being consumed. ³And Moses said, "Let me turn aside and see this great sight! Why does the bush not burn up?"

⁴And Yahweh saw that he had turned aside in order to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush, and he said, "Moses, Moses."

And he said, "Behold me!"

⁵And he said, "You must not come close to here. Take your sandals off from on your feet, for the place on which you are standing, it is holy ground." ⁶And he 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 from staring toward God. ⁷And Yahweh said,

"I have certainly seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt. And I have heard their cries from the faces of those who oppress him. I surely know his anguish. ⁸And I have come down to deliver him from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring him up from that land to a good and wide 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. ⁹And now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to me. And moreover, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰And now go, and I shall send you to Pharaoh. And bring out my people, the sons of Israel, from Egypt."

¹¹And Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring out the sons of Israel from Egypt?"

¹²And he said, "I shall certainly be with you, and this will be the sign for you that I have sent you: when you bring the people out from Egypt you all will serve God on this mountain."

¹³And Moses said to God, "Behold, I am about to go to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' And they will say to me, 'What is his name?' what should I say to them?"

¹⁴And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "You shall speak this way to the sons of Israel, 'I AM sent me to you.'" ¹⁵And God also said to Moses, "You shall speak this way to the sons of Israel: 'Yahweh, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, sent me to you. This is my name forever, and this is my memorial from generation to generation.'

¹⁶Go and gather the elders of Israel, and say to them, 'Yahweh, the God of your fathers, appeared to me--the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob--to say, "I have certainly attended to you and what is being done to you in Egypt, ¹⁷and I said, 'I will bring you up from affliction in 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.'" ¹⁸And they will listen to your voice.

And you and the elders of Israel will go to the king of Egypt, and you all will say to him, 'Yahweh, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. And now please let us go a journey of three days into the wilderness, and let us sacrifice to Yahweh, our God.' ¹⁹And I know that the king of Egypt will not permit you to go; and not with a strong hand.

²⁰And I shall send out my hand and I shall strike Egypt with all my wonders, which I shall do within him. And after that, he will send you out.

²¹And I shall give this people favor in the eyes of the Egyptians, and it will be that when you go, you will not go empty. ²²And a woman will ask from her neighbor and from one sojourning in her house for items of silver, and items of gold, and clothing. And you will put them on your sons and on your daughters. And you will plunder the Egyptians."

Chapter 4

¹And Moses answered and said, "But look, they will not believe me, and they will not listen to my voice; for they will say, 'Yahweh has not appeared to you.'"

²And Yahweh said to him, "What is that in your hand?"

And he said, "A staff."

³And he said, "Throw it to the ground." And he threw it to the ground, and it became a snake. And Moses fled from its face. ⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take it by its tail"--and he reached out his hand and he caught it to him, and it became a staff in his palm-- ⁵"in order to cause them to believe that Yahweh appeared to you; the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

⁶And Yahweh also said to him, "Put your hand in your bosom." And he put his hand in his bosom. And he brought it out, and behold, his hand was being struck with a skin disease like snow. ⁷And he said, "Return your hand into your bosom." And he returned his hand into his bosom; and he brought it out from his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his flesh.

⁸"And it will be, if they do not believe you, and they do not listen to the voice of the first sign, then they will believe the voice of the following sign. ⁹And it will be, if they do not believe even these two signs, and they do not listen to your voice, then you shall take from the water of the river and you shall pour it on the dry land. And it will happen, the water which you take from the river, that it will become blood on the dry land."

¹⁰And Moses said to Yahweh, "Oh my Lord, I am not a man of words; not since yesterday, nor since three days ago, nor since you spoke to your servant. For I am heavy of mouth and heavy of tongue."

¹¹And Yahweh said to him, "Who put a mouth in mankind; or who makes a mute or a deaf or a seeing or a blind? Is it not I, Yahweh? ¹²And now go! And I shall be with your mouth, and I shall teach you what you will speak."

¹³And he said, "Oh my Lord, please send by a hand you send."

¹⁴And the nose of Yahweh burned at Moses, and he said, "Is not Aaron, the Levite, your brother? I know that he can speak well. And even more, behold, he is coming to meet you, and he will see you and he will be glad in his heart.

¹⁵And you shall speak to him, and you shall put the words in his mouth. And I am with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you both what you should do. ¹⁶And he will speak to the people for you. So it will be, he will be like a mouth for you, and you will be like God to him. ¹⁷And you shall take in your hand this staff, with which you will do the signs."

¹⁸And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father-in-law and he said to him, "Please let me go and let me return to my brothers who are in Egypt and see whether they are still alive."

And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace."

¹⁹And Yahweh said to Moses in Midian, "Go! Return to Egypt! For all the men who were seeking your life are dead."

²⁰And Moses took his wife and his sons and caused them ride on a donkey, and he returned towards the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand. ²¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "While you are going to return to Egypt, see all the miracles that I put in your hand, and do them before the face of Pharaoh. But as for me, I shall strengthen his heart, and he will not let the people go. ²²And say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says Yahweh: "Israel is my son, my firstborn, ²³and I said to you, 'Let my son go that he may serve me.' But you have refused to let him go. Behold, I shall kill your son, your firstborn.'"

²⁴And it happened on the road, in the lodging-place, that he encountered Yahweh, and he sought to kill him. ²⁵And Zipporah took a flint and she cut off the foreskin of her son, and she touched it to his feet, and she said, "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me." ²⁶And he relented from him. That was when she said, "bridegroom of blood" because of the circumcision.

²⁷And Yahweh said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." And he went, and he met him at the mountain of God, and he kissed him. ²⁸And Moses told Aaron all the words of Yahweh that he had sent him, and all the signs that he commanded him.

²⁹And Moses and Aaron went; and they gathered all of the elders of the sons of Israel. ³⁰And Aaron spoke all of the words that Yahweh had spoken to Moses. And he did the signs before the eyes of the people. ³¹and the people believed. And they heard that Yahweh had attended to the sons of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, and they bowed and prostrated themselves.

Chapter 5

¹And afterward, Moses and Aaron went in and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: 'Let my people go, and they shall celebrate me in the wilderness.'"

²And Pharaoh said, "Who is Yahweh that I should listen to his voice to let Israel go? I do not know Yahweh; and moreover, I shall not let Israel go."

³And they said, "The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go a journey of three days into the wilderness, and let us sacrifice to Yahweh our God lest he come upon us with the plague or with the sword."

⁴And the king of Egypt said to them, "Moses and Aaron, why are you causing the people to leave off from their tasks? Go to your burdens."

⁵And Pharaoh said, "Behold, the people of the land are now many, and you have caused them to rest from their burdens." ⁶And on that day, Pharaoh ordered the taskmasters among the people and officers, saying, ⁷"Do not continue to give straw to the people to make bricks as yesterday and the day before yesterday. They shall go and gather straw for themselves. ⁸But you shall put on them the quota of the bricks which they were making yesterday and the day before yesterday; do not diminish from it. For they are idle, therefore they are crying, saying, 'Let us go, let us sacrifice to our God.' ⁹Let the slavery be heavy on the men so they shall do it, and shall not gaze at words of lies."

¹⁰And the taskmasters of the people and officers went out and said to the people saying, "Thus says Pharaoh: 'I am not giving straw to you. ¹¹You go and get your own straw from wherever you might find it, for there will be no reducing of things from your slavery.'" ¹²So the people dispersed throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. ¹³Now the taskmasters were hastening them, saying, "Finish your work, the task of day by day, as when there was straw." ¹⁴And the officers of the sons of Israel, whom the taskmasters of Pharaoh had put over them, were beaten, saying, "Why have you not finished your required brick making like yesterday and the day before yesterday, neither yesterday nor today?"

¹⁵And the officers of the sons of Israel came in and cried to Pharaoh, saying, "Why are you doing this to your servants? ¹⁶No straw is being given to your servants. And they are saying to us, 'Make bricks!' And behold, your servants are beaten but it is the sin of your people."

¹⁷And he said, "You are lazy! Lazy! That is why you are saying, 'Let us go sacrifice to Yahweh.' ¹⁸And now go! Work! And straw will not be given to you, but you will give the set amount of bricks."

¹⁹And the officers of the sons of Israel saw themselves in distress regarding the saying, "You shall not reduce the day-by-day task from your bricks." ²⁰And they met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting to meet them when they came out from Pharaoh. ²¹And they said to them, "May Yahweh look on you and judge; for you have caused our scent to stink in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of his servants, to give a sword into their hand to kill us."

²²And Moses went back to Yahweh and said, "My Lord, why have you afflicted this people? Was this why you sent me? ²³And since I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has afflicted this people. And you have certainly not rescued your people."

Chapter 6

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: for by a strong hand he will let them go; and by a strong hand he will drive them out of his land."

²And God spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am Yahweh ³and I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as El Shaddai; but by my name Yahweh I was not known to them. ⁴And moreover, I established my covenant with them,

to give to them the land of Canaan, the land of their sojourning, in which they sojourned. ⁵And moreover, I have heard the groaning of the sons of Israel, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and I have remembered my covenant.

⁶Therefore, say to the sons of Israel, 'I am Yahweh. And I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rescue you from their slavery. And I will redeem you with an outstretched arm, and with great judgments. ⁷And I will take you to myself as a people, and I will be to you as God. And you will know that I am Yahweh your God, the one bringing you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. ⁸And I will bring you to the land that I raised my hand to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. And I will give it to you as a possession. I am Yahweh.'"

⁹And Moses spoke in this way to the sons of Israel, but they did not listen to Moses because of shortness of spirit and because of hard slavery.

¹⁰And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹¹"Go speak to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, that he should let the sons of Israel go from his land."

¹²And Moses spoke before the face of Yahweh, saying, "Behold, the sons of Israel have not listened to me, so how will Pharaoh listen to me? And I have uncircumcised lips."

¹³And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, and he gave them a command to the sons of Israel and to Pharaoh, king of Egypt: to bring the sons of Israel out from the land of Egypt.

¹⁴These were the heads of the houses of their fathers:

The sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanok, and Pallu, Hezron, and Karmi. These were the clans of Reuben.

¹⁵And the sons of Simeon were Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jakin, and Zohar, and Shaul—the son of a Canaanite woman. These were the clans of Simeon.

¹⁶And these are the names of the sons of Levi, from their genealogy: Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari. And the years of the life of Levi were 137 years. ¹⁷The sons of Gershon were Libni and Shimei, according to their clans. ¹⁸And the sons of Kohath were Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel. And the years of the life of Kohath were 133 years. ¹⁹And the sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. These were the clans of the Levites, according to their genealogy.

²⁰And Amram took Jochebed, his aunt, as a wife for himself. And she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were 137 years.

²¹And the sons of Izhar were Korah, and Nepheg, and Zichri. ²²And the sons of Uzziel were Mishael, and Elzaphan, and Sithri.

²³And Aaron took Elisheba, the daughter of Amminadab, the sister of Nahshon, as a wife for himself. And she bore him Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

²⁴And the sons of Korah were Assir, and Elkanah, and Abiasaph. These were the clans of the Korahites. ²⁵And Eleazar, son of Aaron took a wife for himself from the daughters of Putiel. And she bore him Phinehas. These were the heads of the fathers of the Levites, according to their clans.

²⁶It was Aaron and Moses to whom Yahweh said, "Bring out the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt, by their hosts." ²⁷They were the ones who spoke to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, to bring out the sons of Israel from Egypt. It was Moses and Aaron.

²⁸And it happened on a day that Yahweh spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt. ²⁹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, "I am Yahweh. Speak to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, everything that I speak to you."

³⁰But Moses said to the face of Yahweh, "Behold, I have uncircumcised lips so how will Pharaoh listen to me?"

Chapter 7

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Look, I have made you God to Pharaoh and your brother Aaron will be your prophet.

²You shall say everything that I will command you. And your brother Aaron shall speak to Pharaoh that he should let the sons of Israel go from his land. ³But I will harden the heart of Pharaoh, and I will multiply my signs and my miracles in the land of Egypt. ⁴And Pharaoh will not listen to you, so I will put my hand on Egypt and will bring out my armies, my people, the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt with great judgments. ⁵And the Egyptians will know that I am Yahweh when I stretch out my hand over Egypt to bring the sons of Israel out from their midst."

⁶And Moses and Aaron did, they did just as Yahweh commanded them. ⁷And Moses was a son of 80 years and Aaron was a son of 83 years when they were speaking to Pharaoh.

⁸And Yahweh said to Moses and to Aaron saying, ⁹"For Pharaoh will speak to you, saying, 'Create a miracle yourself,' and you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before the face of Pharaoh, let it become a serpent.'"

¹⁰And Moses and Aaron entered in to Pharaoh, and they did just as Yahweh commanded. And Aaron threw down his staff before the face of Pharaoh and before the faces of his servants, and it became a serpent. ¹¹And Pharaoh also called for wise men and sorcerers. And the magicians of Egypt also did so by their magic. ¹²And each man threw down his staff, and they became serpents. And the staff of Aaron swallowed up their staffs. ¹³And the heart of Pharaoh was strong, and he did not listen to them, just as Yahweh had spoken.

¹⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "The heart of Pharaoh is heavy; he has refused to let the people go. ¹⁵Go to Pharaoh. Behold, in the morning he goes out to the water, so station yourself to meet him on the edge of the river. And take in your hand the staff that turned into a snake. ¹⁶And say to him, 'Yahweh, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to you to say, "Let my people go, and they will serve me in the wilderness. And behold, until now, you have not listened." ¹⁷Thus says Yahweh: "By this you will know that I am Yahweh. Behold, I am about to strike against the waters that are in the river with the staff that is in my hand, and they will turn to blood. ¹⁸And the fish that are in the river will die, and the river will stink. And the Egyptians will exhaust themselves to drink water from the river.'"

¹⁹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt; over their streams, over their canals, and over their pools, and over every reservoir of their water, and it will become blood.' And there will be blood in all the land of Egypt, and in containers of wood and in containers of stone."

²⁰And Moses and Aaron did so, just as Yahweh commanded. And he raised the staff, and he struck the water that was in the river, in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of his servants. And all the water that was in the river turned to blood. ²¹And the fish that were in the river died, and the river stank, so the Egyptians were not able to drink water from the river. And the blood was in all the land of Egypt. ²²And the magicians of Egypt did the same with their magic. And the heart of Pharaoh was strong, and he did not listen to them, just as Yahweh had spoken. ²³And Pharaoh turned around and went into his house. And he did not set his heart even to this. ²⁴And all the Egyptians dug water to drink around the river, for they were not able to drink from the waters of the river.

²⁵And seven days were filled after Yahweh struck the river.

Chapter 8

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and you shall say to him, 'Thus says Yahweh: "Let my people go and they shall serve me. ²And if you refuse to let go, behold! I am about to strike all your territory with frogs. ³And frogs will swarm the river. And they will climb, and they will go into your house, and in the room of your bed, and on your

bed, and into the house of your servants, and among your people, and in your ovens, and in your bread making bowls, ⁴and the frogs will climb on you, and on your people, and on all your servants.”

⁵And Yahweh said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Reach out your hand with your staff over the canals, over the streams, and over the pools, and cause the frogs to come up on the land of Egypt.’” ⁶And Aaron reached out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frog came up and covered the land of Egypt. ⁷And the magicians did likewise with their magic; and they brought up frogs over the land of Egypt.

⁸And Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron and he said, “Pray to Yahweh that he may take away the frogs from me and from my people. And I will let the people go, and they may sacrifice to Yahweh.”

⁹And Moses said to Pharaoh, “Glorify yourself over me: when shall I pray for you, and for your servants, and for your people, to cause to cut off the frogs from you and from your houses? They will be left in the river only.”

¹⁰And he said, “Tomorrow.”

And he said, “Just as you say. So that you will know that there is no one like Yahweh, our God. ¹¹And the frogs will withdraw from you, and from your houses, and from your servants, and from your people. They will be left in the river only.”

¹²And Moses and Aaron went out from being with Pharaoh. And Moses cried out to Yahweh concerning the matter of the frogs that he had set on Pharaoh. ¹³And Yahweh did according to the word of Moses: and the frogs died off from the houses, from the courts, and from the fields. ¹⁴And they gathered them into many piles, and the land stank. ¹⁵And Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, and he caused his heart to be heavy and he did not listen to them, just as Yahweh had said.

¹⁶And Yahweh said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground, and it will become lice in all the land of Egypt.’” ¹⁷And they did so: and Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and he struck the dust of the ground, and it became lice on man and on beast. All the dust of the ground was lice in all the land of Egypt. ¹⁸And the magicians did so with their magic to bring out lice, but they were not able. And there were lice on man and beast.

¹⁹And the magicians said to Pharaoh, “It is the finger of God.” And the heart of Pharaoh was strong, and he did not listen to them, just as Yahweh said.

²⁰And Yahweh said to Moses, “Rise early in the morning and station yourself before the face of Pharaoh. Behold, he goes out to the waters. And you shall say to him, ‘Thus says Yahweh: “Let my people go and they will serve me.

²¹Surely if you do not immediately send my people out, behold me! I am about to send the swarm at you, and at your servants, and at your people, and into your houses. And the houses of Egypt will be full of the swarm, and even the ground which they are on. ²²And in that day, I will distinguish the land of Goshen, on which my people dwell, so that the swarm will not be there, in order that you may know that I am Yahweh in the middle of the land.

²³And I will put redemption between my people and between your people. This sign will happen tomorrow.”

²⁴And Yahweh did so, and a heavy swarm came to the house of Pharaoh and the houses of his servants and all the land of Egypt. The land was ruined from the face of the swarm.

²⁵And Pharaoh called to Moses and to Aaron and said, “Go, sacrifice to your God in the land.”

²⁶And Moses said, “It would not be right to do so, because we will sacrifice an abomination of the Egyptians to Yahweh our God. Look, we would sacrifice an abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and would they not stone us? ²⁷We must travel a journey of three days into the wilderness, and we will sacrifice to Yahweh our God, just as he is saying to us.”

²⁸And Pharaoh said, “I will let you go and sacrifice to Yahweh your God in the wilderness; only you may certainly not go very far. Pray for me.”

²⁹And Moses said, "Behold, I am about to go out from with you. And I shall pray to Yahweh, and he will withdraw the swarm from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people tomorrow. Only may Pharaoh not continue to deceive in order to fail to let the people go to sacrifice to Yahweh." ³⁰And Moses went out from with Pharaoh and prayed to Yahweh. ³¹And Yahweh did according to the word of Moses; and he withdrew the swarm from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people. Not one remained. ³²And Pharaoh caused his heart to be heavy at this time also, and he did not let the people go.

Chapter 9

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh and speak to him: 'Thus says Yahweh, the God of the Hebrews: "Let my people go and they shall serve me. ²Surely if you are unwilling to let go, but are still holding on to them, ³behold! The hand of Yahweh is about to be on your livestock, which are in the field: on the horses, on the donkeys, on the camels, on the cattle, and on the flock; an exceedingly heavy plague. ⁴And Yahweh will distinguish between the livestock of Israel and between the livestock of Egypt. And no thing will die from any of the sons of Israel.'"

⁵And Yahweh set an appointment, saying, "Tomorrow Yahweh will do this thing in the land." ⁶And Yahweh did this thing the next day, and all of the livestock of Egypt died. But from the livestock of the sons of Israel not one died.

⁷And Pharaoh sent, and behold, not even one of the livestock of Israel had died. But the heart of Pharaoh was heavy, and he did not let the people go.

⁸And Yahweh said to Moses and to Aaron, "Take to you a fullness of both your hands of ash of a furnace. And Moses shall sprinkle it toward heaven before the eyes of Pharaoh. ⁹And it will become powder over all the land of Egypt. And it will become boils, bursting blisters, on man and on beast in all the land of Egypt." ¹⁰And they took ash of a furnace, and they stood before the face of Pharaoh. And Moses sprinkled it toward the heavens, and it became boils, bursting blisters, on man and on beast. ¹¹And the magicians were not able to stand before the face of Moses because of the face of the boils. Because boils were on the magicians and on all of Egypt. ¹²But Yahweh strengthened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not listen to them, just as Yahweh had said to Moses.

¹³And Yahweh said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning, and stand before the face of Pharaoh, and say to him, 'Thus says Yahweh, the God of the Hebrews: "Let my people go, and they shall serve me. ¹⁴For this time I am about to send all my plagues to your heart, and on your servants, and on your people, in order that you may know that there is nothing like me in all the earth. ¹⁵For now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague, and you would have been destroyed from the land. ¹⁶However, for this reason I appointed you: in order to show you my power, and in order to proclaim my name in all the earth. ¹⁷You are still exalting yourself against my people by failing to let them go. ¹⁸Behold me! I am about to cause extremely heavy hail to rain tomorrow at this time, which there has never been anything like in Egypt from the day it was founded until now. ¹⁹And now send and bring to safety your livestock and all that is yours in the field; and the hail will come down on every man and beast that is found in the field, and was not gathered to the house, and they will die.'"

²⁰The fearers of the word of Yahweh from the servants of Pharaoh made their slaves and their livestock run to the houses, ²¹but whoever did not set his heart to the word of Yahweh left his slaves and his livestock in the field.

²²And Yahweh said to Moses, "Reach out your hand toward the heavens and there will be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man, and on beast, and on every plant of the field in the land of Egypt."

²³And Moses stretched his staff to the heavens, and Yahweh gave thunder and hail, and fire darted to the land. And Yahweh rained hail on the land of Egypt. ²⁴And there was hail and fire coming in the middle of the very heavy hail such as had never been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. ²⁵And the hail hit everything in the land of Egypt, everything which was in the field, from man to beast. And the hail struck every plant of the field, and it broke every tree of the field. ²⁶Only in the land of Goshen, where the sons of Israel were, there was no hail.

²⁷And Pharaoh sent, and he called for Moses and for Aaron. And he said to them, "I have sinned this time. Yahweh is righteous, and I and my people are guilty. ²⁸Pray to Yahweh, for the thunder of God and hail are too much. And I will let you go, and you will not continue to stay."

²⁹And Moses said to him, "As I leave the city, I will spread my palms to Yahweh. The thunder will cease, and the hail will not continue, so that you may know that the earth belongs to Yahweh. ³⁰But you and your servants, I know that you are not yet afraid of the face of Yahweh God."

³¹(And the flax and the barley were struck down, for the barley was in ear, and the flax was in bloom. ³²But the wheat and the spelt were not struck down for they are late.)

³³And Moses left the city from being with Pharaoh, and he spread his palms to Yahweh; and the thunder and hail ceased; and the rain was not poured on the earth. ³⁴And Pharaoh saw that the rain, and hail, and thunder ceased; and he added to his sin, and he caused his heart to be heavy, he and his servants. ³⁵And the heart of Pharaoh was strong, and he did not let the sons of Israel go, just as Yahweh had said by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 10

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, for I have made his heart and the heart of his servants heavy, in order to perform these my signs in his midst, ²and so that you may proclaim in the ears of your son, and the son of your son that I toyed with Egypt, and my signs which I performed among them; and you will know that I am Yahweh."

³And Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh and said to him, "Thus says Yahweh, God of the Hebrews: 'Until when will you refuse to be humble from my face? Let my people go, and they will serve me. ⁴For if you refuse to let my people go, behold me, I am about to bring locust within your borders tomorrow. ⁵And it will cover the sight of the land, and none will be able to see the land. And it will devour the remnant of whatever escaped, of whatever is left to you from the hail. And it will devour every tree growing for you from the field. ⁶And they will fill your houses, and the houses of all your servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians, which your fathers had never seen, nor the fathers of your fathers, from the day they came to be on the earth until this day.'" And he turned around and left from being with Pharaoh.

⁷And the servants of Pharaoh said to him, "Until when will this be a trap to us? Let the men go and they will serve Yahweh their God. Do you not understand yet that Egypt has perished?"

⁸And Moses and Aaron were brought back to Pharaoh, and he said to them, "Go serve Yahweh your God. Who and who shall go?"

⁹And Moses said, "We shall go with our young and with our old. We shall go with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and our herds because the festival of Yahweh is for us."

¹⁰And he said to them, "May Yahweh be with you in the same way as I will let you and your children go. See, for evil is before your faces! ¹¹Not so! You may go, the men, and serve Yahweh, because this is what you are seeking." And he drove them from the face of Pharaoh.

¹²And Yahweh said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt with the locust, and let it rise up over the land of Egypt; and let it devour all of the plants of the land, everything which the hail had spared."

¹³And Moses reached out his staff over the land of Egypt, and Yahweh drove an east wind over the land all that day and all night. The morning was, and the east wind had brought the locust. ¹⁴And the locust rose up over all the land of Egypt and came to rest everywhere within the borders of Egypt. They were extremely numerous. Never before was there such locust like it, and nothing will be like it after. ¹⁵And it covered the sight of all of the land, and

the land was dark. And it devoured all of the plants of the land and all of the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. And not any of the greenery remained, in a tree or in a plant of the field, in all of the land of Egypt.

¹⁶And Pharaoh hurried to call for Moses and for Aaron and said, "I have sinned against Yahweh your God and against you. ¹⁷And now, please bear my sin, just this once, and pray to Yahweh your God and let him take this death only away from me."

¹⁸And he went out from being with Pharaoh, and he prayed to Yahweh. ¹⁹And Yahweh turned a very strong sea wind; and it carried away the locust, and it drove it into the sea of reeds; not one locust remained in all of the territory of Egypt. ²⁰And Yahweh strengthened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not let the sons of Israel go.

²¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the heavens, and let it become dark over the land of Egypt; and darkness will feel." ²²And Moses stretched out his hand above the heavens, and dark darkness was in all of the land of Egypt for three days. ²³No man could see his brother; and no man rose from his place for three days. But for all the sons of Israel, there was light in their dwelling-places.

²⁴And Pharaoh called to Moses, and he said, "Go serve Yahweh. Only, your flocks and your herds must remain behind; however, your children will go with you."

²⁵And Moses said, "Also you, you must give in our hands sacrifices and burnt offerings, and we will do to Yahweh our God. ²⁶And even our livestock shall go with us. Not a hoof shall be left behind, for we shall take from them to serve Yahweh our God. And as for us, we will not know with what we must serve Yahweh until we arrive there."

²⁷And Yahweh strengthened the heart of Pharaoh, and he would not agree to let them go. ²⁸And Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Watch yourself; you shall not again see my face; because in the day of your seeing my face, you shall die."

²⁹And Moses said, "Just as you say, I will not ever see your face again."

Chapter 11

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "One more plague I will bring on Pharaoh and on Egypt. After that he will let you go from here. As soon as he lets go, he will certainly drive you completely away from here. ²Speak now in the ears of the people; and let them ask, a man from his neighbor and a woman from her neighbor, items of silver and items of gold. ³And Yahweh gave the people favor in the eyes of the Egyptians. Furthermore, the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the eyes of the servants of Pharaoh and in the eyes of the people.

⁴And Moses said, "Thus says Yahweh: 'About the middle of the night I will go out in the midst of Egypt, ⁵and every firstborn in the land of Egypt will die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sits on his throne, to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the mill; and every firstborn of a beast. ⁶And there will be a great cry in all the land of Egypt, which nothing like it has ever happened, and nothing like it will happen again. ⁷But to each of the sons of Israel, a dog will not sharpen his tongue, from man to beast; so that you will know that Yahweh distinguishes between Egypt and between Israel.' ⁸And all your servants, these will come down to me and they will bow to me, saying, 'Go, you and all the people who are at your feet!' And after that I will go out." And he went out from Pharaoh with burning of the nose.

⁹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you, in order to multiply my miracles in the land of Egypt."

¹⁰And Moses and Aaron did all these miracles before the face of Pharaoh. But Yahweh strengthened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not let the sons of Israel go from his land.

Chapter 12

¹And Yahweh said to Moses and to Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, ²“This month is to you the head of the months. It is the first to you of the months of the year. ³Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, ‘On the tenth of this month they shall take to themselves, each man, a lamb to the house of the fathers: a lamb to a house. ⁴And if the household is too few for having a lamb, then he and his neighbor near to his house by the number of people shall take the lamb; according to the eating of the mouth of each man you shall calculate it. ⁵Your lamb shall be complete, male, the son of a year. You may take from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶And it shall be to you to reserve until the fourteenth day of this month. And all the assembly of the congregation of Israel shall slaughter it between the evenings. ⁷And they shall take from the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸And they shall eat the flesh that night, roast of fire; and they shall eat unleavened bread over bitter herbs. ⁹You shall not eat from it raw or boiled from boiling in water. But instead, roasted of fire, its head with its legs and with its internal organs. ¹⁰And you shall not cause to remain anything from it until morning; and you shall burn in the fire what remains from it until morning. ¹¹And this is how you shall eat it: belts fastened on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it with haste. It is the Passover to Yahweh.

¹²And I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from man to beast. And I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am Yahweh. ¹³And the blood will be a sign for you on the houses which you are in. And I will see the blood, and I will pass over above you, and the plague will not be on you for destruction as my striking on the land of Egypt.

¹⁴And this day shall become a memorial for you; and you shall celebrate it as a festival to Yahweh; for your generations—a statute you shall celebrate forever. ¹⁵You shall eat unleavened bread for seven days. Yes—on the first day you shall remove yeast from your houses, because anyone who eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. ¹⁶And on the first day an assembly of holiness and on the seventh day an assembly of holiness shall be for you. All work shall not be done in these, except what each person eats, that alone may be done by you.

¹⁷And you shall keep the Unleavened Bread, because on this very day I will have brought out your hosts from the land of Egypt. And you shall keep this day throughout your generations, a statute forever. ¹⁸In the first month, on the fourteenth day in the evening you shall eat unleavened bread until the twenty-first day of the month in the evening. ¹⁹For seven days, no yeast shall be found in your houses. Because anyone who eats yeasted bread, that person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel—among the sojourner or among the native of the land. ²⁰You shall not eat any yeast. In all of your dwelling places, you shall eat unleavened bread.”

²¹And Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and he said to them, “Proceed and take a lamb for yourself, according to your families, and slaughter the Passover. ²²And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin and apply to the lintel and to both the doorposts from the blood that is in the basin. And you, not a man shall go out from the door of his house until morning. ²³And Yahweh will pass through to strike the Egyptians. And he will see the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, and Yahweh will pass over the door and will not permit the causer of destruction to enter into your houses to strike.

²⁴And you shall keep this thing as a statute for you and for your sons until eternity. ²⁵And so it will happen, as you enter into the land that Yahweh will give to you, just as he said, then you shall keep this service. ²⁶And it will happen, when your sons are saying to you, ‘What is this service to you?’ ²⁷then you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of Passover to Yahweh, who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt in striking the Egyptians. And he rescued our households.’” And the people bowed their heads and prostrated themselves. ²⁸And the sons of Israel went and did; as Yahweh had commanded Moses and Aaron so they did.

²⁹And so it happened, in the middle of the night, and Yahweh struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh sitting on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the house of the pit, and all the

firstborn of beasts. ³⁰And Pharaoh got 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 someone dead.

³¹And he called for Moses and for Aaron in the night and said, “Get up, get out from among my people, both you and also the sons of Israel. And go, serve Yahweh, as you have said. ³²Also take your flocks, also your herds as you have said; and go, and also bless me.”

³³And the Egyptians strengthened the people, hurrying to let them go from the land, for they said, “We are all dying.” ³⁴And the people carried his dough before it developed leaven. Their bread-making bowls were wrapped in their clothes on their shoulders. ³⁵And the sons of Israel did according to the word of Moses. And they asked from the Egyptians items of silver and items of gold and clothing. ³⁶And Yahweh gave the people favor in the eyes of the Egyptians. And they made the request, and they plundered the Egyptians.

³⁷And the sons of Israel journeyed from Rameses toward Succoth, about 600, 000 strong men on foot, apart from children. ³⁸And also a mixed multitude went up with them; and flock and herd—a very great number of livestock. ³⁹And they baked the dough that they brought from Egypt into unleavened bread, for it was not leavened because they were driven out of Egypt, and they could not delay. And furthermore, they had not made provisions for themselves.

⁴⁰And the residence of the sons of Israel, during which they resided in Egypt, was 430 years. ⁴¹And so it was, at the end of 430 years, it was on that very day all of the hosts of Yahweh went out from the land of Egypt. ⁴²It was a night of observing for Yahweh to bring them out from the land of Egypt. This night, it is for all the sons of Israel to observe for Yahweh throughout their generations.

⁴³And Yahweh said to Moses and Aaron, “This is the statute of the Passover: Any son of foreignness shall not eat it. ⁴⁴But any slave of a man, a purchase of silver, if you circumcised him, then he may eat it. ⁴⁵An outsider or a hireling shall not eat it. ⁴⁶It shall be eaten in one house. You shall not bring from the house from the flesh to the outside, and you shall not break its bone. ⁴⁷All the congregation of Israel shall do it.

⁴⁸And if a sojourner is sojourning with you, and keeps the Passover to Yahweh, all his males shall be circumcised. And then he may draw near to keep it, and he will become like a native of the land. And any uncircumcised person shall not eat it. ⁴⁹One law shall be for the native and for the sojourner sojourning among you.”

⁵⁰And all of the sons of Israel did—just as Yahweh commanded Moses and Aaron—so they did. ⁵¹And so it was, in that very day, Yahweh brought the sons of Israel out from the land of Egypt by their hosts.

Chapter 13

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Set apart to me all the firstborn, openers of every womb among the sons of Israel, among man and among beast, he is mine.”

³And Moses said to the people, “Remember this day, that you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; because by a strong hand Yahweh brought you out from here. And no yeast may be eaten. ⁴Today you are going out, in the month of Aviv. ⁵And it will be that Yahweh will bring you to the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite; which he swore to your fathers to give to you, a land flowing with milk and honey— and you shall serve this service in this month. ⁶Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; and on the seventh day {there shall be} a festival to Yahweh. ⁷Unleavened bread shall be eaten throughout the seven days; and leavened bread may not be seen among you. And yeast may not be seen among you within any of your borders.

⁸And you shall tell your son on that day, saying, ‘This is because of what Yahweh did for me when I came out from Egypt.’ ⁹And it shall be a sign for you on your hand, and a memorial between your eyes, so that the law of Yahweh

may be in your mouth, for with a strong hand Yahweh brought you out from Egypt. ¹⁰And you shall keep this statute at its appointed time from days to days.

¹¹And it will be, when Yahweh brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and to your fathers, and he gives it to you, ¹²then cause to pass over to Yahweh all the openers of the womb; and all the openers of the litter of beasts that are yours. The males are for Yahweh. ¹³And every opener of a donkey you shall ransom with a lamb. And if you do not ransom it, then you shall break his neck. And all the firstborn of men among your sons, you shall ransom.

¹⁴And so it will be, when your son asks you later saying, 'What is this?' then you shall say to him, 'With a strong hand Yahweh brought us out from Egypt, from the house of slaves.' ¹⁵And so it was, that when Pharaoh was hard to let us go, then Yahweh struck all of the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of man and to the firstborn of beast. That is why I sacrifice to Yahweh all the openers of the womb—the males—and I ransom all of the firstborn of my sons.' ¹⁶And it shall be a sign on your hand and a headband between your eyes, for with a strong hand Yahweh brought us out from Egypt."

¹⁷And so it was, when Pharaoh let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although it was nearby. For God said, "Lest the people repent when they see war and return to Egypt." ¹⁸And God caused the people to turn to the way of the wilderness, to the sea of reeds. And the sons of Israel went up from the land of Egypt by fives.

¹⁹And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had certainly caused the sons of Israel to vow, saying, "God will certainly attend to you, and you shall bring my bones up with you from here."

²⁰And they journeyed from Succoth, and they camped at Etham on the edge of the wilderness. ²¹And Yahweh went before their faces by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them on the way; and by night in a pillar of fire to be light to them, to go by day or by night. ²²He did not withdraw the daytime pillar of cloud or the nighttime pillar of fire from the face of the people.

Chapter 14

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Say to the sons of Israel that they should turn and camp before the face of Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, before the face of Baal Zephon. You are to camp by the sea opposite it.

³And Pharaoh will say about the sons of Israel, 'They are confused in the land. The wilderness has closed in on them.' ⁴And I will strengthen the heart of Pharaoh, and he will pursue after them. And I will be glorified because of Pharaoh and because of all his army. And the Egyptians will know that I am Yahweh." And they did so.

⁵And the king of Egypt was told that the people fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned to the people. And they said, "What is this we did that we released Israel from our slavery?" ⁶And he hitched his chariot and took his people with him. ⁷And he took 600 chosen chariots, and all of the chariots of Egypt, and third men were on all of them. ⁸And Yahweh strengthened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he pursued after the sons of Israel; and the sons of Israel were going out with a high hand. ⁹And the Egyptians pursued after them. And all of the horses of the chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army overtook them camping above the sea; above Pi Hahiroth before the face of Baal Zephon.

¹⁰And Pharaoh approached, and the sons of Israel lifted their eyes and, behold! the Egyptians started after them, and they were extremely afraid. And the sons of Israel cried to Yahweh. ¹¹And they said to Moses, "Is it because there were not any graves in Egypt, that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What is this you have done to us, to bring us out from Egypt? ¹²Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt saying, 'Cease from us and let us serve the Egyptians'? Because serving the Egyptians is better to us than dying in the wilderness."

¹³And Moses said to the people, "You must not fear! Stand still and see the salvation of Yahweh, that he will do for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today you will not repeat seeing again until eternity. ¹⁴Yahweh himself will fight for you. As for you, you will be silent."

¹⁵And Yahweh said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Speak to the sons of Israel and let them start moving. ¹⁶As for you—raise your staff and reach out your hand over the sea and split it. And the sons of Israel will enter into the midst of the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷And behold me: I will strengthen the heart of the Egyptians, and they will enter after them. And I will be glorified because of Pharaoh and because of all his army, because of his chariots, and because of his horsemen. ¹⁸And the Egyptians will know that I am Yahweh when I am glorified because of Pharaoh, because of his chariots, and because of his horsemen."

¹⁹And the angel of God moved, who traveled before the face of the camp of Israel and went behind them. And the pillar of cloud moved from before their face and stood behind them. ²⁰And it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel. And it became a cloud, and darkness, and it lit up the night, and one did not come near to the other all night. ²¹And Moses reached out his hand over the sea. And Yahweh drove the sea by a strong east wind all night and made the sea into dry land. And the waters were divided. ²²And the sons of Israel entered the middle of the sea on dry ground. And the waters were a wall for them on their right and on their left.

²³And the Egyptians pursued, and entered after them—every horse of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen—into the middle of the sea. ²⁴And so it was, in the watch of the morning, Yahweh looked down on the camp of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud. And he confused the camp of the Egyptians. ²⁵And he caused the wheels of their chariots to turn aside and caused them to drive heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us run from the face of Israel, for Yahweh is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶And Yahweh said to Moses, "Reach out your hand over the sea, and the waters will return on the Egyptians, on his chariots, and on his horsemen." ²⁷And Moses reached out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned before the face of the morning to its normal place. And the Egyptians fled before its impact; and Yahweh shook off the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. ²⁸And the waters returned, and they covered the chariots and the horsemen, even the entire army of Pharaoh that entered after them into the sea. Not even one of them remained.

²⁹And the sons of Israel walked on dry land in the middle of the sea. And the waters were a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰And Yahweh saved Israel that day from the hand of Egypt, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the shore of the sea. ³¹And Israel saw the great hand that Yahweh used against the Egyptians, and the people feared Yahweh, and they believed in Yahweh, and in his servant Moses.

Chapter 15

¹Then Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song to Yahweh. And they said, saying,

"Let me sing to Yahweh, for he has triumphantly triumphed;

the horse and the one riding it he threw into the sea.

²Yah is my strength and my song,

and he has become my salvation.

This is my God, and I will glorify him,

the God of my father, and I will exalt him.

³Yahweh is a man of war;

Yahweh is his name.

⁴He threw the chariots of Pharaoh and his army into the sea.

And his chosen officers sank in the sea of reeds.

⁵The deeps cover them;

they descended into the depths like a stone.

⁶Your right hand, Yahweh, is majestic in power;

your right hand, Yahweh, shatters the enemy.

⁷And in the abundance of your majesty you overthrow those who rise up against you.

You send out your heat, it devours them like stubble.

⁸And by the breath of your nostrils the waters were piled up;

the flowing waters were stood upright like a heap;

the deeps thickened in the heart of the sea.

⁹The enemy said,

'I will pursue,

I will overtake,

I will share out the plunder;

my soul will be satisfied in them,

I will empty my sword,

my hand will dispossess them.'

¹⁰You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;

they sank like lead in the majestic waters.

¹¹Who is like you among the gods Yahweh?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,

feared in praises, doing miracles?

¹²You reached out your right hand,

and the earth swallows them.

¹³In your covenant faithfulness, you led this people you redeemed.

In your strength, you guided them to the home of your holiness.

¹⁴The peoples heard: they shake;

anguish seized the inhabitants of Philistia.

¹⁵Then the chiefs of Edom panicked;

trembling seizes the leaders of Moab;

all the inhabitants of Canaan melted away.

¹⁶Terror and dread fall on them.

By the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone

until your people pass by, Yahweh—

until this people you acquired pass by.

¹⁷You will bring them, and you will plant them on the mountain of your possession,

the place, Yahweh, that you made for your dwelling,

the holy place, my Lord, that your hands built.

¹⁸Yahweh will reign forever and ever.”

¹⁹For the horse of Pharaoh went with his chariots and horsemen into the sea. And Yahweh returned upon them the waters of the sea. And the sons of Israel walked on dry land in the middle of the sea. ²⁰And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹And Miriam responded to them: “Sing to Yahweh, for he has triumphed triumphantly; the horse and the one riding it he threw into the sea.”

²²And Moses caused Israel to set out from the sea of reeds. And they went out into the wilderness of Shur. And they traveled for three days into the wilderness, and they found no water. ²³And they came to Marah, and they were not able to drink the waters of Marah because they were bitter. So he called its name Marah. ²⁴And the people murmured against Moses saying, “What can we drink?” ²⁵And he cried out to Yahweh, and Yahweh showed him a tree. And he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There he gave him a statute and an ordinance, and there he tested him. ²⁶And he said, “If you carefully listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, and you do what is right in his eyes, and you give ear to his commands and you keep all of his laws, all of the diseases that I put on the Egyptians I shall not put on you, for I am Yahweh your healer.”

²⁷And they came to Elim, and there there was 12 springs of water and 70 palm trees. And they camped there by the water.

Chapter 16

¹And they journeyed on from Elim, and all of the congregation of the sons of Israel entered into 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. ²And all the congregation of the sons of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron in the wilderness. ³And the sons of Israel said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of Yahweh in the land of Egypt, sitting by a pot of meat, eating bread to the full. For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, “Behold me make bread rain down from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather the portion of a day each day, so that I may test them: will they walk in my law or not? ⁵And so it will be, on the sixth day, that they shall prepare what they bring in, and that will be twice as much as what they gather daily.”

⁶And Moses and Aaron said to all of the sons of Israel, “At evening you will know that Yahweh brought you out from the land of Egypt. ⁷In the morning you will see the glory of Yahweh in his hearing your murmurings against Yahweh. And who are we that you murmur against us?” ⁸And Moses said, “So Yahweh gives you meat to eat in the evening and bread in the morning to satiation; Yahweh is hearing your murmurings that you murmur against him. And what are we? Not against us is your mumuring, but against Yahweh.”

⁹And Moses said to Aaron, "Say to all of the congregation of the sons of Israel, 'Approach the face of Yahweh, for he has heard your murmurings.'" ¹⁰And so it was, as Aaron spoke to all of the congregation of the sons of Israel, that they turned toward the wilderness, and behold! the glory of Yahweh appeared in the cloud!

¹¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹²"I have heard the murmurings of the sons of Israel. Speak to them saying, 'Between the evenings you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be satisfied with bread. And you will know that I am Yahweh your God.'"

¹³And so it was, in the evening quail came up and covered the camp. And in the morning the dew was lying round about the camp. ¹⁴And the lying dew went up; and behold! on the face of the wilderness were thin flakes, thin like frost on the ground. ¹⁵And the sons of Israel saw it, and they said each man to his brother, "What is it?" Because they did not know what it was.

And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that Yahweh has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is the thing that Yahweh has commanded: 'Gather from it each according to the mouths of his eating; an omer for each person up to the number of your people, each shall take for those in his tent.'" ¹⁷And the sons of Israel did so. And they gathered much, or little, ¹⁸and they measured it by omer. And there was no extra for those with much, and no lack for those with little. Each man gathered according to what he needed to eat.

¹⁹And Moses said to them, "No one shall save any of it until morning." ²⁰But they did not listen to Moses. And men reserved some of it until morning, and it bred worms, and it stank. And Moses became angry with them. ²¹And they gathered it morning by morning, each man according to the mouths of his eating. And the sun became hot, and it melted.

²²And so it was, on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each person. And all the leaders of the community came and told Moses. ²³And he said to them, "This is what Yahweh spoke: 'Tomorrow is a rest, a holy Sabbath to Yahweh. What you are baking-bake! and what you are cooking-cook! And all of the leftovers cause to rest, for preservation for yourselves until morning.'"

²⁴And they left it until morning, as Moses had instructed. And it did not become foul, and no worms were in it.

²⁵And Moses said, "Eat it today, for it is Sabbath, a day for Yahweh, a day you will not find it in the fields. ²⁶You shall gather it for six days, and on the seventh day, Sabbath, there will be none of it."

²⁷And so it was, on the seventh day, some of the people went out to gather, but they found none. ²⁸And Yahweh said to Moses, "Until what time will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws? ²⁹Look! For Yahweh has given you the Sabbath. So on the sixth day he is giving you bread for two days. Each one stay where he is; a man shall not be going out from his place on the seventh day." ³⁰And the people rested on the seventh day.

³¹And the house of Israel called its name "manna." And it was like coriander seed, white, and its taste was like wafers with honey. ³²And Moses said, "This is the procedure that Yahweh has commanded: 'A full omer of it for preservation for your descendants so that they can see the bread which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out from the land of Egypt.'"

³³And Moses said to Aaron, "Take one pot and put there a full omer of manna. Put it before the face of Yahweh, for preservation for your descendants." ³⁴Just as Yahweh commanded to Moses, so Aaron put it before the face of the Covenant, for preservation. ³⁵And the sons of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to inhabited land. They ate manna until they came to the borders of the land of Canaan. ³⁶(And an omer, it is a tenth of an ephah.)

Chapter 17

¹And all the community of the sons of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, journeying at the mouth of Yahweh. And they camped at Rephidim, and there was no water for the people to drink. ²And the people quarreled with Moses and they said, "Give us water to drink."

And Moses said to them, "Why are you quarreling with me? Why do you test Yahweh?"

³And the people were thirsty for water there, and the people murmured against Moses. And he said, "Is this why you brought us up from Egypt? To kill me, and my sons, and my cattle, with thirst?"

⁴And Moses cried out to Yahweh, saying, "What should I do for this people? A little longer and they will stone me."

⁵And Yahweh said to Moses, "Pass before the face of the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel, and your staff, the one with which you struck the river, take in your hand; and go. ⁶Behold me! I will stand before your face there on the rock at Horeb, and you will strike on the rock. And water will come from it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so in the eyes of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, for the conflict of the sons of Israel, and for their testing of Yahweh by saying, "Is Yahweh among us or not?"

⁸And Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. ⁹And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose men for us and go out. Fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will be stationed on top of the hill, and the staff of God will be in my hand." ¹⁰And Joshua did as Moses said to him, to fight Amalek.

And Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed up to the top of the hill. ¹¹And so it was, when Moses raised his hand, then Israel would be winning; and when he set his hand down, then Amalek would be winning. ¹²And the hands of Moses became heavy; and they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur held his hands up, one from this, and one from that. And so his hands were steady until the sun went down. ¹³And Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

¹⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "Write this memory in the book and put it in the ears of Joshua, because I will certainly blot out the memory of Amalek from under the skies." ¹⁵And Moses built an altar and he called its name "Yahweh is my banner." ¹⁶And he said, "Because a hand was against the throne of Yah, war is to Yahweh against Amalek from generation to generation."

Chapter 18

¹And Jethro, the priest of Midian, father-in-law of Moses, heard all that God had done for Moses and for Israel his people; that Yahweh brought Israel out from Egypt. ²And Jethro, father-in-law of Moses, took Zipporah, wife of Moses, after he had sent her back, ³and her two sons; one of whose names was Gershom, for he had said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land." ⁴And the name of the other was Eliezer, for "The God of my father was my helper. And he rescued me from the sword of Pharaoh."

⁵And Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, came, and his sons and his wife, to Moses, to the wilderness where he was camping, at the mountain of God. ⁶And he said to Moses, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, and your wife, and her two sons with her." ⁷And Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and he bowed down and kissed him. And they asked, each man his friend, of their welfare, and they went into the tent. ⁸And Moses related to his father-in-law all that Yahweh had done to Pharaoh and to Egypt on account of Israel, all the hardship that found them along the way, and of Yahweh rescuing them.

⁹And Jethro rejoiced over all the good that Yahweh had done for Israel, whom he rescued from the hand of Egypt. ¹⁰And Jethro said, "Bless Yahweh, who rescued you out of the hand of Egypt and out of the hand of Pharaoh; who rescued the people from under the hand of Egypt. ¹¹Now I know that Yahweh is greater than all the gods, because of the matter which they were arrogant against them." ¹²And Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, took a burnt offering and sacrifices to God. And Aaron came, and all of the elders of Israel, to eat bread before the face of God with the father-in-law of Moses.

¹³And so it happened the next day, that Moses sat down to judge the people. And the people stood around Moses from morning until evening. ¹⁴And the father-in-law of Moses was watching all that he did for the people, and he

said, "What is this thing that you are doing with the people? For what purpose do you sit alone, and all the people position themselves next to you from morning until evening?"

¹⁵And Moses said to his father-in-law that, "The people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶When a situation comes up among them, someone comes to me. And I judge between a man and his associate, and I help them understand the statutes of God and his laws."

¹⁷And the father-in-law of Moses said to him, "The thing which you are doing is not good. ¹⁸You will certainly wear yourself out, both you and also these people who are with you, because the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. ¹⁹Now, listen to my voice. I will advise you, and God will be with you. You be before God for the people, and you should bring their disputes to God yourself. ²⁰And you should teach them the statutes and the laws. And you should cause them to know the way they should walk in and the work that they should do. ²¹And you yourself should search out from all of the people men of ability, fearers of God, men of faithfulness, haters of dishonest profit. And you should appoint over them: leaders of thousands, leaders of hundreds, leaders of fifties, and leaders of tens. ²²And they will judge the people at all times. And so it will be, every great situation they will bring to you, and every small situation they will judge themselves. And lighten from on you! And they will carry alongside you. ²³If you do this thing, and God instructs you, then you will be able to endure; and furthermore, all of this people will go to its place in peace."

²⁴And Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law and did everything that he had said. ²⁵And Moses chose men of ability from all Israel, and he appointed them heads over the people, leaders of thousands, leaders of hundreds, leaders of fifties, and leaders of tens. ²⁶And they judged the people at all times. They brought the difficult situations to Moses, and they judged each small situation themselves.

²⁷And Moses let his father-in-law go, and he went into his own land.

Chapter 19

¹In the third month from the people of Israel exiting the land of Egypt, on the same day, they entered the wilderness of Sinai. ²And they departed from Rephidim; and they entered the wilderness of Sinai, and they camped in the wilderness. And Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

³And Moses went up to God, and Yahweh called to him from the mountain saying, "Thus you shall speak to the house of Jacob, and you shall tell the sons of Israel: ⁴You yourselves saw what I did to the Egyptians, how I carried you on the wings of eagles and brought you to myself. ⁵And now, if you listen intently to my voice; and keep my covenant; then you will be my possession from among all peoples. For all the earth is mine ⁶and you yourselves will be my kingdom of priests and holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

⁷And Moses came and summoned the elders of the people. And he set before their faces all these words that Yahweh had commanded him. ⁸And all the people responded together and they said, "We will do everything that Yahweh has said." And Moses brought the words of the people back to Yahweh.

⁹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Look, I will come to you in a thick cloud so that the people may hear when I speak with you and may also trust in you forever." And Moses told the words of the people to Yahweh.

¹⁰And Yahweh said to Moses, "Go to the people and make them holy today and tomorrow; and have them wash their clothing. ¹¹So they will be prepared for the third day; for on the third day Yahweh will come down to Mount Sinai before the eyes of all the people. ¹²And you shall set boundaries for the people all around, saying, 'Watch yourselves climbing on the mountain or touching on its edge. Every mountain toucher shall certainly be killed.

¹³No hand shall touch that one. Instead, he shall be stoned or he shall be shot. Whether animal or human, he shall not live.' At the prolonged sound of the horn, they shall ascend on the mountain."

¹⁴And Moses went down from the mountain to the people. And he made the people holy, and they washed their clothing. ¹⁵And he said to the people, "Be prepared by the third day; you shall not come near to a woman."

¹⁶And it happened on the third day, when it was the morning, there were thunder and lightning and a heavy cloud on the mountain, and an extremely strong horn sound. And all the people who were in the camp were trembling.

¹⁷And Moses brought the people out from the camp to meet God, and they stationed themselves at the bottom of the mountain. ¹⁸And Mount Sinai smoked—all of it—because Yahweh descended on it in fire. And its smoke went up like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled mightily. ¹⁹And it happened, the sound of the horn went very strong. Moses was speaking, and God was answering him in a voice.

²⁰And Yahweh descended on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, and Yahweh called Moses to the top of the mountain. And Moses ascended. ²¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people lest they break through to Yahweh to see and many from them fall. ²²And furthermore, the priests, the ones who come near to Yahweh, they shall make themselves holy lest Yahweh bursts out against them."

²³And Moses said to Yahweh, "The people are not able to come up on Mount Sinai, for you yourself warned us, saying: 'Set boundaries on the mountain and set it apart.'"

²⁴And Yahweh said to him, "Go, climb down. And you shall come back up, you and Aaron with you; and the priests and the people shall not break through to come up to Yahweh, lest he burst out against them." ²⁵And Moses went down to the people and he spoke to them.

Chapter 20

¹God spoke all these words saying: ²"I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ³There shall not be to you other gods above my face.

⁴You shall not make for yourself a carved figure nor the likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them and you shall not serve them, for I, Yahweh your God, am a jealous God. I visit the iniquity of the fathers on the sons on the third and on the fourth of the haters of me. ⁶But I show covenant faithfulness to thousands, to lovers of me and to keepers of my commandments.

⁷You shall not lift up the name of Yahweh your God with emptiness, for Yahweh will not leave unpunished anyone who lifts up my name with emptiness.

⁸Remember the Sabbath day, to set it apart to me. ⁹Six days you may labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath for Yahweh your God. You shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter; your male servant, or your female servant; or your cattle, or the foreigner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days Yahweh made the heavens and earth, the sea, and everything that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long on the land that Yahweh your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not testify false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet the house of your neighbor; you shall not covet the wife of your neighbor, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

¹⁸All the people were seeing the thundering and the lightning and the sound of the horn and the mountain smoking. And the people saw it, and they trembled, and they stood from a distance. ¹⁹They said to Moses, "You speak to us and let us listen! But do not let God speak to us lest we die."

²⁰And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come to test you so that the fear of him may be on your faces, and so that you do not sin."

²¹So the people stood far off, and Moses approached toward the thick darkness where God was.

²²And Yahweh said to Moses, "You shall speak thus to the sons of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. ²³You shall not make alongside me—you shall not make gods of silver or gods of gold for yourselves. ²⁴You shall make an altar of earth for me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings, and peace offerings, sheep, and oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you. ²⁵And if you make me an altar of stones, you shall not build them of cut stones, for causing your tool to move over it will defile it. ²⁶And you shall not go up to my altar on steps, so that your nakedness is not exposed over it.'

Chapter 21

¹And these are the ordinances that you shall set before their faces:

²If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve for six years, and in the seventh year he shall go free without paying anything. ³If he came by himself, he shall go free by himself; if he is the husband of a wife, then his wife shall go free with him. ⁴If his master gave him a wife and she bore him sons or daughters, the wife and her children are her master's, and he must go out by himself. ⁵But if the servant plainly says, "I love my master, my wife, and my children; I shall not go out free," ⁶then his master shall bring him to God. He shall bring him to a door or to a doorpost, and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl. Then he shall serve him forever.

⁷And if a man sells his daughter as a female servant, she shall not go out as the male servants go out. ⁸If she is bad in the eyes of her master, who has appointed her for himself, then he shall cause her to be ransomed. He has no authority to sell her to a foreign people, since he has acted treacherously with her. ⁹And if he appoints her for his son, he shall act toward her according to the custom of daughters. ¹⁰If he takes another to himself, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, or her marital rights. ¹¹But if he does not provide these three things to her, then she can go free without silver.

¹²Whoever strikes a man and he dies, he shall surely be put to death; ¹³but if he did not lie in wait, but God let it happen by his hand, then I will appoint a place for you where he can flee. ¹⁴If a man willfully acts against his neighbor to kill him with cunning, then you shall take him from my altar for execution.

¹⁵Whoever hits his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.

¹⁶Whoever steals a man—whether he sells him, or he is found in his hand—he shall surely be put to death.

¹⁷Whoever acts contemptuously towards his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.

¹⁸If men fight and a man hits his neighbor with a stone or with his fist, and he does not die but falls to bed; ¹⁹if he rises and walks about in the outdoors on his staff, then the striker is free. He only shall pay for his sitting and for his complete healing.

²⁰And if a man hits his male servant or his female servant with a staff and he dies under his hand, he shall certainly be avenged. ²¹However, if he stands a day or two, he shall not be avenged, for he is his silver.

²²And if men fight together and strike a pregnant woman and her children come out, but there is no serious injury, then he shall surely be fined as the husband of the woman puts on him, and he shall give according to the judges.

²³But if there is serious injury, then you shall give a life for a life, ²⁴an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a hand for a hand, a foot for a foot, ²⁵a burn for a burn, a wound for a wound, or a bruise for a bruise.

²⁶And if a man hits the eye of his male servant or the eye of his female servant and destroys it, he shall let him go free in compensation for his eye. ²⁷And if he knocks out a tooth of his male servant or a tooth of his female servant, he shall let him go free as compensation for the tooth.

²⁸And if an ox gores a man or a woman and he dies, the ox shall surely be stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox is innocent. ²⁹But if the ox had a habit of goring in the past, and its owner was warned but did not keep it in, and it kills a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned, and its owner also shall be put to death.

³⁰If a ransom is imposed on him, he shall give the ransom of his life, according to all that is imposed on him. ³¹If it gores a son or it gores a daughter, it shall be done to him according to this ordinance. ³²If the ox gores a male servant or a female servant, he shall give thirty silver shekels to the master, and the ox shall be stoned.

³³And if a man opens a cistern, or if a man digs a cistern and does not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls there, ³⁴the owner of the pit shall compensate. He shall cause silver to return to its owner, and the dead animal shall become his.

³⁵And if the ox of a man strikes the ox of another and it dies, then they shall sell the live ox and divide its silver, and they shall also divide the dead ox. ³⁶If it was known that the ox had a habit of goring in the past, and its owner has not kept it in, he shall surely compensate ox for ox, and the dead animal shall become his own.

Chapter 22

¹If a man steals an ox or a sheep and slaughters it or sells it, he shall compensate five cattle for the ox, and four sheep for the sheep.

²If a thief is found while breaking in, and he is struck and he dies, there is no blood-guilt for him. ³But if the sun has risen on him, there is blood-guilt for him. must shall restitution. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. ⁴If the stolen thing is actually found alive in his hand, from an ox, to a donkey, to a sheep, he shall compensate double.

⁵If a man causes his livestock to graze a field or vineyard and lets it go, and it grazes in the field of another, he shall compensate from the best of his field and from the best of his vineyard.

⁶If a fire breaks out and spreads in thorns and stacked grain or the standing grain or a field is consumed, the fire starter shall surely compensate.

⁷If a man gives silver or goods to his neighbor for safe keeping, and if it is stolen from the house of the man, if the thief is found he shall compensate double. ⁸If the thief is not found, then the owner of the house shall be brought to God, whether or not he has stretched out his hand against the property of his neighbor. ⁹Concerning every matter of transgression, concerning an ox, concerning a donkey, concerning a sheep, concerning clothing, concerning every lost property about which someone says, "Surely this is it," the matter of both parties shall come to God. Whomever God declares guilty shall compensate his neighbor double.

¹⁰If a man gives to his neighbor a donkey, or an ox, or a sheep, or any animal to keep, and it dies or is hurt or is carried away without a witness, ¹¹there shall be an oath of Yahweh between both of them, whether or not he stretched out his hand against the property of his neighbor. Its owner must accept, and he shall not compensate.

¹²But if it was truly stolen from him, he shall compensate its owner. ¹³If it was truly torn, he shall bring it as evidence. He shall not compensate for what was torn.

¹⁴If a man borrows from his neighbor and it is injured or dies without the owner with it, he shall surely compensate. ¹⁵If its owner was with it, he shall not compensate; if it was for hire, it came for its hiring fee.

¹⁶If a man seduces a virgin who is not engaged, and if he lies with her, he shall surely pay her bride price to make her his wife. ¹⁷If her father completely refuses to give her to him, he shall weigh out silver equal to the bride price of virgins.

¹⁸You shall not allow a sorceress to live.

¹⁹Any liar with an animal shall surely be put to death.

²⁰A sacrificer to the gods except to Yahweh alone shall be completely destroyed.

²¹You shall not wrong a sojourner and you shall not oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

²²You shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child. ²³If you actually afflict them, and if they actually cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry; ²⁴and my nose will burn, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives will become widows, and your sons will become fatherless.

²⁵If you lend silver to my people, the poor with you, you shall not be like a creditor to him—you shall not put interest on him. ²⁶If you actually take the clothing of your neighbor in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, ²⁷for it is his only covering; it is his clothing for his skin. In what will he lie down? And it will be when he cries to me, that I will hear him, for I am gracious.

²⁸You shall not act contemptuously towards God, and you shall not curse a ruler of your people. ²⁹You shall not hold back from your full harvest or your presses.

You shall give the firstborn of your sons to me. ³⁰You shall do the same to your ox and to your sheep. Seven days it will be with its mother, on the eighth day you shall give it to me.

³¹And you shall be men of holiness to me. And you shall not eat animal-torn-in-the-field meat. You shall throw it to the dogs.

Chapter 23

¹You shall not take up a report of emptiness. You shall not put your hand with the wicked to be a witness of violence. ²You shall not follow a crowd into evil, nor shall you testify on legal matters to turn aside behind the crowd that turns aside. ³And you shall not favor the poor in his lawsuit.

⁴If you meet the ox of your enemy or his donkey going astray, you shall certainly bring it back to him. ⁵If you see the donkey of someone who hates you fallen to the ground under its load, you shall refrain from leaving him. You shall surely release it with him.

⁶You shall not turn aside justice for your poor in his lawsuit. ⁷You shall be far from a word of deception, and you shall not kill the innocent or righteous, for I will not justify the wicked. ⁸And you shall not take a bribe, for the bribe blinds the clear-sighted, and it perverts the words of the righteous.

⁹And you shall not oppress a foreigner, since you yourself know the soul of the foreigner, for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.

¹⁰And six years you shall sow your land and gather its produce. ¹¹But the seventh you shall let it drop and leave it alone, and the poor of your people shall eat. And the living things of the field shall eat the remainder. You shall do thus to your vineyard and to your olive orchard.

¹²Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day you shall rest so that your ox and your donkey may rest and the son of your female slave and the sojourner may be refreshed.

¹³You shall take heed to everything that I have said to you. You shall not mention the names of other gods, nor let them be heard on your mouth.

¹⁴You shall celebrate me three times every year:

¹⁵You shall keep the Festival of Unleavened Bread. You shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the appointed time, the month of Aviv, for in it you came out from Egypt. And you shall not appear at my face empty-handed.

¹⁶And the Festival of the Harvest: the firstfruits of your labors which you sowed in the field.

And the Festival of the Gathering: in the exiting of the year, in your gathering of your labors from the field.

¹⁷Three times in a year, all your males shall appear to the face of the Lord Yahweh.

¹⁸You shall not sacrifice the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread, and the fat of my festival shall not remain all night until morning. ¹⁹You shall bring the first of the firstfruits of your ground to the house of Yahweh your God. You shall not boil a young goat in the milk of its mother.

²⁰Behold, I am about to send an angel before your face to guard you on the way, and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. ²¹Be guarded from his face and listen to his voice. Do not cause bitterness in him, for he will not bear with your transgressions, for my name is within him. ²²For if you indeed heed his voice and do everything that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and I will be an adversary to your adversaries. ²³For my angel will go before your face and bring you to the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. I will annihilate them. ²⁴You shall not bow down to their gods, and you shall not serve them, and you shall not do as they do. For you shall completely overthrow them and completely smash their stone pillars.

²⁵And you shall serve Yahweh your God, and he will bless your bread and your water. And I will remove sickness from among you. ²⁶There will not be a miscarriage or barren in your land. I will fulfill the number of your days.

²⁷I will send my terror before your face and I will confuse all of the people into whom you will go and I will give the back of the neck of all of your enemies to you. ²⁸And I will send the hornet before your face and it will drive out the Hivites, Canaanites, and the Hittites from before your face. ²⁹I will not drive them out from before your face in one year lest the land become desolate, and the animals of the field become too many for you. ³⁰I will drive them out little by little from before your face until you become fruitful and possess the land. ³¹And I will set your borders from the sea of reeds to the sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the River. For I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand. And you will drive them out from before your faces.

³²You shall not make a covenant with them or with their gods. ³³They shall not live in your land, lest they cause you to sin against me; for you will serve their gods, surely it will become a snare for you."

Chapter 24

¹And he said to Moses, "Come up to Yahweh—you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and seventy from the elders of Israel, and you shall bow down from a distance. ²And Moses alone shall come near to Yahweh, and they shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him."

³And Moses went and recounted to the people all of the words of Yahweh and all of the ordinances. And all of the people answered with one voice and said, "We will do all the things that Yahweh has spoken." ⁴And Moses wrote all of the words of Yahweh. And he rose early in the morning and built an altar at the bottom of the mountain and twelve stone pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵He sent the young men of the sons of Israel and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of bulls to Yahweh. ⁶And Moses took half of the blood and put it into basins and sprinkled half of the blood onto the altar. ⁷And he took the book of the Covenant and read it aloud in the ears of the people. And they said, "We will do and hear all that Yahweh has spoken."

⁸And Moses took the blood and sprinkled it onto the people. And he said, "Behold! the blood of the covenant that Yahweh has cut with you according to all of these words."

⁹And Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy from the elders of Israel went up. ¹⁰And they saw the God of Israel. And under his feet was like tile made of sapphire, and its substance was as the sky in purity. ¹¹And he did not send out his hand to the leaders of the sons of Israel. And they saw God, and they ate and drank.

¹²And Yahweh said to Moses, "Come up to me to the mountain and be there. And I will give you the tablets of stone and the law and the commandments that I have written to teach them."

¹³And Moses and his servant Joshua got up and Moses went up to the mountain of God. ¹⁴And he had said to the elders, "Wait for us in this place until we return to you. And behold! Aaron and Hur are with you—Whoever is a master of words may come near to them."

¹⁵And Moses went up to the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶And the glory of Yahweh settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses from within the cloud. ¹⁷And the appearance of the glory of Yahweh was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the sons of Israel. ¹⁸And Moses entered the middle of the cloud and went up to the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Chapter 25

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel and they shall take a contribution for me. You shall take my contribution from every man whose heart incites him. ³And these are the contributions that you shall receive from them: gold, and silver, and bronze; ⁴and blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair; ⁵and reddened hides of rams, and hides of sea-cows, and wood of acacias; ⁶oil for the light; spices for the oil of anointing and for the incense of fragrance; ⁷stones of onyx and precious stones for settings for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

⁸And they shall make a sanctuary for me and I shall live in their midst. ⁹According to all that I am about to show you—the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all of its utensils—and thus you shall make it.

¹⁰And they shall make a box of wood of acacias—its length: two cubits and a half; and its width: one cubit and a half; and its height: one cubit and a half. ¹¹And you shall overlay it {with} pure gold, inside and outside you shall overlay it, and you shall make on it a border of gold around {it}. ¹²And you shall cast four rings of gold for it, and put them on its four feet: two rings on its one side, and two rings on its second side. ¹³And you shall make poles of wood of acacias and overlay them {with} gold. ¹⁴And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the box, to carry the box with them. ¹⁵The poles shall be in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it. ¹⁶And you shall put into the box the Testimony that I give to you.

¹⁷And you shall make an atonement lid of pure gold—its length: two cubits and a half; and its width: a cubit and a half. ¹⁸And you shall make two gold cherubim, you shall make them of hammered work from the two ends of the atonement lid. ¹⁹And make one cherub from this end, and one cherub from this end. You shall make the cherubim from the atonement lid on its two ends. ²⁰And the cherubim shall be spreading out their wings upward, covering

over the atonement lid with their wings and their faces shall each be towards his brother. The faces of the cherubim shall be towards the atonement lid. ²¹And you shall put the atonement lid on the box from above, and you shall put into the box the Testimony that I give to you. ²²And I will meet with you there and I will speak with you all that I will command you for the sons of Israel from above the atonement lid, from between the two cherubim which are above the Box of the Testimony.

²³And you shall make a table from wood of acacias. Its length: two cubits, and its width: a cubit, and its height: a cubit and a half. ²⁴And you shall overlay it {with} pure gold, and you shall make for it a border of gold around {it}. ²⁵And you shall make a rim for it, a handbreadth all around, and you shall make a border of gold around its rim. ²⁶And you shall make four rings of gold for it and put the rings on the four corners, where its four legs are. ²⁷The rings shall be close to the rim to house the poles to carry the table. ²⁸And you shall make the poles {out of} wood of acacias and cover them {with} gold. And the table shall be carried with them. ²⁹And you shall make its plates, and its pans, and its pitchers, and its bowls with which it will be poured out. You shall make them from pure gold. ³⁰And you shall continually put the bread of faces on the table before my face.

³¹And you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand—its base and its shaft—shall be made of hammered work. Its cups, its buds, and its blossoms shall be from it. ³²And six branches shall be going out from its sides—three branches of the lampstand from the one side, and three branches of the lampstand from the second side. ³³Three cups, shaped like almond blossoms, shall be on the one branch, a bulb and a blossom; and three cups, shaped like almond blossoms, shall be on the one branch, a bulb and a blossom; thus for the six branches going out from the lampstand. ³⁴And on the lampstand there shall be four cups shaped like almond blossoms {with} its bulbs and its blossoms, ³⁵And a bulb will be under two of the branches from it, and a bulb will be under two of the branches from it, and a bulb will be under two of the branches from it—for all six branches extending out from the lampstand. ³⁶Their bulbs and their branches from it shall all be one piece of hammered work of pure gold. ³⁷And you shall make its seven lamps—and it will hold up its lamps and it will make light on the side of its face— ³⁸and its tongs and its trays of pure gold. ³⁹He shall make it, all these items, from a talent of pure gold.

⁴⁰See and make by the pattern that you are being shown on the mountain.

Chapter 26

¹And the tabernacle you shall make with ten curtains: twisted fine linen, and blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet; cherubim—the work of a skilled craftsman you shall make them. ²The length of each curtain shall be 28 cubits and the width of each curtain shall be four cubits. All of the curtains shall be one size. ³Five of the curtains shall be joined each to another, and five of the curtains joined each to another. ⁴And you shall make loops of blue on the edge of the first curtain from the edge in the set. And you shall do thus along the edge of the end curtain in the second set. ⁵You shall make 50 loops on the first curtain, and you shall make 50 loops on the end of the curtain which is in the second set. The loops should be opposite woman to her sister. ⁶And you shall make 50 clasps of gold and join the curtains woman to her sister with the clasps and the tabernacle will be one.

⁷And you shall make curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle. You shall make 11 of these curtains. ⁸The length of each curtain shall be 30 cubits, and the width of each curtain shall be four cubits. The 11 curtains shall be the same size. ⁹And you shall join five curtains to each other and six curtains to each other. And you shall double over the sixth curtain at the front of the face of the tent. ¹⁰And you shall make 50 loops on the edge of the one end curtain in the joined set, and 50 loops on the edge of the curtain in the second joined set. ¹¹And you shall make 50 clasps of bronze and put the clasps in the loops and join them and the tent will be one. ¹²And the remaining excess curtain of the tent, the half curtain remaining, shall hang over the back of the tabernacle. ¹³And a cubit from this side and a cubit from that side, the excess of the length of the curtains of the tent shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle, from this side and from that side to cover it. ¹⁴And you shall make a covering for the tent of reddened hides of rams, and a covering of hides of sea-cows above that.

¹⁵And you shall make upright frames for the tabernacle from wood of acacias. ¹⁶The length of a frame shall be ten cubits, and the width of one frame shall be a cubit and a half of a cubit. ¹⁷There shall be two tenons in each frame for joining a woman to her sister. Thus you shall make all of the frames of the tabernacle. ¹⁸And you shall make the frames for the tabernacle: 20 frames for the south side. ¹⁹And you shall make 40 bases of silver under the 20 frames: two bases under one frame for its two tenons, and two bases under one frame for its two tenons. ²⁰And for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side: 20 frames ²¹and their 40 silver bases: two bases under one frame, and two bases under one frame. ²²And you shall make six frames for the back side of the tabernacle, towards the west. ²³And you shall make two frames for the back corners of the tabernacle. ²⁴And they shall be a pair at the bottom, and they shall be completely together at the top to one ring. Thus it shall be for both, the two shall be the corners. ²⁵And there shall be eight frames and their silver bases, 16 bases: two bases under one frame and two bases under one frame.

²⁶And you shall make crossbars of wood of acacias—five for the frames of the one side of the tabernacle, ²⁷and five crossbars for the frames of the second side of the tabernacle, and five crossbars for the frames for the back side of the tabernacle to the west. ²⁸And the middle crossbar in the center of the frames shall pass through from end to end. ²⁹And you shall cover the frames with gold. And you shall make their rings of gold, the holders for the crossbars. And you shall cover the bars with gold. ³⁰And you shall set up the tabernacle according to its plan that you were shown on the mountain.

³¹And you shall make a curtain of blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and of twisted fine linen; the work of a skillful workman, he shall make cherubim. ³²And you shall hang it on four pillars of acacia wood covered with gold and their hooks of gold on four bases of silver. ³³And you shall hang the curtain under the clasps, and you shall bring the Box of the Testimony there inside the curtain. And the curtain shall separate for you between the holy and the holy of holies. ³⁴And you shall put the atonement lid on the Box of the Testimony in the holy of holies. ³⁵And you shall put the table outside the curtain and the lampstand opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle. And put the table on the north side.

³⁶And you shall make a curtain for the entrance of the tent: of blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and of twisted fine linen; the work of an embroiderer. ³⁷And you shall make five pillars of acacia wood for the curtain and you shall overlay them with gold and their hooks shall be gold and you shall cast five bases of bronze for them.

Chapter 27

¹And you shall make the altar of wood of acacias, five cubits long and five cubits wide. The altar shall be square and three cubits high. ²And you shall make its horns on its four corners, its horns will be part of it. And you shall overlay it with bronze. ³And you shall make its pots for fatty ashes, and its shovels, and its basins, and its meat forks, and its trays. You shall make all its utensils with bronze. ⁴And you shall make a grate for it, a work of a network of bronze. And you shall make four rings of bronze on the network, on its four corners. ⁵And you shall put it under the ledge of the altar below, and the network shall be up to the middle of the altar. ⁶And you shall make poles for the altar, poles of wood of acacias, and you shall overlay them with bronze. ⁷And its poles shall be put into the rings, and the poles shall be on the two sides of the altar when carrying it. ⁸You shall make it hollow, of planks. Just as he showed you on the mountain, so they shall do.

⁹And you shall make the courtyard of the tabernacle. There shall be curtains of fine twisted linen on the south side of the courtyard; one side shall be 100 cubits long, ¹⁰with its 20 pillars, and their 20 bronze bases; the hooks of the pillars and their rings of silver. ¹¹And thus for the north side, the length of the curtains: 100 long, and its 20 posts, 20 bases of bronze, hooks of the pillars, and rings of silver. ¹²And the width of the courtyard, on the west side, shall have a curtain 50 cubits long with its ten pillars and ten bases. ¹³And the width of the courtyard, on the east side, shall be 50 cubits. ¹⁴The curtains for the side {shall be} fifteen cubits {with} their three pillars and their three bases. ¹⁵The curtains for the second side shall be fifteen with their three posts and their three bases. ¹⁶And the gate of

the courtyard shall be a curtain 20 cubits wide of blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and of twisted fine linen—the work of an embroiderer—with its four pillars and its four bases. ¹⁷All the pillars of the courtyard shall be filleted around with silver, and their silver hooks, and their bases of bronze. ¹⁸The length of the courtyard shall be 100 cubits, and the width 50, and the height five cubits with fine twined linen, and bases of bronze. ¹⁹All of the equipment of the tabernacle for all of its service, and all of its tent pegs and all of the pegs of the courtyard shall be bronze.

²⁰And you shall command the sons of Israel and they shall bring pure pressed oil of olive to you for the lamp, to cause the lamp to burn continually. ²¹In the tent of meeting, outside the curtain inside of which is the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall arrange it before the face of Yahweh, from evening to morning. This is an eternal statute throughout the generations of the sons of Israel.

Chapter 28

¹And you, bring Aaron your brother and his sons with him near to you from among the sons of Israel to be priests for me—Aaron and Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar the sons of Aaron! ²And you shall make for Aaron your brother clothes of holiness for glory and for splendor. ³And you, you shall speak to all of the wise of heart, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, and they shall make the clothes of Aaron to set him apart to be a priest for me. ⁴And these are the clothes that they shall make: a breastpiece, and an ephod, and a robe, and a tunic of woven work, a turban, and a sash. And they shall make clothes of holiness for your brother Aaron and for his sons to be priests for me. ⁵And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and fine linen.

⁶And they shall make the ephod from gold, blue, and purple, worm of scarlet, and twisted fine linen—the work of a skillful craftsman. ⁷It shall have two shoulder pieces joining to its two ends, so it shall be joined. ⁸And the skillfully-crafted sash of the ephod which is on it shall be of like workmanship, from it; of gold, blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and twined fine linen.

⁹And you shall take two stones of onyx and you shall engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel, ¹⁰six of their names on one stone, and the six remaining names on the second stone, according to their genealogies. ¹¹You shall engrave the two stones with the names of the sons of Israel—the work of a craftsman of stone, the engravings of a signet. You shall make them surrounded with ornamental settings of gold. ¹²And you shall put the two stones on the shoulder pieces of the ephod as stones of reminder for the sons of Israel. And Aaron shall carry their names before the face of Yahweh on his two shoulders for a reminder. ¹³And you shall make ornamental settings of gold ¹⁴and two twisted chains of pure gold, you shall make them as a work of rope, and you shall attach the chains of the rope to the ornamental settings.

¹⁵And you shall make a breastpiece of judgment—the work of a skillful craftsman—you shall make it like the work of the ephod; you shall make it from gold, blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and twisted fine linen. ¹⁶It shall be square, folded double; its length: a span; and its width: a span. ¹⁷And you shall set in it settings of precious stone—four stone rows. The first row shall be a row with a ruby, a topaz, and a garnet. ¹⁸And the second row: an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. ¹⁹And the third row: a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst. ²⁰And the fourth row: a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold—in their ornamental settings. ²¹And the precious stones shall be according to the names of the sons of Israel—according to their 12 names. Each shall be like the engraving of a signet according to its name—for the 12 tribes.

²²And you shall make twisted chains on the breastpiece, as a work of rope—pure gold. ²³And you shall make two rings of gold for the breastpiece and you shall put the two rings on the two ends of the breastpiece. ²⁴And you shall attach the two chains of gold to the rings on the two ends of the breastpiece. ²⁵And you shall attach two of the ends of the two chains to the two ornamental settings. And you shall attach those to the shoulder pieces of the ephod at the front of its face. ²⁶And you shall make two rings of gold, and you shall put them on the two ends of the breastpiece, on the edge which is toward the inner side of the ephod. ²⁷And you shall make two rings of gold,

and you shall put them on the two shoulder pieces of the ephod on the bottom of the front of its face, close to its joining above the skillfully-crafted waistband of the ephod. ²⁸And they shall tie the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a cord of blue to be on the finely-crafted waistband of the ephod, so the breastpiece shall not become detached from on the ephod.

²⁹And Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgment over his heart when he goes into the holy place as a reminder before the face of Yahweh continually. ³⁰And you shall put the Urim and the Thummim in the breastpiece of judgment, and they shall be over the heart of Aaron when he goes in before the face of Yahweh. And Aaron shall bear the judgment of the sons of Israel over his heart before the face of Yahweh continually.

³¹And you shall make the robe of the ephod entirely of blue. ³²And there shall be an opening for his head in the middle of it. There shall be an edge for its opening, all around so it can not tear—the work of a weaver, it shall be like an opening of a garment. ³³And on its bottom hem you shall make pomegranates of blue, purple, and worm of scarlet all around on its hem with bells of gold between them all around: ³⁴a bell of gold and a pomegranate, a bell of gold and a pomegranate all around the hem of the robe. ³⁵And it shall be on Aaron while serving, and its sound shall be heard at his going into the holy place before the face of Yahweh and at his leaving. And he shall not die.

³⁶And you shall make a rosette of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving on a signet, 'Holy to Yahweh.' ³⁷And you shall attach it by a cord of blue and it shall be on the turban. It shall be toward the front of the face of the turban. ³⁸And it shall be on the forehead of Aaron and Aaron shall bear the iniquity of the holy things which the sons of Israel shall cause to be holy, for all of the gifts of their holy things, and it shall be on his forehead continually for their acceptance before the face of Yahweh.

³⁹And you shall weave the tunic with fine linen, and you shall make a turban of fine linen. And you shall make a sash, the work of an embroiderer. ⁴⁰And for the sons of Aaron you shall make tunics, and you shall make sashes for them, and you shall make headbands for them for glory and for splendor. ⁴¹And you shall clothe them, your brother Aaron and his sons with him. And you shall anoint them and you shall fill their hand and you shall set them apart to be priests to me.

⁴²And make for them undergarments of linen to cover the flesh of nakedness—they shall be from the waist to the thighs. ⁴³And they shall be on Aaron and on his sons at their entering into the tent of meeting or at their drawing near to the alter to serve in the holy place. And they shall not bear iniquity and die.

This is a statute forever for him and for his offspring after him.

Chapter 29

¹And this is the thing that you shall do to them to set them apart to be priests to me. Take one bull, a son of the herd, and two unblemished rams, ²and unleavened bread, and unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers rubbed with oil. Make them with fine flour of wheat. ³And you shall put them into one basket, and you shall bring them near in the basket, and the bull and the two rams. ⁴And you shall bring Aaron and his sons near to the entrance of the tent of meeting. And you shall wash them with water. ⁵And you shall take the garments and you shall clothe Aaron with the tunic, and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastpiece, and you shall fasten the ephod to him with the finely-woven waistband of the ephod. ⁶And you shall set the turban on his head and put the crown of holiness on the turban. ⁷And you shall take the oil of anointing and pour it on his head and anoint him. ⁸And you shall bring his sons and clothe them with tunics. ⁹And you shall wrap them—Aaron and his sons—with the sash and bind headbands to them. And the priesthood will be to them as a statute forever. And you shall fill the hand of Aaron and the hand of his sons.

¹⁰And you shall bring the bull to the face of the tent of meeting, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the bull. ¹¹And you shall slaughter the bull before the face of Yahweh at the entrance of the tent of

meeting. ¹²And you shall take from the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and you shall pour out all of the blood on the base of the altar. ¹³And you shall take all of the fat covering the entrails, and the lobe above the liver and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and cause them to become smoke on the altar. ¹⁴But you shall burn the flesh of the bull and its skin and its dung in the fire outside of the camp. It is a purification offering.

¹⁵And you shall take one ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram, ¹⁶and you shall slaughter the ram. And you shall take its blood and sprinkle it all around on the altar. ¹⁷And you shall cut the ram into pieces and wash its entrails and its legs and put them on its pieces and on its head, ¹⁸and cause all of the ram to become smoke on the altar. It is a burnt offering to Yahweh. It is an appeasing, aromatic, fire offering to Yahweh.

¹⁹And you shall take the second ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram, ²⁰and you shall slaughter the ram and take some of its blood. And you shall 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 you shall sprinkle the blood all around on the altar. ²¹And you shall take some of the blood that is on the altar and some of the oil of anointing, and sprinkle it on Aaron, and on his garments, and on his sons, and on the garments of his sons along with him. And he will be set apart, and his garments, and his sons, and the garments of his sons along with him.

²²And you shall take the fat from the ram, and the fat tail, and the fat covering the entrails, and the lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and the right thigh—for this is a ram of consecration— ²³and one round loaf of bread, and one cake of bread of oil, and one wafer from the basket of unleavened bread that is before the face of Yahweh. ²⁴And you shall put all these on the palms of Aaron and on the palms of his sons and you shall raise them as a raised offering before the face of Yahweh. ²⁵And you shall take them from their hands and cause them to become smoke on the altar above the burnt offering to be an aroma of appeasing before the face of Yahweh, it is a fire offering to Yahweh. ²⁶And you shall take the breast from the ram of consecration that is for Aaron and raise it for a raised offering before the face of Yahweh, and it will be your share. ²⁷And from the ram of consecration which is for Aaron and which is for his sons you shall set apart the breast of the raised offering that was raised and the thigh of the contribution that was contributed. ²⁸And it shall belong to Aaron and to his sons—as an eternal requirement—for it is an offering from the sons of Israel. And it shall be an offering from the sons of Israel from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, their offerings to Yahweh.

²⁹And the garments of holiness that are for Aaron shall be for his sons after him for anointing in them and to fill their hand in them. ³⁰The priest who succeeds him from among his sons, who comes into the tent of meeting to serve in the holy place, shall wear them for seven days.

³¹And you shall take the ram of consecration and boil its meat in a holy place. ³²And Aaron and his sons shall eat the meat of the ram and the bread that is in the basket at the entrance to the tent of meeting. ³³And they shall eat these that were for their atoning to fill their hand, to set them apart. But a stranger shall not eat them, because they are set apart. ³⁴And if any meat of the consecration or any of the bread remains until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire. It shall not be eaten because it is set apart.

³⁵And thus you shall do to Aaron and to his sons according to all that I have commanded you: you shall fill their hand seven days. ³⁶And you shall offer a bull of purification for atonement daily and you shall purify the altar by making atonement for it. And you shall anoint it to set it apart. ³⁷You shall make atonement for the altar seven days and set it apart. And the altar will be holy of holies. Whatever touches the altar will be set apart.

³⁸And this is what you shall offer on the altar every day continually: two lambs, sons of a year. ³⁹The one lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the second lamb you shall offer between the evenings. ⁴⁰For the first lamb: a tenth of fine flour mixed with pressed oil (the fourth part of a hin), and a drink offering: the fourth part of a hin of wine. ⁴¹And you shall offer the second lamb between the evenings. You shall offer the same grain offering as in the morning, and the same drink offering with it for an appeasing, aromatic, fire offering to Yahweh.

⁴²It shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations, at the entrance to the tent of meeting before the face of Yahweh, there where I will meet with you to speak to you there. ⁴³And I will meet with the sons of Israel there and it will be set apart by my glory. ⁴⁴And I will set apart the tent of meeting and the altar. And I will set apart Aaron and his sons to be priests to me. ⁴⁵And I will live among the sons of Israel and will be their God. ⁴⁶And they will know that I am Yahweh their God, who brought them out from the land of Egypt to live among them. I am Yahweh their God.

Chapter 30

¹And you shall make an altar, a place of burning of incense. You shall make it with wood of acacias, ²Its length shall be one cubit and its width shall be one cubit. It shall be square, and its height shall be two cubits. Its horns {shall be} part of it. ³And you shall overlay it with pure gold—its top and all around its sides and its horns—and you shall make for it a border of gold around it. ⁴And you shall make two rings of gold for it under its border on its two sides. You shall make them on its two sides. They will be housings for the poles for carrying it with. ⁵And you shall make the poles of wood of acacias, and you shall overlay them with gold. ⁶And you shall place it before the face of the curtain that is over the Box of the Testimony. It shall be before the face of the atonement lid that is over the Testimony, where I will meet with you.

⁷And Aaron shall cause smoke on it, incense of fragrance. Morning by morning when he makes the lamps good he shall cause it to smoke. ⁸and when Aaron lifts up the lamps between the evenings he will make it smoke. Incense will be continually before the face of Yahweh throughout your generations. ⁹You shall not offer up strange incense or a burnt offering or a grain offering on it. And you shall not pour a drink offering on it. ¹⁰And Aaron shall make atonement on its horns once a year. From the blood of the purification of the atonement once a year he shall make atonement for it throughout your generations. It is holy of holies to Yahweh.”

¹¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹²“When you lift up the head of the sons of Israel to count them, then each man shall give the ransom of his life to Yahweh when counting them. And there will not be a plague among them when counting them. ¹³Every passer over to the counted ones shall give this: half of a shekel, according to the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is 20 gerahs). The half shekel is an offering to Yahweh. ¹⁴Every passer over to the counted ones, from a son of 20 years and up, shall give the contribution of Yahweh. ¹⁵The rich shall not increase and the poor shall not decrease from the half shekel for giving the contribution of Yahweh to cover over your lives. ¹⁶And you shall take the silver of ransoms from the sons of Israel and you shall give it to the work of the tent of meeting. And it shall be as a reminder for the sons of Israel before the face of Yahweh, to cover over your lives.”

¹⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁸“And you shall make a basin of bronze and its base of bronze for washing. And you shall put it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it. ¹⁹And Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in it. ²⁰When they go into the tent of meeting they shall wash with water and they will not die. Also when they go near to the altar to serve by causing a fire offering to Yahweh to smoke ²¹then they shall wash their hands and their feet and they will not die. And this shall be a statue forever for them, for him and his offspring throughout their generations.”

²²And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“As for you, take the best spices: myrrh of flowing—500—and cinnamon of fragrance, its half—250—and cane of fragrance—250— ²⁴and cassia—500—according to the shekel of the sanctuary and a hin of oil of olive. ²⁵And you shall make it into an oil of anointment of holiness, an ointment from an ointment mixture, the work of an ointment mixer. It shall be an oil of anointment of holiness. ²⁶And you shall anoint with it the tent of meeting, and the box of the testimony, ²⁷and the table and all of its utensils, and the lampstand and its equipment, and the altar of incense, ²⁸and the altar of burnt offerings and all of its equipment, and the basin and its stand. ²⁹And you shall set them apart and they will be holy of holies. Anything that touches them will be set apart.

³⁰And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons and set them apart to be priests to me. ³¹And you shall speak to the sons of Israel saying, 'This will be my oil of anointment of holiness throughout your generations. ³²It shall not be poured on the body of a man, and you shall not make anything like it with its formula. It is holy, it shall be holy to you. ³³A man that mixes its like or that puts any of it on a stranger shall be cut off from his people.'

³⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "Take to yourself spices—stacte, and onycha, and galbanum—spices and pure frankincense. They shall each be in equal amounts. ³⁵And you shall make it into incense, an ointment, the work of an ointment mixer: salted, pure, holy. ³⁶And you shall pulverize some of it until pulverized. And you shall put some of it before the face of the testimony in the tent of meeting, where I will meet with you. It will be holy of holies to you. ³⁷And the incense that you will make, you shall not make any with its formula for yourselves. It must be holy to Yahweh for you. ³⁸A man that makes its like to smell it shall be cut off from his people."

Chapter 31

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses saying, ²"See, I have called by name Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, from the tribe of Judah. ³And I have filled him with the spirit of God, with skill, and with understanding, and with knowledge, and with all kinds of craftsmanship, ⁴to design designs, to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze; ⁵and in carving of precious stones for setting and in carving of wood—to do all kinds of craftsmanship. ⁶And behold! I have given Oholiab son of Ahisamak, from the tribe of Dan with him. And I have put skill into the hearts of all of the skilled of heart and they shall make all that I have commanded you: ⁷the tent of meeting, and the box of the testimony, and the atonement lid that is on it, and all of the furniture of the tent— ⁸the table and its utensils, and the pure lampstand and all its equipment, and the altar of incense, ⁹and the altar of burnt offerings and all its equipment, and the basin and its base— ¹⁰and the finely-woven clothing, and the clothing of holiness, for Aaron the priest and the clothing of his sons to {be} priests, ¹¹and the oil of anointing and the incense of fragrance for the sanctuary. They shall make according to all that I have commanded you."

¹²And Yahweh said to Moses saying, ¹³"And you, speak to the sons of Israel saying: 'Surely you shall keep my Sabbaths, for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations so that you may know that I am Yahweh who sets you apart. ¹⁴And you shall keep the Sabbath, for it is holy to you.' The profaner of it shall surely be put to death, for every worker of work on it—that person—shall be cut off from his people. ¹⁵Work shall be done six days, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of Sabbath, holy to Yahweh. Every worker of work on the Sabbath day shall surely be put to death. ¹⁶And the sons of Israel shall keep the Sabbath to celebrate the Sabbath throughout their generations. A covenant of eternity ¹⁷is between me and the sons of Israel. It is a sign forever, for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed."

¹⁸And as he finished speaking with him on the mountain of Sinai, he gave to Moses the two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.

Chapter 32

¹And the people saw that Moses delayed in coming down from the mountain, and the people gathered themselves around Aaron and said to him, "Arise, make gods for us that shall go before our faces, for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him."

²And Aaron said to them, "Tear off the rings of gold that are on the ears of your wives, your sons and your daughters, and bring them to me." ³And all the people tore the rings of gold off themselves that were on their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴And he took it from their hand and fashioned it with a tool and he made a calf of molten metal. And they said, "These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt." ⁵And Aaron saw, and he built an altar before the face of it and Aaron proclaimed and said, "Tomorrow will be a festival to

Yahweh.”⁶And they arose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and to drink, and got up to play.

⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses, “Go! Descend! For your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. ⁸They have quickly turned from the way that I commanded them. They have made a calf of molten metal for themselves and have bowed before it and sacrificed to it. And they have said, ‘These are your gods, Israel, that brought you up from the land of Egypt.’”⁹And Yahweh said to Moses, “I have seen this people and behold! it is a people hard of neck. ¹⁰So now, leave me alone! And let my nose burn against them, and I will destroy them. And I will make you into a great nation.”

¹¹But Moses entreated the face of Yahweh his God. And he said, “Yahweh, why does your nose burn against your people whom you have brought out from the land of Egypt with great power and with a strong hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, saying, ‘He brought them out with evil intent, to kill them in the mountains and to destroy them from on the face of the ground?’ Turn from your burning nose and repent from the evil to your people. ¹³Remember Abraham and Isaac and Israel, your servants that you swore to them by yourself and spoke to them, ‘I will cause your descendants to increase as the stars of the heavens, and I will give to your descendants all this land of which I have spoken. And they will inherit it forever.’”¹⁴Then Yahweh repented from the evil that he had spoken to do to his people.

¹⁵And 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, on this {side} and on that {side} they were written. ¹⁶And the tablets, they {were} the work of God. And the writing, it {was} the writing of God, {it} was engraved on the tablets.

¹⁷And Joshua heard the noise of the people in its shouting, and he said to Moses, “{There is} the noise of war in the camp.”

¹⁸But Moses said,

“There is not the sound of singing of strength,
and there is not the sound of singing of weakness,
the sound of singing I am hearing.”

¹⁹And it happened as he approached to the camp and he saw the calf and dancing. And the nose of Moses burned. And he threw the tablets from his hands and shattered them under the mountain. ²⁰And he took the calf that they had made, and burned {it} in the fire, and ground {it} until it was fine, and scattered {it} on the face of the water, and caused the sons of Israel to drink {it}.

²¹And Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you, that you have brought a great sin on them?”

²²And Aaron said, “Do not let {your} nose burn, my lord. You know the people, that it {is/was} in evil. ²³And they said to me, ‘Make for us a god that will go before our faces. As for this Moses, the man that brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him.’ ²⁴And I said to them, ‘Whoever has gold, take it off yourself.’ And they gave {it} to me and I threw it in the fire and this calf came out.”

²⁵And Moses saw the people, that it was let loose, for Aaron had let it loose, to mockery by the risers-up against them. ²⁶And Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, “Who {is} for Yahweh, to me!” And all of the sons of Levi gathered themselves to him. ²⁷And he said to them, “Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: ‘Each man put his sword on his side. Pass through and return from gate to gate in the camp, and kill each his brother, and each his companion, and each his neighbor.’”²⁸And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And on that day about 3,000 men from the people fell. ²⁹And Moses said, “Fill your hand for Yahweh today! For a man {was} against his son and against his brother and to give a blessing over you today.”

³⁰And it happened the next day that Moses said to the people, "You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to Yahweh. Perhaps I can atone for your sin." ³¹And Moses returned to Yahweh and said, "Oh, this people has sinned a great sin and made themselves gods of gold. ³²But now, if you forgive their sin; but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written."

³³But Yahweh said to Moses, "Whoever that sinned against me, I will blot him out from my book. ³⁴So now go, lead the people to where I have spoken to you! Behold, my angel will go before your face. But on the day I visit them, then I will visit their sin on them."

³⁵And Yahweh plagued the people on account that they had made the calf (that Aaron made).

Chapter 33

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, "Go, arise from here, you and the people whom you have brought up from the land of Egypt to the land which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your seed.' ²And I will send an angel before your face, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, Hivites, and the Jebusites. ³{Go} to a land flowing {with} milk and honey, but I will not go up in your midst, because you {are} a people hard of neck, lest I destroy you on the way."

⁴And the people heard this evil word, and they mourned, and each one did not put his ornaments on him. ⁵And Yahweh {had} said to Moses, "Say to the sons of Israel, 'You are a people hard of neck. {If} I went up among you {for} one moment, then I {would} destroy you. And now, take your ornaments down from on you and I will know what I will do to you.'" ⁶And the sons of Israel stripped themselves {of} their ornaments from Mount Horeb.

⁷And Moses would take a tent and would pitch it on the outside of the camp, at a distance from the camp. And he called it the tent of meeting. And it happened, every seeker of Yahweh would go out to the tent of meeting that {was} on the outside of the camp. ⁸And it happened as Moses went out to the tent, all the people would stand up and each would be stationed {at} the entrance of his tent. And they stared behind Moses until he went in to the tent. ⁹And it happened, as Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stand {at} the entrance of the tent. And he would speak with Moses. ¹⁰And all of the people saw the pillar of cloud standing {at} the entrance of the tent, and all of the people would get up and bow down, each {at} the entrance of his tent.

¹¹And Yahweh would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua son of Nun, a young man, would not withdraw from the midst of the tent.

¹²And Moses said to Yahweh, "See, you {have been} saying to me, 'Take this people up,' but you have not caused me to know whom you will send with me. And you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my eyes.' ¹³And now please if I have found favor in your eyes, please cause me to know your ways and I will know you so that I can find favor in your eyes. And see that this nation is your people."

¹⁴And he said, "My face will go and I will cause rest for you."

¹⁵And he said to him, "If your face {is} not going, do not take us up from here. ¹⁶And in what then will it be known that I have found favor in your eyes, I and your people? {Is it} not in your going with us? And I and your people shall be distinct from all of the people that {are} on the face of the earth."

¹⁷And Yahweh said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken, for you have found favor in my eyes, and I know you by name."

¹⁸And he said, "Please show me your glory."

¹⁹And he said, "I myself will cause all my goodness to pass over above your face, and I will proclaim in the name of Yahweh before your face: and I will favor whom I will favor, and I will be compassionate to whom I will be compassionate." ²⁰But he said, "You are not able to see my face, for mankind can not see me and live." ²¹And

Yahweh said, "Behold, a place with me, and you shall station yourself on the rock. ²²And it will happen, while my glory passes over, that I will put you in a crevice of the rock and my hand will cover over you until I have passed over. ²³Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back, but my face will not be seen."

Chapter 34

¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Carve for yourself two tablets of stone like the first. And I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets that you broke. ²And be ready by morning and in the morning come up to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of mountain. ³And a man shall not come up with you and also let a man not be seen on all of the mountain. Also let not the flocks and the herds graze to the front of that mountain." ⁴And he carved two tablets of stone like the first, and Moses got up early in the morning and went up to Mount Sinai as Yahweh had commanded him. And he took the two tablets of stone in his hand.

⁵And Yahweh came down in the cloud and stood with him there and he pronounced in the name of Yahweh. ⁶And Yahweh passed over above his face and proclaimed, "Yahweh, Yahweh, a God compassionate and gracious, long of nostril, and abounding in covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness, ⁷keeping covenant faithfulness to thousands, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin. But acquitting he will not acquit, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the sons and on the sons of the sons, on the third and on the fourth."

⁸And Moses hurried and bowed to the ground and prostrated himself. ⁹And he said, "Please, if I have found favor in your eyes, my Lord, may my Lord please go among us, for this {is} a people hard of neck. And forgive our iniquity and our sin, and inherit us."

¹⁰And he said, "Behold, I am about to cut a covenant before all of your people, I will do wonders that have not been created in all of the earth and in all of the nations. And all of the people that you are in the midst of will see the work of Yahweh, for it {is} fear-filling what I {am} doing with you. ¹¹Keep for yourself what I am commanding today. Behold I am about to drive out from before your face the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

¹²Guard yourself lest you cut a covenant with the inhabitant of the land where you are about to go into, lest he become as a trap in your midst. ¹³Instead, their altars you shall break down, and their pillars you shall smash, and his Asherah poles you shall cut down. ¹⁴For you shall not bow to another god, for Yahweh, Jealous {is} his name, he {is} a jealous God. ¹⁵Lest you cut a covenant with the inhabitant of the land, and they prostitute after their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and he invite you, and you eat from his sacrifice ¹⁶and take from his daughters for your sons, and his daughters prostitute after their gods and cause your sons to prostitute after their gods.

¹⁷Do not make for yourselves gods of molten metal.

¹⁸You shall keep the Festival of Unleavened Bread. You shall eat unleavened bread seven days, which I commanded you, at the appointed time, the month of Aviv, for in the month of Aviv you came out from Egypt.

¹⁹All of the openers of the womb are mine, and all of your male livestock, the openers of cattle and of sheep. ²⁰And the opener of a donkey you shall ransom with a lamb. And if you do not ransom it, then you shall break his neck. All the firstborn of your sons, you shall ransom. And you shall not appear at my face empty-handed.

²¹Six days you shall labor, but on the seventh day you shall rest. In plowing time and in harvest time, you shall rest.

²²And you shall keep for yourself the Festival of Weeks {with} the first-fruits of the harvest of the wheat, and the Festival of the Gathering at the turning of the year. ²³Three times in a year, all your males shall appear before the face of the Lord Yahweh, God of Israel. ²⁴For I will drive out nations before your face and expand your borders. And a man will not desire your land when you go up to appear before the face of Yahweh your God three times in a year.

²⁵You shall not slaughter the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread, and the sacrifice of the Festival of the Passover shall not remain all night to the morning.

²⁶You shall bring the first of the first-fruits of your ground to the house of Yahweh your God.

You shall not boil a young goat in the milk of its mother.”

²⁷And Yahweh said to Moses, “Write these words for yourself, for over the mouth of these words I have cut a covenant with you and with Israel.” ²⁸And he was there with Yahweh 40 days and 40 nights; bread he did not eat and water he did not drink. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten words.

²⁹And it happened, as Moses {was} descending from Mount Sinai, and the two tablets of the testimony {were} in the hand of Moses as he {was} descending from the mountain. And Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while speaking with him, ³⁰and Aaron and all of the sons of Israel saw Moses, and behold! the skin of his face shone! And they were afraid to come near to him. ³¹And Moses called to them, and Aaron and all of the leaders among the congregation returned to him. And Moses spoke to them. ³²And after this, all of the sons of Israel approached, and he commanded them all that Yahweh had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³And Moses finished from speaking with them, and he put a veil over his face.

³⁴And whenever Moses went before the face of Yahweh to speak with him, he would remove the veil until he came out. And he would come out, and he would speak to the sons of Israel what he had been commanded. ³⁵And the sons of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of the face of Moses shone. And Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with him.

Chapter 35

¹And Moses assembled all the congregation of the sons of Israel and said to them, “These are the things that Yahweh has commanded you to do. ²Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day {there} shall be for you a holy Sabbath of rest to Yahweh. Every doer of work on it shall be put to death. ³You shall not kindle a fire in any of your dwellings on the days of the Sabbath.”

⁴And Moses said to all of the congregation of the sons of Israel saying, “This {is} the thing that Yahweh commanded, saying, ⁵Take from with you a contribution for Yahweh, every{one} willing of his heart. Let him bring the contribution of Yahweh—gold, and silver, and bronze, ⁶and blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair; ⁷and reddened hides of rams, and hides of sea-cows, and wood of acacias; ⁸and oil for the light; and spices for the oil of anointing and for the incense of fragrance; ⁹and stones of onyx and precious stones for settings for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

¹⁰And all of the wise of heart among you shall come and make all that Yahweh has commanded— ¹¹the tabernacle, its tent, and its covering, its clasps, and its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; ¹²the Box and its poles, the atonement lid, and the curtain of covering, ¹³the table and its poles, and all of its equipment, and the bread of the faces; ¹⁴and the lampstand of the light, and its utensils, and its lamps, and the oil of the light; ¹⁵and the altar of incense and its poles, and the oil of anointing and the incense of fragrance, and the curtain of the entrance for the entrance of the tabernacle, ¹⁶the altar of the burnt offering and the grate of bronze that {is} for it, its poles and all of its utensils, the basin and its base, ¹⁷the curtains of the courtyard, its pillars and bases, and the curtain of the gate of the courtyard; ¹⁸the tent pegs of the tabernacle, and the pegs of the courtyard, and their ropes, ¹⁹finely-woven clothing for serving in the holy place, the clothing of holiness for Aaron the priest and the clothing of his sons, to {be} priests.”

²⁰And all of the congregation of the sons of Israel went away from before the face of Moses. ²¹And every man whose heart lifted him came. And all whose spirit impelled him brought the contribution of Yahweh for the work of the tent of meeting, and for all of its service, and for the clothing of holiness. ²²And men along with women came,

all impelled of heart. They brought brooches, and earrings, and rings, and ornaments, all of the things of gold. And every man that raised {did} as a raised offering of gold to Yahweh. ²³And every man with whom was found blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and reddened ram skins, and hides of sea-cows brought {them}. ²⁴All of the presenters {of} a contribution of silver and of bronze brought the contribution of Yahweh, and all with whom wood of acacias was found for all the work of the service brought {it}. ²⁵And every woman skilled of heart spun with her hands and they brought the spun items, the blue, and the purple, the worm of scarlet, and the fine linen. ²⁶All the women with skill whose hearts lifted them spun goats' hair. ²⁷And the leaders brought the onyx stones and precious stones of setting for the ephod and for the breastpiece, ²⁸and spice and the oil for light, and for the oil of anointing, and for the incense of fragrance. ²⁹The sons of Israel brought a freewill offering to Yahweh, every man and woman whose heart impelled them to bring {something} for all of the work which Yahweh had commanded {them} to do by the hand of Moses.

³⁰And Moses said to the sons of Israel, "See, Yahweh has called by name on Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, from the tribe of Judah. ³¹And he has filled him with the spirit of God, with skill, and with understanding, and with knowledge, and with all kinds of craftsmanship, ³²and to design designs, to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, ³³and in carving of precious stones for setting and in carving of wood—to do all kinds of craftsmanship of invention, ³⁴and he has put in his heart to teach, he and Oholiab the son of Ahisamak, from the tribe of Dan. ³⁵He has filled them {with} skill of heart to do all of the work of a craftsman and of a skillful workman and of an embroiderer in the blue, and in the purple, and in the worm of scarlet, and in the fine linen, and of a weaver. {They are} doers of all work and designers of design.

Chapter 36

¹And Bezalel and Oholiab and every man skilled of heart to whom Yahweh has given skill and understanding to know {how} to do all of the work of the service of the holy place shall do according to all that Yahweh has commanded."

²And Moses called to Bezalel and to Oholiab and to every man skilled of heart in whose heart Yahweh had put skill, all whose heart lifted him to come near to the work to do it, ³and they took from before the face of Moses all of the contributions that the sons of Israel had brought for doing the work of the service of the holy place. And they continually brought a freewill offering to him in the morning in the morning. ⁴So all the skilled doing all the work of the holy place came, every single man from the work that they were doing ⁵and they said to Moses saying, "The people {are} bringing much more than enough for the service of the work that Yahweh has commanded {us} to do." ⁶And Moses commanded and they caused a sound to pass through in the camp saying, "A man and a woman shall not make any more work for the contribution of the holy place." And the people were restrained from bringing. ⁷And the work was sufficient for doing all their work and there was excess.

⁸And every skilled of heart among the doers of the work made the tabernacle with ten curtains: twisted fine linen, and blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet; cherubim—the work of a skilled craftsman he made them. ⁹The length of each curtain {was} 28 cubits and the width of each curtain {was} four cubits. All of the curtains {were} one size. ¹⁰And five of the curtains were joined each to another, and five of the curtains were joined each to another. ¹¹And he made loops of blue on the edge of the first curtain from the edge in the set. And he did thus along the edge of the end curtain in the second set. ¹²He made 50 loops on the first curtain, and he made 50 loops on the end of the curtain which is in the second set. The loops were opposite one to one. ¹³And he made 50 clasps of gold and joined the curtains one to one with the clasps and the tabernacle was one.

¹⁴And he made curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle. He made 11 of these curtains. ¹⁵The length of each curtain {was} 30 cubits, and the width of each curtain {was} four cubits. The 11 curtains {were} the same size. ¹⁶And he joined five curtains to each other and six curtains to each other. ¹⁷And he made 50 loops on the edge of the end curtain in the joined set, and he made 50 loops on the edge of the curtain in the second joined set. ¹⁸And

he made 50 clasps of bronze to join the tent to be one. ¹⁹And he made a covering for the tent of reddened hides of rams, and a covering of hides of sea-cows above that.

²⁰And he made upright frames for the tabernacle from wood of acacias. ²¹The length of a frame {was} ten cubits, and the width of one frame {was} a cubit and a half of a cubit. ²²{There were} two tenons in each frame for joining one to one. Thus he made all of the frames of the tabernacle. ²³And he made the frames for the tabernacle: 20 frames for the south side. ²⁴And he made 40 bases of silver under the 20 frames: two bases under one frame for its two tenons, and two bases under one frame for its two tenons. ²⁵And for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, he made 20 frames ²⁶and their 40 silver bases: two bases under one frame, and two bases under one frame. ²⁷And he made six frames for the back side of the tabernacle, towards the west. ²⁸And he made two frames for the back corners of the tabernacle. ²⁹And they were a pair at the bottom, and they were completely together at the top to one ring. Thus he did for both as the two corners. ³⁰And there were eight frames and their silver bases, 16 bases: two bases, two bases under one frame.

³¹And he made crossbars of wood of acacias—five for the frames of the one side of the tabernacle, ³²and five crossbars for the frames of the second side of the tabernacle, and five crossbars for the frames for the back of the tabernacle to the west. ³³And he made the middle crossbar in the center of the frames to pass through from end to end. ³⁴And he covered the frames with gold. And he made their rings of gold, the holders for the crossbars. And he covered the bars with gold.

³⁵And he made a curtain of blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and of twisted fine linen; the work of a skillful workman, he made cherubim. ³⁶And he made for it four pillars of acacia wood, and he covered them {with} gold and their hooks with gold. And he cast for them four bases of silver. ³⁷And he made a curtain for the entrance of the tent: of blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and of twisted fine linen—the work of an embroiderer— ³⁸and its five pillars and their hooks. And he covered their tops and their rings {with} gold. And their five bases {were} bronze.

Chapter 37

¹And Bezalel made the box of wood of acacias—its length: two cubits and a half; and its width: one cubit and a half; and its height: one cubit and a half. ²And he overlaid it {with} pure gold, inside and outside, and for it he made a border of gold around {it}. ³And he cast four rings of gold for it on its four feet: two rings on its one side, and two rings on its second side. ⁴And he made poles of wood of acacias and overlaid them {with} gold. ⁵And he put the poles into the rings on the sides of the box, to carry the box. ⁶And he made an atonement lid of pure gold—its length: two cubits and a half; and its width: a cubit and a half. ⁷And he made two gold cherubim, he made them of hammered work from the two ends of the atonement lid. ⁸One cherub {was} from this end, and one cherub from this end. He made the cherubim from the atonement lid from its two ends. ⁹And the cherubim were spreading out their wings upward, covering over the atonement lid with their wings and their faces {were} each towards his brother. The faces of the cherubim were towards the atonement lid.

¹⁰And he made the table from wood of acacias. Its length: two cubits, and its width: a cubit, and its height: a cubit and a half. ¹¹And he overlaid it {with} pure gold, and made for it a border of gold around {it}. ¹²And he made a rim for it, a handbreadth all around, and he made a border of gold around its rim. ¹³And he cast four rings of gold for it and put the rings on the four corners, where its four legs are. ¹⁴The rings were close to the rim to house the poles to carry the table. ¹⁵And he made the poles {out of} wood of acacias and covered them {with} gold to carry the table. ¹⁶And he made the objects that {would be} on the table—its plates, and its pans, and its bowls, and its pitchers with which it will be poured out—{from} pure gold.

¹⁷And he made the lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand—its base and its shaft—were made of hammered work. Its cups, its buds, and its blossoms were from it. ¹⁸And six branches were going out from its sides—three

branches of the lampstand from the one side, and three branches of the lampstand from the second side. ¹⁹Three cups, shaped like almond blossoms, {were} on the one branch, a bulb and a blossom; and three cups, shaped like almond blossoms, were on the one branch, a bulb and a blossom; thus for the six branches going out from the lampstand. ²⁰And on the lampstand {there were} four cups shaped like almond blossoms {with} its bulbs and its blossoms, ²¹And a bulb {was} under two of the branches from it, and a bulb {was} under two of the branches from it, and a bulb {was} under two of the branches from it—for all six branches extending out from it. ²²Their bulbs and their branches from it were all one piece of hammered work of pure gold. ²³And he made its seven lamps, and its trays, and its trays of pure gold. ²⁴He made it and all its items from a talent of pure gold.

²⁵And he made the altar of incense of wood of acacias. Its length {was} one cubit, and its width one cubit. It {was} square, and its height {was} two cubits. Its horns were part of it. ²⁶And he overlaid it {with} pure gold—its top and all around its sides and its horns—and he made for it a border of gold around {it}. ²⁷And he made two rings of gold for it under its border on its two sides, on its two sides; for housings for the poles for carrying it with them. ²⁸And he made the poles of wood of acacias, and he overlaid them {with} gold. ²⁹And he made the oil of anointment of holiness and the pure incense of fragrance, the work of an ointment maker.

Chapter 38

¹And he made the altar of the burnt offering of wood of acacias. Its length {was} five cubits and its breadth {was} five cubits—a square—and its height {was} three cubits. ²And he made its horns on its four corners, its horns were part of it. And he overlaid it {with} bronze. ³And he made all of the equipment of the altar—the pots, and the shovels, and the basins, the meat forks, and the firepans. He made all of its equipment {with} bronze. ⁴And he made a grate for the altar, a work of a network of bronze under its ledge, from below to its middle. ⁵And he cast four rings on the four ends for the grate of bronze, as holders for the poles. ⁶And he made the poles of wood of acacias, and overlaid them {with} bronze. ⁷And he put the poles into the rings on the sides of the altar, to carry it with them. He made it hollow, of planks.

⁸And he made a basin of bronze and its base of bronze with the mirrors of the serving {women} who served at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

⁹And he made the courtyard. For the south side, the curtains of the courtyard {were} 100 cubits of fine twisted linen, ¹⁰{with} their 20 pillars, and their 20 bronze bases; the hooks of the pillars and their rings of silver. ¹¹And for the north side, 100 cubits {with} their 20 pillars, and their 20 bases of bronze. The hooks of the pillars, and their rings {were} of silver. ¹²And the curtains for the side of the west {were} 50 cubits, with their ten pillars and their ten bases. The hooks of the pillars and rings {were} of silver. ¹³And for the east side fifty cubits. ¹⁴The curtains to the side {were} fifteen cubits {with} their three pillars and their three bases. ¹⁵And for the second side from this, and from this to the gate of the courtyard, the curtains {were} 15 cubits {with} their three pillars and their three bases. ¹⁶All of the curtains of the courtyard all around {were} fine twisted linen. ¹⁷And the bases for the pillars {were} bronze. The hooks of the pillars and their rings {were} silver, and the plating of their tops {was} silver. And all of the pillars of the courtyard {were} filleted {with} silver. ¹⁸And the curtain of the gate of the courtyard {was the} work of an embroiderer—blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and twisted fine linen—and the length {was} 20 cubits and the height in width {was} five cubits just as the curtains of the courtyard, ¹⁹with their four pillars and their four bases {which were} bronze, and their hooks {which were} silver, and the plating of their tops and its rings {which were} silver. ²⁰And all the tent pegs for the tabernacle and for the courtyard all around {were} bronze.

²¹These {are} the records of the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the testimony which was recorded on the mouth of Moses, the work of the Levites by the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest. ²²And Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, from the tribe of Judah, made everything that Yahweh had commanded Moses. ²³and Oholiab son of Ahisamak, from the tribe of Dan, an engraver, and a designer, and an embroiderer in blue, and in purple, and in scarlet, and in fine linen {was} with him.

²⁴All the gold used for the work, in all the work of the sanctuary—it was the gold from the raised offering—{was} 29 talents and 730 shekels, by the shekel of the sanctuary. ²⁵And the silver of the counted of the congregation {was} 100 talents and 1,775 shekels, by the shekel of the sanctuary, ²⁶a beka for a head (half a shekel), by the shekel of the sanctuary, from every passer over to the counted ones from a son of 20 years and older—from 603,550. ²⁷And 100 talents of silver were cast for the bases of the sanctuary and the bases of the curtain—100 bases for the 100 talents, a talent for a base. ²⁸And he made hooks for the pillars with the 1,775. And he overlaid their tops and filleted them. ²⁹And the bronze of the raised offering {was} 70 talents and 2,400 shekels. ³⁰And with it he made the bases of the entrance of the tent of meeting, and the altar of bronze, and its grate of bronze, and all the equipment of the altar, ³¹and the bases of the surrounding courtyard, and the bases of the entrance of the courtyard, and all of the tent pegs of the tabernacle, and all of the tent pegs of the surrounding courtyard.

Chapter 39

¹And from the blue, and the purple, and the worm of scarlet, they made finely-woven clothes for service in the holy place. And they made the clothes of holiness which {were} for Aaron, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

²And he made the ephod from gold, blue, and purple, worm of scarlet, and twisted fine linen. ³And they hammered the thin plates of gold and he cut {them} into threads, to work among the blue, and among the purple, and among the worm of scarlet, and among the fine linen, the work of a skillful craftsman. ⁴They made joined shoulder pieces for it. It was joined on its two corners. ⁵And the skillfully-crafted sash of the ephod which is on it was from it, of like workmanship, of gold, blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and twined fine linen, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

⁶And they made the stones of onyx, surrounded with ornamental settings of gold. Engraved on {them with} the engravings of a signet {were} the names of the sons of Israel. ⁷And he put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod as stones of reminder for the sons of Israel, as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

⁸And he made the breastpiece—the work of a skillful craftsman—like the work of the ephod, from gold, blue, and purple, and worm of scarlet, and twisted fine linen. ⁹It was square, folded double. They made the breastpiece, its length: a span; and its width: a span, folded double. ¹⁰And they set in it four rows of precious stones. The first row {was} a row of a ruby, of a topaz, and of a garnet. ¹¹And the second row: an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. ¹²And the third row: a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst. ¹³And the fourth row: a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. {The stones were} surrounded by ornamental gold settings. ¹⁴And the precious stones {were} according to the names of the sons of Israel—they {were} according to their 12 names. Each {was like} the engraving of a signet according to its name—for the 12 tribes.

¹⁵And they made twisted chains on the breastpiece, as a work of rope—pure gold. ¹⁶And they made two ornamental settings of gold and two rings of gold and put the two rings on the two ends of the breastpiece. ¹⁷And they attached the two chains of gold to the rings on the two ends of the breastpiece. ¹⁸And they attached two of the ends of the two chains to the two ornamental settings. And they attached those to the shoulder pieces of the ephod at the front of its face. ¹⁹And they made two rings of gold, and put them on the two ends of the breastpiece, on the edge which is toward the inner side of the ephod. ²⁰And they made two rings of gold, and put them on the two shoulder pieces of the ephod on the bottom of the front of its face, close to its joining above the skillfully-crafted waistband of the ephod. ²¹And they tied the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a cord of blue to be on the finely-crafted waistband of the ephod, so the breastpiece could not become detached from on the ephod just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

²²And he made the robe of the ephod entirely of blue, the work of a weaver. ²³The opening of the robe {was} in the middle of it like an opening of a garment. The edge for its opening was all around so that it could not tear. ²⁴On the bottom hem of the robe, they made pomegranates of twisted blue, purple, and scarlet yarn. ²⁵And they made bells of pure gold, and they put the bells between the pomegranates all around on the bottom edge of the robe,

between the pomegranates— ²⁶a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate—all around on the hem of the robe, for serving just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

²⁷And they made the tunics of fine linen for Aaron and for his sons, the work of a weaver, ²⁸and the fine linen turban, and the fine linen ornate headbands, and the linen undergarments of fine twisted linen, ²⁹and the sash of fine linen and of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, the work of an embroiderer just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

³⁰And they made the the rosette of the crown of holiness of pure gold and inscribed an inscription on it, like the engraving on a signet, "Holy to Yahweh." ³¹And they put a cord of blue on it to attach it on the top of the turban just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

³²And all the service of the tabernacle, the tent of meeting, was finished. And the sons of Israel did according to all that Yahweh had commanded Moses, thus they did. ³³And they brought the tabernacle to Moses—the tent and all its equipment, and its clasps, and its frames, and its bars, and its pillars, and its bases, ³⁴and the covering of reddened hides of rams, and the covering of hides of sea-cows, and the curtain of covering, ³⁵the Box of the Testimony, and the poles, and the atonement lid, ³⁶the table with all of its equipment, and the bread of the faces, ³⁷the pure lampstand with its lamps, lamps of the row, and all its accessories, and the oil of the light, ³⁸and the altar of gold, and the oil of anointing, and the incense of fragrance, and the curtain of the entrance of the tent, ³⁹the altar of bronze and the grate of bronze that {is} for it, its poles and all of its utensils, the basin and its base, ⁴⁰the curtains of the courtyard, its pillars and bases, and the curtain of the gate of the courtyard, its ropes, and its tent pegs, and all the items of the service of the tabernacle for the tent of meeting, ⁴¹finely-woven clothing for serving in the holy place, the clothing of holiness for Aaron the priest and the clothing of his sons, to {be} priests. ⁴²Thus the sons of Israel did all the work according to all that Yahweh had commanded Moses. ⁴³And Moses saw all of the work, and behold! they had done it. Just as Yahweh had commanded, thus they had done. And Moses blessed them.

Chapter 40

¹Then Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"On the first day of the first month of the new year you must set up the tabernacle, the tent of meeting. ³You must place the ark of the testimony in it, and you must shield the ark with the curtain. ⁴You must bring in the table and set in order the things that belong on it. Then you must bring in the lampstand and set up the lamps. ⁵You must put the golden incense altar before the ark of the testimony, and you must put the curtain at the entrance to the tabernacle. ⁶You must put the altar for burnt offerings in front of the entrance to the tabernacle, the tent of meeting. ⁷You must put the large basin between the tent of meeting and the altar and you must put water in it. ⁸You must set up the courtyard around it, and you must hang up the curtain at the courtyard entrance. ⁹You must take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and everything that is in it. You must set it apart and all its furnishings to me; then it will be holy. ¹⁰You must anoint the altar for burnt offerings and all its utensils. You must set apart the altar to me and it will become very holy to me. ¹¹You must anoint the bronze basin and its base and set it apart to me. ¹²You are to bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the tent of meeting and you must wash them with water. ¹³You are to clothe Aaron with the garments that are set apart to me, anoint him and set him apart so that he may serve as my priest. ¹⁴You are to bring his sons and clothe them with coats. ¹⁵You must anoint them as you anointed their father so that they may serve me as priests. Their anointing will make for them a permanent priesthood throughout their people's generations." ¹⁶This is what Moses did; he followed all that Yahweh had commanded him. He did all these things.

¹⁷So the tabernacle was set up on the first day of the first month in the second year. ¹⁸Moses set up the tabernacle, put its bases in place, set up its frames, attached its bars, and set up its pillars and posts. ¹⁹He spread the covering over the tabernacle and put tent over it, as Yahweh had commanded him. ²⁰He took the covenant decrees and put them into the ark. He also placed the poles on the ark and put the atonement lid on it. ²¹He brought the ark into

the tabernacle. He set up the curtain for it to shield the ark of the testimony, as Yahweh had commanded him. ²²He put the table into the tent of meeting, on the north side of the tabernacle, outside the curtain. ²³He placed the bread in order on the table before Yahweh, as Yahweh had commanded him. ²⁴He put the lampstand into the tent of meeting, across from the table, on the south side of the tabernacle. ²⁵He lit the lamps before Yahweh, as Yahweh had commanded him. ²⁶He put the golden incense altar into the tent of meeting in front of the curtain. ²⁷He burned fragrant incense on it, as Yahweh had commanded him. ²⁸He hung the curtain at the tabernacle entrance. ²⁹He put the altar for the burnt offering at the entrance to the tabernacle, the tent of meeting. He offered on it the burnt offering and the grain offering, as Yahweh had commanded him. ³⁰He placed the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar, and he put water in it for washing. ³¹Moses, Aaron, and his sons washed their hands and their feet from the basin ³²whenever they would go into the tent of meeting and whenever they would go up to the altar. They washed themselves, as Yahweh had commanded Moses. ³³Moses set up the courtyard around the tabernacle and the altar. He set up the curtain at the courtyard entrance. In this way, Moses finished the work.

³⁴Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and Yahweh's glory filled the tabernacle. ³⁵Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and because Yahweh's glory filled the tabernacle. ³⁶Whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out on their journey. ³⁷But if the cloud did not rise up from the tabernacle, then the people would not travel. They would stay until the day that it was lifted up. ³⁸For Yahweh's cloud was over the tabernacle by day, and his fire was over it by night, in plain view of all the people of Israel throughout their journey.

Leviticus

Chapter 1

¹And Yahweh called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, ²“Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When a man among you offers an offering to Yahweh, from the livestock, either from the herd or from the flock you must offer your offering.

³If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he must offer a male without blemish. At the entrance of the tent of meeting he must offer it, so that it may be accepted before the face of Yahweh. ⁴And he is to lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering. And it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him. ⁵And he must slaughter the son of the herd before the face of Yahweh. And the sons of Aaron, the priests, will offer the blood and sprinkle the blood on every side of the altar that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁶And he must skin the burnt offering and cut it into its pieces. ⁷And the sons of Aaron the priest will put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. ⁸And the sons of Aaron, the priests, must place the pieces, the head and the fat, on the wood that is on the fire that is on the altar. ⁹And he must wash with water its inner parts and its legs. And the priest will burn everything on the altar as a burnt offering, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to Yahweh.

¹⁰And if his offering is from the flock, from the sheep or from the goats, as a burnt offering, he must offer a male without blemish. ¹¹And he must slaughter it on the side of the altar northward before the face of Yahweh. And the sons of Aaron, the priests, will sprinkle its blood on every side of the altar. ¹²And he is to cut it into its pieces with its head and its fat. And the priest must place them on the wood that is on the fire that is on the altar. ¹³And he must wash with water the inner parts and the legs. And the priest will offer everything, and burn it on the altar. It is a burnt offering, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to Yahweh.

¹⁴And if his offering to Yahweh is to be a burnt offering of birds, then he must offer his offering from the turtledoves or from the sons of the pigeon. ¹⁵And the priest must bring it to the altar and wring off its head, and burn it on the altar. And its blood must be drained out on the side of the altar. ¹⁶And he must remove its crop with its plumage, and throw it beside the altar on the east side, in the place for the ashes. ¹⁷And he must tear it open by its wings; he must not divide it into two parts. And the priest will burn it on the altar, on the wood that is on the fire. It is a burnt offering, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to Yahweh.

Chapter 2

¹And when a person brings a grain offering to Yahweh, his offering must be fine flour. And he will pour oil on it and put incense on it. ²And he will bring it to the sons of Aaron, the priests, and take out from it his handful of its fine flour and of its oil with all its incense. And the priest will burn its memorial portion on the altar as an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to Yahweh. ³And what is left of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and to his sons. It is the holiest holy thing from the offerings made by fire to Yahweh.

⁴And when you offer a grain offering that is baked in an oven, it must be cakes of fine flour without yeast mixed with oil or wafers without yeast spread with oil. ⁵And if your offering is a grain offering made on the griddle, it must be of fine flour without yeast that is mixed with oil. ⁶You are to divide it into pieces and pour oil on it. This is a grain offering. ⁷And if your offering is a grain offering cooked in a pan, it must be made of fine flour with oil. ⁸And you must bring the grain offering that is made from these things to Yahweh. And it will be presented to the priest, and he will bring it to the altar. ⁹And the priest will take from the grain offering its memorial portion, and he will burn it on the altar. It is an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to Yahweh. ¹⁰And what is left of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and to his sons. It is the holiest holy thing from the offerings made by fire to Yahweh.

¹Every grain offering that you offer to Yahweh must not be made with yeast. For you must not burn any leaven or any honey with it as an offering made by fire to Yahweh. ¹²You will offer them to Yahweh as an offering of firstfruits, but on the altar they will not ascend as a sweet aroma. ¹³And every offering of your grain offerings you must season with salt. And you must never allow the salt of the covenant of your God to be missing from your grain offering. With all your offerings you must offer salt.

¹⁴And if you offer a grain offering of firstfruits to Yahweh, you must offer a grain offering of your firstfruits that is fresh grain roasted with fire, crushed new grain. ¹⁵And you must put oil on it and you must put incense on it. This is a grain offering. ¹⁶And the priest will burn as its memorial portion some of its crushed grain and some of its oil with all its incense. This is an offering made by fire to Yahweh.

Chapter 3

¹And if a sacrifice of peace offering is his offering, if he is offering from the herd, whether male or female, he must offer it without blemish before the face of Yahweh. ²And he will lay his hand on the head of his offering and he will slaughter it at the door of the tent of meeting. And the sons of Aaron, the priests, will sprinkle the blood on every side of the altar. ³And he will offer from the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire to Yahweh: the fat covering the inner parts and all the fat that is on the inner parts, ⁴and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them which is by the loins, and the lobe on the liver which he will remove with the kidneys. ⁵And the sons of Aaron will burn it on the altar with the burnt offering that is on the wood that is on the fire. It is an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to Yahweh.

⁶And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering to Yahweh is from the flock; male or female, he must offer it without blemish. ⁷If he offers a lamb for his offering, then he must offer it before the face of Yahweh. ⁸And he will lay his hand on the head of his sacrifice and slaughter it before the tent of meeting. And the sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood on every side of the altar. ⁹And he will offer from the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire to Yahweh: its fat, the entire fat tail which he will remove near the backbone, and the fat covering the inner parts and all the fat that is on the inner parts, ¹⁰and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, which is by the loins, and the lobe on the liver which he will remove with the kidneys. ¹¹And the priest will burn it on the altar as food, an offering made by fire to Yahweh.

¹²And if a goat is his offering, then he will offer it before the face of Yahweh. ¹³And he must lay his hand on its head and slaughter it before the face of the tent of meeting. And the sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood on every side of the altar. ¹⁴And he will offer from it his offering as an offering made by fire to Yahweh: the fat covering the inner parts and all the fat that is on the inner parts, ¹⁵and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, which is by the loins, and the lobe on the liver which he will remove with the kidneys. ¹⁶And the priest will burn them on the altar as food, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma. All the fat belongs to Yahweh. ¹⁷It will be a permanent statute throughout your generations in all your dwellings: you must not eat any fat or any blood."

Chapter 4

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'When a person sins by mistake in any of the commands of Yahweh, about what must not be done, and does any of one them, ³if the anointed priest sins so as to bring guilt on the people, then he will offer for his sin which he has sinned a bull, a son of the herd, without blemish to Yahweh as a sin offering. ⁴And he must bring the bull to the entrance of the tent of meeting before the face of Yahweh. And he must lay his hand on the head of the bull and slaughter the bull before the face of Yahweh. ⁵And the anointed priest will take some of the blood of the bull and bring it to the tent of meeting. ⁶And the priest will dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle some of the blood seven times before the face of Yahweh, at the face of the curtain of the holy place. ⁷And the priest will put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense before the face of Yahweh, which is in the tent of meeting. And he will pour out all the blood of

the bull at the base of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁸And all the fat of the bull of the sin offering he will remove from it: the fat covering over the inner parts and all the fat that is on the inner parts, ⁹and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, which is by the loins, and the lobe on the liver which he will remove with the kidneys— ¹⁰just as it is removed from the ox of the sacrifice of the peace offering. And the priest will burn them on the altar of the burnt offering. ¹¹And the skin of the bull and all its flesh, with its head and with its legs and its inner parts and its dung— ¹²all of the bull—he will bring out to the outside of the camp to a clean place, to the heap of the ash, and he will burn it on wood with fire. It will be burned on the heap of the ash.

¹³And if the whole congregation of Israel strays unintentionally and the matter is concealed from the eyes of the assembly and they do one thing from all the commands of Yahweh which are not to be done and they become guilty, ¹⁴and the sin which they have sinned against it becomes known, then the assembly must offer a bull, a son of the herd, for a sin offering. And they must bring it before the face of the tent of meeting. ¹⁵And the elders of the congregation will lay their hands on the head of the bull before the face of Yahweh. And the bull will be slaughtered before the face of Yahweh. ¹⁶And the anointed priest will bring some of the blood of the bull to the tent of meeting. ¹⁷And the priest will dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle it seven times before the face of Yahweh, at the face of the curtain. ¹⁸And he will put some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is before the face of Yahweh, which is in the tent of meeting. And he will pour out all the blood at the base of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ¹⁹And all its fat he will remove from it and burn on the altar. ²⁰And he must do with the bull just as he did with the bull of the sin offering, thus he will do with it. And the priest will make atonement for them, and it will be forgiven them. ²¹And he will bring out the bull to the outside of the camp and he will burn it just as he burned the first bull. This is the sin offering of the assembly.

²²When a ruler sins and does by mistake one thing from all the commands of Yahweh his God that should not be done, and he becomes guilty, ²³or his sin by which he has sinned is made known to him, then he must bring as his offering a buck of the goats, a male without blemish. ²⁴And he will lay his hand on the head of the goat and slaughter it in the place where he slaughters the burnt offering before the face of Yahweh. This is a sin offering. ²⁵And the priest will take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of the burnt offering. And he will pour out its blood at the base of the altar of the burnt offering. ²⁶And he will burn all the fat on the altar, just like the fat of the sacrifice of the peace offerings. And the priest will make atonement for him concerning his sin, and it will be forgiven him.

²⁷And if any person from the people of the land sins by mistake, doing one thing from the commands of Yahweh that must not be done, and he becomes guilty, ²⁸or his sin which he sinned is made known to him, then he will bring for his offering a doe of the goats, a female without blemish, for his sin that he has sinned. ²⁹And he will lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and slaughter the sin offering at the place of the burnt offering. ³⁰And the priest will take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of the burnt offering. And he will pour out all its blood at the base of the altar. ³¹And he will remove all the fat, just as the fat is removed from on the sacrifice of the peace offerings. And the priest will burn it on the altar as a sweet aroma to Yahweh. And the priest will make atonement for him, and it will be forgiven him.

³²And if he brings a lamb as his offering for a sin offering, he will bring a female without blemish. ³³And he will lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and slaughter it for a sin offering at the place where he slaughters the burnt offering. ³⁴And the priest will take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of the burnt offering. And he will pour out all its blood at the base of the altar. ³⁵And he will remove all the fat, just as the fat of the lamb is removed from the sacrifice of the peace offerings. And the priest will burn them on the altar on top of the offerings of Yahweh made by fire. And the priest will make atonement for him for his sin that he has sinned, and it will be forgiven him.

Chapter 5

¹And when a person sins in that he hears the utterance of a curse and he is a witness, whether he has seen or known of it, if he does not tell, then he will bear his iniquity. ²Or if a person touches any unclean thing, whether it be the carcass of an unclean wild animal or the carcass of unclean livestock or the carcass of an unclean creeping animal, and it is concealed from him, then he is unclean and guilty. ³Or if he touches the uncleanness of a human, of all his uncleanness that one becomes unclean by, and it is concealed from him but he comes to know of it, then he will be guilty. ⁴Or if a person swears rashly with his lips to do evil, or to do good, anything that a man swears rashly, and it is concealed from him but he comes to know of it, then he will be guilty, in any of these things. ⁵And it will be that when someone is guilty in one of these things, he must confess that in which he has sinned. ⁶And he must bring his guilt offering to Yahweh for his sin that he has sinned, a female from the flock, a lamb, or a doe of the goats, for a sin offering. And the priest will make atonement for him concerning his sin.

⁷And if his hand does not touch enough small livestock, then he can bring as his guilt offering because he sinned two turtledoves or two sons of the pigeon to Yahweh, one for a sin offering and one for a burnt offering. ⁸And he must bring them to the priest, and he will offer that which is for the sin offering first. And he will wring off its head from the front of its neck, but he will not sever it. ⁹And he will sprinkle some of the blood of the sin offering on the side of the altar. And the rest of the blood he will drain out at the base of the altar. This is the sin offering. ¹⁰And he must make a burnt offering of the second one, according to the regulation. And the priest will make atonement for him for his sin that he sinned, and it will be forgiven for him.

¹¹And if his hand cannot touch two turtledoves or two sons of the pigeon, then he must bring as his sacrifice because he sinned a tenth of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering. He must not put oil on it nor put incense on it, for it is a sin offering. ¹²And he must bring it to the priest, and the priest will take from it his handful as its memorial portion. And he will burn it on the altar, on top of the offerings made by fire to Yahweh. This is the sin offering. ¹³And the priest will make atonement for him, for his sin that he sinned from one of these, and it will be forgiven for him. And it will belong to the priest, as with the grain offering.”

¹⁴And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁵“If a person acts unfaithfully and sins by mistake with the holy things of Yahweh, then he must bring his guilt offering to Yahweh, a ram without blemish from the flock with your valuation of silver shekels, in the shekel of the holy place, as a guilt offering. ¹⁶And for what he sinned in connection with the holy thing he must make restitution, and one-fifth of it he must add to it and give it to the priest. And the priest will make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering, and it will be forgiven for him.

¹⁷And if a person sins and does one thing from all the commands of Yahweh that must not be done, and he does not know, then he is guilty and must bear his iniquity. ¹⁸And he must bring to the priest a ram without blemish from the flock, with your valuation, as a guilt offering. And the priest will make atonement for him concerning his mistake which he made unintentionally and did not know it, and it will be forgiven for him. ¹⁹It is a guilt offering. He is certainly guilty to Yahweh.”

Chapter 6

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“If a person sins and acts unfaithfully against Yahweh and deceives his fellow citizen, in a deposit or in a pledge of hand or by theft, or if he has oppressed his fellow citizen, ³or he has found something lost and lies about it, or he swears falsely, according to one of all the things which mankind does to sin thereby, ⁴and it happened that he has sinned and is guilty, then he must give back the robbed thing that he stole or the extorted thing that he extorted, or the deposit which was entrusted to him, or the lost thing that he had found; ⁵or from all that he has sworn about falsely, he must restore it in full and he must add one-fifth its value to it. He must give it to whom it belongs on the day of his guilt offering. ⁶And he must bring his guilt offering to Yahweh, a ram without blemish from the flock with your estimate of its value, as a guilt offering to the priest. ⁷And

the priest will make atonement for him before the face of Yahweh, and it will be forgiven for him, concerning one thing from all that one does by which to become guilty.”

⁸And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁹“Command Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘This is the law of the burnt offering: The burnt offering itself must be on the hearth on the altar all the night until the morning. And the fire of the altar will be kept burning on it. ¹⁰And the priest will put on his linen robe and he will put on his linen underclothes over his body. And he will pick up the ashes, which is the burnt offering the fire has consumed on the altar. And he will put it beside the altar. ¹¹And he will take off his garments and put on other garments. And he will bring out the ash to the outside of the camp, to a clean place. ¹²And the fire on the altar will be kept burning on it. It must not go out, and the priest will kindle wood on it in the morning by the morning. And he will arrange the burnt offering on it, and he will burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. ¹³Fire must be kept burning on the altar continually. It must not go out.

¹⁴And this is the law of the grain offering. The sons of Aaron will offer it before the face of Yahweh at the face of the altar. ¹⁵And he will take up from it his handful of the fine flour of the grain offering and of the oil and all the incense which is on the grain offering. And he will burn it on the altar as a sweet aroma, its memorial portion to Yahweh. ¹⁶And Aaron and his sons will eat what is left from it. It must be eaten without yeast in a holy place. They will eat it in the courtyard of the tent of meeting. ¹⁷It must not be baked with yeast. I have given it as their part from my offerings made by fire. It is the holiest holy thing, like the sin offering and like the guilt offering. ¹⁸Every male from the sons of Aaron may eat it as a permanent statute throughout your generations, from the offerings of Yahweh made by fire. All that touches them will become holy.”

¹⁹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁰“This is the offering of Aaron and his sons, which they will offer to Yahweh on the day when he is anointed: a tenth part of an ephah of fine flour as a continual grain offering, half of it in the morning and half of it in the evening. ²¹It will be made with oil on a griddle. When it is well-mixed, you will bring it. In baked pieces you will offer the grain offering as a sweet aroma to Yahweh. ²²And the anointed priest that comes after him from among his sons will offer it. As a permanent statute it shall be completely burned up to Yahweh. ²³And all of the grain offering of the priest will be completely burned up. It must not be eaten.”

²⁴And Yahweh 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 slaughtered the sin offering must be slaughtered before the face of Yahweh. It is the holiest holy thing. ²⁶The priest who offers it as a sin offering will eat it. It must be eaten in a holy place, in the courtyard of the tent of meeting. ²⁷All that touches its meat will become holy. And if some of the blood is sprinkled on the garment, you must clean where it was sprinkled on it in a holy place. ²⁸And the pot of clay in which it is boiled must be broken. And if it is boiled in a pot of bronze, then it must be scrubbed and rinsed in water. ²⁹Every male among the priests may eat it. It is the holiest holy thing. ³⁰And any sin offering from which some of its blood was brought into the tent of meeting to make atonement in the holy place must not be eaten. It must be burned in the fire.

Chapter 7

¹And this is the law of the guilt offering. It is the holiest holy thing. ²In the place where they slaughter the burnt offering they must slaughter the guilt offering. And they must sprinkle its blood on every side of the altar. ³And all its fat will be offered from it: the fat tail and the fat covering the inner parts, ⁴and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, which is by the loins, and the lobe on the liver which he will remove with the kidneys. ⁵And the priest must burn them on the altar as an offering made by fire to Yahweh. It is a guilt offering. ⁶Every male among the priests may eat it. It must be eaten in a holy place. It is the holiest holy thing. ⁷The sin offering is like the guilt offering. The law is the same for them. The priest who makes atonement with it; it will belong to him. ⁸As for the priest who offers a burnt offering of a man, the hide of the burnt offering that he offered will belong to the priest. It will belong to him. ⁹And every grain offering that is baked in an oven, and everything cooked in a frying pan or

on a griddle will belong to the priest who offers it. It will belong to him. ¹⁰And every grain offering, mixed with oil or dry, will be for all the sons of Aaron, to each as to his brother.

¹¹And this is the law of the sacrifice of the peace offerings which they will offer to Yahweh. ¹²If one offers it for thanksgiving, then he must offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving cakes without yeast mixed with oil and wafers without yeast smeared with oil and well-mixed cakes of fine flour mixed with oil. ¹³With the cakes he must offer bread with yeast as his offering, in addition to the thanksgiving sacrifice of his peace offerings. ¹⁴And he will offer from it one from each offering as a gift to Yahweh. It will belong to the priest who sprinkles the blood of the peace offerings. It will belong to him.

¹⁵And the meat of the thanksgiving sacrifice of the peace offerings must be eaten on the day of his offering. He must not leave any of it until morning. ¹⁶And if the sacrifice of his offering is for a vow or for a freewill offering, it may be eaten on the day he offers his sacrifice. And the next day whatever remains of it may be eaten. ¹⁷And what is left from the meat of the sacrifice must be burned in the fire on the third day. ¹⁸And if any of the meat of the sacrifice of his peace offerings to be eaten is eaten on the third day, it will not be accepted. It will not be credited to the one who offered it. It will be a disgusting thing, and the person who eats some of it will carry his iniquity.

¹⁹And the meat that touches any unclean thing must not be eaten. It must be burned in the fire. But the meat, anyone who is clean may eat meat. ²⁰And a person who eats meat from the sacrifice of the peace offerings that belong to Yahweh while his uncleanness is on him, that person must be cut off from his people. ²¹And a person who touches any unclean thing, the uncleanness of a human, or an unclean animal, or any unclean detestable thing, and eats some of the meat of a sacrifice of the peace offerings that belong to Yahweh, that person must be cut off from his people.”

²²And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘You must not eat any of the fat of an ox or a sheep or a goat. ²⁴And the fat of a carcass or the fat of an animal torn by wild animals may be used for any other use, but you must certainly not eat it. ²⁵If anyone eats fat from the animal which he has offered part of it as a sacrifice made by fire to Yahweh, then the person who ate it must be cut off from his people. ²⁶And you must not eat any blood in any of your dwellings, whether of a bird or of a land animal. ²⁷Any person who eats any blood, that person must be cut off from his people.”

²⁸And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁹“Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘He who offers the sacrifice of his peace offerings to Yahweh must bring his offering to Yahweh from the sacrifice of his peace offerings. ³⁰His hands must bring an offering made by fire to Yahweh: the fat with the breast. He must bring the breast to wave it as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh. ³¹And the priest must burn the fat on the altar, and the breast will be for Aaron and for his sons. ³²And the right thigh you must give as a gift to the priest from the sacrifices of your peace offerings. ³³The one from the sons of Aaron who offers the blood of the peace offerings and the fat will have for him the right thigh as a share. ³⁴For I have taken from the sons of Israel, from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, the breast of the wave offering, and the thigh that is the gift. And I have given them to Aaron the priest and his sons as a permanent statute among the sons of Israel.

³⁵This is the share of Aaron and the share of his sons from the offerings made by fire to Yahweh, on the day when he offered them as priests to Yahweh, ³⁶which Yahweh commanded to give them on the day of his anointing them from the people of Israel. It will be a permanent statute throughout their generations.

³⁷This is the law of the burnt offering, of the grain offering, and of the sin offering, and of the guilt offering, and of the consecration offering, and of the sacrifice of the peace offerings, ³⁸which Yahweh commanded Moses on Mount Sinai on the day he commanded the sons of Israel to offer their offerings to Yahweh in the wilderness of Sinai.”

Chapter 8

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the oil of anointing, and the bull of the sin offering, and two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread. ³And bring together all the assembly at the entrance of the tent of meeting.” ⁴And Moses did as Yahweh commanded him, and the assembly came together at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁵And Moses said to the assembly, “This is the thing that Yahweh has commanded to be done.”

⁶Moses brought near Aaron and his sons and washed them with water. ⁷And he put the tunic on him, and girded him with the sash, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod on him. And he girded him with the finely-woven waistband of the ephod and bound it on him. ⁸And he placed the breastpiece on him, and in the breastpiece he put the Urim and the Thummim. ⁹And he set the turban on his head and he set on the turban—on the front of its face—the golden rosette, the holy crown, as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

¹⁰And Moses took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it. And he set them apart. ¹¹And he sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all its utensils, and the washbasin and its base, to set them apart. ¹²And he poured some of the anointing oil on the head of Aaron and anointed him to set him apart. ¹³And Moses brought near the sons of Aaron and clothed them with tunics, and girded them with sashes, and bound headbands on them, as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

¹⁴And Moses brought the bull of the sin offering. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the bull of the sin offering. ¹⁵And Moses slaughtered it, and he took the blood and put it all around on the horns of the altar with his finger. And he purified the altar and poured out the blood at the base of the altar. And he set it apart to make atonement upon it. ¹⁶And he took all the fat that was on the inner parts, the lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat, and Moses burned it on the altar. ¹⁷And the bull and its hide and its flesh and its dung he burned in the fire outside the camp, as Yahweh had commanded him.

¹⁸And he brought near the ram of the burnt offering. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram. ¹⁹And Moses slaughtered it and sprinkled the blood against every side of the altar. ²⁰And Moses cut the ram into its pieces and burned the head and the pieces and the suet. ²¹And the inner parts and the legs he washed with water. And Moses burned all of the ram on the altar. It was a burnt offering, a sweet aroma. It was an offering made by fire to Yahweh as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

²²And he brought near the second ram, the ram of consecration. And Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram. ²³And Moses slaughtered it and took some 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 big toe of his right foot. ²⁴And he brought near the sons of Aaron. And Moses put some of the blood on the tip of their right ear, and on the thumb of their right hand, and on the big toe of their right foot. And Moses sprinkled the blood against every side of the altar. ²⁵And he took the fat, and the fat tail, and all the fat that was on the inner parts, and the lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat, and the right thigh. ²⁶And from the basket of bread without yeast that was before the face of Yahweh he took one cake without yeast, and one cake of oiled bread, and one wafer, and placed them on the fat and on the right thigh. ²⁷And he put it all in the hands of Aaron and in the hands of his sons and waved them before the face of Yahweh as a wave offering. ²⁸And Moses took them from off their hands and burned them on the altar for the burnt offering. They were a consecration offering, a sweet aroma. It was an offering made by fire to Yahweh. ²⁹And Moses took the breast and waved it as a wave offering to the face of Yahweh. It was the share for Moses from the ram of consecration, as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

³⁰And Moses took some of the oil of anointing and some of the blood that was on the altar and he sprinkled these on Aaron, on his clothes, and on his sons, and on the clothes of his sons with him. And he set apart Aaron, his clothes, and his sons and the clothes of his sons with him.

³¹And Moses said to Aaron and to his sons, “Boil the meat at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and there you will eat it and the bread that is in the basket of consecration, as I commanded, saying, ‘Aaron and his sons will eat it.’”

³²And what is left of the meat and of the bread you must burn in the fire. ³³And you must not go out from the entrance of the tent of meeting for seven days, until the day of the fulfillment of the days of your consecration, because for seven days he will fill your hands. ³⁴As has been done this day, Yahweh has commanded to be done to make atonement for you. ³⁵And at the entrance of the tent of meeting you will stay day and night for seven days. And you will keep the command of Yahweh, and you will not die, because this is what I have been commanded.”
³⁶And Aaron and his sons did all the things which Yahweh had commanded by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 9

¹Now it was that on the eighth day Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel. ²And he said to Aaron, “Take for yourself a calf, a son of the herd, for a sin offering, and a ram without blemish for a burnt offering, and offer them before the face of Yahweh. ³And to the sons of Israel you must speak, saying, ‘Take a buck of the goats for a sin offering and a calf and a lamb, sons of the year without blemish, for a burnt offering, ⁴and an ox and a ram for peace offerings to sacrifice before the face of Yahweh, and a grain offering mixed with oil, because today Yahweh will appear to you.’” ⁵And they brought what Moses commanded to the entrance of the tent of meeting. And all the assembly came near and stood before the face of Yahweh. ⁶And Moses said, “This is the thing that Yahweh commanded you to do, so the glory of Yahweh may appear to you.” ⁷And Moses said to Aaron, “Come near to the altar and offer your sin offering and your burnt offering, and make atonement for yourself and for the people. And offer the sacrifice of the people and make atonement for them, as Yahweh has commanded.”

⁸And Aaron went near to the altar and slaughtered the calf of the sin offering, which was for himself. ⁹And 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 he poured out the blood at the base of the altar. ¹⁰And the fat and the kidneys and the lobe of the liver from the sin offering he burned on the altar, as Yahweh had commanded Moses. ¹¹And the flesh and the hide he burned in the fire outside the camp.

¹²And he slaughtered the burnt offering. And the sons of Aaron brought to him the blood, and he sprinkled it against every side of the altar. ¹³And they brought to him the burnt offering in its pieces, with the head, and he burned them on the altar. ¹⁴And he washed the inner parts and the legs and burned them on top of the burnt offering on the altar.

¹⁵And he offered the offering of the people. And he took the goat of the sin offering which was for the people and he slaughtered it and offered it for sin, like the first one. ¹⁶And he offered the burnt offering and did it according to the ordinance. ¹⁷And he presented the grain offering. And he filled his hand with it and burned it on the altar, along with the burnt offering of the morning.

¹⁸And he slaughtered the ox and the ram, the sacrifice of the peace offerings, which was for the people. And the sons of Aaron brought the blood to him and he sprinkled it against every side of the altar. ¹⁹As for the fat portions from the bull and from the ram, the fat tail, and the fat covering the inner parts, and the kidneys, and the lobe of the liver, ²⁰they then put the fat portions on the breasts, and he burned the fat portions on the altar. ²¹And the breasts and the right thigh Aaron waved as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh, as Moses had commanded.

²²And Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them. And he came down from offering the sin offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings. ²³And Moses and Aaron came into the tent of meeting, and they went out and blessed the people. And the glory of Yahweh appeared to all the people. ²⁴And fire came out from before the face of Yahweh and consumed the burnt offering and the fat portions on the altar. And all the people saw and shouted and fell upon their faces.

Chapter 10

¹And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, a man took his censer, and they put fire in it and they put incense on it. And they offered before the face of Yahweh unfamiliar fire that he had not commanded them. ²And fire went out from before the face of Yahweh and it devoured them. And they died before the face of Yahweh. ³And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what Yahweh spoke, saying,

'Among those who come near me I will show myself as set apart. And on the faces of all the people I will be glorified.'

And Aaron was silent. ⁴And Moses called to Mishael and to Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron. And he said to them, "Come near and carry your brothers from the face of the holy place to the outside of the camp." ⁵And they came near and carried them by their tunics to the outside of the camp, as Moses had instructed. ⁶And Moses said to Aaron and to Eleazar and to Ithamar, his sons, "Do not let your heads be unbound, and do not tear your clothes, and you will not die, and he does not become angry against all the assembly. But your brothers, all of the house of Israel, may weep for the burning that Yahweh burned. ⁷And you must not go out from the entrance of the tent of meeting, or else you will die, for the oil of anointing of Yahweh is on you." And they acted according to the instructions of Moses.

⁸And Yahweh spoke to Aaron, saying, ⁹"Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, or your sons with you, when you go into the tent of meeting, and you will not die. It is a permanent statute throughout your generations, ¹⁰so to distinguish between the set apart and the common, and between the unclean and the clean, ¹¹so that you may teach the sons of Israel all the statutes that Yahweh has spoken to them by the hand of Moses."

¹²And Moses spoke to Aaron and to Eleazar and to Ithamar, his remaining sons, "Take the grain offering, the remains from the offerings made by fire to Yahweh, and eat it without yeast beside the altar, for it is the holiest holy thing. ¹³And you must eat it in a holy place, because it is your share and the share of your sons from the offerings made by fire to Yahweh, for thus I have been commanded. ¹⁴And the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the gift, you must eat in a clean place, you and your sons and your daughters with you, for they are given as your share and the share of your sons from the sacrifices of the peace offerings of the sons of Israel. ¹⁵The thigh of the gift and the breast of the wave offering, in addition to the fat portions of the offerings made by fire, they must bring to wave as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh. And it will belong to you and to your sons with you as a share forever, as Yahweh has commanded."

¹⁶And the goat of the sin offering Moses searched carefully for, but behold, it had burned up! And he was angry with Eleazar and with Ithamar, the remaining sons of Aaron; saying, ¹⁷"Why have you not eaten the sin offering in the holy place, since it is the holiest holy thing, and it he has given to you to take away the iniquity of the assembly, to make atonement for them before the face of Yahweh? ¹⁸Look, its blood was not brought to the inner holy place. You should certainly have eaten it in the holy place, as I commanded!" ¹⁹And Aaron spoke to Moses, "Look, today they offered their sin offering and their burnt offering before the face of Yahweh, and such things as these have happened to me. If I had eaten the sin offering today, would it have been pleasing in the eyes of Yahweh?" ²⁰And Moses heard and it was good in his eyes.

Chapter 11

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying to them, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'These are the living things which you may eat among all the animals that are on the earth. ³Any one that divides the hoof, and splits the cleft hoof, one that chews the cud among the animals—it you may eat. ⁴However, these you must not eat among those that chew the cud or among those that divide the hoof: the camel because it is one that chews the cud but is not one that divides the hoof—it is unclean to you. ⁵And the rock badger, because it is one that chews the cud but the hoof is not divided—it is unclean to you. ⁶And the rabbit, because it is one that chews the cud, but

the hoof is not divided—it is unclean to you. ⁷And the pig, because it is one that divides the hoof and one that splits the cleft hoof, but it does not chew the cud—it is unclean to you. ⁸You must not eat of their meat, and you must not touch their carcasses. They are unclean to you.

⁹This you may eat from all that are in the water: all that have fins and scales in the water, in the seas and in the rivers, them you may eat. ¹⁰But all that do not have fins and scales in the seas and in the rivers, among every swarm of the water and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable to you. ¹¹And they must be detestable to you. You must not eat of their meat, and you must detest their carcasses. ¹²All that does not have fins and scales in the water—it is detestable to you.

¹³And these you must detest among the birds and must not eat—they are detestable: the eagle, and the vulture, and the black vulture, ¹⁴and the kite, and the falcon of any kind, ¹⁵every raven of any kind, ¹⁶and the ostrich, and the owl, and the seagull, and the hawk of any kind, ¹⁷and the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl, ¹⁸and the white owl, and the pelican, and the osprey, ¹⁹and the stork, the heron of any kind, and the hoopoe, and the bat.

²⁰Every flying insect that walks on all fours—it is detestable to you. ²¹Only this you may eat from all the flying insects that walk on all fours: what has jointed legs above its feet with which to hop on the ground. ²²These among them you may eat: the locust of any kind, and the bald locust of any kind, and the cricket of any kind, and the grasshopper of any kind. ²³But every flying insect that has four legs—it is detestable to you,

²⁴and by these you will make yourself unclean. Any one who touches their carcasses will be unclean until the evening. ²⁵And any one who lifts up their carcasses must wash his clothes and will be unclean until the evening.

²⁶As for every animal which is one that divides the hoof but is not one that splits the cleft hoof, or is not one that chews the cud, they are unclean to you. Any one who touches them will be unclean. ²⁷As for any one that walks on its paws among all the animals that walk on all fours, they are unclean to you. Any one who touches their carcasses will be unclean until the evening. ²⁸And the one who lifts up their carcasses must wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening. These are unclean to you.

²⁹And these are unclean to you among the swarming things that swarm on the ground: the weasel, and the mouse, and the large lizard of any kind, ³⁰and the gecko, and the monitor lizard, and the lizard, and the skink, and the chameleon. ³¹These are unclean to you among all the swarming things. Any one who touches them when they are dead will be unclean until the evening. ³²And anything which upon one of them falls when they are dead will be unclean, whether any wood vessel, or a garment, or leather, or sackcloth—any object with which work is done must be put in water and be unclean until the evening. Then it will be clean. ³³As for any vessel of clay that one of them falls into, all that is inside it will become unclean, and you must destroy it. ³⁴Any food that may be eaten which such water comes on is unclean. And any liquid that may be drunk from any such vessel is unclean. ³⁵And all that something from one of their carcasses falls on becomes unclean; an oven or stove must be broken to pieces. They are unclean and they must remain unclean to you. ³⁶However, a spring or cistern for collecting water will be clean; but one who touches their carcass is unclean. ³⁷And if something from their carcass falls upon any seed for planting which will be planted, it is clean. ³⁸And if water is put on seed and something from their carcass falls on it, it is unclean to you.

³⁹And if one from the animals that are for you to eat dies, the one who touches the carcass will be unclean until the evening. ⁴⁰And the one who eats from its carcass must wash his clothes and he will be unclean until the evening. And the one who lifts up its carcass will wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.

⁴¹And every swarming thing that swarms on the ground, it is detestable and must not be eaten. ⁴²All that crawls on a belly, and all that walks on all fours, as well as all that has many feet—any swarming thing that swarms on the ground—you must not eat them for they are detestable. ⁴³You must not make yourselves detestable with any swarming thing that swarms. And you must not make yourselves unclean with them, and become unclean by them. ⁴⁴For I am Yahweh your God. And you must keep yourselves holy, and be holy ones, because I am holy. You

must not make yourselves unclean with any swarming thing that crawls on the ground. ⁴⁵For I am Yahweh, who brought you out from the land of Egypt, to be your God. So you must be holy ones, for I am holy.

⁴⁶This is the law of the animals, and the birds, and every living creature that swarms in the water, and of every creature that crawls on the ground, ⁴⁷to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean, and between the living thing that may be eaten and the living thing that may not be eaten.”

Chapter 12

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘If a woman bears seed and gives birth to a male child, then she will be unclean for seven days, as at the time of the bleeding of her menstruation she is unclean. ³And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin must be circumcised. ⁴And 30 days and 3 days she will stay in the blood of her purification. Any holy thing she must not touch and into the holy place she must not go until the days of her purification are completed. ⁵And if she gives birth to a female child, then she will be unclean for two weeks, as with her menstruation. And 60 days and 6 days she will stay in the blood of her purification.

⁶And when the days of her purification are completed, for a son or for a daughter, she must bring a lamb, a son of its year, as a burnt offering, and a son of a pigeon or turtledove as a sin offering, to the entrance of the tent of meeting, to the priest. ⁷And he will offer it before the face of Yahweh and make atonement for her. And she will be cleansed from the flow of her blood. This is the law for a woman who gives birth to a male or a female child. ⁸And if her hand does not find enough for a lamb, then she must take two turtledoves or two sons of the pigeon, one as a burnt offering and one as a sin offering. And the priest will make atonement for her. Then she will be clean.”

Chapter 13

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²“When a human has on the skin of his body a swelling or scab or a bright spot, and it becomes an infection of skin disease on the skin of his body, then he must be brought to Aaron the priest, or to one of his sons, the priests. ³And the priest will look at the infection on the skin of the body. If the hair in the infection has turned white, and if the disease appears to be deeper than the skin of his body, it is an infection of skin disease. And the priest will look at him and will pronounce him unclean. ⁴And if the bright spot is white, it is on the skin of his body, and the appearance of it is not deeper than the skin, and its hair has not turned white, then the priest must isolate the infected person for seven days. ⁵And the priest must look at him on the seventh day, and if the skin disease has stayed unchanged in his eyes and the skin disease has not spread on the skin, then the priest must isolate him for seven days again. ⁶And the priest will look at him again on the seventh day, and if the infection has faded and the infection has not spread on the skin, then the priest will pronounce him clean. It is a rash, and he must wash his clothes, and then he will be clean. ⁷And if the rash has spread further on the skin after he has shown himself to the priest for his cleansing, then he must show himself again to the priest. ⁸And the priest will look, and if the rash has spread on the skin, then the priest must pronounce him unclean. It is a skin disease.

⁹When an infection of skin disease is on a person, then he must be brought to the priest. ¹⁰And the priest will look and if a white swelling is on the skin and it has turned the hair white, and there is new raw flesh in the swelling, ¹¹it is a chronic skin disease on the skin of his body, and the priest must pronounce him unclean. He will not isolate him, because he is unclean. ¹²And if the skin disease breaks out further on the skin and the skin disease covers all the skin of the infected person from his head to his feet, as far as the appearance in the eyes of the priest, ¹³then the priest must look, and if the skin disease has covered all his body, then he must pronounce the infected person clean. All of it has turned white. He is clean. ¹⁴And when raw flesh appears on him, he will be unclean. ¹⁵And the priest must look at the raw flesh and pronounce him unclean. The raw flesh—it is unclean. It is a skin disease. ¹⁶Or if the raw flesh returns and changes to white, then he must go to the priest. ¹⁷And the priest will look at him and if the infection has turned white, then the priest will pronounce the infected person clean. He is clean.

¹⁸When a body has a boil on it, on its skin, and it has healed, ¹⁹and in place of the boil there is white swelling or a bright spot, reddish-white, then it must be shown to the priest. ²⁰And the priest will look and if it appears deeper under the skin, and its hair has turned white, then the priest must pronounce him unclean. It is an infection of skin disease. It has broken out in the boil. ²¹And if the priest looks at it, and behold, there is no white hair on it, and it is not deeper than the skin, and it has faded, then the priest must isolate him for seven days. ²²And if it spreads further on the skin, then the priest must pronounce him unclean. It is an infection. ²³And if the bright spot stays in its place and has not spread, then it is the scar of the boil. And the priest must pronounce him clean.

²⁴Or when the body has a burn from fire on its skin and the raw flesh of the burn has become a reddish-white or white spot, ²⁵then the priest will look at it. And if the hair has turned white in that spot, and it appears to be deeper than the skin, then it is a skin disease that has broken out in the burn. And the priest must pronounce him unclean. It is an infection of skin disease. ²⁶And if the priest looks at it and if there is no white hair in the spot, and it is not deeper than the skin but it has faded, then the priest must isolate him for seven days. ²⁷And the priest must look at him on the seventh day. If it has spread further in the skin, then the priest must pronounce him unclean. It is an infection of skin disease. ²⁸And if the bright spot stays in its place and has not spread in the skin but it has faded, then it is the swelling of the burn. And the priest must pronounce him clean, for it is the scar of the burn.

²⁹And if a man or woman has an infection on him, on the head or in the beard, ³⁰then the priest must look at the infected person. And if it appears to be deeper than the skin, and on it is yellow, thin hair, then the priest must pronounce him unclean. It is an itch. It is a skin disease of the head or the beard. ³¹And if the priest looks at the itching infection and if it does not appear to be deeper than the skin, and there is no black hair in it, then the priest will isolate the person with the itching infection for seven days. ³²And the priest will look at the infection on the seventh day. And if the itch has not spread and there is no yellow hair on it, and there is no appearance of the itch deeper than the skin, ³³then he shave himself, but the itchy area must not be shaved. And the priest must isolate the itching person for seven days again. ³⁴And the priest will look at the itch on the seventh day. And if the itch has not spread on the skin and it appears to not be deeper than the skin, then the priest must pronounce him clean. And he must wash his clothes, and he will be clean. ³⁵And if the itch has spread further in the skin after he pronounced him clean, ³⁶then the priest must look at him. And if the itch has spread on the skin, the priest does not need to seek for yellow hair. He is unclean. ³⁷And if in his eyes the itch has stayed unchanged and black hair has grown in it, the itch has healed. He is clean, and the priest will pronounce him clean.

³⁸And if a man or a woman has on the skin of their body bright spots, white bright spots, ³⁹then the priest must look. And if the bright spots on the skin of their body are a dull white, it is a rash that has broken out on the skin. He is clean.

⁴⁰And if a man loses the hair of his head, he is bald. He is clean. ⁴¹And if his head becomes bald from the front part of his face, he is bald. He is clean. ⁴²And if there is on the bald spot or on the bald forehead a reddish-white infection, it is a skin disease that has broken out on his bald spot or on his bald forehead. ⁴³And the priest must look at him. And if the swelling of the infection on his bald spot or on his forehead is reddish-white, like the appearance of the disease of the skin of the body, ⁴⁴then he is a man who has a skin disease. He is unclean. The priest must surely pronounce him unclean because of his infection of his head.

⁴⁵As for the one with a skin disease who has the infection on him, his garments must be torn and his head must be unbound, and he must cover over the moustache, and he must call out, 'Unclean, unclean.' ⁴⁶All the days that the infection is on him he will be unclean. He is unclean. He must live alone, his dwelling must be outside the camp.

⁴⁷As for the garment, when it has in it the infection of skin disease, in a garment of wool or in a garment of linen, ⁴⁸or in warp or in woof of linen or wool, or in leather or in anything made with leather— ⁴⁹if the infection is greenish or reddish in the garment, or in the leather, or in the warp or in the woof, or in any article of leather, then it is an infection of skin disease. And it must be shown to the priest. ⁵⁰And the priest must look at the infection and he must isolate the infected thing for seven days. ⁵¹And he must look at the infection on the seventh day. If the infection has spread in the garment or in the warp or in the woof, or in the leather (whatever the work for which

the leather is used), then the infection is a malignant skin disease. It is unclean. ⁵²And he must burn the garment, or the warp or the woof, in wool or in linen, or any article of leather, whatever has in it the infection, for it is a malignant skin disease. In the fire it must be burned up.

⁵³And if the priest looks, and behold, the infection has not spread in the garment or in the warp, or in the woof, or in any article of leather, ⁵⁴then the priest will command and they will wash that in which was the infection. And he must isolate it for seven days again. ⁵⁵And the priest will look at the infection after being washed. And if the infection has not changed its appearance, and the infection has not spread, it is unclean. In the fire you must burn it. It is an eaten away hole in its back or in its front.

⁵⁶And if the priest looks, and behold, the infection has faded after it was washed, then he must tear it out from the garment or from the leather, or from the warp or from the woof. ⁵⁷And if it still appears in the garment, either in the warp or in the woof, or in any article of leather, it is spreading. In the fire you must burn it, the thing in which is the infection. ⁵⁸As for the garment or the warp or the woof, or any article of leather that you washed and the infection was removed from them, it must be washed a second time, and it will be clean.

⁵⁹This is the law of the infection of skin disease of the garment of wool or linen, or the warp or the woof, or any article of leather, for pronouncing it clean or for pronouncing it unclean."

Chapter 14

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"This will be the law for the one with skin disease on the day of his cleansing. And he must be brought to the priest. ³And the priest will go out to the outside of the camp and the priest will look. And if the infection of skin disease has healed in the one with skin disease, ⁴then the priest will command and he must take for the one who is being cleansed two live, clean birds, and cedar wood, and crimson yarn, and hyssop. ⁵And the priest will command and he will slaughter one bird in a vessel of clay over fresh water. ⁶As for the live bird, he will take it and the cedar wood, and the crimson yarn and the hyssop, and he will dip them, and the live bird, in the blood of the bird that was slaughtered over the fresh water. ⁷And he will sprinkle on the one who is to be cleansed from the skin disease seven times, and he will pronounce him clean. And he will release the living bird toward the face of the field. ⁸And the one who is being cleansed will wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and bathe in the water, and then he will be clean. And afterward he will come into the camp, and he will dwell outside his tent seven days. ⁹And it will be that on the seventh day he must shave off all his hair: his head, and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he must shave off. And he must wash his clothes and bathe his body in the water. And he will be clean.

¹⁰And on the eighth day he must take two male lambs without blemish, and one female lamb a year old without blemish, and three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour as a grain offering mixed with oil, and one log of oil. ¹¹And the priest who pronounces one clean will set the person who is to be cleansed, and those things, before the face of Yahweh at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ¹²And the priest will take one male lamb and offer it as a guilt offering, with the log of oil. And he will wave them as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh. ¹³And he must slaughter the male lamb in the place where he slaughters the sin offering and the burnt offerings, in the holy place. For like the sin offering, so the guilt offering, it belongs to the priest. It is the holiest holy thing. ¹⁴And the priest will take some of the blood of the guilt offering and the priest will put it on the tip of the right ear of the one who is being cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot. ¹⁵And the priest will take some of the log of oil and pour it on the left palm of the priest. ¹⁶And the priest will dip his right finger in the oil that is on his left palm, and sprinkle some of the oil with his finger seven times before the face of Yahweh. ¹⁷And the priest will put some of the rest of the oil that is on his palm on the tip of the right ear of the person being cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot—on top of the blood of the guilt offering. ¹⁸As for the rest of the oil that is on the palm of the priest, he will put it on the head of the person being cleansed. And the priest will make atonement for him before the face of Yahweh. ¹⁹And the priest will offer the sin offering and make atonement for the one being cleansed from his uncleanness. And afterward he will slaughter

the burnt offering. ²⁰And the priest will offer up the burnt offering and the grain offering on the altar. And the priest will make atonement for him, and he will be clean.

²¹And if he is poor and his hand is not reaching, then he may take one male lamb as a guilt offering to be waved, to make atonement for him, and one-tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil as a grain offering, and a log of oil, ²²and two turtledoves or two sons of the pigeon, which his hand can reach. And one will be a sin offering and one a burnt offering. ²³And on the eighth day he must bring them for his cleansing to the priest, to the entrance of the tent of meeting, before the face of Yahweh. ²⁴And the priest will take the male lamb for the guilt offering and the log of oil. And the priest will wave them as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh. ²⁵And he must slaughter the male lamb for the guilt offering. And the priest will take some of the blood of the guilt offering and put it on the tip of the right ear of the one being cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot. ²⁶And the priest will pour some of the oil on the left palm of the priest. ²⁷And the priest will sprinkle with his right finger some of the oil that is on his left palm seven times before the face of Yahweh. ²⁸And the priest will put some of the oil that is on his palm on the tip of the right ear of the one being cleansed, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot—on the place of the blood of the guilt offering. ²⁹And the rest of the oil that is on the palm of the priest, he will put it on the head of the one being cleansed, to make atonement for him before the face of Yahweh. ³⁰And he must offer one from the turtledoves or from the sons of the pigeon, from what his hand could reach— ³¹whatever his hand could reach, one as a sin offering and one as a burnt offering, with the grain offering. And the priest will make atonement for the one being cleansed before the face of Yahweh. ³²This is the law for someone in whom is an infection of skin disease, whose hand is not able to reach for his cleansing.”

³³And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ³⁴“When you have come into the land of Canaan which I gave to you as a possession, and I put an infection of skin disease in a house in the land of your possession, ³⁵then he to whom the house belongs must come and tell the priest, saying, ‘There seems to me to be something like an infection in the house.’ ³⁶And the priest will command and they will empty the house before the priest comes to see the infection, so that all that is in the house will not be made unclean. And afterward the priest must come to see the house. ³⁷And he must look at the infection and if the infection in the walls of the house is greenish or reddish depressions and it appears to be deeper than the wall, ³⁸then the priest will go out of the house to the entrance of the house and close the house seven days. ³⁹And the priest will return on the seventh day and he will look and if the infection has spread in the walls of the house. ⁴⁰And the priest will command and they will take out the stones which have the infection on them and throw them to the outside of the city, to an unclean place. ⁴¹And he will have the house scraped from around the house. And they must pour out the dirt that they scraped off at the outside of the city, at an unclean place. ⁴²And they must take other stones and put them in the place of the stones, and take other dirt and plaster the house.

⁴³And if the infection returns and breaks out in the house after the stones have been pulled out and after the house has been scraped off and after the plastering, ⁴⁴then the priest must come and look. And if the infection has spread in the house, then it is a malignant infection in the house. It is unclean. ⁴⁵And the house must be torn down: its stones and its timber and all the plaster of the house. And he must take it away to the outside of the city, to an unclean place. ⁴⁶And the one who goes into the house during any of the days he has closed it will be unclean until the evening. ⁴⁷And the one who slept in the house must wash his clothes. And the one who ate in the house must wash his clothes.

⁴⁸And if the priest comes again and looks, and behold, the infection has not spread in the house after the house was plastered, then the priest will pronounce the house clean, because the infection has healed. ⁴⁹And he must take two birds, and cedar wood, and scarlet yarn, and hyssop to cleanse the house. ⁵⁰And he will slaughter one bird in a vessel of clay over fresh water. ⁵¹And he will take the cedar wood, and the hyssop, and the scarlet yarn, and the live bird, and dip them in the blood of the bird that was slaughtered, and in the fresh water, and sprinkle on the house seven times. ⁵²And he will cleanse the house with the blood of the bird and with the fresh water, and with the live bird, and with the cedar wood, and with the hyssop, and with the scarlet yarn. ⁵³And he will release

the live bird to the outside of the city, to the face of the field. And he will make atonement for the house, and it will be clean.

⁵⁴This is the law for every infection of skin disease and for an itch, ⁵⁵and for the skin disease of clothing and for the house, ⁵⁶and for swelling, and for a rash, and for a bright spot, ⁵⁷to teach when it is unclean or when it is clean. This is the law for skin disease."

Chapter 15

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel, and say to them, 'When any man has a fluid discharge from his body, his fluid discharge makes him unclean. ³And this is his uncleanness in his fluid discharge: whether his body lets his fluid discharge flow or his body obstructs the fluid discharge, it is his uncleanness. ⁴Any bed on which the one with a fluid discharge lies will be unclean, and any thing on which he sits will be unclean. ⁵And a man who touches his bed must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening; ⁶And the one who sits on the thing on which the one with a fluid discharge sat must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. ⁷And the one who touches the body of the one with a fluid discharge must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. ⁸And if the one with a fluid discharge spits on someone who is clean, then he must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. ⁹And any saddle which the one with a fluid discharge rides upon will be unclean. ¹⁰And any one who touches anything that was under him will be unclean until the evening. And the one who carries them must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. ¹¹And anyone whom the one with a fluid discharge touches without having rinsed his hands in water, he must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. ¹²And a vessel of clay that the one with a fluid discharge touches must be broken, and every vessel of wood must be rinsed in water.

¹³And when the one with a fluid discharge becomes cleansed from his fluid discharge, then he must count for himself seven days for his cleansing. And he must wash his clothes and bathe his body in living water. And he will be clean. ¹⁴And on the eighth day he must take for himself two turtledoves or two sons of the pigeon and come before the face of Yahweh at the entrance of the tent of meeting. And he must give them to the priest. ¹⁵And the priest must offer them, one as a sin offering and one as a burnt offering. And the priest will make atonement for him before the face of Yahweh because of his fluid discharge.

¹⁶And if a man has an emission of seed go out from him, then he must bathe his whole body in water. And he will be unclean until the evening. ¹⁷And any garment and any leather on which there is an emission of seed must be washed in water. And it will be unclean until the evening. ¹⁸And if a man lies with a woman and there is an emission of seed, then they must bathe in water and be unclean until the evening.

¹⁹And when a woman has a fluid discharge, and blood is her fluid discharge in her body, for seven days she will be in her menstruation. And any one who touches her will be unclean until the evening. ²⁰And anything that she lies on during her menstruation will be unclean. And anything that she sits on will be unclean. ²¹And any one who touches her bed must wash his clothes and bathe in water. And he will be unclean until the evening. ²²And any one who touches any thing that she sits on must wash his clothes and bathe in water. And he will be unclean until the evening. ²³And if it is on the bed or on a thing which she sits on, when he touches it, he will be unclean until the evening. ²⁴And if a man actually lies with her so that her menstrual impurity is on him, then he will be unclean for seven days; and every bed on which he lies will be unclean.

²⁵And if a woman has a discharge of her blood that flows for many days when it is not the time of her menstruation, or if she discharges beyond her menstruation, all the days of the discharge of her uncleanness will be as the days of her menstruation. She is unclean. ²⁶Every bed on which she lies all the days of her discharge will be to her just like the bed of her menstruation. And any thing which she sits on will be unclean, just like the uncleanness of her menstruation. ²⁷And any one who touches them will be unclean; so he must wash his clothes

and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. ²⁸And if she is cleansed from her discharge, then she will count for herself seven days, and after that she will be clean. ²⁹And on the eighth day she will take for herself two turtledoves or two sons of the pigeon and bring them to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

³⁰And the priest will offer one as a sin offering and one as a burnt offering. And the priest will make atonement for her before the face of Yahweh because of her unclean fluid discharge.

³¹And you must separate the sons of Israel from their uncleanness, and they will not die by their uncleanness, by their defiling my dwelling place that is in their midst.

³²This is the law for the one who has a fluid discharge, and for whoever has an emission of seed go out from him by which to become unclean, ³³and for the one who is sick in her menstruation, and for the one who discharges his bodily fluid, whether male or female, and for a man who lies with an unclean woman.”

Chapter 16

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they had come near to the face of Yahweh and died. ²And Yahweh said to Moses, “Speak to Aaron your brother that he must not come at any time into the holy place inside the curtain, to the face of the atonement lid that is on the Box, so he does not die. For I appear in the cloud over the atonement lid. ³In this manner Aaron must come into the holy place: with a bull, a son of the herd, for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering. ⁴He must put on the holy linen tunic, and the linen undergarments must be on his body, and he must tie the linen sash and wrap the linen turban—they are the holy garments. And he must bathe his body in water and then dress himself with them. ⁵And from the assembly of the sons of Israel he must take two bucks of the goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering.

⁶And Aaron must offer the bull as the sin offering, which will be for himself. And he will make atonement for himself and for his house. ⁷And he must take the two goats and set them before the face of Yahweh at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁸And Aaron must cast lots on the two goats, one lot for Yahweh, and one lot for the goat that departs. ⁹And Aaron must present the goat on which the lot fell for Yahweh, and he must offer it as a sin offering. ¹⁰And the goat on which the lot fell for the goat that departs must be placed alive before the face of Yahweh, to make atonement on it by sending it away as a goat that departs into the wilderness.

¹¹And Aaron must offer the bull of the sin offering, which will be for himself. And he will make atonement for himself and for his house. And he must slaughter the bull of the sin offering which is for himself. ¹²And he must take a full censer of coals of fire from on the altar from before the face of Yahweh, and his two hands full of finely ground fragrant incense, and bring them inside the curtain. ¹³And he must put the incense on the fire before the face of Yahweh. And the cloud of the incense will cover the atonement lid which is over the Testimony, and he will not die. ¹⁴And he must take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the face of the atonement lid, on the east side. And before the face of the atonement lid he must sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

¹⁵And he must slaughter the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood to inside the curtain. And he must do with the blood just as he did with the blood of the bull. And he must sprinkle it on the atonement lid and before the face of the atonement lid. ¹⁶And he must make atonement for the holy place because of the uncleanness of the sons of Israel, and because of their rebellion, for all their sins. And thus he must do this for the tent of meeting that dwells with them in the midst of their uncleanness. ¹⁷And any human must not be in the tent of meeting when he enters to make atonement in the holy place until he comes out and has made atonement for himself and for his house, and for all the assembly of Israel. ¹⁸And he must go out to the altar that is before the face of Yahweh and make atonement for it. And he must take some of the blood of the bull and some of the blood of the goat and put it all around on the horns of the altar. ¹⁹And he must sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times. And he will cleanse it and set it apart from the uncleanness of the sons of Israel.

²⁰And when he has finished atoning for the holy place, and the tent of meeting, and the altar, then he must present the live goat. ²¹And Aaron must lay his two hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness of the sons of Israel, and all their rebellion, for all their sins. And he must put them on the head of the goat and send it away by the hand of a man who is ready into the wilderness. ²²And the goat must carry on itself all their wickedness to a solitary land. And he will send the goat away in the wilderness.

²³And Aaron must go into the tent of meeting and take off the linen garments that he had put on when he came to the holy place, and he must leave them there. ²⁴And he must bathe his body in water in a holy place, and put on his garments. And he must go out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people. And he will make atonement for himself and for the people. ²⁵And the fat of the sin offering he must burn on the altar. ²⁶And the one who sent away the goat as a goat that departs must wash his clothes and bathe his body in water; and after that he may come into the camp. ²⁷And the bull of the sin offering and the goat of the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, must be brought out to the outside of the camp. Then they must burn in the fire their hides, and their flesh, and their dung. ²⁸And the one who burns them must wash his clothes and bathe his body in water; and after that he may come into the camp.

²⁹And it will be a permanent statute for you, in the seventh month on the tenth day of the month, you must humble yourselves and must not do any work, the native born and the sojourner who sojourns among you; ³⁰for on this day atonement will be made for you, to cleanse you from all your sins. Before the face of Yahweh you will be clean. ³¹It is a sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you must humble yourselves. It is a permanent statute.

³²And the priest must make atonement, he who anoints him and who fills his hand to be priest in place of his father, and he must put on the linen garments, the holy garments. ³³And he must make atonement for the holiest holy place. And he must make atonement for the tent of meeting and the altar. And he must make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. ³⁴This will be for you a permanent statute, to make atonement for the sons of Israel because of all their sins, once in the year." And he did just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

Chapter 17

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to Aaron and to his sons, and to all the sons of Israel; and say to them this thing that Yahweh has commanded, saying, ³Any man from the house of Israel who slaughters an ox, or a lamb, or a goat in the camp, or who slaughters it outside of the camp, ⁴but he does not bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting to offer as an offering to Yahweh before the face of the dwelling of Yahweh—blood is reckoned to that man. He has shed blood, and that man must be cut off from among his people. ⁵This is so that the sons of Israel will bring their sacrifices that they are sacrificing on the face of the field and bring them to Yahweh at the entrance of the tent of meeting, to the priest, and sacrifice the sacrifices of peace offerings to Yahweh with them. ⁶And the priest will sprinkle the blood on the altar of Yahweh at the entrance of the tent of meeting. And he will burn the fat for a sweet aroma for Yahweh. ⁷And they must no longer sacrifice their sacrifices to goat idols, whom they prostitute themselves after. This will be a permanent statute for them throughout their generations.'

⁸And you must say to them, 'Any man from the house of Israel, or from the sojourners who sojourn among them, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice ⁹and does not bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting in order to offer it to Yahweh, that man must be cut off from his people.

¹⁰And any man from the house of Israel, or from the sojourners sojourning among them, who eats any blood, I will set my face against that person who eats the blood and I will cut him off from among his people. ¹¹For the life of the flesh is in its blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your lives. For it is the blood with the life that atones. ¹²Therefore I said to the sons of Israel every person among you must not eat blood. And the sojourner who sojourns among you must not eat blood. ¹³And any man from the sons of Israel, or from the sojourners sojourning among them, who hunts a wild game animal or bird that may be eaten, must pour out its blood and cover it with dirt.

¹⁴For the life of all flesh is its blood, it is with its life. And I have said to the sons of Israel, "You must not eat the blood of any flesh. For the life of all flesh—it is its blood. All who eat it must be cut off." ¹⁵And any person who eats an animal that has died or that has been torn by wild animals, among the native born or among the sojourners, he must wash his clothes and bathe in water, and he will be unclean until the evening. And he will be clean. ¹⁶And if he does not wash or his body he does not bathe, then he must carry his iniquity."

Chapter 18

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'I am Yahweh your God. ³Like the doings of the land of Egypt, in which you dwelled, you must not do. And like the doings of the land of Canaan which I am bringing you to, you must not do. You must not walk in their statutes. ⁴My laws you must do, and my statutes you must keep, so that you walk in them. I am Yahweh your God. ⁵And you must keep my statutes and my laws. The person who does them will live because of them. I am Yahweh.

⁶Any man must not come near to any relative of his body to uncover nakedness. I am Yahweh. ⁷The nakedness of your father and the nakedness of your mother you must not uncover. She is your mother, you must not uncover her nakedness. ⁸The nakedness of the wife of your father you must not uncover. It is the nakedness of your father. ⁹The nakedness of your sister, the daughter of your father or the daughter of your mother, born at home or born outside, you must not uncover their nakedness. ¹⁰The nakedness of your son's daughter or your daughter's daughter, you must not uncover their nakedness, for they are your nakedness. ¹¹The nakedness of your father's wife's daughter, the offspring of your father, she is your sister. You must not uncover her nakedness. ¹²The nakedness of your father's sister you must not uncover. She is your father's relative. ¹³The nakedness of your mother's sister you must not uncover, because she is your mother's relative. ¹⁴The nakedness of your father's brother you must not uncover, to his wife you must not come near. She is your aunt. ¹⁵The nakedness of your daughter-in-law you must not uncover. She is your son's wife. You must not uncover her nakedness. ¹⁶The nakedness of your brother's wife you must not uncover. That is your brother's nakedness. ¹⁷The nakedness of a woman and her daughter you must not uncover. Her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter you must not take to uncover her nakedness. They are relatives. It is wickedness. ¹⁸And a woman with her sister you must not take as a rival to uncover her nakedness in addition to her while she is alive.

¹⁹And you must not come near to a woman in the impurity of her uncleanness, to uncover her nakedness. ²⁰And you must not give your emission of seed to your neighbor's wife, to become unclean with her. ²¹And you must not give any of your children to cause to pass over to Molech. And you must not profane the name of your God. I am Yahweh. ²²And you must not lie with a male as one lies with a woman. That is detestable. ²³And with any animal you must not lie to become unclean by it. And a woman must not stand before the face of an animal to lie down with it. That is perversion.

²⁴Do not make yourselves unclean in any of these ways, for in all these ways the nations that I will drive out from before your face have become unclean. ²⁵And the land became unclean, so I punished its sin upon it. And the land vomited out its inhabitants. ²⁶And you yourselves must keep my statutes and my laws. And you must not do any of these detestable things, neither the native-born nor the sojourner who sojourns among you ²⁷(for all these detestable things the men of the land have done, those who were before you, and the land has become unclean), ²⁸so the land does not vomit you out after you have made it unclean, just as it vomited out the nation that was before you. ²⁹Indeed, anyone who does any of these detestable things, the people who do such things will be cut off from among their people. ³⁰And you must keep my obligation not to do any of the detestable customs which were done before you, and not make yourselves unclean by them. I am Yahweh your God."

Chapter 19

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to all the assembly of the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘You must be set apart ones, for I, Yahweh your God, am set apart. ³A man must revere his mother and his father, and you must keep my sabbaths. I am Yahweh your God. ⁴Do not turn to worthless idols, and do not make for yourselves gods out of metal. I am Yahweh your God.

⁵And when you sacrifice a sacrifice of peace offerings to Yahweh, you must sacrifice it for your acceptance. ⁶On the day of your sacrifice it must be eaten, or on the next day, and what is left until the third day must be burned up in the fire. ⁷And if it is eaten at all on the third day, it is unclean meat. It will not be accepted. ⁸And the one who eats it must carry his iniquity because he has profaned the holy thing of Yahweh, and that person must be cut off from his people.

⁹And when you harvest the harvest of your land, you must not completely harvest the edge of your field, and you must not gather the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰And you must not glean your vineyard, and you must not gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You must leave them for the poor and for the sojourner. I am Yahweh your God.

¹¹You must not steal and you must not deceive and you must not lie, a man with his fellow citizen. ¹²And you must not swear by my name falsely and profane the name of your God. I am Yahweh.

¹³You must not oppress your neighbor and you must not rob. The wages of a hired worker must not stay all night with you until morning.

¹⁴You must not curse the deaf and you must not put a stumbling block before the face of the blind. And you must fear your God. I am Yahweh.

¹⁵You must not do injustice in judgment. You must not lift up the face of the poor, and you must not give preference to the face of the great. In justice you must judge your neighbor.

¹⁶You must not walk around as a slanderer among your people. You must not stand against the blood of your neighbor. I am Yahweh.

¹⁷You must not hate your brother in your heart. You must surely rebuke your fellow citizen and not incur sin because of him.

¹⁸You must not take vengeance and you must not hold a grudge against the sons of your people, and you must love your neighbor as yourself. I am Yahweh.

¹⁹You must keep my statutes. You must not breed together your livestock of two different kinds. Your field you must not sow with two different kinds of seed, and a garment of two different kinds of material you must not put on you.

²⁰And if a man lies with a woman so there is emission of seed and she is a slave who is promised to a man, and she has not been ransomed at all or freedom has not been given to her, there must be punishment. They must not be put to death because she was not free.

²¹And he must bring his guilt offering to Yahweh to the entrance of the tent of meeting—a ram as a guilt offering.

²²And the priest will make atonement for him with the ram for the guilt offering before the face of Yahweh, for the sin that he has sinned. And it will be forgiven him for his sin which he has sinned.

²³And when you come into the land and have planted all kinds of trees for food, then you must regard its fruit as being uncircumcised in its foreskin. Three years it will be uncircumcised for you. It must not be eaten. ²⁴And in the fourth year all of its fruit will be holy, offerings of praise to Yahweh. ²⁵And in the fifth year you may eat its fruit, to increase its yield for you. I am Yahweh your God.

²⁶You must not eat anything with the blood. You must not practice divination, and you must not interpret signs.

²⁷You must not round off the corners of your heads and you must not shave off the edge of your beard.

²⁸And you must not make a cut on your body for the dead and you must not make on yourselves a mark of a tattoo. I am Yahweh.

²⁹Do not profane your daughter by causing her to be a prostitute, and the land will not fall to prostitution and the land become full of wickedness. ³⁰My sabbaths you must keep and my holy place you must fear. I am Yahweh.

³¹Do not turn to the necromancers or to the soothsayers. Do not seek to become unclean by them. I am Yahweh your God.

³²From the face of the gray-haired person you must rise and you must show respect in the face of an old person. You must fear your God. I am Yahweh.

³³And if a sojourner sojourns among you in your land, you must not oppress him. ³⁴Like the native-born among you must be to you the sojourner who sojourns with you. And you must love him as yourself, because you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. I am Yahweh your God.

³⁵You must not do injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, in weight, or in quantity. ³⁶Just scales, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin you must have. I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt. ³⁷And you must keep all my statutes and all my laws, and you must do them. I am Yahweh.”

Chapter 20

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²And say to the sons of Israel, ‘Any man among the sons of Israel, or among the sojourners who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his offspring to Molech, must certainly be put to death. The people of the land must stone him with stones. ³And I also will set my face against that man and I will cut him off from among his people. For he has given his offspring to Molech, so as to make my holy place unclean and to profane my holy name. ⁴And if the people of the land cause their eyes to be hidden at all from that man when he gives his offspring to Molech, so as to not put him to death, ⁵then I myself will set my face against that man and his clan. And I will cut him off and all the ones who prostitute themselves after him, by prostituting themselves after Molech, from the midst of their people.

⁶And the person who turns to the necromancers or to the soothsayers so as to prostitute themselves after them, I will set my face against that person. And I will cut him off from among his people. ⁷So make yourselves holy and be holy ones, because I am Yahweh your God.^[1]

⁸And you must keep my statutes and do them. I am Yahweh who makes you holy.

⁹If there is any man who curses his father or his mother, he must surely be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother, his blood is on him.

¹⁰And if a man commits adultery with a man’s wife, that is, he commits adultery with his neighbor’s wife, the adulterer and the adulteress must certainly be put to death.

¹¹And if a man lies with his father’s wife, he uncovers his father’s nakedness. Both of them must certainly be put to death. Their blood is on them. ¹²And if a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them must certainly be put to death. They have committed perversion; their blood is on them.

¹³And if a man lies with a male as one lies with a woman, both of them have done a detestable thing. They must surely be put to death; their blood is on them.

¹⁴And if a man takes a wife and her mother, this is wickedness. In the fire they must be burned, he and they, and there will not be wickedness among you.

¹⁵And if a man lies with an animal, he must surely be put to death, and you must kill the animal.

¹⁶And if a woman comes near to any animal to lie with it, then you must kill the woman and the animal. They must certainly be put to death; their blood is on them.

¹⁷And if a man takes his sister, a daughter of his father or a daughter of his mother, and he sees her nakedness, and she sees his nakedness, it is a shameful thing, and they must be cut off in the eyes of the sons of their people. He has uncovered the nakedness of his sister. He must bear his iniquity.

¹⁸And if a man lies with a menstruating woman and has uncovered her nakedness, he has exposed her flow and she has uncovered the flow of her blood. And both of them must be cut off from among their people.

¹⁹And the nakedness of your mother's sister, or your father's sister, you must not uncover because he would expose his relative. They must bear their iniquity.

²⁰And if a man lies with his aunt, he has uncovered his uncle's nakedness. They will bear their sin; they will die childless.

²¹And if a man takes his brother's wife, that is disgraceful. He has uncovered the nakedness of his brother; they will be childless.

²²And you must keep all my statutes and all my judgments, and you must do them, and the land which I am bringing you there to dwell in will not vomit you out.

²³And you must not walk in the statutes of the nations that I will drive out from before your face. For they have done all these things, and I detest them.

²⁴And I said to you, "You will possess their land and I will give it to you to possess it, a land flowing with milk and honey. I am Yahweh your God, who has separated you from the peoples. ²⁵And you must distinguish between the clean animal and the unclean, and between the unclean bird and the clean. And you must not make yourselves detestable by an animal or by a bird or by anything that crawls on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean.

²⁶And you must be holy ones for me, because I, Yahweh, am holy, and I have separated you from the peoples to be mine.

²⁷And if there is among them a man or woman necromancer or soothsayer, they must certainly be put to death. They must stone them with stones. Their blood is on them."

20:7 ^[1] .

Chapter 21

¹And Yahweh said to Moses: "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them, 'For a dead person he must not make himself unclean among his people. ²But if for his relative close to him—for his mother, or for his father, or for his son, or for his daughter, or for his brother, ³or for his virgin sister who is close to him since she has no husband, for her he may make himself unclean. ⁴He must not make himself unclean as a husband among his people, to profane himself.

⁵They must not shave a bald patch on their heads and they must not shave off the corner of their beard, and they must not cut a cut in their flesh. ⁶They must be holy ones to their God and they must not profane the name of their God. For they are offering Yahweh's offerings made by fire, the bread of their God, so they must be holy. ⁷He must

not take a woman who is a prostitute or profaned. And he must not take a woman divorced from her husband. For he is holy to his God.

⁸And you will make him holy, for he is the one who offers the bread of your God. He must be holy for you, because I, Yahweh who makes you holy, am holy.

⁹And a daughter of any priest who profanes herself by becoming a prostitute, she is profaning her father. In the fire she must be burned.

¹⁰And the great priest among his brothers, who has had the oil of anointing poured upon his head and has had his hand filled to wear the garments, he must not let his head be unbound and he must not tear his clothes. ¹¹And he must not go near any dead person, for his father or for his mother. He must not make himself unclean. ¹²And he must not leave from the holy place and he must not profane the holy place of his God. For the dedication of the oil of the anointing of his God is upon him. I am Yahweh.

¹³And he must take a wife in her virginity. ¹⁴A widow, or a divorced woman, or a profaned prostitute—these he must not take. But rather, a virgin from his people he must take as a wife. ¹⁵And he will not profane his offspring among his people. For I am Yahweh who makes him holy.”

¹⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁷“Speak to Aaron, saying, ‘A man from your offspring throughout their generations who has a defect in him must not come near to offer food to his God. ¹⁸For any man who has in him a defect must not come near: a man blind or lame or who has a slit nose or who is deformed, ¹⁹or a man who has a broken foot or a broken hand, ²⁰or a hunchback, or a dwarf, or one with a defect in his eye or eczema or scabs or a crushed testicle. ²¹Any man who has in him a defect among the offspring of Aaron the priest must not approach to offer Yahweh’s offerings made by fire. A defect is in him. He must not approach to offer the bread of his God. ²²The food of his God, some of the holiest holy things and some of the holy things, he may eat. ²³However, he must not go into the curtain and he must not approach to the altar. For a defect is in him and he must not profane my holy place. For I am Yahweh who makes them holy.” ²⁴And Moses spoke to Aaron and to his sons and to all the sons of Israel.

Chapter 22

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Say to Aaron and to his sons that they must deal respectfully with the holy things of the sons of Israel, which they dedicate to me. And they must not profane my holy name. I am Yahweh.

³Say to them, ‘Throughout your generations any man from all your seed who comes near to the holy things that the sons of Israel have made holy to Yahweh and his uncleanness is upon him, that person must be cut off from before my face. I am Yahweh.

⁴Any man from the seed of Aaron who is one with a skin disease or a fluid discharge, he must not eat of the holy things until he becomes clean. And the one who touches anything unclean of a corpse, or a man who has go out from him an emission of seed, ⁵or a man who touches any swarming thing that makes him unclean, or a person who makes him unclean, whatever his uncleanness— ⁶the person who touches it will be unclean until the evening. And he must not eat from the holy things, unless he has bathed his body in water.

⁷And when the sun has set, then he will be clean. And afterward he may eat from the holy things, because it is his food. ⁸He must not eat an animal found dead or killed by wild animals, to become unclean by it. I am Yahweh.

⁹And they must keep my obligations, and they will not bear sin because of it and die by it, because they profaned it. I am Yahweh who makes them holy.

¹⁰And any stranger may not eat the holy thing. A foreign guest of the priest or a hired worker may not eat the holy thing. ¹¹And if a priest buys a person as property with his silver—he may eat it, and a descendant of his house, they may eat his food.

¹²And if a priest's daughter becomes the wife of a stranger, she may not eat the contributions of the holy things.

¹³And if the daughter of a priest becomes a widow, or divorced, and there is no offspring for her, and she returns to her father's house as in her youth, she may eat from the food of her father. And any stranger may not eat it.

¹⁴And if a man eats a holy thing by mistake, then he must add its fifth on it and give the holy thing to the priest.

¹⁵And they must not profane the holy things of the sons of Israel that they lifted up to Yahweh, ¹⁶and cause themselves to bear the guilt of the guilt offering by their eating their holy things. For I am Yahweh who makes them holy."

¹⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁸"Speak to Aaron and to his sons, and to all the sons of Israel, and say to them, 'Any man from the house of Israel, or from the sojourners in Israel, who offers his offering, for any of their vows or for any of their freewill offerings, which they present to Yahweh as a burnt offering, ¹⁹for your acceptance, it must be a male without blemish from the cattle, from the sheep, or from the goats. ²⁰Anything that has a blemish on it you must not offer, because it will not be acceptable for you.

²¹And when a man offers a sacrifice of peace offerings to Yahweh to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering from the herd or from the flock, it must be unblemished to be accepted. There must not be any defect in it. ²²The blind, or disabled, or maimed, or that have warts, or eczema, or scabs—these you must not offer to Yahweh. And you must not give from them an offering made by fire on the altar to Yahweh. ²³An ox or a lamb that is deformed or stunted—it you may offer as a freewill offering, but for a vow it will not be accepted.

²⁴One that is bruised, or crushed, or torn, or has cut testicles you must not offer to Yahweh, and in your land you must not do so. ²⁵And from the hand of the son of a foreigner you must not offer the food of your God from any of these because their deformity is in them and a defect is in them. They will not be accepted for you."

²⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁷"When an ox or a sheep or a goat is born, it must remain seven days with its mother. And from the eighth day and beyond, it may be accepted as an offering, an offering made by fire to Yahweh.

²⁸And an ox or a sheep, it and its young you must not slaughter on the same day. ²⁹And when you sacrifice a sacrifice of thanks to Yahweh, you must sacrifice it for your acceptance. ³⁰On that day it must be eaten, you must not leave part of it until morning. I am Yahweh.

³¹And you must keep my commandments and you must do them. I am Yahweh.

³²And you must not profane my holy name. I must be treated as holy in the midst of the sons of Israel. I am Yahweh who sets you apart, ³³who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am Yahweh."

Chapter 23

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel, and say to them, 'These are the appointed times of Yahweh, which you must proclaim as holy assemblies. They are my appointed times. ³Six days work will be done, and on the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, a holy assembly. You must not do any work. It is a sabbath for Yahweh in all your dwellings.

⁴These are the appointed times of Yahweh, the holy assemblies, them which you must announce at their appointed times: ⁵In the first month, on day 14 of the month, between the evenings, is Yahweh's Passover. ⁶And on day 15 of this month is the Festival of Unleavened Bread for Yahweh. Seven days you must eat unleavened bread. ⁷On the first day there will be a holy assembly for you. You must not do any work of labor. ⁸And you will offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh for seven days. On day seven is a holy assembly. You must not do any work of labor."

⁹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁰"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you have come into the land that I am giving to you, and you harvest its harvest, then you must bring a sheaf of the first of your

harvest to the priest. ¹¹And he will wave the sheaf before the face of Yahweh to be accepted for you. On the day after the sabbath the priest must wave it. ¹²And you must offer, on the day when you wave the sheaf, a male lamb, one year old, without blemish as a burnt offering to Yahweh. ¹³And its grain offering must be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil as an offering made by fire to Yahweh, a sweet aroma, and its drink offering, a fourth of a hin of wine. ¹⁴And bread, and roasted grain and fresh grain you must not eat until this very day, until your offering of the offering of your God. It is a permanent statute throughout your generations, in all your dwellings.

¹⁵And you will count for yourselves from the day after the sabbath—from the day of your bringing the sheaf of the wave offering—there will be seven full sabbaths. ¹⁶Until the day after the seventh sabbath you must count 50 days. And you must offer an offering of new grain to Yahweh. ¹⁷From your dwellings you must bring bread for a wave offering. They must be two loaves of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour. They must be baked with yeast as firstfruits to Yahweh. ¹⁸And you must offer with the bread seven male lambs without defects, sons of the year, and one bull, a son of the herd, and two rams. They must be a burnt offering to Yahweh, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma for Yahweh. ¹⁹And you must offer one buck of the goats for a sin offering, and two male lambs, sons of the year, for a sacrifice of peace offerings. ²⁰And the priest must wave them with the bread of the firstfruits wave offering before the face of Yahweh with the two lambs. They will be set apart to Yahweh for the priest. ²¹And you must make a proclamation on that very day. There will be a holy assembly for you. You must not do any work of labor. It is a permanent statute in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

²²And when you harvest the harvest of your land, you must not finish the edge of your field as you harvest, and you must not gather the gleaning of your harvest. You must leave them for the poor and for the sojourner. I am Yahweh your God.”

²³And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁴”Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘In the seventh month, on day one of the month there will be for you a solemn rest, a memorial by trumpet blast, a holy assembly. ²⁵You must not do any work of labor, and you must offer a sacrifice made by fire to Yahweh.” ²⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁷”Surely on day 10 of this seventh month it is the Day of Atonement. It will be a holy assembly for you, and you must humble yourselves and offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh. ²⁸And you must not do any work on that very day because it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for yourselves before the face of Yahweh your God. ²⁹If there is any person who does not humble himself on that very day, then he must be cut off from his people. ³⁰And any person who does any work on that very day, I will destroy that person from among his people. ³¹You must not do any work. It is a permanent statute throughout your generations in all your dwellings. ³²It is a sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you must humble yourselves on day nine of the month in the evening. From evening until evening you are to observe your sabbath.”

³³And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ³⁴”Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘On day 15 of the seventh month this is the Festival of Huts for seven days to Yahweh. ³⁵On the first day there must be a holy assembly. You must not do any work of labor. ³⁶Seven days you must offer a sacrifice made by fire to Yahweh. On the eighth day there must be a holy assembly for you, and you must offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh. It is a solemn assembly. You must not do any work of labor. ³⁷These are the appointed times of Yahweh, which you must proclaim as holy assemblies to offer a sacrifice made by fire to Yahweh, a burnt offering and a grain offering, sacrifices and drink offerings, each day’s matter on its day, ³⁸apart from the sabbaths of Yahweh, and apart from your gifts, and apart from all your vows, and apart from all your freewill offerings that you give to Yahweh.

³⁹Surely on day 15 of the seventh month when you have gathered the produce of the land, you must celebrate a festival of Yahweh for seven days, on the first day a solemn rest, and on the eighth day a solemn rest. ⁴⁰And you must take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of the majestic trees, branches of palm trees, and branches of leafy trees, and willows of the stream. And you will rejoice before the face of Yahweh your God seven days. ⁴¹And you must celebrate it as a festival for Yahweh seven days in the year. It is a permanent statute throughout your generations in the seventh month you must celebrate it. ⁴²In the huts you must live for seven days. All the native-

born in Israel must live in the huts, ⁴³so that your generations may know that I made the sons of Israel live in the huts when I brought them from the land of Egypt. I am Yahweh your God.” ⁴⁴And Moses announced the appointed times of Yahweh to the sons of Israel.

Chapter 24

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Command the sons of Israel and they will bring to you pure beaten oil of the olive for the light, so the lamp may burn continually. ³Outside the curtain of the testimony in the tent of meeting, Aaron must keep it in order, from evening until morning, before the face of Yahweh continually. It is a permanent statute throughout your generations. ⁴On the pure gold lampstand he must keep the lamps in order before the face of Yahweh continually.

⁵And you must take fine flour and bake 12 cakes with it. There must be two-tenths of an ephah in one cake. ⁶And you must set them in two rows, six in a row, on the pure gold table before the face of Yahweh. ⁷And you must put on the row pure incense and it will be a memorial portion for the bread, an offering made by fire to Yahweh. ⁸On the day of the sabbath, every sabbath, he must keep it in order before the face of Yahweh continually. It is from the sons of Israel as an eternal covenant. ⁹And it will be for Aaron and for his sons, and they must eat it in a holy place. For it is a holiest holy thing for him, from Yahweh’s offerings made by fire, a perpetual portion.” ¹⁰Now the son of an Israelite woman, who was also the son of an Egyptian man, went out in the midst of the sons of Israel. And the son of the Israelite woman and an Israelite man fought in the camp. ¹¹And the son of the Israelite woman blasphemed the Name and cursed, and they brought him to Moses. (Now his mother’s name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.) ¹²And they caused him to remain in the guard-post until it would be made clear to them what was in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh.

¹³And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁴“Bring out the one who has cursed to the outside of the camp. And all the hearers must lay their hands on his head, and all the assembly must stone him. ¹⁵And speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘If any man curses his God, then he must bear his sin. ¹⁶And he who blasphemes the name of Yahweh must surely be put to death. All the assembly must certainly stone him, as the sojourner so the native-born. When he blasphemes the Name, he must be put to death. ¹⁷And if a man strikes dead any human being, he must certainly be put to death. ¹⁸And he who strikes dead the life of an animal must repay it, life in place of life. ¹⁹And if a man gives an injury to his fellow citizen, as he has done so it will be done to him: ²⁰fracture in place of fracture, eye in place of eye, tooth in place of tooth. As he gave an injury to a human, so it must be given to him. ²¹And he who strikes dead an animal must repay it. And he who strikes dead a human must be put to death. ²²There must be one law for you, as the sojourner so will be the native-born. For I am Yahweh your God.” ²³And Moses spoke to the sons of Israel, and they brought the one who had cursed to the outside of the camp. And they stoned him with stones, and the sons of Israel did as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

Chapter 25

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, ²“Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When you come to the land that I am giving to you, then the land must keep a sabbath, a sabbath for Yahweh. ³Six years you must plant your field, and six years you must prune your vineyard and gather its produce. ⁴And in the seventh year, there must be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath for Yahweh. You must not plant your field and you must not prune your vineyard. ⁵You must not harvest the second growth of your harvest and you must not gather the grapes of your unpruned vines. It will be a year of solemn rest for the land. ⁶And the sabbath of the land will be for you, as food for you, and for your male slave, and for your female slave, and for your hired servant, and for the foreign resident who is sojourning with you, ⁷and for your livestock and for the wild animal that is in your land, all its yield will be for eating.

⁸And you must count for yourself seven sabbaths of years, seven times seven years, and there will be for you a period of seven sabbaths of years, 49 years. ⁹And you must cause the horn blast to be heard on the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month. On the Day of Atonement you must cause the horn to be heard throughout all your land. ¹⁰And you must set apart the year, year 50, and proclaim freedom in the land to all its inhabitants. It will be a jubilee for you and you must return a man to his property and you must return a man to his family. ¹¹That year, year 50, will be a jubilee for you. You must not plant and not harvest its second growth and not harvest its unpruned vines. ¹²For it is a jubilee, it will be holy for you. You must eat its yield from the field.

¹³In this Year of Jubilee you must return a man to his property. ¹⁴And if you sell something sold to your fellow citizen or buy from the hand of your fellow citizen, a man must not oppress his brother. ¹⁵According to the number of years after the jubilee you must buy from your fellow citizen. According to the number of years of yield he must sell to you. ¹⁶According to the multitude of the years you must increase its purchase price, but according to the fewness of the years you must decrease its purchase price, because of the number of yields he is selling to you. ¹⁷And you must not oppress, a man his fellow citizen. And you must fear your God, for I am Yahweh your God.

¹⁸And you must do my statutes, and my laws you must keep and do them. And you will dwell on the land securely. ¹⁹And the land will give its fruit, and you will eat to satisfaction and dwell securely on it. ²⁰And if you say, "What will we eat in the seventh year? Look, we cannot plant and we cannot gather our yield." ²¹Then I will command my blessing for you in the sixth year, and it will produce yield for three years. ²²And you will plant in the eighth year and you will eat from the old yield until the ninth year, until its yield comes in you will eat the old. ²³And the land must not be sold for perpetuity, for the land belongs to me. For you are sojourners and temporary residents with me. ²⁴And in all the land of your possession you must give redemption for the land. ²⁵If your brother becomes poor and sells some of his property, then his redeemer nearest to him may come and redeem the things sold of his brother. ²⁶And if a man does not have a redeemer for it, but his hand produces and he finds enough for its redemption, ²⁷then he may calculate the years of its sale and return the balance to the man whom he sold it to. And he may return to his property. ²⁸And if his hand does not find enough to get it back for himself, then his sold things will remain in the hand of he who bought it until the Year of Jubilee. And it will go out in the Jubilee and he will return to his property.

²⁹And if a man sells a residential house of a walled city, then his right of redemption will be until the completion of the year of its sale. It will be the days of his right of redemption. ³⁰And if it is not redeemed for him up to the fulfilling of an entire year, then the house which is in the city which has its wall will belong in perpetuity to him who bought it and to his descendants. It will not go out in the Jubilee. ³¹And the houses of the villages that have no wall around them will be considered as the field of the land. There will be redemption for it, and in the Jubilee it will go out. ³²As for the cities of the Levites, the houses of the cities of their possession, the right of redemption is permanent for the Levites. ³³And whatever is from the Levites he may redeem, and a sold house or a city of his possession will go out in the Jubilee. For the houses of the cities of the Levites—it is their possession among the sons of Israel. ³⁴And the field of the pastureland of their cities must not be sold because it is their permanent possession.

³⁵And if your brother becomes poor and his hand is shaky with you, then you must support him as a sojourner or temporary resident and he will live with you. ³⁶Do not take from him interest or usury, and you must fear your God and your brother may live with you. ³⁷Your silver you must not give to him with interest and for profit you must not give your food. ³⁸I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt to give to you the land of Canaan, to be your God.

³⁹And if your brother with you becomes poor and is sold to you, you must not make him work the work of a slave. ⁴⁰Like a hired worker, like a temporary resident, he must be with you. Until the Year of Jubilee he will serve with you. ⁴¹And he will go away from you, he and his sons with him, and he will return to his clan. And he will return to the possession of his fathers. ⁴²For they are my servants, them which I brought out of the land of Egypt. They will not be sold in a slave sale. ⁴³You must not rule over him with ruthlessness, and you must fear your God. ⁴⁴As for your male slave and your female slave who you have for yourself, from the nations that surround you, from them

you may acquire a male slave or a female slave. ⁴⁵And also from the sons of the sojourners who are dwelling with you, from them you may acquire, and from their clans who are with you, who have given birth in your land—they may become your property. ⁴⁶And you may bequeath them to your sons after you, to inherit as a possession, you may let them work permanently. But as for your brothers, the sons of Israel, a man with his brother, you must not rule over him with ruthlessness.

⁴⁷And if the hand of a sojourner or a temporary resident with you has produced, and your brother with you becomes poor and is sold to a sojourner, a temporary resident with you, or to a descendant of a clan of a sojourner, ⁴⁸after he has been sold, there will be redemption for him. One of his brothers may redeem him, ⁴⁹or his uncle, or the son of his uncle may redeem him; or a relative of his flesh from his clan may redeem him. Or, if his hand has produced, then he may redeem himself. ⁵⁰And he will calculate with his buyer from the year he was sold to him until the Year of Jubilee, and the silver of his sale must be according to the number of years; like the days of a hired worker it will be with him. ⁵¹If there are still many of the years, according to them he must pay back his redemption from the silver of his purchase. ⁵²And if a few of the years until the Year of Jubilee are left, then he must calculate for him according to his years. He must pay back his redemption. ⁵³Like a hired worker year by year he will be with him. He must not rule over him with ruthlessness in your eyes. ⁵⁴And if he is not redeemed by these, then he must go out in the Year of Jubilee, he and his sons with him. ⁵⁵For to me the sons of Israel are servants. They are my servants, them which I brought out of the land of Egypt. I am Yahweh your God.”

Chapter 26

¹“You must not make for yourselves idols. And a carved figure or a stone pillar you must not lift up for yourselves, and a stone sculpture you must not put in your land to bow down in front of it. For I am Yahweh your God. ²My sabbaths you must keep and my holy place you must fear. I am Yahweh.

³If you walk in my statutes and keep my commandments and do them, ⁴then I will give your rain in its season. And the land will give its yield, and the tree of the field will give its fruit. ⁵And your threshing season will reach the grape harvest, and the grape harvest will reach the planting season. And you will eat your bread to satisfaction and dwell securely in your land. ⁶And I will give peace in the land. And you will lie down and there will be nothing that makes one afraid. And I will remove the harmful animals from the land, and the sword will not pass through your land. ⁷And you will pursue those who are hostile to you, and they will fall before your face by the sword. ⁸And five from you will pursue a hundred, and a hundred from you will pursue ten thousand. And those who are hostile to you will fall before your face by the sword. ⁹And I will turn to you and make you fruitful and multiply you. And I will establish my covenant with you. ¹⁰And you will eat the old that has grown old and the old you will bring out from the face of the new. ¹¹And I will put my holy place in the midst of you, and my spirit will not detest you. ¹²And I will walk in the midst of you and I will be your God, and you will be my people. ¹³I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt, from being their slaves. And I broke the bars of your yoke and made you to walk upright.

¹⁴And if you will not listen to me, and will not do all these commandments, ¹⁵and if you reject my statutes and if your spirit detests my laws, so as to not do all my commandments, so that you break my covenant— ¹⁶then surely I will do this to you: I will inflict terror on you, consumption and fever that destroys the eyes and drains away life. And you will sow your seed for nothing, because those who are hostile to you will eat it. ¹⁷And I will set my face against you, and you will be defeated in the face of those who are hostile to you. And those who hate you will rule over you; and you will flee, though there is not one who chases you. ¹⁸And if up to these you do not listen to me, then I will continue to discipline you seven times for your sins. ¹⁹And I will break the pride of your power. And I will make your sky like iron and your land like bronze. ²⁰And your strength will be used up for nothing, because your land will not give its yield. And the tree of the land will not give its fruit.

²¹And if you walk against me in opposition and are not willing to listen to me, then I will add upon you a plague seven times, according to your sins. ²²And I will send forth among you animals of the field, and they will make you childless, and destroy your livestock, and make you few in number. And your roads will become deserted.

²³And if in spite of these things you do not accept my discipline and you walk against me in opposition, ²⁴then I will also walk, I myself, against you in opposition. And I will strike you, even I myself, seven times because of your sins. ²⁵And I will bring a sword upon you that will avenge with the vengeance of the covenant, and you will be gathered into your cities. And I will send a plague in the midst of you, and you will be given into the hand of the one who is hostile. ²⁶When I break the staff of your bread, then ten women will bake your bread in one oven. And they will distribute your bread by weight, and you will eat but not be satisfied.

²⁷And if in spite of this you do not listen to me, and you walk against me in opposition, ²⁸then I will walk against you in the wrath of opposition. And I will discipline you, even I, seven times for your sins. ²⁹And you will eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters you will eat. ³⁰And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your incense altars, and put your corpses on the corpses of your idols, and I myself will abhor you. ³¹And I will lay your cities in ruins and make your holy places desolate. And I will not smell your sweet aromas. ³²And I myself will make the land desolate, and those who are hostile to you who dwell in it will be shocked at it. ³³And I will scatter you among the nations, and I will unsheathe a sword behind you. And your land will be desolate, and your cities will be ruined.

³⁴Then the land will enjoy its sabbaths all the days of its desolation while you are in the land of those who are hostile to you. Then the land will rest and enjoy its sabbaths. ³⁵All the days of its desolation it will rest what it did not rest on your sabbaths when you lived on it.

³⁶As for the ones who are remaining among you, I will bring despair into their hearts in the land of those who are hostile to them, and the sound of a windblown leaf will chase them. And they will flee as one fleeing from a sword, and you will fall though there is not one who chases. ³⁷And you will stumble, each over his brother, as from the face of a sword, though there is not one who chases. And you will have no power to stand to the face of those who are hostile to you. ³⁸And you will perish among the nations, and the land of those who are hostile to you will devour you. ³⁹And the ones who are remaining among you will rot in their iniquity, in the lands of those who are hostile to you. And also in the iniquities of their fathers they will rot with them.

⁴⁰And if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, in their unfaithfulness which they acted unfaithfully against me, and also that they walked against me in opposition— ⁴¹also I myself went against them in opposition and I brought them into the land of those who are hostile to them—if then their uncircumcised hearts become humbled, and then they pay for their iniquity, ⁴²then I will remember my covenant with Jacob. And also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham I will remember. And I will remember the land. ⁴³And the land was abandoned by them, and it will rejoice with its sabbaths while being desolate without them. And they themselves will pay for their iniquity because they rejected my judgments and their spirit detested my statutes. ⁴⁴And despite even this, when they are in the land of those who are hostile to them, I will not reject them, and I will not detest them so as to destroy them, to break my covenant with them. For I am Yahweh their God. ⁴⁵And I will remember for their sake the covenant with their ancestors, them whom I brought out from the land of Egypt in the eyes of the nations, to be their God. I am Yahweh."

⁴⁶These are the statutes, and the judgments, and the instructions that Yahweh made between himself and between the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 27

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'If a man vows a vow according to your valuation of persons to Yahweh, ³then your valuation will be for a male from a son of 20 years and up to a son of 60 years and your valuation must be 50 shekels of silver, according to the shekel of the holy place. ⁴And if

she is a female, then your valuation must be 30 shekels. ⁵And if from a son of five years and up to a son of 20 years, then your valuation for the male must be 20 shekels, and for the female ten shekels. ⁶And if from a son of a month and up to a son of five years, then your valuation for the male must be five shekels of silver, and for the female your valuation of three shekels of silver. ⁷And if from a son of 60 years and up, if a male, then your valuation must be 15 shekels, and for the female ten shekels. ⁸And if he is poorer than your valuation, then he must present himself to the face of the priest, and the priest will value him. According to what the hand of the one making the vow produces the priest will value him.

⁹And if it is an animal from which they offer an offering to Yahweh, all that he gives from them to Yahweh will be set apart. ¹⁰He must not replace it and he must not exchange it, a good one for a bad one or a bad for a good. And if he exchanges at all an animal for an animal, then it will be and the exchanged one will be set apart. ¹¹And if any animal is unclean from which an offering must not be offered to Yahweh, then he must present the animal to the face of the priest. ¹²And the priest will set its value as either good or bad. According to the valuation of you, the priest, thus will it be. ¹³And if he ever redeems it, then he must add its fifth in addition to your valuation.

¹⁴And when a man sets apart his house as a holy thing to Yahweh, then the priest will set its value as either good or bad. As the priest values it, so it will stand. ¹⁵And if the one who set it apart redeems his house, then he must add a fifth of the silver of your valuation to it, and it will belong to him.

¹⁶And if a man sets apart part of the field of his property to Yahweh, then your valuation will be in proportion to its seed—a homer of barley seed for 50 shekels of silver. ¹⁷If he sets apart his field during the Year of Jubilee, according to your valuation it will stand. ¹⁸And if he sets apart his field after the Jubilee, then the priest must calculate for it the silver according to the years remaining until the Year of Jubilee, and it must be reduced from your valuation. ¹⁹And if he who set it apart ever redeems the field, then he must add a fifth of the silver of your valuation to it, and it will belong to him. ²⁰And if he does not redeem the field, or if he has sold the field to another man, it cannot be redeemed again. ²¹And the field will be, when it goes out in the Jubilee, a holy thing to Yahweh, like the field that has been dedicated by ban. It will belong to the priest as his property. ²²And if he sets apart to Yahweh a field of his acquisition that is not part of the field of his property, ²³then the priest will calculate for him the amount of your valuation up to the Year of Jubilee, and the man must give your valuation on that day as a holy thing to Yahweh. ²⁴In the Year of Jubilee, the field will return to whom he bought it from, to whom belongs the possession of the land. ²⁵And all your valuations must be by the shekel of the holy place; 20 gerahs must be the shekel.

²⁶Surely the firstborn which belongs as firstborn to Yahweh among animals, a man must not set it apart. Whether ox or sheep, it belongs to Yahweh. ²⁷And if it is among the unclean animals, then he may buy it back according to your valuation, and he must add its fifth to it. And if it is not redeemed, then it will be sold at your valuation.

²⁸Surely any dedicated thing that a man dedicates to Yahweh, from all that belongs to him, from human or animal, or from the field of his property, must not be sold and must not be redeemed. Every dedicated thing, it is the holiest holy thing to Yahweh. ²⁹Every dedicated one who is dedicated from mankind must not be ransomed. He must surely be put to death.

³⁰And all the tithe of the land, from the seed of the land and from the fruit of the tree, belongs to Yahweh. It is holy to Yahweh. ³¹And if a man ever redeems some of his tenth, he must add its fifth in addition to it. ³²As for every tenth of the herd or the flock, anything that passes under the rod, the tenth must be set apart to Yahweh. ³³He must not seek to distinguish between good and bad, and he must not exchange it. And if he exchanges it at all, then it will be and its substitute will be set apart. It must not be redeemed.”

³⁴These are the commandments that Yahweh commanded Moses for the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai.

Numbers

Chapter 1

¹Then Yahweh spoke to Moses in the tent of meeting in the wilderness of Sinai on 1 of the second month in the second year of their going out from the land of Egypt, saying, ²"Lift up the heads of all the congregation of the sons of Israel, according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of names, every male according to their skulls, ³from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war in Israel. You and Aaron must count them according to their armies. ⁴And with you will be a man, a man of the tribe. He will be the head man of the house of his fathers. ⁵And these are the names of the men who will stand with you:

Of Reuben, Elizur the son of Shedeur,

⁶of Simeon, Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai;

⁷of Judah, Nahshon the son of Amminadab;

⁸of Issachar, Nethanel the son of Zuar;

⁹of Zebulun, Eliab the son of Helon;

¹⁰of the sons of Joseph: of Ephraim, Elishama the son of Ammihud;

of Manasseh, Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur;

¹¹of Benjamin, Abidan the son of Gideoni;

¹²of Dan, Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai;

¹³of Asher, Pagiel the son of Okran;

¹⁴of Gad, Eliasaph the son of Deuel;

¹⁵of Naphtali, Ahira the son of Enan."

¹⁶These were the called ones of the congregation, the leaders of the tribes of their fathers. They were the heads of the thousands of Israel. ¹⁷And Moses and Aaron took these men, who were designated by names. ¹⁸And they assembled all the congregation on 1 of the second month. And they declared their ancestry in accordance with their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, according to their skulls. ¹⁹And he counted them in the wilderness of Sinai, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

²⁰And the sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, according to their skulls, every male from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ²¹their counted ones of the tribe of Reuben were 46,500.

²²Of the sons of Simeon, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, his counted ones by the number of the names, according to their skulls, every male from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ²³their counted ones of the tribe of Simeon were 59,300.

²⁴Of the sons of Gad, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ²⁵their counted ones of the tribe of Gad were 45,650.

²⁶Of the sons of Judah, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ²⁷their counted ones of the tribe of Judah were 74,600.

²⁸Of the sons of Issachar, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ²⁹their counted ones of the tribe of Issachar were 54,400.

³⁰Of the sons of Zebulun, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ³¹their counted ones of the tribe of Zebulun were 57,400.

³²Of the sons of Joseph: of the sons of Ephraim, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ³³their counted ones of the tribe of Ephraim were 40,500.

³⁴Of the sons of Manasseh, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ³⁵their counted ones of the tribe of Manasseh were 32,200.

³⁶Of the sons of Benjamin, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ³⁷their counted ones of the tribe of Benjamin were 35,400.

³⁸Of the sons of Dan, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ³⁹their counted ones of the tribe of Dan were 62,700.

⁴⁰Of the sons of Asher, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ⁴¹their counted ones of the tribe of Asher were 41,500.

⁴²Of the sons of Naphtali, their generations according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war, ⁴³their counted ones of the tribe of Naphtali were 53,400.

⁴⁴These were the counted ones, whom Moses and Aaron had counted, and the leaders of Israel, 12 men, they were one man for the house of his fathers. ⁴⁵And they were all the counted ones of the sons of Israel according to the house of their fathers, from a son of 20 years and upward, every one who goes out to war in Israel. ⁴⁶And all the counted ones were 603,550.

⁴⁷And the Levites according to the tribe of their father were not counted in the midst of them. ⁴⁸And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁴⁹“Only the tribe of Levi you must not count. And you must not lift up their heads in the midst of the sons of Israel. ⁵⁰And you, appoint the Levites over the dwelling of the testimony and over all its vessels and over all that belongs to it. They themselves must carry the dwelling and all its vessels, and they themselves must serve it. And they must camp around the dwelling. ⁵¹And when the dwelling sets out, the Levites must take it down. And when the dwelling camps, the Levites must raise it up. And the stranger who comes near must be put to death. ⁵²And the sons of Israel will camp, a man at his camp, and a man at his banner, according to their armies.

⁵³And the Levites must camp around the dwelling of the testimony and wrath will not be upon the congregation of

the sons of Israel. And the Levites must keep the keeping of the dwelling of the testimony.” ⁵⁴And the sons of Israel did according to all that Yahweh commanded Moses, so they did.

Chapter 2

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²“The sons of Israel will camp, a man at his banner, with the sign of the house of their fathers. They will camp away from the front, around the tent of meeting. ³And the ones camping to the east, to the sunrise, will be the banner of the camp of Judah according to their armies. And the leader of the sons of Judah is Nahshon the son of Amminadab. ⁴And his army and their counted ones are 74,600. ⁵And the ones camping beside him are the tribe of Issachar. And the leader of the sons of Issachar is Nethanel the son of Zuar. ⁶And his army and his counted ones are 54,400. ⁷The tribe of Zebulun: and the leader of the sons of Zebulun is Eliab the son of Helon. ⁸And his army and his counted ones are 57,400. ⁹All the counted ones of the camp of Judah are 186,400 according to their armies. They will set out first.

¹⁰The banner of the camp of Reuben will be to the south of their armies. And the leader of the sons of Reuben is Elizur the son of Shedeur. ¹¹And his army and his counted ones are 46,500. ¹²And the ones camping beside him will be the tribe of Simeon. And the leader of the sons of Simeon is Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai. ¹³And his army and their counted ones are 59,300. ¹⁴And the tribe of Gad: and the leader of the sons of Gad is Eliasaph the son of Reuel. ¹⁵And his army and their counted ones are 45,650. ¹⁶All the counted ones of the camp of Reuben are 151,450 according to their armies. And they will set out second.

¹⁷And the tent of meeting will set out from the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camps. As they came so will they set out, a man on his hand, according to their banners.

¹⁸The banner of the camp of Ephraim according to their armies will be to the west. And the leader of the sons of Ephraim is Elishama the son of Ammihud. ¹⁹And his army and their counted ones are 40,500. ²⁰And beside him is the tribe of Manasseh. And the leader of the sons of Manasseh is Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur. ²¹And his army and their counted ones are 32,200. ²²And the tribe of Benjamin: and the leader of the sons of Benjamin is Abidan the son of Gideoni. ²³And his army and their counted ones are 35,400. ²⁴All the counted ones of the camp of Ephraim are 108,100 according to their armies. And they will set out third.

²⁵The banner of the camp of Dan will be to the north according to their armies. And the leader of the sons of Dan is Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai. ²⁶And his army and their counted ones are 62,700. ²⁷And the ones camping beside him will be the tribe of Asher. And the leader of the sons of Asher is Pagiel the son of Okran. ²⁸And his army and their counted ones are 41,500. ²⁹And the tribe of Naphtali: and the leader of the sons of Naphtali is Ahira the son of Enan. ³⁰And his army and their counted ones are 53,400. ³¹All the counted ones of the camp of Dan are 157,600. They will set out last, according to their banners.”

³²These are the counted ones of the sons of Israel according to the houses of their fathers. All the counted ones of the camps according to their armies are 603,550. ³³And they did not count the Levites in the midst of the sons of Israel, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses. ³⁴And the sons of Israel did according to all that Yahweh commanded Moses. So they camped according to their banners and so they set out, a man according to his clans, in accordance with the house of his fathers.

Chapter 3

¹And these are the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day Yahweh spoke with Moses on the mountain of Sinai. ²And these are the names of the sons of Aaron: Nadab the firstborn and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ³These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the priests, the ones who were anointed, whose hand he filled to serve as priest. ⁴And Nadab died and Abihu before the face of Yahweh when they offered unfamiliar fire before the face of Yahweh in

the wilderness of Sinai. And sons were not belonging to them. And Eleazar served as priest and Ithamar with the face of Aaron their father.

⁵And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶“Bring near the tribe of Levi and stand it before the face of Aaron the priest. And they shall serve him. ⁷And they shall keep his keeping and the keeping of all the congregation before the face of the tent of meeting, to serve the service of the dwelling. ⁸And they shall keep all the vessels of the tent of meeting and the keeping of the sons of Israel, to serve the service of the dwelling. ⁹And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and to his sons. They are given, given to him from with the sons of Israel. ¹⁰And you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall keep their priesthood. And the stranger who comes near shall be put to death.”

¹¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹²“And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from the midst of the sons of Israel instead of every firstborn, the opener of the womb from the sons of Israel. And the Levites are for me. ¹³For every firstborn belongs to me. In the day of my striking down every firstborn in the land of Egypt I set apart for me every firstborn in Israel, from human up to livestock. They are for me. I am Yahweh.”

¹⁴And Yahweh spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying, ¹⁵“Count the sons of Levi according to the house of their fathers, according to their clans. You shall count them, every male from a son of a month and upward.” ¹⁶And Moses counted them in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh, just as he was commanded. ¹⁷And these were the sons of Levi by their names: Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari. ¹⁸And these are the names of the sons of Gershon according to their clans: Libni and Shimei. ¹⁹And the sons of Kohath according to their clans were Amram and Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel. ²⁰And the sons of Merari according to their clans were Mahli and Mushi. These are they, the clans of the Levites according to the house of their fathers.

²¹Of Gershon were the clan of the Libnite and the clan of the Shimeite. These are they, the clans of the Gershonite. ²²Their counted ones by the number of every male from a son of a month and upward, their counted ones were 7,500. ²³The clans of the Gershonites were to camp behind the dwelling, to the west. ²⁴And the leader of the house of the father of the Gershonite was Eliasaph the son of Lael. ²⁵And the keeping of the sons of Gershon in the tent of meeting was the dwelling and the tent, its covering, and the curtain of the opening of the tent of meeting, ²⁶and the hangings of the courtyard, and the curtains of the opening of the courtyard that is upon the dwelling and upon the altar all around, and its ropes for all its service.

²⁷And of Kohath were the clan of the Amramite, and the clan of the Izharite, and the clan of the Hebronite, and the clan of the Uzzielite. These are they, the clans of the Kohathite. ²⁸By the number of every male from a son of a month and upward, 8,600 were the keepers of the keeping of the holy place. ²⁹The clans of the sons of Kohath were to camp on the side of the dwelling, to the south. ³⁰And the leader of the house of the father of the clans of the Kohathite was Elizaphan the son of Uzziel. ³¹And their duty was the box, and the table, and the lampstand, and the altar, and the vessels of the holy place with which they serve, and the covering, and all its service. ³²And the leader of the leaders of the Levites was Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, the oversight of the keepers of the keeping of the holy place.

³³Of Merari were the clan of the Mahlite and the clan of the Mushite. These are they, the clans of Merari. ³⁴And their counted ones by the number of every male from a son of a month and upward were 6,200. ³⁵And the leader of the house of the father of the clans of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail. They were to camp on the side of the dwelling, to the north. ³⁶And the oversight of the duty of the sons of Merari was the boards of the dwelling, and its bars, and its pillars, and its bases, and all its vessels, and all its service, ³⁷and the pillars of the courtyard all around, and their bases, and their pegs, and their ropes.

³⁸And the ones camping before the face of the dwelling to the east, before the face of the tent of meeting toward the sunrise were to be Moses and Aaron and his sons, the keepers of the keeping of the holy place, according to the keeping of the sons of Israel. And the stranger who comes near shall be put to death. ³⁹All the counted ones of the Levites whom Moses and Aaron counted in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh, according to their clans, every male from a son of a month and upward, were 22,000.

⁴⁰And Yahweh said to Moses, "Count every firstborn male of the sons of Israel from a son of a month and upward. And lift up the number of their names. ⁴¹And you shall take the Levites for me—I am Yahweh—instead of all the firstborn of the sons of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the livestock of the sons of Israel." ⁴²And Moses counted all the firstborn of the sons of Israel, just as Yahweh had commanded him. ⁴³And it happened that every firstborn male by the number of the names from a son of a month and upward, according to their counted ones, was 22,273.

⁴⁴And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁴⁵"Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the sons of Israel, and the livestock of the Levites instead of their livestock (and the Levites shall belong to me—I am Yahweh), ⁴⁶and the ransoms of the 273, the ones in excess over the Levites from the firstborn of the sons of Israel. ⁴⁷And you shall take five, five shekels for the skull. You shall take by the shekel of the holy place, 20 gerahs is the shekel. ⁴⁸And you shall give the silver to Aaron and to his sons, the ransom of the ones in excess among them. ⁴⁹And Moses took the silver of the ransom from with the ones in excess over the ransomed ones of the Levites. ⁵⁰From with the firstborn of the sons of Israel he took the silver: 1,365 by the shekel of the holy place. ⁵¹And Moses gave the silver of the ransom to Aaron and to his sons in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

Chapter 4

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²"Lift up the head of the sons of Kohath from the midst of the sons of Levi, according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, ³from a son of 30 years and upward, and up to a son of 50 years, all who come to the company to do work in the tent of meeting. ⁴This is the service of the sons of Kohath in the tent of meeting, the holy thing of the holy things. ⁵And Aaron and his sons shall come when the camp sets out. And they shall take down the curtain of the covering and with it they shall cover the box of the testimony. ⁶And they shall put upon it a cover of the skin of the porpoise. And they shall spread a cloth entirely of blue above. And they shall place its poles. ⁷And over the table of the face they shall spread a cloth of blue. And they shall put on it the dishes and the pans and the sacrificial bowls and the jars of the drink offering. And the bread of continuity shall be on it. ⁸And they shall spread on them a cloth of the worms of scarlet. And they shall cover it with a covering of the skin of the porpoise. And they shall place its poles. ⁹And they shall take a cloth of blue and cover the lampstand of the light source, and its lamps, and its snuffers, and its trays, and all the vessels of its oil with which they serve it. ¹⁰And they shall put it and all its vessels into the covering of the skin of the porpoise. And they shall put it on the carrying bar. ¹¹And upon the altar of gold they shall spread a cloth of blue. And they shall cover it with a covering of the skin of the porpoise. And they shall place its poles. ¹²And they shall take all the implements of the service with which they serve in the holy place and they shall put them into a cloth of blue. And they shall cover them with a covering of the skin of the porpoise. And they shall put it on the carrying bar. ¹³And they shall remove the fatty ashes from the altar and they shall spread on it a cloth of purple. ¹⁴And they shall put on it all its implements with which they serve on it: the trays, the meat forks, and the shovels, and the bowls—all the implements of the altar. And they shall spread on it a covering of the skin of the porpoise. And they shall place its poles. ¹⁵And Aaron and his sons shall finish to cover the holy place and all the implements of the holy place when the camp sets out. And afterward the sons of Kohath shall come to carry them, and they shall not touch the holy thing and die. These are the load of the sons of Kohath in the tent of meeting. ¹⁶And the oversight of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest is the oil of the light source, and the incense of the spices, and the grain offering of the continuity, and the oil of the anointment, the oversight of all the dwelling and all that is in it, with the holy place and with its implements."

¹⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ¹⁸"Do not let the tribe of the clans of the Kohathite be cut off from the midst of the Levites. ¹⁹And do this for them and they will live and not die when they approach the holiest holy thing. Aaron and his sons shall come and place them man by man in accordance with his service and according to his load. ²⁰And they shall not enter to look at the holy place like a gulp and die."

²¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²²“Lift up the head of the sons of Gershon, even them, according to the house of their fathers, according to their clans. ²³You shall count them from a son of 30 years and upward, up to a son of 50 years, every one who comes to serve service, to work work in the tent of meeting. ²⁴This is the work of the clans of the Gershonite, for working and for a load. ²⁵And they shall carry the curtains of the dwelling and the tent of meeting, its covering, the covering of porpoise which is on it above, and the covering of the opening of the tent of meeting, ²⁶and the hangings of the courtyard, and the covering of the opening of the gate of the courtyard that is beside the dwelling and beside the altar all around, and their ropes, and all the implements of their work, and all that is to be done for them. And they shall work. ²⁷In accordance with the mouth of Aaron and his sons will be all the work of the sons of the Gershonite, according to all their load, and according to all their work. And you shall appoint for them by duty all their load. ²⁸This is the work of the clans of the sons of the Gershonite in the tent of meeting and their duty in the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

²⁹You shall count them, the sons of Merari according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers. ³⁰You shall count them from a son of 30 years and upward, and up to a son of 50 years, every one who comes to the company, to serve the service of the tent of meeting. ³¹And this is the duty of their load according to all their service in the tent of meeting: the boards of the dwelling, and its bars, and its pillars, and its bases, ³²and the pillars of the courtyard all around, and their bases, and their pegs, and their ropes, for all their implements and for all their work. And by names you shall appoint the implements of the duty of their load. ³³This is the service of the clans of the sons of Merari for all their service in the tent of meeting, by the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

³⁴And Moses and Aaron and the leaders of the congregation counted the sons of the Kohathite according to their clans and according to the house of their fathers, ³⁵from a son of 30 years and upward, and up to a son of 50 years, every one who comes to the company for service in the tent of meeting. ³⁶And their counted ones according to their clans were 2,750. ³⁷These were the counted ones of the clans of the Kohathite, every one who serves in the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron had counted in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh by the hand of Moses.

³⁸And the counted ones of the sons of Gershon, according to their clans and according to the house of their fathers, ³⁹from a son of 30 years and upward, and up to a son of 50 years, every one who comes to the company for service in the tent of meeting. ⁴⁰And their counted ones according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers were 2,630. ⁴¹These were the counted ones of the clans of the sons of Gershon, every one who serves in the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron had counted in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh.

⁴²And the counted ones of the clans of the sons of Merari, according to their clans, according to the house of their fathers, ⁴³from a son of 30 years and upward, and up to a son of 50 years, every one who comes to the company for service in the tent of meeting. ⁴⁴And their counted ones according to their clans were 3,200. ⁴⁵These are the counted ones of the clans of the sons of Merari, whom Moses and Aaron had counted in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh by the hand of Moses,

⁴⁶all the counted ones whom Moses and Aaron and the leaders of Israel had counted, the Levites according to their clans and according to the house of their fathers, ⁴⁷from a son of 30 years and upward, and up to a son of 50 years, every one who comes to serve the service of service and the service of load in the tent of meeting. ⁴⁸And their counted ones were 8,580. ⁴⁹In accordance with the mouth of Yahweh he counted them by the hand of Moses, man by man in accordance with his work and in accordance with his load, and his numbered ones that Yahweh had commanded Moses.

Chapter 5

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Command the sons of Israel and they shall send away from the camp every one with an infectious skin disease, and every one who flows, and every one unclean by a dead person. ³From male

up to female you shall send, to the outside of the camp you shall send them. And they shall not defile their camp, because I am dwelling in the midst of them." ⁴And the sons of Israel did so. And they sent them to the outside of the camp. Thus the sons of Israel did just as Yahweh had spoken to Moses.

⁵And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶"Speak to the sons of Israel: 'When a man or woman does from any of the sins of the human to act unfaithfully in unfaithfulness against Yahweh, then that person has done wrong. ⁷And they shall confess their sin that they did. And he shall return his price of wrongdoing by its head and he shall add its fifth in addition to it. And he shall give to whom he has done wrong to. ⁸And if there is not a redeemer for the man to return the price of wrongdoing to him, the price of wrongdoing will be returned to Yahweh, to the priest, apart from the ram of the atonement with which he shall make atonement for him. ⁹And every contribution of all the holy things of the sons of Israel that they offer to the priest, it shall belong to him. ¹⁰And a man, his holy things shall belong to him; what a man gives to the priest shall belong to him.'"

¹¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹²"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'Man by man, if his wife turns aside and acts unfaithfully against him in unfaithfulness, ¹³and a man lies the lying of seed with her and it is concealed from the eyes of her husband, and it is hidden, and she herself is defiled, and there is no witness against her, and she herself has not been caught, ¹⁴and a spirit of jealousy passes over upon him and he is jealous of his wife and she herself is defiled, or a spirit of jealousy comes over upon him and he is jealous of his wife but she herself is not defiled; ¹⁵then the man shall bring his wife to the priest. And he shall bring her offering for her, the tenth of the ephah of the flour of barley. He shall not pour oil upon it and he shall not put frankincense upon it, for it is a grain offering of jealousy, a grain offering of remembrance, one that causes iniquity to be remembered.

¹⁶And the priest shall bring her near. And he shall stand her before the face of Yahweh. ¹⁷And the priest shall take the holy water in the vessel of clay. And the priest shall take some of the dust that is on the floor of the dwelling. And he shall put it into the water. ¹⁸And the priest shall stand the woman before the face of Yahweh. And he shall unbind the head of the woman. And he shall put upon her palm the grain offering of remembrance. It is the grain offering of jealousy. And in the hand of the priest shall be the water of bitterness that brings a curse. ¹⁹And the priest shall make her swear and he shall say to the woman, "If a man has not lain with you, and if you have not turned aside to uncleanness under your husband, you will be free from this water of bitterness that brings a curse. ²⁰But if you have turned aside under your husband, and if you are defiled and a man apart from your husband has given his lying with you," ²¹(and the priest shall make the woman swear with an oath of the curse). And the priest shall say to the woman, "Yahweh will make you into a curse and into an oath in the midst of your people when Yahweh makes your thigh fall away and your abdomen swell. ²²And this water that brings a curse will enter in your inward parts to cause swelling of the abdomen and to cause falling away of your thigh." And the woman shall say, "Truly, truly."

²³And the priest shall write these curses in the book and he shall wipe it off into the water of bitterness. ²⁴And he shall cause the woman to drink the water of bitterness that brings a curse. And the water that brings a curse of bitterness will enter in her. ²⁵And the priest shall take the grain offering of jealousy from the hand of the woman. And he shall wave the grain offering before the face of Yahweh and he shall bring it near to the altar. ²⁶And the priest shall grasp from the grain offering its memorial portion and he shall burn it up at the altar. And after he shall make the woman drink the water. ²⁷And he shall make her drink the water. And it will be that if she is defiled and has acted unfaithfully in unfaithfulness with her husband, then the water that brings a curse of bitterness will enter in her and her abdomen will swell and her thigh will fall away. And the woman will become a curse in the midst of her people. ²⁸And if the woman is not defiled then she herself is clean. And she will be free and she will be sown with seed.

²⁹This is the law of jealousy, when a woman turns aside under her husband and is defiled. ³⁰or a man, when a spirit of jealousy passes over upon him and he is jealous of his wife. And he shall stand the woman before the face of Yahweh. And the priest shall do all this law to her. ³¹And the man will be free from iniquity. And this woman will carry her iniquity."

Chapter 6

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When a man or a woman does something extraordinary by vowing the vow of a separate one to separate to Yahweh, ³he shall separate from wine and intoxicating drink. He shall not drink the vinegar of wine and the vinegar of intoxicating drink. And he shall not drink any of the juice of grapes. And he shall not eat moist and dried grapes. ⁴All the days of his separation he shall not eat from all that is made from the vine of the wine, from seeds and up to skin.

⁵All the days of the vow of his separation a razor shall not pass over his head. Until the fulfilling of the days that he has separated to Yahweh he shall be holy, the locks of the hair of his head shall grow long.

⁶All the days of his separation to Yahweh he shall not go near a person who is dead. ⁷For his father and for his mother, for his brother and for his sister, he shall not defile himself for them with their death, because the separation of his God is on his head. ⁸All the days of his separation he shall be holy to Yahweh.

⁹And if one who is dead dies near him in suddenness suddenly and he defiles the head of his separation, then he shall shave his head on the day of his cleansing, on the seventh day he shall shave it ¹⁰And on the eighth day he shall bring two of the turtedoves or two of the sons of the dove to the priest, to the opening of the tent of meeting. ¹¹And the priest shall make one for a sin offering and one for a burnt up offering. And he shall make atonement for him because he sinned on account of the person. And he shall make his head holy on that day. ¹²And he shall separate to Yahweh the days of his separation. And he shall bring a male lamb, a son of his year, for a guilt offering. And the first days shall fall because his separation was defiled.

¹³And this is the law of the separate one. On a day fulfilling the days of his separation he shall bring him to the opening of the tent of meeting. ¹⁴And he shall offer his offering to Yahweh, one male lamb without defect, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, and one female lamb without defect, a daughter of her year, for a sin offering, and one ram without defect for peace offerings, ¹⁵and a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of fine flour mixed with the oil, and wafers of unleavened bread smeared with the oil and their grain offering and their drink offerings. ¹⁶And the priest shall offer before the face of Yahweh and he shall make his sin offering and his burnt up offering. ¹⁷And he shall make the ram a sacrifice of peace offerings to Yahweh with the basket of the unleavened bread. And the priest shall make his grain offering and his drink offering. ¹⁸And the separate one shall shave the head of his separation at the opening of the tent of meeting. And he shall take the hair of the head of his separation. And he shall put it on the fire that is under the sacrifice of the peace offerings. ¹⁹And the priest shall take the boiled shoulder from the ram and one cake of unleavened bread from the basket and one wafer of unleavened bread. And he shall put them on the palms of the separate one after his shaving his separation. ²⁰And the priest shall wave them as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh. It is a holy thing to the priest with the breast of the wave offering and with the thigh of the contribution. And after the separate one may drink wine.

²¹This is the law of the separate one who vows his offering to Yahweh for his separation, apart from what his hand reaches. According to the mouth of his vow that he vowed, so he shall do in accordance with the law of his separation.”

²²And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, ‘Thus you shall bless the sons of Israel, saying to them,

²⁴“May Yahweh bless you and keep you.

²⁵May Yahweh cause his face to shine to you and may he be gracious to you.

²⁶May Yahweh lift up his face to you and may he set peace for you.”

²⁷And they shall set my name upon the sons of Israel and I shall bless them.”

Chapter 7

¹And it happened on the day Moses finished erecting the dwelling that he anointed it and made it holy, and all its vessels and the altar and all its vessels. And he anointed them and made them holy. ²And the leaders of Israel, the heads of the house of their fathers, made an offering. They were the leaders of the tribes. They were the ones standing over the counted ones. ³And they brought their offering before the face of Yahweh, six covered carts and 12 cattle, a cart for two of the leaders and an ox for one. And they offered them before the face of the dwelling. ⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, saying, ⁵"Take from with them and they shall be for serving the service of the tent of meeting. And you shall give them to the Levites, a man according to the mouth of his service." ⁶And Moses took the carts and the cattle. And he gave them to the Levites. ⁷He gave two of the carts and four of the cattle to the sons of Gershon, according to the mouth of their service. ⁸And he gave four of the carts and eight of the cattle to the sons of Merari, according to the mouth of their service, by the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest. ⁹But he did not give to the sons of Kohath, for the service of the holy place was on them, they carried on the shoulder. ¹⁰And the leaders offered the dedication of the altar on the day it was anointed. And the leaders offered their offering before the face of the altar. ¹¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "One leader for the day, one leader for the day, shall they offer their offering for the dedication of the altar."

¹²And it happened that the one who offered his offering on the first day was Nahshon the son of Amminadab of the tribe of Judah. ¹³And his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ¹⁴one pan of ten gold full of incense, ¹⁵one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ¹⁶one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ¹⁷and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

¹⁸On the second day, Nethanel the son of Zuar, the leader of Issachar made an offering. ¹⁹He offered his offering: one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ²⁰one pan of ten gold full of incense, ²¹one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ²²one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ²³and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Nethanel the son of Zuar.

²⁴On the third day, the leader of the sons of Zebulun, Eliab the son of Helon, ²⁵his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ²⁶one pan of ten gold full of incense, ²⁷one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ²⁸one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ²⁹and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Eliab the son of Helon.

³⁰On the fourth day, the leader of the sons of Reuben, Elizur the son of Shedeur, ³¹his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ³²one pan of ten gold full of incense, ³³one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ³⁴one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ³⁵and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Elizur the son of Shedeur.

³⁶On the fifth day, the leader of the sons of Simeon, Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai, ³⁷his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ³⁸one pan of ten gold full of incense, ³⁹one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁴⁰one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁴¹and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai.

⁴²On the sixth day, the leader of the sons of Gad, Eliasaph the son of Deuel, ⁴³his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁴⁴one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁴⁵one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁴⁶one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁴⁷and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

⁴⁸On the seventh day, the leader of the sons of Ephraim, Elishama the son of Ammihud, ⁴⁹his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁵⁰one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁵¹one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁵²one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁵³and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Elishama the son of Ammihud.

⁵⁴On the eighth day, the leader of the sons of Manasseh, Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, ⁵⁵his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁵⁶one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁵⁷one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁵⁸one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁵⁹and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

⁶⁰On the ninth day, the leader of the sons of Benjamin, Abidan the son of Gideoni, ⁶¹his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁶²one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁶³one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁶⁴one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁶⁵and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Abidan the son of Gideoni.

⁶⁶On the tenth day, the leader of the sons of Dan, Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai, ⁶⁷his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁶⁸one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁶⁹one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁷⁰one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁷¹and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai.

⁷²On the day of the eleventh day, the leader of the sons of Asher, Pagiel the son of Okran, ⁷³his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁷⁴one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁷⁵one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁷⁶one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁷⁷and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Pagiel the son of Okran.

⁷⁸On the day of the twelfth day, the leader of the sons of Naphtali, Ahira the son of Enan, ⁷⁹his offering was one silver dish, its weight was 130, one silver bowl of 70 shekels by the shekel of the holy place, the two of them were full of fine flour mixed with the oil for a grain offering, ⁸⁰one pan of ten gold full of incense, ⁸¹one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, one male lamb, a son of his year, for a burnt up offering, ⁸²one buck of the goats for a sin offering, ⁸³and for the sacrifice of the peace offerings: two cattle, five rams, five male goats, five male lambs, sons of a year. This was the offering of Ahira the son of Enan.

⁸⁴This is the dedication of the altar on the day it was anointed from with the leaders of Israel: 12 dishes of silver, 12 bowls of silver, 12 pans of gold. ⁸⁵One silver bowl was 130 and one bowl was 70. All the silver of the vessels was 2,400 by the shekel of the holy place. ⁸⁶The pans of gold were 12, full of incense. The pan was ten by ten by the shekel of the holy place. All the gold of the pans was 120. ⁸⁷All the cattle for the burnt up offering were 12 bulls, 12

rams, 12 male lambs, sons of a year, and their grain offering. And 12 bucks of the goats were for a sin offering.

⁸⁸And all the cattle of the sacrifice of the peace offerings were 24 bulls, 60 rams, 60 male goats, 60 male lambs, sons of a year. This is the dedication of the altar after it was anointed.

⁸⁹And when Moses entered into the tent of meeting to speak with him, then he heard the voice speaking to him from above the atonement lid that is on the box of the testimony, from between the two cherubim. And he spoke to him.

Chapter 8

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to Aaron and say to him, ‘When you lift up the lamps to the front of the face of the lampstand, the seven lamps shall give light.’” ³And Aaron did so. To the front of the face of the lampstand he lifted up its lamps, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses. ⁴And this is the work of the lampstand, a hammered gold work. It was a hammered work up to its base, up to its blossom. According to the appearance that Yahweh showed Moses, so he made the lampstand.

⁵And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶“Take the Levites from the midst of the sons of Israel and make them clean. ⁷And thus you shall do to them to make them clean: Sprinkle on them the water of the sin offering. And they shall pass a razor over all their body, and they shall wash their garments, and they shall make themselves clean. ⁸And they shall take a bull, a son of cattle, and its grain offering of fine flour mixed with the oil. And you shall take a second bull, a son of cattle, for a sin offering. ⁹And you shall bring the Levites near before the face of the tent of meeting. And you shall assemble all the congregation of the sons of Israel. ¹⁰And you shall bring the Levites near before the face of Yahweh. And the sons of Israel shall lay their hands on the Levites. ¹¹And Aaron shall wave the Levites as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh from with the sons of Israel. And they shall be for serving the service of Yahweh. ¹²And the Levites shall lay their hands on the head of the bulls. And make the one as a sin offering and the one as a burnt offering to Yahweh, to make atonement for the Levites. ¹³And you shall stand the Levites before the face of Aaron and before the face of his sons. And you shall wave them as a wave offering to Yahweh.

¹⁴And you shall separate the Levites from the midst of the sons of Israel. And the Levites shall be for me. ¹⁵And afterwards the Levites shall enter to serve the tent of meeting. And you shall make them clean and you shall wave them as a wave offering. ¹⁶For they are given, given to me from the midst of the sons of Israel. Instead of the opener of every womb, the firstborn of all from the sons of Israel, I have taken them for myself. ¹⁷For every firstborn among the sons of Israel, among the human and among the livestock, belongs to me. On the day of my striking every firstborn in the land of Egypt I set them apart for me. ¹⁸And I have taken the Levites instead of every firstborn among the sons of Israel. ¹⁹And I have given the Levites as given ones to Aaron and to his sons, from the midst of the sons of Israel, to serve the service of the sons of Israel in the tent of meeting, and to make atonement for the sons of Israel. And there shall be no plague among the sons of Israel at the coming of the sons of Israel to the holy place.”

²⁰And Moses and Aaron and all the assembly of the sons of Israel did to the Levites, according to all that Yahweh had commanded Moses for the Levites, so the sons of Israel did to them. ²¹And the Levites purified themselves of sin and they washed their garments and Aaron waved them as a wave offering before the face of Yahweh. And Aaron made atonement for them to make them clean. ²²And afterward the Levites entered to serve their service in the tent of meeting before the face of Aaron and before the face of his sons, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so he did to them.

²³And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁴“This is what is for the Levites. From a son of 25 years and above he shall enter to serve service in the work of the tent of meeting. ²⁵And from a son of 50 years he shall return from the service of the work and he shall not work more. ²⁶And he shall serve his brothers in the tent of meeting to keep duty but work he shall not work. Thus you shall do for the Levites in their duties.”

Chapter 9

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the second year of their going out from the land of Egypt, in the first month, saying, ²“And let the sons of Israel do the Passover at its appointed time. ³On day 14 in this month, between the evenings, you shall do it at its appointed time. According to all its statutes and according to all its ordinances you shall do it.” ⁴And Moses spoke to the sons of Israel to do the Passover. ⁵And they did the Passover in the first, on day 14 of the month, between the evenings, in the wilderness of Sinai. According to all that Yahweh had commanded Moses, so did the sons of Israel. ⁶And there were men who were unclean by the body of a man and they were not able to do the Passover on that day. And they came near before the face of Moses and before the face of Aaron on that day. ⁷And those men said to him, “We are unclean by the body of a man. Why are we restrained to not offer an offering of Yahweh at its appointed time in the midst of the sons of Israel?” ⁸And Moses said to them, “Stand and I shall hear what Yahweh commands for you.”

⁹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁰“Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘If a man, a man is unclean by a body or is on a distant road, for you or for your generations, then he may do the Passover to Yahweh, ¹¹in the second month on day 14 between the evenings, they shall do it. With unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ¹²They shall not leave some of it until morning. And a bone, they shall not break it. According to every statute of the Passover they shall do it. ¹³And the man, he who is clean and is not on a road but ceases to do the Passover, and that person shall be cut off from his people because he did not offer the offering of Yahweh at its appointed time. That man shall carry his sin. ¹⁴And if a sojourner sojourns with you and does the Passover to Yahweh, according to the statute of the Passover and according to its ordinance, so he shall do. One statute shall be for you and for the sojourner and for the native of the land.”

¹⁵And on the day of raising up the dwelling the cloud covered the dwelling of the tent of the testimony and in the evening it was above the dwelling like the appearance of fire until morning. ¹⁶So it was continually. The cloud covered it and the appearance of fire at night. ¹⁷And according to the mouth the cloud was lifted from above the tent, then afterward the sons of Israel set out. And in the place there where the cloud dwelled, there the sons of Israel camped. ¹⁸In accordance with the mouth of Yahweh the sons of Israel set out, and in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh they camped. They camped all the days that the cloud dwelled above the dwelling. ¹⁹And when the cloud prolonged above the dwelling many days, then the sons of Israel kept the keeping of Yahweh and did not set out. ²⁰And it was when the cloud was days of number above the dwelling, they camped in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh and they set out in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh. ²¹And it was when the cloud was from evening until morning and the cloud was taken up in the morning then they set out, or in the daytime and night, and the cloud was taken up then they set out. ²²Whether two days or a month or days, when the cloud prolonged above the dwelling to dwell above it, the sons of Israel camped and did not set out. And when it was taken up they set out. ²³They camped in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh and they set out in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh. They kept the keeping of Yahweh in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 10

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Make for you two trumpets of silver. You shall make them hammered work. And they shall be for you for the calling of the congregation and for pulling up the camps. ³And they shall blow them and they shall congregate themselves to you, all the congregation, to the opening of the tent of meeting. ⁴And if they blow one, then the leaders, the heads of the thousands of Israel, shall congregate themselves to you. ⁵And you shall blow a blast and the camps camping to the east shall set out. ⁶And you shall blow a second blast and the camps camping to the south shall set out. They shall blow a blast for their setting out. ⁷And when assembling the assembly you shall blow but you shall not blast. ⁸And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets And it shall be for you for a statute forever, for your generations. ⁹And when you enter battle in your land against the opponents who oppose you, then you shall blast the trumpets. And you shall be remembered before the face of Yahweh your God, and you shall be saved from your enemies. ¹⁰And on a day of your joy and at your

appointed times and at the heads of your months, then you shall blow the trumpets with your burnt up offerings and with the sacrifices of your peace offerings. And it will be for you for a memorial before the face of your God. I am Yahweh your God.

¹¹And it happened that in the second year, in the second month, on 20 in the month, the cloud was taken up from above the dwelling of the testimony. ¹²And the sons of Israel set out from the wilderness of Sinai according to their tribes. And the cloud dwelled in the wilderness of Paran. ¹³And they set out at the first in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh by the hand of Moses. ¹⁴And the banner of the camp of the sons of Judah set out at the first according to their armies. And over his army was Nahson the son of Amminadab. ¹⁵And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Issachar was Nethanel the son of Zuar. ¹⁶And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Zebulun was Eliab the son of Helon. ¹⁷And the dwelling was taken down. And the sons of Gershon and the sons of Merari, the lifters of the dwelling, set out. ¹⁸And the banner of the tribe of Reuben set out according to their armies. And over his company was Elizur the son of Shedeur. ¹⁹And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Simeon was Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai. ²⁰And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Gad was Eliasaph the son of Deuel.

²¹And the Kohathites, lifters of the holy place, set out. And they raised up the dwelling until their coming. ²²And the banner of the camp of the sons of Ephraim set out according to their armies. And over his army was Elishama the son of Ammihud. ²³And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Manasseh was Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur. ²⁴And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin was Abidan the son of Gideon.

²⁵And the banner of the camp of the sons of Dan, gatherer for all the camps according to their armies, set out. And over his army was Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai. ²⁶And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Asher was Pagiel the son of Okran. ²⁷And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Naphtali was Ahira the son of Enan. ²⁸These were the tribes of the sons of Israel according to their armies. And they set out.

²⁹And Moses said to Hobab the son of Reuel the Midianite, the father-in-law of Moses, "We are about to set out to the place that Yahweh said, 'I shall give it to you.' Go with us and we will do good to you. For Yahweh has spoken good for Israel." ³⁰And he said to him, "I will not go, but I will go to my land and to my family." ³¹And he said, "Please do not leave us! Because you know our camping in the wilderness and you could be for eyes for us." ³²And it will happen that if you go with us, then it will happen that that good which Yahweh shall do good with us even we will do good to you."

³³And they set out from the mountain of Yahweh a road of three days. And the box of the covenant of Yahweh was setting out before the face of them a road of three days, to seek out for them a resting place. ³⁴And the cloud of Yahweh was over them by day when they set out from the camp.

³⁵And it happened when the box set out that Moses said, "Rise up, Yahweh, and your enemies will be scattered, and those who hate you will flee from your face." ³⁶And when it rested, he said, "Return, Yahweh, to the multitudes of the thousands of Israel."

Chapter 11

¹And when the people were complaining it was evil in the ears of Yahweh. And Yahweh heard and his nose burned. And the fire of Yahweh burned among them and it ate at the end of the camp. ²And the people cried out to Moses. And Moses prayed to Yahweh and the fire sank. ³And the name of that place was called Taberah, for the fire of Yahweh burned among them.

⁴And the gathered rabble that was in its inner part desired a desire. And they turned back and they wept, also the sons of Israel. And they said, "Who will let us eat meat? ⁵We remember the fish that we ate in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic. ⁶And now our life is dried up, there is not anything except for the manna in our eyes." ⁷And the manna, it was like the seed of coriander. And its eye was

like the eye of bdellium. ⁸The people went around and picked up and ground with the handmill or crushed with the mortar and boiled in the pot and made it cakes. And its taste was like the taste of the delicacy of the oil. ⁹And when the dew came down on the camp at night, the manna came down on it. ¹⁰And Moses heard the people weeping according to its clans, a man to the opening of his tent. And the nose of Yahweh burned exceedingly and it was evil in the eyes of Moses. ¹¹And Moses said to Yahweh, "Why do you do evil to your servant? And why have I not found favor in your eyes, by putting the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all of this people? Did I give birth to him so that you could say to me, 'Carry him in your bosom just as the one who nourishes carries the one who sucks over the ground that you have sworn to his fathers?' ¹³From where is meat for me to give to all of this people? For they weep beside me, saying, 'Give to us meat and let us eat.' ¹⁴I am not able by myself to carry all of this people, for they are heavier than me. ¹⁵And if you are going to do thus to me, please slay me quickly, if I have found favor in your eyes. And do not let me look on my evil."

¹⁶And Yahweh said to Moses, "Gather for me 70 men from the elders of Israel whom you know, so that they will be elders of the people and its officers. And take them to the tent of meeting and they shall station themselves there with you. ¹⁷And I will come down and speak with you there. And I will withdraw some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them. And they will carry with you the burden of the people. And you will not carry by yourself. ¹⁸And to the people you shall say, 'Make yourselves holy for tomorrow, and you shall eat meat. For you have wept in the ears of Yahweh, saying, "Who will let us eat meat? For it was good for us in Egypt." And Yahweh will give to you meat, and you will eat. ¹⁹You will eat not one day, and not two days, and not five days, and not ten days, and not twenty days, ²⁰until a month of days, until when it goes out from your nose. And it shall be for disgust for you, because that you rejected Yahweh who is in the midst of you. And you wept before his face, saying, "Why this—we went out from Egypt?"' ²¹And Moses said, "The people are 600,000 on foot who I am in the midst of, and you have said, 'I shall give to them meat and they shall eat a month of days.' ²²Shall flock and herd be slaughtered for them then one find for them? If all the fish of the sea were gathered for them then one will find for them." ²³And Yahweh said to Moses, "Is the hand of Yahweh short? Now you will see whether my word will happen to you or not."

²⁴And Moses went out and he spoke to the people the words of Yahweh. And he gathered 70 men from the elders of the people. And he had them stand round about the tent. ²⁵And Yahweh came down in the cloud and he spoke to him. And he withdrew some of the spirit that was on him and he put it on 70 men, the elders. And it happened when the spirit rested on them that they prophesied but did not again.

²⁶And two of the men were left in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad and the name of the second was Medad. And the spirit rested on them and they were among the written down ones but they had not gone out to the tent. And they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And the young man ran and reported to Moses, and he said, Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua the son of Nun, the server of Moses from his youth, responded and said, "My master Moses, restrain them." ²⁹And Moses said to him, "Are you being jealous for me? And if only he would make all the people of Yahweh prophets, that Yahweh would put his Spirit on them!" ³⁰And Moses withdrew to the camp, he and the elders of Israel.

³¹And a wind set out from with Yahweh and it brought over quail from the sea and it left on the camp like a road of a day here and like a road of a day here, round about the camp, and like two cubits upon the face of the land.

³²And the people rose all that day and all the night and all the day of the next day, and they gathered the quail. The one who did little gathered ten homers. And they spread out for them, spreading out round about the camp. ³³The meat was still between their teeth before it was chewed, and the nose of Yahweh burned against the people. And Yahweh struck the people an exceedingly great blow. ³⁴And he called the name of that place Kibroth Hattaavah, because there they buried the people who had desired. ³⁵From Kibroth Hattaavah the people set out to Hazereth. Then they were in Hazereth.

Chapter 12

¹And Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses on account of the Cushite wife that he had taken because he had taken a Cushite wife. ²And they said, "Has Yahweh really only spoken with Moses? Has he not spoken also with us?" And Yahweh heard. ³(And the man Moses was exceedingly humble, more than every human who was on the face of the ground.)

⁴And Yahweh said immediately to Moses and to Aaron and to Miriam, "The three of you go out to the tent of meeting." And the three of them went out. ⁵And Yahweh came down in a column of cloud. And he stood at the opening of the tent. And he called Aaron and Miriam and the two of them went out. ⁶And he said, "Hear now my words! If one is your prophet, I, Yahweh will make myself known to him in the vision. I will speak with him in the dream.

⁷Not so my servant Moses. He is trustworthy in all my house.

⁸I speak with him mouth to mouth and with appearance and not with riddles. And he looks at the form of Yahweh. And why are you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?"

⁹And the nose of Yahweh burned against them and he went. ¹⁰And the cloud departed from over the tent. And behold, Miriam was with a skin disease, like the snow. And Aaron turned to Miriam, and behold, she was with a skin disease. ¹¹And Aaron said to Moses, "Please, my master, please do not put upon us sin which we did foolishly and which we sinned. ¹²Please do not let her be like the dead one who when he comes out from the womb of his mother and half of his flesh is eaten." ¹³And Moses cried out to Yahweh, saying, "God, please, please heal her!" ¹⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "If her father surely spit in her face, would she not be humiliated seven days? She shall be shut up seven days from outside of the camp and afterward she may be brought in." ¹⁵And Miriam was shut up from outside of the camp seven days. And the people did not set out until the bringing in of Miriam.

¹⁶And after the people set out from Hazeroth. And they camped in the wilderness of Paran.

Chapter 13

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Send for yourself men and they shall explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the sons of Israel. You shall send one man by one man according to the tribe of his fathers, every leader among them." ³And Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh. All of them were men, they were the heads of the sons of Israel ⁴And these are their names: of the tribe of Reuben was Shammua the son of Zaccur, ⁵of the tribe of Simeon was Shaphat the son of Hori, ⁶of the tribe of Judah was Caleb the son of Jephunneh, ⁷of the tribe of Issachar was Igal the son of Joseph, ⁸of the tribe of Ephraim was Hoshea the son of Nun, ⁹of the tribe of Benjamin was Palti the son of Raphu, ¹⁰of the tribe of Zebulun was Gaddiel the son of Sodi, ¹¹of the tribe of Joseph, of the tribe of Manasseh, was Gaddi the son of Susi, ¹²of the tribe of Dan was Ammiel the son of Gemalli, ¹³of the tribe of Asher was Sethur the son of Michael, ¹⁴of the tribe of Naphtali was Nahbi the son of Vophsi, ¹⁵of the tribe of Gad was Geuel the son of Maki. ¹⁶These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to explore the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun Joshua.

¹⁷And Moses sent them to explore the land of Canaan. And he said to them, "Go up here through the Negev and you shall go up the hill country. ¹⁸And you shall see the land, how it is; and the people who dwell on it, whether he is strong or weak, whether he is few or many; ¹⁹and how is the land in which he is dwelling, whether it is good or evil; and how are the cities in which he is dwelling, whether in camps or in fortifications; ²⁰and how is the land, whether it is fat or lean, whether there are trees in it or not. And you shall strengthen yourselves and you shall take from the fruit of the land." (And the days were the days of the firstfruits of the grapes.)

²¹And they went up and they explored the land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob, to enter Hamath. ²²And they went up through the Negev and they came to Hebron. And Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, those born of the Anak, were there. (And Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan of Egypt.) ²³And they came to the wadi of Eschol. And from there they cut a branch and one cluster of grapes. And they carried it by the pole with two men, and some of the pomegranates, and some of the figs. ²⁴He called that place the wadi of Eshkol, on account of the cluster that the sons of Israel cut from there.

²⁵And they returned from exploring the land at the end of 40 days. ²⁶And they went and they came to Moses and to Aaron and to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, to the wilderness of Paran at Kadesh. And they brought back them and all the congregation word. And they showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷And they recounted to him. And they said, "We entered into the land where you sent us. And it is certainly flowing with milk and honey. And this is its fruit. ²⁸However, the people who dwell in the land are fierce. And the cities are fortified very large. And also we saw those born of the Anak there. ²⁹Amalek is dwelling in the land of the Negev. And the Hittite, and the Jebusite, and the Amorite is dwelling in the hill country. And the Canaanite is dwelling beside the sea and beside the hand of the Jordan."

³⁰And Caleb hushed the people near Moses. And he said, "We will certainly go up and take possession of it, for we are certainly able to prevail over it." ³¹And the men who went up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people because he is stronger than us." ³²And they caused an evil report of the land, it that they had explored, to go out to the sons of Israel, saying, "The land in which we passed through to explore it, it is a land that eats those who dwell in it. And all the people whom we saw in the midst of it were men of size. ³³And there we saw the Nephilim, the sons of Anak from the Nephilim. And we were like grasshoppers in our eyes, and so we were in their eyes."

Chapter 14

¹And all the congregation lifted up and gave their voice. And the people wept in that night. ²And all the sons of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron. And all the congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt, or if only we had died in this wilderness! ³And why is Yahweh bringing us to this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our children will be for plunder. Is it not good for us to return to Egypt?"

⁴And they said, a man to his brother, "Let us set a head and let us return to Egypt." ⁵And Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before the face of all the assembly of the congregation of the sons of Israel. ⁶And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, from the ones who explored the land, tore their garments. ⁷And they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land in which we passed through to explore it is a very exceedingly good land. ⁸If Yahweh delights in us, then he will bring us into this land. And he will give it to us, a land that is flowing with milk and honey. ⁹Only you must not rebel against Yahweh and you must not fear the people of the land, for they are our food. He has turned their shadow from over them and Yahweh is with us. You must not fear them!" ¹⁰And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. But the glory of Yahweh appeared in the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel.

¹¹And Yahweh said to Moses, "Until when will this people spurn me? And until when will they not trust in me, despite all the signs that I have done in the midst of them? ¹²I will strike him down with the plague and I will disinherit him. And I will make you into a nation greater and more numerous than them."

¹³And Moses said to Yahweh, "And the Egyptians have heard that you brought this people up with your power from the midst of him. ¹⁴And they have said to those dwelling in this land. They have heard that you, Yahweh, are in the midst of this people, that you, Yahweh, have been seen eye by eye, and your cloud is standing over them, and in a column of cloud you are going before their face by day and in a column of fire at night. ¹⁵If you kill this people like one man, then the nations will say that they heard hearing of you, saying, ¹⁶'Because Yahweh was not able to bring this people into the land that he swore to them, so he slaughtered them in the wilderness.' ¹⁷And now, please let

the power of my Lord be great, just as you have spoken, saying, ¹⁸'Yahweh is long of nostrils and abundant of covenant faithfulness, lifting up iniquity and transgression. But surely he will not leave unpunished, appointing the iniquity of fathers on sons, on thirds, and on fourths.' ¹⁹Please forgive this people of the iniquity according to the greatness of your covenant faithfulness, and just as you have lifted up this people from Egypt and to here."

²⁰And Yahweh said, "I have forgiven according to your word. ²¹But truly, I live, and all the earth will be filled with the glory of Yahweh. ²²For all the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and they tested me this ten times and have not listened to my voice, ²³if they see the land that I have sworn to their fathers...and all those who spurn me will not see it. ²⁴But my servant Caleb, because another spirit is with him and he was fully after me, I will bring him into the land that he will come to there. And his seed will inherit it. ²⁵(And the Amalekite and the Canaanite was dwelling in the valley.) Tomorrow turn and set out for yourselves to the wilderness, the way of the Sea of Reeds."

²⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²⁷"Until when must I listen to this evil congregation, they who are murmuring against me the murmurings of the sons of Israel, they who are murmuring against me? ²⁸Say to them, 'I live,' the declaration of Yahweh, 'surely just as you have spoken in my ears, so I will do to you. ²⁹In this wilderness your corpses will fall and all your counted ones according to all your number, from a son of 20 years and upward, who have murmured against me. ³⁰If you enter into the land that I have lifted up my hand to make you dwell in...except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun. ³¹And your children who you said would be for plunder, and I will bring them and they will know the land, it that you have rejected. ³²And you, your corpses will fall in this wilderness. ³³And your sons will be those who herd in the wilderness 40 years. And they will carry your fornications until the finishing of your corpses in the wilderness. ³⁴By the number of the days that you explored the land, 40 days, a day for the year, a day for the year, you will carry your iniquities 40 years. And you will know my opposition. ³⁵I, Yahweh, have spoken. Surely I will do this to all this evil congregation, the ones who have congregated themselves against me. In this wilderness they will finish and there they will die."

³⁶And the men whom Moses had sent to explore the land and had returned and caused all the congregation to murmur against him by causing an evil report against the land to go out, ³⁷even the men who had caused to go out the evil report of the evil land, died by the plague before the face of Yahweh. ³⁸But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh lived from those men, the ones who went to explore the land.

³⁹And Moses spoke these words to all the sons of Israel. And the people mourned exceedingly. ⁴⁰And they rose early in the morning and went up to the head of the mountain, saying, "Here we are, and we will go up to the place that Yahweh has said, for we have sinned." ⁴¹And Moses said, "Why this—are you passing over the mouth of Yahweh? And it will not succeed. ⁴²You must not go up because Yahweh is not in the midst of you, that you not be struck down before the face of your enemies. ⁴³For the Amalekite and the Canaanite are there before your face and you will fall by the sword. For therefore you have turned from after Yahweh, and Yahweh will not be with you." ⁴⁴And they presumed to go up to the head of the mountain, but the box of the covenant of Yahweh and Moses did not depart from the midst of the camp. ⁴⁵And the Amalekite and the Canaanite who dwelled on that mountain, came down. And they smote them and beat them to pieces as far as the Hormah.

Chapter 15

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you enter into the land of your dwellings, which I am giving to you, ³then you shall make an offering made by fire to Yahweh, a burnt up offering or a sacrifice, to do an extraordinary vow or with a voluntary offering, or at your appointed times, to make an aroma of soothing for Yahweh from the herd or from the flock. ⁴And the one who is offering shall offer his offering to Yahweh, a grain offering, a tenth of fine flour mixed with a fourth of the hin of oil. ⁵And wine for the drink offering, a fourth of the hin, you shall make with the burnt up offering or for the sacrifice, for the one male lamb. ⁶Or for the ram you shall make a grain offering, two tenths fine flour mixed with a third of the hin of oil. ⁷And wine for the drink offering, a third of the hin, you shall offer as an aroma of soothing for Yahweh. ⁸And when you

make a son of cattle a burnt up offering or a sacrifice, to do an extraordinary vow or peace offerings to Yahweh, ⁹then you shall offer with the son of the cattle a grain offering, three tenths fine flour mixed with a half of the hin of the oil, ¹⁰and you shall offer a half of the hin of wine for the drink offering; an offering made by fire, an aroma of soothing for Yahweh.

¹¹Thus it shall be done for the one ox or for the one ram, or for the small livestock among the male lambs or among the goats. ¹²According to the number that you do, thus you shall do for the one according to their number.

¹³Every native shall do these things thus for offering an offering made by fire, an aroma of soothing for Yahweh.

¹⁴And if a sojourner sojourns with you, or whoever is in the midst of you for your generations, and he makes an offering made by fire, an aroma of soothing for Yahweh, just as you shall do so he shall do. ¹⁵The assembly statute is one for you and for the sojourner, the one who is sojourning, a statute of eternity for your generations. As you, so the sojourner shall be before the face of Yahweh. ¹⁶One instruction and one ordinance shall be for you and for the sojourner, the one who is sojourning with you.”

¹⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁸“Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When you enter into the land there which I am bringing you, ¹⁹and it shall be that when you eat from the bread of the land, you shall raise a raised offering to Yahweh. ²⁰The first of your dough shall be a cake you shall raise as a raised offering. Like a raised offering of the threshing floor, so you shall raise it. ²¹From the first of your dough you shall give a raised offering to Yahweh for your generations.

²²And when you stray and do not do all these commandments that Yahweh has spoken to Moses, ²³all that Yahweh has commanded to you by the hand of Moses, from the day that Yahweh commanded and beyond for your generations, ²⁴and it shall be that if it was done as unintentional sin away from the eyes of the congregation, then all the congregation shall make a bull, one son of cattle, for a burnt up offering, for an aroma of soothing for Yahweh, and its grain offering and its drink offering according to the ordinance, and one buck of the goats for a sin offering. ²⁵And the priest shall make atonement for all the congregation of the sons of Israel, and it shall be forgiven for them. For it was an unintentional sin and they have brought their offering, an offering made by fire, to Yahweh, and their sin offering before the face of Yahweh for their unintentional sin. ²⁶And it shall be forgiven for all the congregation of the sons of Israel and for the sojourner, the one who is sojourning in the midst of them, because of all the people with unintentional sin.

²⁷And if one person sins with an unintentional sin, then he shall offer a female goat, a daughter of its year, for a sin offering. ²⁸And the priest shall make atonement for the person, the one who sinned unintentionally with a sin, with an unintentional sin, before the face of Yahweh, to make atonement for him and it shall be forgiven for him. ²⁹The native among the sons of Israel and for the sojourner, the one who is sojourning in the midst of them, one instruction shall be for you for the one who does an unintentional sin. ³⁰But the person who does with a raised hand, from the native and from the sojourner, he is blaspheming Yahweh. And that person shall be cut off from the midst of his people. ³¹Because he has despised the word of Yahweh and has broken his commandment, that person shall certainly be cut off. His iniquity shall be on him.”

³²And the sons of Israel were in the wilderness. And they found a man gathering pieces of wood on the day of the Sabbath. ³³And the ones who found him gathering pieces of wood brought him near to Moses and to Aaron and to all the congregation. ³⁴And they made him rest in the keeping place because it had not been declared what should be done to him. ³⁵And Yahweh said to Moses, “The man shall certainly die, all the congregation stoning him with the stones from the outside of the camp.” ³⁶And all the congregation brought him out to the outside of the camp. And they stoned him with the stones and he died, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

³⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ³⁸“Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘And they shall make for themselves a tassel on the wings of their garments for their generations. And they shall put a cord of blue on the tassel of the wing. ³⁹And it shall be for you for a tassel and you shall see it and you shall remember all the commandments of Yahweh, and you shall do them. And you shall not explore after your heart and after your eyes, them which you are prostituting after, ⁴⁰so that you shall remember and do all my commandments. And you shall

be holy ones for your God. ⁴¹I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt, to become a God for you. I am Yahweh your God."

Chapter 16

¹And Korah the son of Izhar the son of Kohath the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, the sons of Reuben, took men. ²And they rose up before the face of Moses, and men from the sons of Israel, 250 leaders of the congregation, the called ones of the appointed meeting, men of name. ³And they assembled against Moses and against Aaron. And they said to them, "It is much for you! For all of the congregation, all of them, are holy and Yahweh is in their midst. And why do you lift up yourselves above the assembly of Yahweh?"

⁴And Moses heard and fell upon his face. ⁵And he spoke to Korah and to all his congregation, saying, "And in the morning Yahweh will make known who belongs to him and is the holy one and whom he will bring near to him. And him whom he chooses he will bring near to him." ⁶Do this, Korah and all his congregation, take for yourselves censers. ⁷And put fire in them and set incense on them before the face of Yahweh tomorrow. And it will happen that the man whom Yahweh chooses, he will be the holy one. It is much for you, sons of Levi!" ⁸And Moses said to Korah, "Now listen, sons of Levi: ⁹is it a small thing for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to him, to serve the service of the dwelling of Yahweh and to stand before the face of the congregation to minister to them? ¹⁰And he has brought you near, and all your brothers, the sons of Levi, with you. And you are seeking the priesthood also! ¹¹Therefore you and all your congregation are the ones congregating against Yahweh. And Aaron, what is he that you grumble against him?"

¹²And Moses sent to call for Dathan and for Abiram, the sons of Eliab. And they said, "We will not go up. ¹³Is it a small thing that you have brought us up from a land flowing with milk and honey, to make us die in the wilderness? But you have made yourself ruler over us, even to make yourself ruler! ¹⁴Moreover, you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, or given to us an inheritance of field or vineyard. Will you gouge out the eyes of these men? We will not go up."

¹⁵And it burned exceedingly for Moses and he said to Yahweh, "Do not turn to their offering. I have not taken one donkey from them. And I have not harmed one of them." ¹⁶And Moses said to Korah, "You and all your congregation be before the face of Yahweh, you, and they, and Aaron, tomorrow. ¹⁷And take, a man, his censer and put incense on them. And bring before the face of Yahweh, a man his censer, 250 censers. And you and Aaron, a man his censer." ¹⁸And they took a man his censer, and they put fire on it, and set incense on it. And they stood at the opening of the tent of meeting with Moses and Aaron. ¹⁹And Korah assembled all the congregation against them at the opening of the tent of meeting. And the glory of Yahweh appeared to all the congregation.

²⁰And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²¹"Separate yourselves from the midst of this congregation and I shall finish them in a moment." ²²And they fell on their faces and said, "God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, will one man sin and you become furious against all the congregation?" ²³And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁴"Speak to the congregation, saying, 'Get yourselves up from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.'"

²⁵And Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram. And the elders of Israel went after him. ²⁶And he spoke to the congregation, saying, "Now turn from beside the tents of these wicked men and do not touch anything that belongs to them, lest you be swept away by all their sins." ²⁷And they got themselves up from beside the dwelling of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, from all around. And Dathan and Abiram went out, standing at the opening of their tents with their wives and their sons and their little children. ²⁸And Moses said, "By this you will know that Yahweh has sent me to do all these deeds, that they are not from my heart: ²⁹If these ones die like the death of every man and the appointment of every man is appointed to them, Yahweh has not sent me. ³⁰But if Yahweh creates a

creation and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them and all that belongs to them and they go down alive to Sheol, then you will know that these men have spurned Yahweh."

³¹And it happened when he finished speaking all these words that the ground that was under them split open.

³²And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them and their houses and every man who belonged to Korah and all the property. ³³And they went down to Sheol alive, they and all that belonged to them. And the earth covered over them and they perished from the midst of the assembly. ³⁴And all Israel who was surrounding them fled from their sound, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us!" ³⁵And fire went out from with Yahweh. And it ate the 250 men offering the incense.

³⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ³⁷"Say to Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest and he shall lift up the censers from between the burning and scatter the fire abroad, for they are holy. ³⁸And the censers of these sinners against their lives, make them hammered sheets of thin metal, plating for the altar. For they offered them before the face of Yahweh and they are holy. And they shall be for a sign for the sons of Israel."

³⁹And Eleazar the priest took the censers of bronze that the burned ones had offered and they hammered them as a plating for the altar, ⁴⁰a reminder for the sons of Israel, so that an unfamiliar man, he who is not from the seed of Aaron, shall not come near to burn incense before the face of Yahweh. And he shall not be like Korah and his congregation, just as Yahweh spoke by the hand of Moses to him.

⁴¹And all the congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and against Aaron from the next day, saying, "You yourselves killed the people of Yahweh!" ⁴²And it happened when the congregation assembled against Moses and against Aaron that they turned to the tent of meeting. And behold, the cloud covered it and the glory of Yahweh was seen. ⁴³And Moses and Aaron came to the face of the tent of meeting. ⁴⁴And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁴⁵"Get yourselves up from the midst of this congregation and I shall finish them in a moment. And they fell on their faces. ⁴⁶And Moses said to Aaron, "Take the censer and put fire on it from on the altar and set incense. And go quickly into the congregation and make atonement for them, because the wrath has gone out from before the face of Yahweh. The plague has begun." ⁴⁷And Aaron took just as Moses said and ran into the midst of the assembly. And behold, the plague had begun among the people. And he put the incense and made atonement for the people. ⁴⁸And he stood between the ones who died and the ones who lived. And the plague was stopped. ⁴⁹And the ones who died by the plague were 14,700, apart from the ones who died on account of the matter of Korah. ⁵⁰And Aaron returned to Moses, to the opening of the tent of meeting. And the plague was stopped.

Chapter 17

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the sons of Israel and take a staff from with them, a staff for the house of a father, from with all their leaders for the house of their fathers, 12 staffs. You shall write a man his name on his staff. ³And you shall write the name of Aaron on the staff of Levi, for one staff is for the head of the house of their fathers. ⁴And you shall rest them in the tent of meeting, before the face of the testimony, there where I meet with you. ⁵And it will happen that the man, him whom I choose, his staff will bud. And I will make the grumbings of the sons of Israel that they are grumbling against you cease from against me." ⁶And Moses spoke to the sons of Israel and all their leaders gave to him a staff for one leader, a staff for one leader, for the house of their fathers, 12 staffs. And the staff of Aaron was in the midst of their staffs. ⁷And Moses rested the staffs before the face of Yahweh in the tent of testimony.

⁸And it happened from the next day that Moses came into the tent of the testimony. And behold, the staff of Aaron for the house of Levi had budded, and it brought out a bud and it blossomed a flower and it ripened almonds! ⁹And Moses brought out all the staffs from before the face of Yahweh to all the sons of Israel. And they saw and took, a man his staff. ¹⁰And Yahweh said to Moses, "Return the staff of Aaron to the face of the testimony for keeping for a sign for the sons of rebellion. And you shall end their grumbings from against me and they shall not die." ¹¹And Moses did just as Yahweh had commanded him, thus he did.

¹²And the sons of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, "Look, we will expire! We will perish! All of us will perish! ¹³All who come near, who come near to the dwelling of Yahweh die. Will we be finished by expiring?"

Chapter 18

¹And Yahweh said to Aaron, "You and your sons and the house of your father with you shall bear the iniquity of the holy place. And you and your sons with you shall bear the iniquity of your priesthood. ²And also bring with you your brothers, the staff of Levi, the tribe of your father, and they shall be joined to you and serve you. And you and your sons with you shall be before the face of the tent of the testimony. ³And they shall keep your keeping and the keeping of all of the tent. However, they shall not come near to the vessels of the holy place or to the altar, and they will not die, both them and you. ⁴And they shall be joined to you and shall keep the keeping of the tent of meeting, for all the service of the tent. And a stranger shall not come near to you. ⁵And you shall keep the keeping of the holy place and the keeping of the altar. And there shall not again be fury against the sons of Israel. ⁶And I, behold, I have taken your brothers the Levites from the midst of the sons of Israel as a gift for you, ones given to Yahweh to serve the service of the tent of meeting. ⁷And you and your sons with you shall keep your priesthood for all the things of the altar and for the inside of the curtain. And you shall serve. I have given your priesthood as a gift of service. And a stranger who comes near shall be put to death.

⁸And Yahweh spoke to Aaron, "And I, behold, I have given to you the keeping of my contribution, of all the holy things of the sons of Israel I have given them to you for a portion and to your sons for a statute of eternity. ⁹This will belong to you from the holiest holy thing from the fire: every offering of theirs, of every grain offering of theirs and of every sin offering of theirs and of every guilt offering of theirs which they return to me, a holiest holy thing it is for you and for your sons. ¹⁰You shall eat it as a holiest holy thing. Every male shall eat it. It is holy for you. ¹¹And this belongs to you: the contribution of their gift, of all the wave offerings of the sons of Israel, I have given them to you and to your sons and to your daughters with you for a statute of eternity. Every clean one in your house shall eat it. ¹²All the fat of fresh oil and all the fat of new wine and grain, their firstfruits which they will give to Yahweh, I have given them to you. ¹³The firstfruits of all that is in the land which they will bring to Yahweh will belong to you. Every clean one in your house shall eat it. ¹⁴Every dedicated thing in Israel will belong to you. ¹⁵Every opener of the womb of all flesh that they offer to Yahweh, among mankind and among livestock, will belong to you. But you shall surely redeem the firstborn of mankind, and you shall redeem the firstborn of the unclean livestock. ¹⁶And his redeemed ones from a son of a month you shall redeem by your valuation, five silver shekels by the shekel of the holy place, it is 20 gerahs. ¹⁷But the firstborn of a cow, or the firstborn of a sheep, or the firstborn of a goat you shall not redeem; they are holy. You shall throw their blood on the altar and you shall make their fat smoke as an offering made by fire for an aroma of soothing for Yahweh. ¹⁸And their flesh will belong to you like the breast of the wave offering or like the right thigh it will belong to you. ¹⁹All the contributions of the holy things which the sons of Israel lift up to Yahweh, I have given to you and to your sons and to your daughters with you for a statute of eternity. It is an eternal covenant of salt before the face of Yahweh for you and for your seed with you." ²⁰And Yahweh said to Aaron, "You shall not inherit in their land and a portion in their midst shall not belong to you. I am your portion and your inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel.

²¹And to the sons of Levi, behold, I have given every tenth in Israel for an inheritance in exchange for their service which they are serving, the service of the tent of meeting. ²²And the sons of Israel shall not again come near to the tent of meeting to bear sin to die. ²³And the Levite, he shall serve the service of the tent of meeting and they shall bear their iniquity. It is a statute of eternity for your generations and in the midst of the sons of Israel you shall not inherit an inheritance. ²⁴For I have given to the Levites for an inheritance the tenth of the sons of Israel which they lift up to Yahweh as a contribution. Therefore I have said to them, 'You shall not inherit an inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel.'

²⁵And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁶"And speak to the Levites and say to them, 'When you take from with the sons of Israel the tenth that I have given to you from with them as your inheritance, then you shall lift up from it a contribution of Yahweh, a tenth from the tenth. ²⁷And it shall be reckoned to you as your contribution like the grain

from the threshing floor and like the fullness from the winepress. ²⁸Thus you shall lift up, also you, the contribution of Yahweh from all your tenths which you took from with the sons of Israel. And you shall give from it the contribution of Yahweh to Aaron the priest. ²⁹From all your gifts you shall lift up all of the contribution of Yahweh, from all its fat, its holy part from it. ³⁰And you shall say to them, 'When you lift up its fat from it, then it shall be reckoned to the Levites like the product of the threshing floor and like the product of the winepress. ³¹And you shall eat it in every place, you and your house, because it is a wage for you in exchange for your service in the tent of meeting. ³²And you shall not bear sin on account of it when you lift up its fat from it. And the holy things of the sons of Israel you shall not defile and not die.'"

Chapter 19

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, ²"This is the statute of the law which Yahweh has commanded, saying, 'Speak to the sons of Israel and they shall bring to you an unblemished red heifer in which there is no defect, on which a yoke has not gone up. ³And you shall give it to Eleazar the priest. And he shall bring it out to the outside of the camp and shall slaughter it before his face. ⁴And Eleazar the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and shall sprinkle some of its blood to opposite the face of the tent of meeting seven times. ⁵And he shall burn the heifer before his eyes. He shall burn its skin and its flesh, and its blood with its dung. ⁶And the priest shall take wood of cedar, and hyssop, and scarlet material of a worm, and throw into the midst of the burning of the heifer. ⁷And the priest shall wash his garments and bathe his flesh in the water and afterward he shall enter into the camp. And the priest shall be unclean until the evening. ⁸And the one who burned it shall wash his garments in the water and bathe his flesh in the water. And he shall be unclean until the evening. ⁹And a clean man shall gather the ashes of the heifer and rest them in a clean place outside of the camp. And it shall be for the congregation of the sons of Israel to keep for the water of purification. It is a sin offering. ¹⁰And the one who gathers the ashes of the heifer shall wash his garments and be unclean until the evening. And it shall be for the sons of Israel and for the sojourner who sojourns in their midst for a statute of eternity.

¹¹The one who touches a dead body of any human life will be unclean seven days. ¹²He shall purify himself with it on the third day and on the seventh day he will be clean. And if he does not purify himself on the third day then on the seventh day he will not be clean. ¹³Every one who touches a dead body, a human person who has died, and does not purify himself makes the dwelling of Yahweh unclean. And that person shall be cut off from Israel. Because the water of purification was not sprinkled on him, he will be unclean, his uncleanness is still on him.

¹⁴This is the law of a man who dies in a tent: Every one who enters into the tent and everyone who is in the tent will be unclean seven days. ¹⁵And every opened vessel on which there is no fastened cover, it is unclean. ¹⁶And all who touch one pierced of the sword or a dead body or a bone of a human or a grave on the face of the field will be unclean seven days. ¹⁷And they shall take for the unclean one some of the ashes of the burning of the sin offering. And he shall put living water with it into a vessel. ¹⁸And a clean man shall take and dip hyssop in the water. And he shall sprinkle on the tent and on all the vessels and on the lives who were there, and on the one who touched the bone, or the pierced one, or the dead body, or the grave. ¹⁹And the clean one shall sprinkle on the unclean one on the third day and on the seventh day. And he shall purify him on the seventh day. And he shall wash his garments and bathe in the water and he will be unclean until the evening.

²⁰And a man who is unclean and does not purify himself, that person shall be cut off from the midst of the assembly because he has made the holy place of Yahweh unclean. He has not thrown on himself the water of purification. He is unclean. ²¹And it shall be for them for a statute of eternity, and the one who sprinkles the water of purification shall wash his garments and the one who touches the water of purification will be unclean until the evening. ²²And all who touch him, the unclean one, will be unclean. And the person who touches will be unclean until the evening."

Chapter 20

¹And the sons of Israel, all the congregation, entered the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed at Kadesh. And Miriam died there and was buried there.

²And there was no water for the congregation, and they assembled against Moses and against Aaron. ³And the people quarreled with Moses, and spoke, saying, "If only we had expired when our brothers expired before the face of Yahweh! ⁴And why have you brought the assembly of Yahweh into this wilderness to die here, we and our livestock? ⁵And why did you bring us up from Egypt to bring us into this evil place? It is not a place of seed or fig free or vine or pomegranate tree, and there is no water to drink!" ⁶And Moses and Aaron went from the face of the assembly to the opening of the tent of meeting. And they fell on their faces and the glory of Yahweh appeared to them. ⁷And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁸"Take the staff and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and you shall speak to the rock before their eyes and it will give its water. And you shall bring out water to them from the rock. And you shall have the congregation and their livestock drink." ⁹And Moses took the staff from before the face of Yahweh, just as he had commanded him.

¹⁰And Moses and Aaron assembled the assembly at the face of the rock. And he said to them, "Listen now, the rebellious ones, shall we bring out from this rock water for you?" ¹¹And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice. And abundant water came out and the congregation and their livestock drank. ¹²And Yahweh said to Moses and to Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me to regard me as holy before the eyes of the sons of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given to them." ¹³These are the waters of Meribah where the sons of Israel quarreled with Yahweh and he showed himself holy among them.

¹⁴And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom, "Thus says your brother Israel: you yourself know all the hardship that we found. ¹⁵And our fathers went down to Egypt and we dwelled in Egypt many days. And the Egyptians did evil to us and to our fathers. ¹⁶And we cried out to Yahweh and he heard our voice and sent a messenger and brought us out from Egypt. And behold, we are in Kadesh, the city of the end of your border. ¹⁷Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or vineyard, and will we not drink the water of a well. We will go on the road of the king. We will not turn right or left until we have passed through your border." ¹⁸And Edom said to him, "You may not pass through me, lest I go out to meet you with the sword." ¹⁹And the sons of Israel said to him, "We will go on the highway. And if we drink your water, me or my livestock, then we will give their value. Only, there is no matter, let me pass through with my feet." ²⁰And he said, "You may not pass through." And Edom came out to meet him with a heavy people and a strong hand. ²¹And Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory. And Israel turned from near him.

²²And the sons of Israel, all the congregation, set out from Kadesh and came to Mount Hor. ²³And Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Aaron at Mount Hor, near the border of the land of Edom, saying, ²⁴"Aaron will be gathered to his people, because he will not enter into the land that I have given to the sons of Israel because you rebelled against my mouth before the waters of Meribah. ²⁵Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up Mount Hor. ²⁶And strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron shall be gathered and die there." ²⁷And Moses did just as Yahweh had commanded. And they went up to Mount Hor before the eyes of all the congregation. ²⁸And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron died there on the head of the mountain. And Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain. ²⁹And all the congregation saw that Aaron had expired. And all the house of Israel bewailed Aaron 30 days.

Chapter 21

¹And the Canaanite king of Arad, who dwelled in the Negev, heard that Israel had come by the road of the Atharim. And he fought against Israel and took captive some of them as captives. ²And Israel vowed a vow to Yahweh and said, "If you surely give this people into my hand, then I will dedicate their cities by ban." ³And Yahweh listened to

the voice of Israel and gave the Canaanites. And he dedicated them and their cities by ban. And he called the name of the place Hormah.

⁴And they set out from Mount Hor by the road of the Sea of Reeds to go around the land of Edom. And the soul of the people was short on the road. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why did you bring us up from Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, and there is no water, and our soul detests the worthless bread." ⁶And Yahweh sent snakes, fiery ones, among the people and they bit the people. And many people from Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned because we have spoken against Yahweh and against you. Pray to Yahweh and may he remove from on us the snake." And Moses prayed on behalf of the people. ⁸And Yahweh said to Moses, "Make for yourself a snake and set it on a pole. And it will happen that any of the bitten will see it and live." ⁹And Moses made a snake of bronze and he set it on the pole. And it happened that if the snake bit a man then he looked to the snake of bronze and he lived.

¹⁰And the sons of Israel set out and camped at Oboth. ¹¹And they set out from Oboth and camped at Iye Abarim in the wilderness that is on the face of Moab from the rising of the sun. ¹²From there they set out and camped at the wadi of Zered. ¹³From there they set out and camped on the other side of the Arnon, which is in the wilderness that goes out from the border of the Amorite, because the Arnon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorite. ¹⁴Therefore it says in the book of the Wars of Yahweh,

"...Waheb in Suphah, and the wadis of the Arnon,

¹⁵and the slope of the wadis that spreads out to the dwelling of Ar and it leans to the border of Moab."

¹⁶And from there to Beer. It is the well where Yahweh said to Moses, "Gather the people and I will give water to them."

¹⁷Then Israel sang this song:

"Rise up, well!

Sing for it,

¹⁸the well leaders dug,

the noblemen of the people dug it,

with a decreer's staff and their staffs."

And from the wilderness to Mattanah, ¹⁹and from Mattanah to Nahaliel, and from Nahaliel to Bamoth, ²⁰and from Bamoth to the valley that is in the field of Moab, the head of the Pisgah, and is looking down on the face of the wasteland.

²¹And Israel sent messengers to Sihon the king of the Amorite, saying, ²²"Let us pass through your land. We will not turn into a field or into a vineyard. We will not drink the water of a well. We will go by the road of the king until we have passed through your border." ²³And Sihon did not give Israel passage through his boundary. And Sihon gathered all his people and went out to the wilderness to meet Israel. And he came to Jahaz and fought with Israel. ²⁴And Israel struck him by the mouth of the sword and took possession of his land from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok, as far as the sons of Ammon, because the border of the sons of Ammon was fortified. ²⁵And Israel took all these cities. And Israel dwelled in all the cities of the Amorite in Heshbon and in all its daughters. ²⁶For Heshbon, it was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorite. And he had fought with the previous king of Moab and had taken all his land from his hand as far as the Arnon. ²⁷Therefore the speakers of proverbs say,

"Come to Heshbon.

Let the city of Sihon be built and established.

²⁸For fire went out from Heshbon,
a flame from the city of Sihon.

It ate Ar of Moab,
the lords of the high places of Arnon.

²⁹Woe to you, Moab!

You have perished, people of Chemosh.

He has given his sons to be escapees
and his daughters into the captivity
of Sihon the king of the Amorites.

³⁰And we have shot them. Heshbon has perished as far as Dibon.

And we have made devastation as far as Nophah,
which is as far as Medeba."

³¹And Israel dwelled in the land of the Amorites. ³²And Moses sent to spy out Jazer and they captured her daughters. And they dispossessed the Amorites who were there.

³³And they turned and went up the road of the Bashan. And Og the king of the Bashan went out to meet them, he and all his people, to the battle at Edrei. ³⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "Do not fear him, because I have given into your hand him, and all his people, and his land. And you shall do to him just as you did to Sihon the king of the Amorite, who dwelled in Heshbon." ³⁵And they struck him and his sons and all his people until they had left no survivor for him. And they took possession of his land.

Chapter 22

¹And the sons of Israel set out and camped in the plains of Moab, from the other side of the Jordan at Jericho.

²And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorite. ³And Moab was extremely terrified because of the face of the people, because they were numerous. And Moab was sick with terror because of the face of the sons of Israel. ⁴And Moab said to the elders of Midian, "Now the assembly will lick up all that is around us like an ox licks up the green of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was the king of Moab at that time. ⁵And he sent messengers to Balaam the son of Beor at Pethor, which is near the River, the land of the sons of his people, to summon him, saying, "Behold, a people went out from Egypt. Behold, he has covered the eye of the land and he is dwelling opposite me. ⁶And now please go curse this people for me because they are more numerous than I. Perhaps I will be able to strike them and drive them out from the land. For I know whom you bless will be blessed and whom you curse will be cursed.

⁷And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian went and divination fees were in their hand. And they came to Balaam and spoke to him the words of Balak. ⁸And he said to them, "Lodge here tonight and I will bring you back a word, just as Yahweh speaks to me." And the leaders of Moab stayed with Balaam. ⁹And God came to Balaam and said, "Who are these men with you?" ¹⁰And Balaam said to God, "Balak the son of Zippor, the king of Moab, has sent to me. ¹¹Behold, the people who have come out from Egypt and have covered the eye of the land! Now go curse them for me. Perhaps I will be able to fight them and drive them out." ¹²And God said to Balaam, "You shall not go with them. You shall not curse the people because they are blessed." ¹³And Balaam rose in the morning and said to

the leaders of Balak, "Go to your land because Yahweh has refused to grant me to go with you." ¹⁴And the leaders of Moab rose and came to Balak. And they said, "Balaam refused to come with us."

¹⁵And Balak added again and sent many leaders and they were more honored than these. ¹⁶And they came to Balaam and said to him, "Thus says Balak the son of Zippor, 'Please do not refrain from coming to me. ¹⁷For I will very greatly honor you and I will do all that you say to me. And please go curse this people for me.'" ¹⁸And Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, "If Balak gives to me his house full of silver and gold, I will not be able to go beyond the mouth of Yahweh my God to do small or big. ¹⁹And now, you also please stay in this place tonight. And may I know what Yahweh will add to speak with me." ²⁰And God came to Balaam at night and said to him, "If the men have come to summon you, rise and go with them. And only the word that I speak to you, it you shall do."

²¹And Balaam rose in the morning and saddled his female donkey, and went with the leaders of Moab. ²²And the nose of God burned because he was going. And the angel of Yahweh stationed himself in the road as an adversary to him. And he was riding on his female donkey and two of his servants were with him. ²³And the female donkey saw the angel of Yahweh stationed in the road and his drawn sword was in his hand. And the female donkey turned aside from the road and went in the field. And Balaam struck the female donkey to turn her to the road. ²⁴And the angel of Yahweh stood in the narrow pass of the vineyards, a wall on this side and a wall on that side. ²⁵And the female donkey saw the angel of Yahweh and she pressed herself to the wall. And she pressed the foot of Balaam to the wall. And he struck her again. ²⁶And the angel of Yahweh passed on again and stood in a narrow place where there was no road to turn right or left. ²⁷And the female donkey saw the angel of Yahweh and lay down under Balaam. And the nose of Balaam burned and he struck the female donkey with the staff. ²⁸And Yahweh opened the mouth of the female donkey. And she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you that you struck me these three times?" ²⁹And Balaam said to the female donkey, "Because you acted mockingly with me! If only there was a sword in my hand! Surely I would slay you!" ³⁰And the female donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your female donkey on which you have ridden from your continuance until this day? Have I ever been accustomed to doing thus to you?" And he said, "No."

³¹And Yahweh uncovered the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of Yahweh stationed in the road and his drawn sword in his hand. And he bowed and bowed down his nose. ³²And the angel of Yahweh said to him, "On account of what have you struck your female donkey these three times? Behold, I myself have gone out as an adversary because your way has been perverse in front of me. ³³And the female donkey saw me and turned aside before my face these three times. If she had not turned aside from me, surely now even you I would have slain and kept her alive." ³⁴And Balaam said to the angel of Yahweh, "I have sinned, because I did not know that you were stationed to meet me in the road. And now, if it is evil in your eyes, I will return to me." ³⁵And the angel of Yahweh said to Balaam, "Go with the men. And only the word that I speak to you, it you must speak." And Balaam went with the leaders of Balak.

³⁶And Balak heard that Balaam had come. And he went out to meet him at a city of Moab, that is near the border of the Arnon, which is at the end of the border. ³⁷And Balak said to Balaam, "Did I not indeed send to you to summon you? Why did you not come to me? Am I truly not able to honor you?" ³⁸And Balaam said to Balak, "Behold, I have come to you. Am I now at all able to speak anything? The word that God puts in my mouth, it will I speak." ³⁹And Balaam went with Balak, and they came to Kiriath Huzoth. ⁴⁰And Balak sacrificed cattle and sheep and sent to Balaam and to the leaders who were with him.

⁴¹And it happened in the morning that Balak took Balaam and brought him up to the high place of Baal. And from there he saw the edge of the people.

Chapter 23

¹And Balaam said to Balak, "Build for me in this place seven altars and prepare for me in this place seven bulls and seven rams." ²And Balak did just as Balaam had said. And Balak and Balaam offered up a bull and a ram on the altar. ³And Balaam said to Balak, "Station yourself beside your burnt up offering and I will go. Perhaps Yahweh will be met to meet me. And I will declare to you the word of what he shows me." And he went to a bare high place. ⁴And God met with Balaam and he said to him, "I have arranged seven altars and offered up a bull and a ram on the altar." ⁵And Yahweh put a word in the mouth of Balaam and said, "Return to Balak and speak thus." ⁶And he returned to him, and behold, he was stationed beside his burnt up offering, he and all the leaders of Moab. ⁷And he lifted up his oracle and said,

"Balak has led me from Aram,

the king of Moab from the mountains of the east.

'Go curse Jacob for me,

and go denounce Israel.'

⁸How can I curse? God has not cursed.

And how can I denounce? Yahweh has not denounced.

⁹For from the head of the rocks I see him.

And from the hills I look at him.

Behold, the people dwells by itself

and it does not reckon itself among the nations.

¹⁰Who can count the dust of Jacob

or number the fourth part of Israel?

Let my life die the death of the upright ones,

and let my end be like his!"

¹¹And Balak said to Balaam, "What have you done to me? I took you to curse my enemies, and behold, you have blessed indeed!" ¹²And he answered and said, "Should I not be careful to speak it that Yahweh puts in my mouth?"

¹³And Balak said to him, "Please go with me to another place from which you can see him. You will only see his edge and you will not see all of him. And you will curse him for me from there." ¹⁴And he took him to the field of Zophim, to the head of the Pisgah. And he built seven altars and offered up a bull and a ram on the altar. ¹⁵Then he said to Balak, "Station yourself here beside your burnt offering, and I will be met with there." ¹⁶And Yahweh met with Balaam and put a word in his mouth. And he said, "Return to Balak and thus you shall speak." ¹⁷And he came to him, and behold, he was stationed beside his altar and the leaders of Moab were with him. And Balak said to him, "What did Yahweh speak?" ¹⁸And he lifted up his oracle and said,

"Rise up, Balak, and listen.

Give ear to me, son of Zippor.

¹⁹God is not a man, that he would lie,

Or a son of mankind, that he would change his mind.

Has he said and not done,

Or spoken and not made it arise? ²⁰Behold, I have received to bless.

And he has blessed, and I can not turn it back.

²¹He has not looked at hardship in Jacob

and he has not seen trouble in Israel.

Yahweh his God is with him,

and the shout of the king is with him. ²²God is bringing them out from Egypt

like the horns of a wild ox for him.

²³For there is no omen against Jacob,

and no divination against Israel.

At this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel,

'What God has done!'

²⁴Look, a people rises like a lioness,

and like a lion he lifts himself up.

He will not lie down until he eats prey

and drinks the blood of the pierced ones."

²⁵And Balak said to Balaam, "Even do not curse him at all, also do not bless him at all!" ²⁶And Balaam answered and said to Balak, "Did I not speak to you, saying, 'All that Yahweh speaks, it I must do?'" ²⁷And Balak said to Balaam, "Come now, I will take you to another place. Perhaps it will be right in the eyes of God and you will curse him for me from there." ²⁸And Balak took Balaam to the head of the Peor, looking down on the face of the wasteland.

²⁹And Balaam said to Balak, "Build for me in this place seven altars and prepare for me in this place seven bulls and seven rams." ³⁰And Balak did just as Balaam had said. And he offered up a bull and a ram on the altar.

Chapter 24

¹And Balaam saw that it was good in the eyes of Yahweh to bless Israel. And he did not go as time by time to meet omens. And he set his face to the wilderness. ²And Balaam lifted up his eyes and he saw Israel dwelling according to its tribes. And the Spirit of God was on him. ³And he lifted up his discourse and said,

"The declaration of Balaam the son of Beor,

and the declaration of the man opened of eye,

⁴the declaration of the hearer of the words of God,

who sees the vision of the Almighty,

falling down and opened of eyes:

⁵How good are your tents, Jacob,

your dwellings, Israel!

⁶Like wadis they spread out,
like gardens beside a river,
like aloes Yahweh has planted,
like cedars beside water.

⁷Water will flow from his buckets,
and his seed with much water.
And his king will be higher than Agag,
and his kingdom will lift itself up.

⁸God is bringing him out from Egypt,
like the horns of a wild ox for him.
He will eat the nations, his enemies.
And he will break their bones.
And he will strike his arrows.

⁹He crouched, he lay down like a lion,
and like a lioness. Who will get him up?
Those who bless you are blessed;
and those who curse you are cursed."

¹⁰And the nose of Balak burned toward Balaam and he struck his palms. And Balak said to Balaam, "I called you to curse my enemies, and behold, you have repeatedly blessed these three times! ¹¹And now, flee for yourself to your place. I said I would honor you greatly, and behold, Yahweh has held you back from honor." ¹²And Balaam said to Balak, "Did I not also speak to the messengers that you sent to me, saying. ¹³If Balak gives to me his house full of silver and gold, I will not be able to go beyond the mouth of Yahweh to do good or evil from my heart; what Yahweh speaks, it I must speak?" ¹⁴And now, behold I am about to go to my people. Come, I will advise you what this people will do to your people in the future days." ¹⁵And he lifted up his discourse and said,

"The declaration of Balaam the son of Beor,
and the declaration of the man opened of eye,

¹⁶the declaration of the hearer of the words of God,
and the knower of the knowledge of the Most High,
he sees the vision of the Almighty,
falling down and opened of eyes:

¹⁷I will see him, but not now.
I will look at him, but not near.
A star has marched from Jacob,

and a rod has risen from Israel.

And he will strike the sides of Moab

and destroy all the sons of Seth.

¹⁸And Edom will become a possession,

and Seir will become a possession,

his enemies.

And Israel will act strongly.

¹⁹And he will rule from Jacob,

and he will destroy the survivor from a city."

²⁰And he saw Amalek and lifted up his discourse, and said,

"The first of the nations is Amalek,

and his end will be up to destruction."

²¹And he saw the Kenite, and he lifted up his discourse, and said,

"Your dwelling is permanent,

and your nest is set in the cliff.

²²But the Kenite will be for burning.

Until when will Assyria take you captive?"

²³And he lifted up his discourse and said,

"Woe! Who can live apart from God establishing him?"

²⁴And ships will be from the hand of Kittim,

and they will afflict Asshur and will afflict Eber,

and he, too, will be up to destruction."

²⁵And Balaam got up, and went, and returned to his place. And Balak also went on his way.

Chapter 25

¹And Israel dwelled in Shittim, and the people began to prostitute themselves with the daughters of Moab, ²And they called the people to the sacrifices of their gods. And the people ate and they worshipped their gods. ³And Israel bound himself to Baal of Peor. And the nose of Yahweh burned against Israel. ⁴And Yahweh said to Moses, "Take all the heads of the people and hang them up before Yahweh in front of the sun. And the burning of the nose of Yahweh may turn back from Israel." ⁵And Moses said to the judges of Israel, "Slay a man his men, the ones who bound themselves to Baal of Peor:"

⁶And behold, a man from the sons of Israel came and brought near to his brothers the Midianite woman, before the eyes of Moses and before the eyes of all the congregation of the sons of Israel. And they were weeping at the opening of the tent of meeting. ⁷And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saw and rose up from

the midst of the congregation, and took a spear in his hand. ⁸And he came after the man of Israel into the domed tent, and he pierced the two of them, the man of Israel and the woman in her stomach. And the plague was stopped from on the sons of Israel. ⁹And the ones who died by the plague were 24,000.

¹⁰And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹¹“Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, has turned my heat from on the sons of Israel by his being zealous with my zeal in the midst of them. And I will not make an end of the sons of Israel in my zeal. ¹²Therefore say, ‘Behold, I am giving to him my covenant of peace. ¹³And it will be a covenant of a priesthood of eternity for him and for his seed after him, because he was zealous for his God and he made atonement for the sons of Israel.”

¹⁴And the name of the man of Israel, the struck down one who was struck down with the Midianite woman, was Zimri the son of Salu, the leader of a house of a father of the Simeonites. ¹⁵And the name of the woman, the struck down Midianite woman, was Kozbi the daughter of Zur, who was the head of a tribe of a house of a father in Midian.

¹⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁷“Vex the Midianites and you shall strike them down. ¹⁸For they were vexing you by their deceitfulness when they deceived you over the matter of Peor and over the matter of Kosbi the daughter of the leader of Midian, their sister, the one struck down on the plague day over the matter of Peor.”

Chapter 26

¹And it happened after the plague that Yahweh spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest, saying, ²“Lift up the heads of all the congregation of the sons of Israel from a son of 20 years and upward according to the house of their fathers, all who go out to war in Israel.” ³And Moses and Eleazar the priest spoke with them in the plains of Moab beside the Jordan at Jericho, saying, ⁴“From a son of 20 years and upward, just as Yahweh commanded Moses and the sons of Israel, the ones who came out from the land of Egypt.”

⁵Reuben was the firstborn of Israel. The sons of Reuben: Hanok, the clan of the Hanokite; of Pallu, the clan of the Palluite; ⁶of Hezron, the clan of the Hezronite; of Karmi, the clan of the Karmite. ⁷These were the clans of the Reubenite. And their counted ones were 43,730. ⁸And the son of Pallu was Eliab. ⁹And the sons of Eliab were Nemuel and Dathan and Abiram. This is Dathan and Abiram, the called ones of the congregation, who rebelled against Moses and against Aaron with the congregation of Korah when they rebelled against Yahweh. ¹⁰And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them and Korah when the congregation died, when the fire ate 250 men, and they became a sign. ¹¹And the sons of Korah did not die.

¹²The sons of Simeon according to their clans: of Nemuel, the clan of the Nemuelite; of Jamin, the clan of the Jaminite; of Jakin, the clan of the Jakinite; ¹³of Zerah, the clan of the Zerahite; of Shaul, the clan of the Shaulite.

¹⁴These were the clans of the Simeonite, 22,200.

¹⁵The sons of Gad according to their clans: of Zephon, the clan of the Zephonite; of Haggi, the clan of the Haggite; of Shuni, the clan of the Shunite; ¹⁶of Ozni, the clan of the Oznite; of Eri, the clan of the Erite; ¹⁷of Arod, the clan of the Arodite; of Areli, the clan of the Arelite. ¹⁸These were the clans of the sons of Gad according to their counted ones, 40,500.

¹⁹The sons of Judah were Er and Onan, and Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. ²⁰And the sons of Judah according to their clans were:

of Shelah, the clan of the Shelanite;

of Perez, the clan of the Perezite;

of Zerah, the clan of the Zerahite. ²¹And the sons of Perez were:

of Hezron, the clan of the Hezronite;

of Hamul, the clan of the Hamulite. ²²These were the clans of Judah according to their counted ones, 76,500.

²³The sons of Issachar according to their clans:

Tola, the clan of the Tolaite;

of Puah, the clan of the Puite; ²⁴of Jashub, the clan of the Jashubite;

of Shimron, the clan of the Shimronite. ²⁵These were the clans of Issachar according to their counted ones, 64,300.

²⁶The sons of Zebulun according to their clans:

of Sered, the clan of the Seredite;

of Elon, the clan of the Elonite;

of Jahleel, the clan of the Jahleelite. ²⁷These were the clans of the Zebulunite according to their counted ones, 60,500.

²⁸The sons of Joseph according to their clans were Manasseh and Ephraim. ²⁹The sons of Manasseh:

of Makir, the clan of the Makirite (and Makir fathered Gilead);

of Gilead, the clan of the Gileadite. ³⁰These were the sons of Gilead:

Iezer, the clan of the Iezerite;

of Helek, the clan of the Helekite;

³¹and Asriel, the clan of the Asrielite;

and Shechem, the clan of the Shechemite;

³²and Shemida, the clan of the Shemidaite;

and Hephher, the clan of the Hephherite. ³³And there were no sons for Zelophehad the son of Hephher, but daughters. And the names of the daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah, and Noah, Hoglah, Milkah, and Tirzah. ³⁴These were the clans of Manasseh and their counted ones, 52,700.

³⁵These were the sons of Ephraim according to their clans:

of Shuthelah, the clan of the Shuthelahite;

of Beker, the clan of the Bekerite;

of Tahan, the clan of the Tahanite. ³⁶And these were the sons of Shuthelah: of Eran, the clan of the Eranite. ³⁷These were the clans of the sons of Ephraim according to their counted ones, 32,500. These were the sons of Joseph according to their clans.

³⁸The sons of Benjamin according to their clans:

of Bela, the clan of the Belaite;

of Ashbel, the clan of the Ashbelite;

of Ahiram, the clan of the Ahiramite;

³⁹of Shephupham, the clan of the Shuphamite;

of Hupham, the clan of the Huphamite.

⁴⁰And the sons of Bela were Ard and Naaman: the clan of the Ardite; of Naaman, the clan of the Naamite. ⁴¹These were the sons of Benjamin according to their clans. And their counted ones were 45,600.

⁴²These were the sons of Dan according to their clans: of Shuham, the clan of the Shuhamite. These were the clans of Dan according to their clans. ⁴³All the clans of the Shuhamite according to their counted ones were 64,400.

⁴⁴The sons of Asher according to their clans:

of Imnah, the clan of the Imnite;

of Ishvi, the clan of the Ishvite;

of Beriah, the clan of the Beriite.

⁴⁵The sons of Beriah:

of Heber, the clan of the Heberite;

of Malkiel, the clan of the Malkielite.

⁴⁶And the name of the daughter of Asher was Serah. ⁴⁷These were the clans of the sons of Asher according to their counted ones, 53,400.

⁴⁸The sons of Naphtali according to their clans:

of Jahzeel, the clan of the Jahzeelite;

of Guni, the clan of the Gunite;

⁴⁹of Jezer, the clan of the Jezerite;

of Shillem, the clan of the Shillemite.

⁵⁰These were the clans of Naphtali according to their clans. And their counted ones were 45,400.

⁵¹These were the counted ones of the sons of Israel: 601,730.

⁵²And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁵³"The land shall be apportioned to these ones as an inheritance by the number of the names. ⁵⁴To the numerous you shall increase his inheritance, and to the small you shall lessen his inheritance. His inheritance shall be given, a man according to the mouth of his counted ones. ⁵⁵Surely the land shall be apportioned by lots. They shall inherit according to the names of the tribes of their fathers. ⁵⁶His inheritance shall be apportioned in accordance with the mouth of the lot, between the numerous and the small."

⁵⁷And these were the counted ones of the Levite according to their clans:

of Gershon, the clan of the Gershonite;

of Kohath, the clan of the Kohathite;

of Merari, the clan of the Merarite.

⁵⁸These were the clans of the Levite:

the clan of the Libnite,

the clan of the Hebronite,

the clan of the Mahlite,

the clan of the Mushite,

the clan of the Korahite.

And Kohath fathered Amram. ⁵⁹And the name of the wife of Amram was Jochebed, a daughter of Levi, she who was born to Levi in Egypt. And she bore to Amram Aaron, and Moses, and Miriam their sister. ⁶⁰And to Aaron were born Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ⁶¹And Nadab and Abihu died when they offered unfamiliar fire before the face of Yahweh. ⁶²And their counted ones were 23,000, every male from a son of a month and upward. But they were not counted in the midst of the sons of Israel because an inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel was not given to them.

⁶³These are the counted ones of Moses and Eleazar the priest when they counted the sons of Israel in the plains of Moab beside the Jordan at Jericho. ⁶⁴And among these there was not a man from the counted ones of Moses and Aaron the priest when they counted the sons of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai. ⁶⁵For Yahweh had said to them, "You shall surely die in the wilderness and a man shall not remain from them, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun."

Chapter 27

¹And the daughters of Zelophehad the son of Hopher the son of Gilead the son of Machir the son of Manasseh, of the clans of Manasseh the son of Joseph came near. And these were the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah, and Hoglah, and Milkah, and Tirzah. ²And they stood before the face of Moses, and before the face of Eleazar the priest, and before the face of the leaders, and all the congregation at the opening of the tent of meeting, saying, ³"Our father died in the wilderness, and he was not in the midst of the congregation who assembled against Yahweh with the congregation of Korah. But he died in his sin and there were no sons for him. ⁴Why should the name of our father be withdrawn from the midst of his clan because there is no son for him? Give to us a possession in the midst of the brothers of our father." ⁵And Moses brought near their case before the face of Yahweh.

⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ⁷"The daughters of Zelophehad are speaking rightly. You shall certainly give to them the possession of an inheritance in the midst of the brothers of their father. And you shall cause the inheritance of their father to pass over to them. ⁸And you shall speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'If a man dies and there is no son for him, then you shall cause his inheritance to pass over to his daughter. ⁹And if there is no daughter for him, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. ¹⁰And if there are no brothers for him, then you shall give his inheritance to the brothers of his father. ¹¹And if there are no brothers for his father, then you shall give his inheritance to his blood-relative, the nearest to him from his clan, and he shall take possession of it. And it shall be for the sons of Israel as a statute of judgment, just as Yahweh has commanded Moses."

¹²And Yahweh said to Moses, "Go up to this mountain of Abarim, and see the land that I have given to the sons of Israel. ¹³And you shall see it and be gathered to your people, also you, just as Aaron your brother was gathered. ¹⁴because in the wilderness of Zin, in the quarrel of the congregation, you rebelled against my mouth to regard me as holy at the waters before their eyes" These are the waters of Meribah Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.

¹⁵And Moses spoke to Yahweh, saying, ¹⁶"May Yahweh, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation, ¹⁷who will go out before the face of them and who will come before the face of them and who will take them out and who will bring them in, and the congregation of Yahweh will not be like sheep that have no shepherd for them." ¹⁸And Yahweh said to Moses, "Take for yourself Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is a spirit, and lay your hand on him. ¹⁹And you shall stand him before the face of Eleazar the priest and before the face of all the congregation. And you shall command him before their eyes. ²⁰And you shall give some of your authority on him, so that all the congregation of the sons of Israel will hear. ²¹And he shall stand before the face of Eleazar the priest. And he shall ask for him by the judgment of the Urim before the face of Yahweh. In accordance with his mouth he shall go out and in accordance with his mouth he shall come in, he and all the sons of Israel with him and all the congregation." ²²And Moses did just as Yahweh had commanded him. And he took Joshua and stood

him before the face of Eleazar the priest and before the face of all the congregation. ²³And he laid his hands on him and he commanded him, just as Yahweh had spoken by the hand of Moses.

Chapter 28

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Command the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘You shall be careful to offer to me at its appointed time my offering, my food for my offerings made by fire, an aroma of my soothing.’ ³And you shall say to them, ‘This is the offering made by fire that you shall offer to Yahweh: unblemished male lambs, sons of a year, two for the day, a burnt up offering continually. ⁴One male lamb you shall do in the morning, and the second male lamb you shall do between the evenings, ⁵and the tenth of an ephah of fine flour for a grain offering, mixed with the fourth of a hin of beaten oil. ⁶It is a burnt up offering of continuity, the one done at Mount Sinai for an aroma of soothing, an offering made by fire to Yahweh. ⁷And its drink offering shall be the fourth of a hin for one male lamb. You shall pour out in the holy place a drink offering of intoxicating drink to Yahweh. ⁸And you shall do the second male lamb between the evenings. You shall do like the grain offering of the morning and its drink offering, an offering made by fire, an aroma of soothing to Yahweh.

⁹And on the Sabbath day: two unblemished male lambs, sons of a year, and two-tenths fine flour as a grain offering mixed with the oil, and its drink offering. ¹⁰It is the burnt up offering of the Sabbath by its Sabbath, in addition to the burnt up offering of the continuity and its drink offering.

¹¹And at the heads of your months, you shall offer a burnt up offering to Yahweh: two bulls, sons of cattle, and one ram, seven male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished; ¹²and three-tenths fine flour as a grain offering mixed with the oil for one bull, and two-tenths fine flour as a grain offering mixed with the oil for the one ram, ¹³and a tenth, a tenth fine flour as a grain offering mixed with the oil for one male lamb. It is a burnt up offering, an aroma of soothing, an offering made by fire to Yahweh. ¹⁴And their drink offerings shall be half of a hin of wine for the bull, and a third of a hin for the ram, and a fourth of a hin for the male lamb. This shall be the burnt up offering of the month by its month for the months of the year. ¹⁵And one buck of the goats shall be done as a sin offering to Yahweh, in addition to the burnt up offering of the continuity and its drink offering.

¹⁶And in the first month, on day 14 of the month is the Passover of Yahweh. ¹⁷And on day 15 of this month shall be a feast. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. ¹⁸On the first day shall be a convocation of holiness. You shall not do any work of labor. ¹⁹And you shall offer an offering made by fire, a burnt up offering to Yahweh: two bulls, sons of cattle, and one ram, and seven male lambs, sons of a year. They shall be unblemished for you. ²⁰And their grain offering: you shall do fine flour mixed with the oil, three-tenths for the bull and two-tenths for the ram. ²¹A tenth, a tenth you shall do for one male lamb of the seven male lambs, ²²and one male goat as the sin offering to make atonement for yourselves. ²³You shall do these apart from the burnt up offering of the morning, which is for the burnt up offering of the continuity. ²⁴You shall do like these for the day, seven days, the food of the offering made by fire, an aroma of soothing to Yahweh. It shall be done in addition to the burnt up offering of the continuity and its drink offering. ²⁵And on the seventh day there shall be a convocation of holiness for you. You shall not do any work of labor.

²⁶And on the day of the firstfruits, when you offer the new grain offering to Yahweh in your festival of weeks, there shall be a convocation of holiness for you. You shall not do any work of labor. ²⁷And you shall offer a burnt up offering as an aroma of soothing to Yahweh: two bulls, sons of cattle, one ram, seven male lambs, sons of a year, ²⁸And their grain offering shall be fine flour mixed with the oil, three-tenths for one bull, two-tenths for the one ram, ²⁹a tenth, a tenth for one male lamb of the seven of the male lambs, ³⁰one buck of the goats to make atonement for yourselves. ³¹You shall do apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity and its grain offering. They shall be unblemished for you and their drink offerings.”

Chapter 29

¹And in the seventh month, on the first of the month, there shall be a convocation of holiness for you. You shall not do any work of labor. It shall be a day of horn blowing for you. ²And you shall do a burnt up offering for an aroma of soothing to Yahweh: one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, seven male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ³And their grain offering shall be fine flour mixed with the oil, three-tenths for the bull, two-tenths for the ram, ⁴and one-tenth for one male lamb of the seven male lambs. ⁵And one buck of the goats shall be a sin offering to make atonement for yourselves. ⁶It is apart from the burnt up offering of the month and its grain offering, and the burnt up offering of the continuity and its grain offering, and their drink offerings according to their ordinance, for an aroma of soothing, an offering made by fire to Yahweh.

⁷And on the tenth of this seventh month there shall be a convocation of holiness for you. And you shall afflict your lives. You shall not do any work. ⁸And you shall offer a burnt up offering to Yahweh, an aroma of soothing: one bull, a son of cattle, one ram, seven male lambs, sons of a year. They shall be unblemished for you. ⁹And their grain offering shall be fine flour mixed with the oil, three-tenths for the bull, two-tenths for the one ram, ¹⁰a tenth, a tenth for the one male lamb, for the seven male lambs. ¹¹One buck of the goats shall be a sin offering, apart from the sin offering of the atonement and the burnt up offering of the continuity and its grain offering and their drink offerings.

¹²And on day 15 of the seventh month there shall be for you a convocation of holiness. You shall not do any work of labor, and you shall feast a feast to Yahweh seven days. ¹³And you shall offer a burnt up offering, a sacrifice made by fire, an aroma of soothing to Yahweh, 13 bulls, sons of cattle, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year. They shall be unblemished. ¹⁴And their grain offering shall be fine flour mixed with the oil, three-tenths for one bull for the 13 bulls, two-tenths for one ram for the two rams, ¹⁵and a tenth, a tenth for one male lamb for the 14 male lambs. ¹⁶And one buck of the goats shall be a sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity, its grain offering, and its drink offering.

¹⁷And on the second day: 12 bulls, sons of cattle, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ¹⁸And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the male lambs shall be by their number according to the ordinance. ¹⁹And one buck of the goats shall be a sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity, and its grain offering, and their drink offerings.

²⁰And on the third day: 11 bulls, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ²¹And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the male lambs shall be by their number according to the ordinance, ²²and one male goat of the sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity and its grain offering and its drink offering.

²³And on the fourth day: 10 bulls, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ²⁴And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be by their number according to the ordinance. ²⁵And one buck of the goats shall be a sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity, its grain offering, and its drink offering.

²⁶And on the fifth day: nine bulls, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ²⁷And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be by their number according to the ordinance, ²⁸and one male goat of a sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity, and its grain offering, and its drink offering.

²⁹And on the sixth day: eight bulls, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ³⁰And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be by their number according to the ordinance, ³¹and one male goat of a sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity, its grain offering, and its drink offerings.

³²And on the seventh day: seven bulls, two rams, 14 male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ³³And their grain offering and their drink offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the male lambs, shall be by their number according to their ordinance, ³⁴and one male goat of the sin offering, apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity, its grain offering, and its drink offering.

³⁵On the eighth day an assembly shall be for you. You shall not do any work of labor. ³⁶And you shall offer a burnt up offering, an offering made by fire, an aroma of soothing to Yahweh: one bull, one ram, seven male lambs, sons of a year, unblemished. ³⁷Their grain offering and their drink offerings, for the bull, for the ram, and for the male lambs, shall be by their number according to the ordinance, ³⁸and one male goat of the sin offering apart from the burnt up offering of the continuity and its grain offering and its drink offering.

³⁹You shall do these for Yahweh at your appointed times, apart from your vows and your voluntary offerings, for your burnt up offerings, and for your grain offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings."

⁴⁰And Moses spoke to the sons of Israel according to all that Yahweh had commanded Moses.

Chapter 30

¹And Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the sons of Israel, saying, "This is the word that Yahweh has commanded: ²When a man vows a vow to Yahweh, or swears an oath to bind a binding vow on his life, he shall not profane his word. He shall do according to all that came out from his mouth. ³And if a woman vows a vow to Yahweh and binds a binding vow in the house of her father, in her youth, ⁴and her father hears her vow and her binding vow that she bound on her life and her father is silent to her, then all her vows shall stand and every binding vow that she has bound on her life shall stand. ⁵And if her father forbids her on the day of his hearing, any of her vows and her binding vows that she bound on her life shall not stand. And Yahweh will forgive her because her father forbade her. ⁶And if she ever belongs to a man and her vows are on her, or thoughtless speech of her lips that she has bound is on her life, ⁷and her husband hears on the day of his hearing and is silent to her, then her vows shall stand, and her binding vows that she bound on her life shall stand. ⁸And if her husband forbids her on the day of his hearing, then he breaks her vow which is on her and the thoughtless speech of her lips that she bound on her life. And Yahweh will forgive her. ⁹And the vow of a widow and a cast out woman, all that she binds on her life shall stand on her. ¹⁰And if she vowed or bound a binding vow on her life by an oath in the house of her husband, ¹¹and her husband hears and is silent to her, he does not forbid her, then all her vows shall stand, and every binding vow that she bound on her life shall stand. ¹²And if her husband ever breaks them on the day of his hearing, all that went out of her lips for her vows and for the binding vow of her life shall not stand. Her husband has broken them and Yahweh will forgive her. ¹³Every vow and every oath of a binding vow to afflict her life, her husband may make it stand and her husband may break it. ¹⁴And if her husband is wholly silent to her from day to day, then he will make all her vows or all her binding vows which are on her stand. He made them stand because he was silent to her on the day of his hearing. ¹⁵And if he ever breaks them after his hearing, then he will bear her iniquity." ¹⁶These are the statutes that Yahweh commanded Moses, between a man and his wife, between a father and his daughter in her youth in the house of her father.

Chapter 31

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Take vengeance, the vengeance of the sons of Israel, from with the Midianites. Afterward you shall be gathered to your people." ³And Moses spoke to the people, saying, "Equip yourselves, some of the men with you, for the war. And they will be against Midian to give the vengeance of Yahweh on Midian. ⁴You shall send to the war for all the tribes of Israel, a thousand for a tribe, a thousand for a tribe." ⁵And a thousand for a tribe were provided from the thousands of Israel, 12,000 equipped for battle. ⁶And Moses sent them to the war, a thousand for a tribe, them and Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest to the war. And the vessels of holiness and the blasting trumpets were in his hand. ⁷And they waged war against Midian, just as

Yahweh had commanded Moses. And they slew every male. ⁸And they slew the kings of Midian with their pierced ones: Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, the five kings of Midian. And they slew Balaam the son of Beor by the sword. ⁹And the sons of Israel took captive the women of Midian and their children. And they plundered all their animals, and all their livestock, and all their wealth. ¹⁰And they burned with the fire all their cities with their dwellings and all their encampments. ¹¹And they took all the spoil and all the booty of human and of animal. ¹²And they brought to Moses and to Eleazar the priest, and to the congregation of the sons of Israel, the captives and the booty and the spoil to the camp at the plains of Moab which are beside the Jordan at Jericho.

¹³And Moses, and Eleazar the priest, and all the leaders of the congregation went out to meet them at the outside of the camp. ¹⁴And Moses was furious with the appointed ones of the army, the leaders of the thousands and the leaders of the hundreds, the ones coming from the battle of the war. ¹⁵And Moses said to them, "Have you let every woman live? ¹⁶Look, these were by the word of Balaam for the sons of Israel to commit unfaithfulness against Yahweh concerning the matter of Peor, and the plague was among the congregation of Yahweh. ¹⁷And now, slay every male among the children and slay every woman who has known a man by the bed of a male. ¹⁸And keep alive for yourselves every child among the women who has not known the bed of a male. ¹⁹And you, camp outside of the camp seven days, all who have slain a person and all who have touched a pierced one. Purify yourselves on the third day and on the seventh day, you and your captives. ²⁰And you shall purify every garment and every vessel of skin and every work of goats, and every vessel of wood."

²¹And Eleazar the priest said to the men of the army who had gone to the battle, "This is a statute of the law that Yahweh has commanded Moses: ²²Only the gold, and the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead, ²³every thing that can come through the fire you shall pass through the fire, and it will become clean. However, it must be purified with the water of purification. And all that can not come through the fire you shall pass through the water. ²⁴And you shall wash your garments on the seventh day, and you will be clean. And afterward you may enter into the camp."

²⁵And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁶"Lift up the head of the booty of the captives, of human and of animal. You, and Eleazar the priest, and the heads of the fathers of the congregation. ²⁷And you shall divide the booty between the wielders of the war who went out to the battle, and all the congregation. ²⁸And you shall raise a tax for Yahweh from with the men of the war who went out to the battle, one life from 500, from human and from cattle, and from the donkeys, and from the flock. ²⁹You shall take from half of them and give the contribution of Yahweh to Eleazar the priest. ³⁰And from the half of the sons of Israel you shall take one taken from the 50, from human, from cattle, from the donkeys, and from the flock, from every animal, and you shall give them to the Levites, the keepers of the keeping of the dwelling of Yahweh." ³¹And Moses and Eleazar the priest did just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

³²And the booty, the remainder of the plunder that the people of the army plundered, was 675,000 sheep, ³³and 72,000 cattle, ³⁴and 61,000 donkeys, ³⁵and human lives, from the women who had not known the bed of a male, every life, 32,000. ³⁶And the half of the portion of the ones who went out with the army: the number of the sheep was 337,500. ³⁷And the tax for Yahweh from the flock was 675. ³⁸And the cattle were 36,000 and their tax for Yahweh was 72. ³⁹And the donkeys were 30,500, and their tax for Yahweh was 61. ⁴⁰And the human lives were 16,000, and their tax for Yahweh was 32 lives. ⁴¹And Moses gave the tax of the contribution of Yahweh to Eleazar the priest, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

⁴²And from the half of the sons of Israel whom Moses had divided from the men who waged war, ⁴³and the half of the congregation from the flock was 337,500, ⁴⁴and 36,000 cattle, ⁴⁵and 30,500 donkeys, ⁴⁶and 16,000 human lives. ⁴⁷And Moses took from the half of the sons of Israel the taken, one from the 50, from human and from animal. And he gave them to the Levites, the keepers of the keeping of the dwelling of Yahweh, just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

⁴⁸And the appointed ones who were for the thousands of the army, the leaders of the thousands and the leaders of the hundreds, came near to Moses. ⁴⁹And they said to Moses, "Your servants have lifted up the heads of the

men of the war who were in our hand, and not a man from us is missing. ⁵⁰And we have offered the offering of Yahweh, a man what he found of the objects of gold, armlet, and bracelet, signet ring, earring, and ornament, to make atonement for our lives before the face of Yahweh." ⁵¹And Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from with them, every object of craft. ⁵²And all the gold of the contribution which they raised to Yahweh from with the leaders of the thousands and from with the leaders of the hundreds was 16,750 shekels. ⁵³The men of the army had plundered, a man for himself. ⁵⁴And Moses and Eleazar the priest took the gold from with the leaders of the thousands and the hundreds. And they brought it to the tent of meeting, a memorial for the sons of Israel before the face of Yahweh.

Chapter 32

¹And the livestock of the sons of Reuben and of the sons of Gad was great, very numerous. And they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, and behold, the place was a place of livestock. ²And the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben came and said to Moses, and to Eleazar the priest, and to the leaders of the congregation, saying, ³"Ataroth, and Dibon, and Jazer, and Nimrah, and Heshbon, and Elealeh, and Sebam, and Nebo, and Beon ⁴are the land that Yahweh struck before the face of the congregation of Israel. It is a land of livestock and livestock belongs to your servants." ⁵And they said, "If we have found favor in your eyes, let this land be given to your servants as a possession. Do not make us cross over the Jordan."

⁶And Moses said to the sons of Gad and to the sons of Reuben, "Will your brothers go to the war and you yourselves will dwell here? ⁷And why do you discourage the heart of the sons of Israel from crossing over into the land that Yahweh has given to them? ⁸Thus your fathers did when I sent them from Kadesh Barnea to see the land. ⁹And they went up as far as the wadi of Eshkol. And they saw the land and discouraged the heart of the sons of Israel to not enter into the land that Yahweh had given to them. ¹⁰And the nose of Yahweh burned on that day. And he swore, saying, ¹¹If the men who went up from Egypt, from a son of 20 years and upward, will see the ground which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob! For they are not fully after me, ¹²except Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua the son of Nun because they are fully after Yahweh." ¹³And the nose of Yahweh burned against Israel. And he made them wander in the wilderness 40 years until the finishing of all the generation who had done evil in the eyes of Yahweh. ¹⁴And behold, you have risen up in place of your fathers, a brood of sinful men, to add more to the burning of the nose of Yahweh toward Israel. ¹⁵If you turn from after him, then he will yet again leave him in the wilderness and you will have destroyed all this people."

¹⁶And they came near to him and said, "Here we will build walls of the flock for our livestock and cities for our children. ¹⁷And we ourselves will be equipped for war, hurrying before the face of the sons of Israel until when we have brought them into their place. And our children will dwell in the cities of the fortification because of the face of those who dwell in the land. ¹⁸We will not return to our houses until the sons of Israel get an inheritance for themselves, a man his inheritance. ¹⁹For we will not inherit with them from across of the Jordan and beyond, because our inheritance came to us from beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise."

²⁰And Moses said to them, "If you do this thing, if you equip yourselves before the face of Yahweh for the war, ²¹then every man equipped for war shall cross over the Jordan for you before the face of Yahweh, until he has dispossessed his enemy from his face ²²and the land is subdued before the face of Yahweh, then afterward you may return. And you will be free of obligation from Yahweh and from Israel. And this land will be for you for a possession before the face of Yahweh. ²³And if you do not do so, behold, you will have sinned against Yahweh. And know that your sin will find you. ²⁴Build for yourselves cities for your children and walls for your livestock. And you shall do what has gone out from your mouth." ²⁵And the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben spoke to Moses, saying, "Your servants will do just as my master is commanding. ²⁶Our children, our wives, our livestock, and all our animals will be there in the cities of the Gilead. ²⁷And your servants will cross over, every man equipped for war of the army, before the face of Yahweh for the war, just as my master has spoken."

²⁸And Moses commanded Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the sons of Israel concerning them. ²⁹And Moses said to them, "If the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben cross over the Jordan with you, every equipped man for the war before the face of Yahweh, and the land is subdued before your faces, then you will give to them the land of the Gilead as a possession. ³⁰And if the men equipped for war do not cross over with you, then they will take possession in your midst in the land of Canaan." ³¹And the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben answered, saying, "What Yahweh has spoken to your servants, so we will do. ³²We will cross over, the men equipped for war, before the face of Yahweh into the land of Canaan. And with us will be the possession of our inheritance from beyond the Jordan."

³³And Moses gave to them, to the sons of Gad and to the sons of Reuben, and to the half of the tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites, and the kingdom of Og the king of the Bashan, the land of its cities with the borders of the cities of the surrounding land. ³⁴And the sons of Gad built Dibon, and Ataroth, and Aroer, ³⁵and Atroth Shophan, and Jazer, and Jogbehah, ³⁶and Beth Nimrah, and Beth Haran, the cities of fortification and the walls of the flock. ³⁷And the sons of Reuben built Heshbon, and Elealeh, and Kiriathaim, ³⁸and Nebo, and Baal Meon (names were changed) and Sibmah. And they called the names of the cities that they built by names. ³⁹And the sons of Machir the son of Manasseh went to Gilead and captured it and dispossessed the Amorites who were in it. ⁴⁰And Moses gave the Gilead to Machir the son of Manasseh, and he dwelled in it. ⁴¹And Jair the son of Manasseh went and captured their tent villages. And he called them Havvoth Jair. ⁴²And Nobah went and captured Kenath and its daughters. And he called it Nobah, by his name.

Chapter 33

¹These are the journeys of the sons of Israel who went out from the land of Egypt according to their tribes by the hand of Moses and Aaron. ²And Moses wrote down their departure points according to their tribes in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh. And these are their journeys according to their departure points. ³And they set out from Rameses on the first month, on day 15 of the first month, from the day after the Passover the sons of Israel went out with a raised hand before the eyes of all the Egyptians. ⁴And the Egyptians were burying those whom Yahweh had struck down, all the firstborn. And Yahweh enacted judgment against their gods.

⁵And the sons of Israel set out from Rameses and camped at Succoth. ⁶And they set out from Succoth and camped at Etham, which is at the edge of the wilderness. ⁷And they set out from Etham and turned back to Pi Hahiroth, which is on the face of Baal Zephon. And they camped before the face of Migdol. ⁸And they set out from the face of Hahiroth and passed through the midst of the sea to the wilderness. And they went a distance of three days in the wilderness of Etham and camped at Marah. ⁹And they set out from Marah and camped at Elim. And at Elim were 12 springs of water and 70 palm trees. And they camped there. ¹⁰And they set out from Elim and camped beside the Sea of Reeds. ¹¹And they set out from the Sea of Reeds and camped in the wilderness of Sin. ¹²And they set out from the wilderness of Sin and camped at Dophkah. ¹³And they set out from Dophkah and camped at Alush. ¹⁴And they set out from Alush and camped at Rephidim, and there was no water there for the people to drink. ¹⁵And they set out from Rephidim and camped in the wilderness of Sinai. ¹⁶And they set out from the wilderness of Sinai and camped at Kibroth Hattaavah. ¹⁷And they set out from Kibroth Hattaavah and camped at Hazeroth. ¹⁸And they set out from Hazeroth and camped at Rithmah. ¹⁹And they set out from Rithmah and camped at Rimmon Perez. ²⁰And they set out from Rimmon Perez and camped at Libnah. ²¹And they set out from Libnah and camped at Rissah. ²²And they set out from Rissah and camped at Kehelathah. ²³And they set out from Kehelathah and camped at Mount Shepher. ²⁴And they set out from Mount Shepher and camped at Haradah. ²⁵And they set out from Haradah and camped at Makheloth. ²⁶And they set out from Makheloth and camped at Tahath. ²⁷And they set out from Tahath and camped at Terah. ²⁸And they set out from Terah and camped at Mithkah. ²⁹And they set out from Mithkah and camped at Hashmonah. ³⁰And they set out from Hashmonah and camped at Moseroth. ³¹And they set out from Moseroth and camped at Bene Jaakan. ³²And they set out from Bene Jaakan and camped at Hor Haggidgad. ³³And they set out from Hor Haggidgad and camped at Jotbathah. ³⁴And they set out from Jotbathah

and camped at Abronah. ³⁵And they set out from Abronah and camped at Ezion Geber. ³⁶And they set out from Ezion Geber and camped in the wilderness of Zin (it is Kadesh). ³⁷And they set out from Kadesh and camped at Mount Hor, at the edge of the land of Edom.

³⁸And Aaron the priest went up to Mount Hor in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh and died there in the fortieth year of the going out of the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt, in the fifth month, on 1 of the month.

³⁹And Aaron was a son of 123 years when he died at Mount Hor.

⁴⁰And the Canaanite, the king of Arad (and he was dwelling in the Negev in the land of Canaan), heard when the sons of Israel came.

⁴¹And they set out from Mount Hor and camped at Zalmonah. ⁴²And they set out from Zalmonah and camped at Punon. ⁴³And they set out from Punon and camped at Oboth. ⁴⁴And they set out from Oboth and camped at Iye Abarim, on the border of Moab. ⁴⁵And they set out from Iye and camped at Dibon Gad. ⁴⁶And they set out from Dibon Gad and camped at Almon Diblathaim. ⁴⁷And they set out from Almon Diblathaim and camped in the mountains of Abarim, before the face of Nebo. ⁴⁸And they set out from the mountains of Abarim and camped in the plains of Moab beside the Jordan at Jericho. ⁴⁹And they camped beside the Jordan, from Beth Jeshimoth to Abel Shittim in the plains of Moab.

⁵⁰And Yahweh spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab beside the Jordan at Jericho, saying, ⁵¹“Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When you cross over the Jordan into the land of Canaan, ⁵²then you shall dispossess all those who dwell in the land from your face. And you shall destroy all their carved figures, and you shall destroy all the figures of their molten metal, and you shall destroy all their high places. ⁵³And you shall take possession of the land and dwell in it, because I have given the land to you to possess it. ⁵⁴And you shall inherit for yourselves the land by lot, according to your clans. You shall increase his inheritance for the numerous, and you shall decrease his inheritance for the few. To there where the lot goes out for him, to him it will belong. According to the tribes of your fathers you shall inherit for yourselves. ⁵⁵And if you do not dispossess those who dwell in the land from your face, then whom you leave from them will be as thorns in your eyes and as pricks in your sides. And they shall vex you on the land that you are about to dwell in. ⁵⁶And it will happen that I will do to you just as I had intended to do to them.”

Chapter 34

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Command the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When you enter into the land of Canaan, this is the land that has fallen to you as an inheritance, the land of Canaan and its borders, ³and the corner of the south will be for you from the wilderness of Zin beside the hands of Edom. And the border of the south will be for you from the end of the Sea of Salt eastward. ⁴And the border will turn for you from the south to the ascent of Akrabbim and cross over to Zin. And its outer limits will be from the south to Kadesh Barnea. And it will go out to Hazar Addar and cross over to Azmon. ⁵And the border will turn from Azmon toward the wadi of Egypt and its outer limits will be to the sea.

⁶And the border of the west, it will be for you the Great Sea and the border. This will be for you the border of the west.

⁷And this will be for you the border of the north, from the Great Sea you shall mark out for you to Mount Hor.

⁸From Mount Hor you shall mark out to Lebo Hamath, and the outer limits of the border will be to Zedad. ⁹And the border will go out to Ziphron and its outer limits will be at Hazar Enan. This will be for you the border of the north.

¹⁰And you shall mark out for you the border to the east from Hazar Enan to Shepham. ¹¹And the border will go down from Shepham to Riblah, from east of Ain. And the border will go down and strike on the shoulder of the Sea of Kinnereth eastward. ¹²And the border will go down to the Jordan and its outer limits will be the Sea of Salt. This will be for you the land according to its borders all around.”

¹³And Moses commanded the sons of Israel, saying, "This is the land, it which you will inherit for yourselves by lot, which Yahweh has commanded to give to the nine tribes and to the half of the tribe. ¹⁴For the tribe of the sons of the Reubenites according to the house of their fathers and the tribe of the sons of the Gadites according to the house of their fathers have taken, and the half of the tribe of Manasseh has taken their inheritance. ¹⁵The two tribes and the half of the tribe have taken their inheritance from beyond the Jordan at Jericho eastward, toward the sunrise."

¹⁶And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁷"These are the names of the men who will divide the land for you as an inheritance: Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun. ¹⁸And you shall take one leader, one leader from a tribe to divide the land as an inheritance. ¹⁹And these are the names of the men:

of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh;

²⁰and of the tribe of the sons of Simeon, Shemuel the son of Ammihud;

²¹of the tribe of Benjamin, Elidad the son of Kislou;

²²and of the tribe of the sons of Dan a leader, Bukki the son of Jogli;

²³of the sons of Joseph, of the tribe of the sons of Manasseh a leader, Hanniel the son of Ephod;

²⁴and of the tribe of the sons of Ephraim a leader, Kemuel the son of Shiphtan;

²⁵and of the tribe of the sons of Zebulun a leader, Elizaphan the son of Parnak;

²⁶and of the tribe of the sons of Issachar a leader, Paltiel the son of Azzan;

²⁷and of the tribe of the sons of Asher a leader, Ahihud the son of Shelomi;

²⁸and of the tribe of the sons of Naphtali a leader, Pedahel the son of Ammihud."

²⁹These are whom Yahweh commanded to divide an inheritance for the sons of Israel in the land of Canaan.

Chapter 35

¹And Yahweh spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab beside the Jordan at Jericho, saying, ²"Command the sons of Israel and they shall give to the Levites cities for dwelling from the inheritance of their possession. And you shall give to the Levites pastureland for the cities, all around them. ³And the cities will be for them for dwelling, and their pastureland will be for their livestock and for their property and for all their living things. ⁴And the pasturelands of the cities that you shall give to the Levites shall be from the wall of the city and outward 1,000 cubits all around. ⁵And you shall measure 2,000 by the cubit from outside of the city toward the corner of the east, and 2,000 by the cubit to the corner of the south, and 2,000 by the cubit to the corner of the west, and 2,000 by the cubit to the corner of the north, and the city will be in the middle. This will be the pastureland of the cities for them. ⁶And along with the cities which you shall give to the Levites you shall give six cities of refuge to which the one who kills may flee. And in addition to them you shall give 42 cities. ⁷All the cities that you shall give to the Levites shall be 48 cities, them and their pasturelands. ⁸And the cities that you shall give from the possession of the sons of Israel, you shall increase from with the numerous, and you shall decrease from with the few. A man shall give from his cities to the Levites according to the mouth of his inheritance that he has inherited."

⁹And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁰"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you cross over the Jordan into the land of Canaan, ¹¹then you shall choose for yourselves cities, they will be cities of refuge for you. And the one who kills, the one who struck down a person by mistake, shall flee to there. ¹²And the cities will be for you for refuge from the avenger. And the one who kills will not die until he stands before the face of the congregation for the judgment. ¹³And the cities that you shall give shall be six cities of refuge for you. ¹⁴You shall

give three cities from beyond the Jordan. And you shall give three cities in the land of Canaan. They shall be cities of refuge. ¹⁵For the sons of Israel, and for the sojourner, and for the temporary dweller in your midst, these six cities shall be for refuge to flee to, every one who has struck down a person by mistake.

¹⁶And if he struck him down with an object of iron and he died, he is one who murders. The one who murders shall certainly be put to death. ¹⁷And if he struck him down with a stone in hand by which one could die and he died, he is one who murders. The one who murders shall certainly be put to death. ¹⁸Or if he struck him down with an object of wood in hand by which one could die and he died, he is one who murders. The one who murders shall certainly be put to death. ¹⁹The avenger of blood, he shall put the one who murders to death. When he meets him, he shall put him to death. ²⁰And if with hatred he pushes him or throws something at him by lying in wait and he dies, ²¹or if with hostility he strikes him down with his hand and he dies, you shall certainly put to death the one who strikes down; he is one who murders. The avenger of blood shall put to death the one who murders when he meets him.

²²And if with suddenness without hostility he pushes him or throws any object at him without lying in wait, ²³or if with any stone by which one could die without seeing he drops it on him and he dies, and he was not an enemy to him and was not seeking his harm, ²⁴then the congregation shall judge between the one who struck down and the avenger of blood in accordance with these judgments. ²⁵And the congregation shall rescue the one who kills from the hand of the avenger of blood. And the congregation shall bring him back into the city of his refuge to which he had fled. And he shall dwell in it until the death of the great priest, him whom he anointed with the oil of holiness. ²⁶And if the one who kills ever goes out of the border of the city of his refuge to which he has fled, ²⁷and the avenger of blood finds him outside the border of the city of his refuge, and the avenger of blood kills the one who kills, there will be no blood against him. ²⁸For in the city of his refuge he must dwell until the death of the great priest, and after the death of the great priest the one who kills may return to the land of his possession.

²⁹And these shall be for you as a statute of judgment for your generations, in all your dwellings. ³⁰Every one who strikes down a person, according to the mouth of witnesses he must kill the one who kills. And one witness shall not testify against a person to put to death. ³¹And you shall not take a ransom for the life of one who kills, he who is guilty to die, because he shall certainly be put to death. ³²And you shall not take a ransom for the one who flees into the city of his refuge, to return to dwell in the land until the death of the priest. ³³And you shall not pollute the land which you are in because the blood itself pollutes the land. And atonement cannot be made for the land for the blood that is poured out on it except by the blood of the one who poured it out. ³⁴And you shall not defile the land which you are dwelling in, which I am dwelling in the midst of, because I, Yahweh, am dwelling in the midst of the sons of Israel.”

Chapter 36

¹And the heads of the fathers of the clans of the sons of Gilead the son of Machir the son of Manasseh from the clans of the sons of Joseph came near and spoke before the face of Moses and before the face of the leaders, the heads of the fathers of the sons of Israel. ²And they said, “Yahweh commanded my master to give the land as an inheritance by lot to the sons of Israel. And my master was commanded by Yahweh to give the inheritance of Zelophehad our brother to his daughters. ³And they will become wives for one from the sons of the tribes of the sons of Israel. And their inheritance will be withdrawn from the inheritance of our fathers, and it will be added onto the inheritance of the tribe that they belong to. And it will be withdrawn from the lot of our inheritance. ⁴And when it will be the Jubilee for the sons of Israel, then their inheritance will be added onto the inheritance of the tribe which they belong to. And their inheritance will be withdrawn from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.”

⁵And Moses commanded the sons of Israel in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh, saying, “What the tribe of the sons of Joseph is speaking is right. ⁶This is the word that Yahweh commands to the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, ‘They may become wives of the good one in their eyes, only they must become wives of the clan of the tribe of their father. ⁷And an inheritance of the sons of Israel shall not go around from tribe to tribe, but a man of the

sons of Israel shall cling to the inheritance of the tribe of his father. ⁸And every daughter who possesses an inheritance from the tribes of the sons of Israel shall become a wife for one from the clan of the tribe of her father, so that the sons of Israel will have a possession, a man the inheritance of his fathers. ⁹And an inheritance shall not go around from a tribe to another tribe, but each tribe of the sons of Israel shall cling to his inheritance.”

¹⁰Just as Yahweh commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad. ¹¹And Mahlah, Tirzah, and Hoglah, and Milkah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, became wives for the sons of their uncles. ¹²They became wives from the clans of the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph. And their inheritance was with the tribe of the clan of their father.

¹³These are the commands and the judgments that Yahweh commanded by the hand of Moses to the sons of Israel in the plains of Moab beside the Jordan at Jericho.

Deuteronomy

Chapter 1

¹These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain of the Jordan River valley over against Suph, between Paran, Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth, and Dizahab. ²It is eleven days' journey from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh Barnea. ³It happened in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, that Moses spoke to the people of Israel all that Yahweh commanded him concerning them. ⁴This was after they attacked Sihon the king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth at Edrei. ⁵Beyond the Jordan, in the land of Moab, Moses began to announce these instructions, saying, ⁶"Yahweh our God spoke to us at Horeb, saying, 'You have lived long enough in this hill country. ⁷Turn and take your journey, and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all their dwellings in the plain of the Jordan River valley, in the hill country, in the lowland, in the Negev, and by the seashore—the land of the Canaanites, and in Lebanon as far as the great river, the Euphrates. ⁸Look, I have given the land before you; go in and possess the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob—to give to them and to their descendants after them.'

⁹I spoke to you at that time, saying, 'I am not able to carry you myself alone. ¹⁰Yahweh your God has multiplied you, and, look, you are today as the multitude of the stars of heaven. ¹¹May Yahweh, the God of your fathers, make you a thousand times as many as you are, and bless you, just as he told you! ¹²But how can I myself alone carry your loads, your burdens, and your disputes? ¹³Nominate for yourselves men who are wise, understanding, and of good repute from each of your tribes, and I will make them heads over you.' ¹⁴You answered me and said, 'The thing that you have spoken is good for us to do.' ¹⁵So I took the heads of your tribes—men who are wise and of good repute—and gave them as heads over you, captains of thousands, captains of hundreds, captains of fifties, captains of tens, and officers, for each of your tribes. ¹⁶And, I commanded your judges at that time, saying, 'Listen to your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother, and the foreigner who is with him. ¹⁷You will not show partiality to anyone in the judgment; you will hear the small and the great alike. You will not turn aside from the face of a man, for the judgment belongs to God himself. And the word which is too heavy for you, you will bring to me, and I will hear it.' ¹⁸So I commanded you at that time all the things that you should do.

¹⁹Then we journeyed away from Horeb and went through all that great and terrible wilderness that you saw on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, as Yahweh our God had commanded us; and we came to Kadesh Barnea.

²⁰And I said to you, 'You have come to the hill country of the Amorites, which Yahweh our God is giving to us.

²¹Look, Yahweh your God has set the land before you; go up, take possession, as Yahweh, the God of your fathers, has spoken to you; do not be afraid, neither be discouraged.' ²²Every one of you came to me and said, 'Let us send men ahead of us, so that they may search out the land for us, and bring us word about the way by which we go up into it, and about the cities to which we will come.' ²³This word was good in my eyes, so I took from among you twelve men, one man for {each} tribe. ²⁴They turned and went up into the hill country, and came to the Valley of Eshkol, and scouted it. ²⁵They took with their hands {some} of the fruit of the land and brought {it} down to us. They also returned to us with a word and said, '{It is} a good land that Yahweh our God is giving to us.'

²⁶But your fathers did not go up, and you provoked the mouth of Yahweh your God. ²⁷And you grumbled in your tents and said, "In Yahweh's hatred against us he brought us out of the land of Egypt, in order to give us into the hand of the Amorites to destroy us. ²⁸Where {can} we go? Our brothers have made our heart to melt, saying, 'Those people {are} greater and taller than we are; their cities are great and {are} fortified up to the sky; moreover, we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.'" ²⁹Then I said to you, 'Do not be terrified, neither be afraid of them. ³⁰Yahweh your God, who walks before you, he himself will fight for you, like everything that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes, ³¹and also in the wilderness, where you have seen how Yahweh your God carried you, as a man

carries his son, all along the way which you went until you came to this place.' ³²Yet in spite of this word you did not believe Yahweh your God, ³³who went before you on the way to find a place for you to make camp, in fire by night and in a cloud by day.

³⁴Yahweh heard the sound of your words and was angry; he swore and said, ³⁵'Surely not one of these men of this evil generation will see the good land that I swore to give to your ancestors, ³⁶save Caleb son of Jephunneh; he will see it. To him I will give the land that he has stepped on, and to his children, because he has wholly followed Yahweh.' ³⁷Also Yahweh was angry with me because of you, saying, 'You also will not go in there; ³⁸Joshua son of Nun, who stands before you, he will go in there; encourage him, for he will lead Israel to inherit it. ³⁹Moreover, your little children, the ones you said would be victims, who today have no knowledge of good or evil—they will go in there. To them I will give it, and they will possess it. ⁴⁰But {as for} you, turn and take your journey into the wilderness along the way to the Sea of Reeds.'

⁴¹Then you answered and said to me, 'We have sinned against Yahweh; we will go up and fight, and we will follow all that Yahweh our God has commanded us to do.' Every man among you put on his weapons of war, and you were ready to attack the hill country. ⁴²Yahweh said to me, 'Say to them, "Do not attack and do not fight, for I will not be with you, and you will be defeated by your enemies.' ⁴³I spoke to you in this way, but you did not listen. You rebelled against the commandment of Yahweh; you were arrogant and attacked the hill country. ⁴⁴But the Amorites, who lived in that hill country, came out against you and chased you like bees, and struck you down in Seir, as far as Hormah. ⁴⁵You returned and wept before Yahweh; but Yahweh did not listen to your voice, nor did he pay attention to you. ⁴⁶So you stayed in Kadesh many days, all the days that you stayed {there}.

Chapter 2

¹Then we turned and took our journey into the wilderness by the way to the Sea of Reeds, as Yahweh had spoken to me; we went around Mount Seir for many days. ²Yahweh spoke to me, saying, ³'You have gone around this mountain long enough; turn northward. ⁴Command the people, saying, "You {are to} pass through the border of your brothers, the descendants of Esau, who live in Seir; they will be afraid of you. Therefore be careful ⁵not to fight with them, for I will not give you {any} of their land, no, not even enough for the sole of a foot to step on; for I have given Mount Seir to Esau {as} a possession. ⁶You will purchase food from them for money, so that you may eat; you will also buy water from them for money, so that you may drink. ⁷For Yahweh your God has blessed you in all the work of your hand; he has known your walking through this great wilderness. For these forty years Yahweh your God {has been} with you, and you have lacked nothing.'" ⁸So we passed by our brothers, the descendants of Esau who live in Seir, away from the Arabah road, from Elath and from Ezion Geber. Then we turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab. ⁹Yahweh said to me, 'Do not trouble Moab, and do not fight with them in battle. For I will not give you his land for your own possession, because I have given Ar to the descendants of Lot, for their possession.' ¹⁰{The Emmites lived there previously, a people as great, as many, and as tall as the Anakim; ¹¹these also are considered to be the Rephaim, like the Anakim; but the Moabites call them the Emmites. ¹²The Horites also lived in Seir previously, but the descendants of Esau succeeded them. They destroyed them from before them and lived in their place, like Israel did to the land of his possession that Yahweh gave to them.) ¹³"Now rise up and go over the brook Zered.' So we went over the brook Zered. ¹⁴Now the days from when we came from Kadesh Barnea until we crossed the brook Zered, were thirty-eight years. It {was} by that time that all that generation of the men fit for fighting were gone from the people, as Yahweh had sworn to them. ¹⁵Moreover, the hand of Yahweh was against that generation in order to destroy them from the people until they were gone.

¹⁶So it happened, when all the men fit for fighting were dead and gone from among the people, ¹⁷that Yahweh spoke to me, saying, ¹⁸'You are today to pass over Ar, the border of Moab. ¹⁹{When} you come near opposite the people of Ammon, do not trouble them or fight them; for I will not give you {any} of the land of the people of Ammon {as} a possession; because I have given it to the descendants of Lot {as} a possession.'" ²⁰{That also is considered to be a land of the Rephaim. The Rephaim lived there previously—but the Ammonites call them

Zamzummim—²¹a people as great, as many, and as tall as the Anakim. But Yahweh destroyed them before the Ammonites, and they succeeded them and lived in their place. ²²This Yahweh also did for the people of Esau, who live in Seir, when he destroyed the Horites from before them, and the descendants of Esau succeeded them and have lived in their place even until today. ²³As for the Avvites who lived in villages as far as Gaza, the Caphtorim, who came from Caphtor, destroyed them and settled in their place.) ²⁴“Now rise up, go on your journey, and pass over the Valley of the Arnon; look, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land. Begin to possess {it}, and fight with him in battle. ²⁵Today I will begin to put the fear and terror of you on the peoples that are under the whole sky; they will hear news about you and will tremble and be in anguish because of you.’

²⁶I sent messengers from 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 the highway; I will turn neither to the right hand nor to the left. ²⁸You will sell me food for money, so that I may eat; give me water for money, so that I may drink; only let me pass through on my feet; ²⁹as the descendants of Esau who live in Seir, and as the Moabites who live in Ar, did for me; until I pass over the Jordan into the land that Yahweh our God is giving us.’ ³⁰But Sihon, king of Heshbon, would not let us pass by him; for Yahweh your God had hardened his mind and made his heart obstinate, that he might defeat him by your might, which he has now done today. ³¹Yahweh said to me, ‘Look, I have begun to deliver up Sihon and his land before you; begin to possess {it}, in order that you may inherit his land.’ ³²Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz. ³³Yahweh our God gave him over to us and we defeated him and his sons and all his people. ³⁴We took all his cities at that time and completely destroyed every city—men and the women and the little ones; we left no survivor. ³⁵Only the cattle we took as spoils for ourselves, along with the spoil of the cities that we had taken. ³⁶From Aroer, which {is} on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, and {from} the city that {is} in the valley, all the way to Gilead, there was not a city too high for us. Yahweh our God gave them into our hands. ³⁷It was only to the land of the descendants of Ammon that you did not go, as well as all the side of the Jabbok River, and the cities of the hill country—wherever Yahweh our God had forbidden us to go.

Chapter 3

¹Then we turned and went up the way to Bashan. Og, the king of Bashan, came and attacked us, he and all his people, to fight at Edrei. ²Yahweh said to me, ‘Do not fear him; for I have given you victory over him and have put all his people and his land under your control. You will do to him as you did to Sihon, king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon.’ ³So Yahweh our God also gave us victory over Og the king of Bashan, and all his people were put under our control. We struck them down until not one of his people remained. ⁴We took all his cities at that time. There was not one of the sixty cities that we did not take from them—all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan. ⁵These were all cities fortified with high walls, gates, and bars; this was besides very many unwalled villages. ⁶We completely destroyed them, as we did to Sihon king of Heshbon, completely destroying every city—men and the women and the little ones. ⁷But all the cattle and the spoil of the cities, we took as spoils for ourselves. ⁸At that time we took the land out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites, who were beyond the Jordan, from the Valley of the Arnon to Mount Hermon ⁹(Mount Hermon is called Sirion by the Sidonians, and the Amorites call it Senir) ¹⁰and all the cities of the plain, all Gilead, and all Bashan, all the way to Salekah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan.” ¹¹(For of the remnant of the Rephaim, only Og king of Bashan had remained. Look! His bed {was} a bed of iron. Was it not in Rabbah, where the descendants of Ammon live? It was nine cubits long and four cubits wide, the way people measure.)

¹²“This land that we took in possession at that time—from Aroer, that {is} by the Valley of the Arnon, and half the hill country of Gilead, and its cities—I gave to the Reubenites and to the Gadites. ¹³The rest of Gilead and all Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I gave to the half tribe of Manasseh. (All the region of Argob, and all Bashan. The same territory is called the land of Rephaim. ¹⁴Jair, a descendant of Manasseh, took all the region of Argob to the border of the Geshurites and the Maakathites. He called the region, even Bashan, by his own name, Havvoth Jair, to this day.) ¹⁵I gave Gilead to Machir. ¹⁶To the Reubenites and to the Gadites I gave territory from Gilead to the Valley of

the Arnon—the middle of the valley is the territory's border—and to the Jabbok River, which is the border with the descendants of Ammon. ¹⁷Another of its borders is also the plain of the Jordan River valley, from Kinnereth to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Salt Sea) to the slopes of Mount Pisgah eastward.

¹⁸I commanded you at that time, saying, 'Yahweh your God has given you this land to possess it; you, all the men of war, will pass over armed before your brothers, the people of Israel. ¹⁹But your wives, your little ones, and your cattle (I know that you have much cattle), will stay in your cities that I have given you, ²⁰until Yahweh gives rest to your brothers, as he has to you, until they also possess the land that Yahweh your God is giving them beyond the Jordan; then will you return, every man of you, to your own property that I have given you.' ²¹I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, 'Your eyes have seen all that Yahweh your God has done to these two kings; Yahweh will do the same to all the kingdoms where you go over. ²²You will not fear them, for Yahweh your God is the one who will fight for you.'

²³I implored Yahweh at that time, saying, ²⁴'O Lord Yahweh, you have begun to show your servant your greatness and your strong hand; for what god is there in heaven or in earth that can do the same works as you have done, and the same mighty acts? ²⁵Let me go over, I beg you, and see the good land that is beyond the Jordan, that good hill country, and also Lebanon.' ²⁶But Yahweh was angry with me because of you; he did not listen to me. Yahweh said to me, 'Let this be enough for you—speak no more to me about this matter: ²⁷go up to the top of Pisgah and lift up your eyes westward, northward, southward, and eastward; look with your eyes, for you will not go over the Jordan. ²⁸Instead, instruct Joshua and encourage and strengthen him, for he will go over before this people, and he will cause them to inherit the land that you will see.' ²⁹So we stayed in the valley opposite Beth Peor.

Chapter 4

¹Now therefore, Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments that I am about to teach you, to do them so that you may live and go in and possess the land that Yahweh, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²You will not add to the words that I command you, neither will you diminish them, so that you may keep the commandments of Yahweh your God that I am commanding you. ³Your eyes have seen what Yahweh did because of Baal Peor; for all the men who walked after the Baal of Peor, Yahweh your God has destroyed them from among you. ⁴But you who clung to Yahweh your God {are} alive today, every one of you. ⁵Look, I have taught you statutes and judgments, as Yahweh my God had commanded me, that you should do so in the midst of the land which you are going into in order to possess it. ⁶So, keep them and do {them}; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who may hear about all these statutes and may say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' ⁷For what other great nation {is} there that has a god {so} near to them, as Yahweh our God is whenever we call upon him? ⁸And, what other great nation {is} there that has statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law that I am giving before you today?

⁹Only carefully guard yourself and vigilantly guard your inner being, lest you forget the words which your eyes have seen, lest they leave your mind all the days of your life. Rather, make them known to your children and your children's children. ¹⁰On the day that you stood before Yahweh your God at Horeb, when Yahweh said to me, 'Assemble for me the people, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.' ¹¹You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain. The mountain burned with fire to the heart of heaven, with darkness, cloud, and thick darkness. ¹²Yahweh spoke to you out of the middle of the fire; you heard the voice with its words, but you saw no form; you {only} heard a voice. ¹³He declared to you his covenant that he commanded you to perform, the Ten Commandments. He wrote them on two tablets of stone. ¹⁴Yahweh commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and rules, so that you might do them in the land that you are crossing over to take possession of it.

¹⁵So take great heed to yourselves—for you saw no kind of form on the day that Yahweh spoke to you at Horeb out of the middle of the fire— ¹⁶that you do not corrupt yourselves and by making a carved image in the form of any figure, in the likeness of male or female, ¹⁷the likeness of any animal on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird

that flies in the heavens, ¹⁸the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, or the likeness of any fish that {is} in the water under the earth. ¹⁹You shall not lift your eyes up to the heavens and look at the sun, the moon, or the stars—all the host of the heavens—and be drawn away to worship them and adore them—those things of which Yahweh your God has given a share all the peoples under the whole sky. ²⁰But Yahweh has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be to him a people of his own inheritance, as you are today. ²¹Yahweh was angry with me because of you; he swore that I should not go over the Jordan, and that I should not go into that good land, the land that Yahweh your God is giving to you as an inheritance. ²²Instead, I must die in this land; I must not go over the Jordan; but you will go over and possess that good land. ²³Pay attention to yourselves, so that you do not forget the covenant of Yahweh your God, which he made with you, and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of anything that Yahweh your God has forbidden you to make. ²⁴For Yahweh your God is a devouring fire, a jealous God.

²⁵When you beget children and children's children, and when you will have been in the land for a long time, and if you corrupt yourselves and make a carved figure in the form of anything, and do what is evil in the sight of Yahweh your God, to provoke him to anger— ²⁶I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that you will soon utterly perish from off the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess; you will not prolong {your} days in it, but you will be completely destroyed. ²⁷Yahweh will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations, where Yahweh will lead you away. ²⁸There you will serve other gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, hear, eat, nor smell. ²⁹But from there you will seek Yahweh your God, and you will find {him}, when you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. ³⁰When you are in distress, and when all these things will have come on you, in those later days you will return to Yahweh your God and listen to his voice. ³¹For Yahweh your God {is} a merciful God; he will not fail you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers that he swore to them.

³²Ask now about the days that are past, which were before your time, since the day that God created man on the earth, {ask} from one end of heaven to the other, whether there has been {anything} so great as this, or has anything like it {ever} been heard? ³³Did ever a people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and live? ³⁴Or has God ever attempted 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, as everything that Yahweh your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? ³⁵To you these things were shown, so that you might know that Yahweh is God, and that there is no one else besides him. ³⁶Out of heaven he made you to hear his voice, so that he might instruct you; on earth he made you see his great fire; you heard his words out of the midst of the fire. ³⁷Because he loved your fathers, he chose their descendants after them, and brought you out of Egypt with his presence, with his great power; ³⁸in order to drive out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in, to give you their land as an inheritance, as today. ³⁹Know therefore today, and lay it on your heart, that Yahweh is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; {there is} no one else. ⁴⁰You will keep his statutes and his commandments that I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong {your} days in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you forever."

⁴¹Then Moses selected three cities on the east side of the Jordan, ⁴²so that anyone might flee to one of them if he killed another person accidentally, without being his enemy previously. By fleeing to one of these cities, he might survive. ⁴³They were: Bezer in the wilderness, the plain country, for the Reubenites; Ramoth in Gilead, for the Gadites; and Golan in Bashan, for the Manassites.

⁴⁴This is the law that Moses placed before the people of Israel; ⁴⁵these {are} the covenant decrees, laws, and other decrees that he spoke to the people of Israel when they came out of Egypt, ⁴⁶when they were east of the Jordan, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, in the land of Sihon, king of the Amorites, who had lived at Heshbon, whom Moses and the people of Israel had defeated when they came out of Egypt. ⁴⁷They took his land as a possession, and the land of Og king of Bashan—these, the two kings of the Amorites, who {were} beyond the Jordan toward the east. ⁴⁸This territory went from Aroer, on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, to Mount Siyon (or Mount Hermon), ⁴⁹and

included all of the plain of the Jordan River valley, eastward beyond the Jordan, to the Sea of the Arabah, to the slopes of Mount Pisgah.

Chapter 5

¹Moses called to all Israel and said to them, “Listen, Israel, to the statutes and the decrees that I will speak in your ears today, that you may learn them and keep them. ²Yahweh our God made a covenant with us at Horeb. ³Yahweh did not make this covenant with our ancestors, but with us, all of us alive here today. ⁴Yahweh spoke with you face to face on the mount out of the middle of the fire ⁵(I stood between Yahweh and you at that time, to reveal to you his word; for you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up the mountain). Yahweh said,

⁶I {am} Yahweh your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

⁷You will have no other gods before me.

⁸You will not make for yourself a carved figure nor any likeness {of anything} that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that {is} in the water below. ⁹You will not bow down to them or serve them, for I, Yahweh your God, {am} a jealous God. I punish the ancestors’ wickedness by bringing punishment on the children, to the third and fourth {generation} of those who hate me, ¹⁰and showing covenant faithfulness to thousands, to those who love me and keep my commandments.

¹¹You will not take the name of Yahweh your God in vain, for Yahweh will not hold {him} guiltless that takes his name in vain.

¹²Observe the Sabbath day to keep it holy, as Yahweh your God commanded you. ¹³For six days you will labor and do all your work; ¹⁴but the seventh day {is} a Sabbath to Yahweh your God. On it you will not do any work—not you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor any foreigner who is within your gates. This is so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. ¹⁵You will call to mind that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and Yahweh your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm. Therefore Yahweh your God has commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

¹⁶Honor your father and your mother, as Yahweh your God has commanded you to do, that you may live a long time in the land that Yahweh your God gives you, and so that it may go well with you.

¹⁷You will not murder.

¹⁸You will not commit adultery.

¹⁹You will not steal.

²⁰You will not give false witness against your neighbor.

²¹You will not covet your neighbor’s wife, you will not covet your neighbor’s house, his field, or his male servant, or his female servant, his ox, or his donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.’

²²These words Yahweh spoke in a loud voice to all your assembly on the mountain out of the middle of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness; he did not add any more words. He wrote them down on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. ²³It came about, when you heard the voice out of the middle of the darkness, while the mountain was burning, that you came near to me—all your elders and the heads of your tribes. ²⁴You said, ‘Look, Yahweh our God has shown us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the middle of the fire; we have seen today that when God speaks with people, they can live. ²⁵But why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of Yahweh our God any longer, we will die. ²⁶For who besides us is there among all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speak out of the middle of the fire and lived, as we have

done? ²⁷As for you, you should go and listen to everything that Yahweh our God says; repeat to us everything that Yahweh our God says to you; we will listen to it and obey it.'

²⁸Yahweh heard your words when you spoke to me. He said to me, 'I have heard the words of this people, what they said to you. What they said was good. ²⁹Oh, that there were such a heart in them, that they would honor me and always keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their children forever! ³⁰Go say to them, "Return to your tents." ³¹But as for you, stand here by me, and I will tell you all the commandments, the statutes, and the decrees that you will teach them, so that they may keep them in the land that I will give them to possess.' ³²You will keep, therefore, what Yahweh your God has commanded you; you will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. ³³You will walk in all the ways that Yahweh your God has commanded you, so that you may live, and so {that it may} go well with you, and {that} you may prolong {your} days in the land that you will possess.

Chapter 6

¹Now, {these are} the commandments, statutes, and decrees that Yahweh your God has commanded to teach you, so that you might keep {them} in the land that you are going over there to possess; ²so that you might fear Yahweh your God, so as to keep all his statutes and his commandments that I am commanding you—you, your sons, and your sons' sons, all the days of your lives, so that your days may be prolonged. ³Therefore listen, Israel, and keep so as to do, so that it may go well for you, so that you may greatly multiply —just as Yahweh, the God of your fathers said to you—in a land flowing with milk and honey,.

⁴Listen, Israel: Yahweh, and Yahweh alone, is our God. ⁵Therefore you must love Yahweh your God with all your mind, and with all your life, and with all that is in you. ⁶and these words that I am commanding you today must be in your mind; ⁷and you must diligently teach them to your children; and you must speak about them when you sit in your house, when you walk on the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. ⁸And you must tie them as a sign upon your hand, and they must be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹and you must write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

¹⁰Then, it will come to pass, when Yahweh your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give to you, with large and good cities that you did not build, ¹¹and houses full of every good thing that you did not gather, and hewn cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant, you will eat and be satisfied— ¹²Guard yourselves, lest you forget Yahweh, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ¹³Yahweh your God you must fear, and him you must serve, and by his name you must swear. ¹⁴You must not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you— ¹⁵for Yahweh your God in the midst of you is a jealous God—if you do, the anger of Yahweh your God will be kindled against you and he will destroy you from the surface of the earth.

¹⁶You will not test Yahweh your God as you tested {him} at Massah. ¹⁷You will diligently keep the commandments of Yahweh your God, his solemn commands, and his statutes, that he has commanded you. ¹⁸You will do what is right and good in the sight of Yahweh, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land that Yahweh swore to your fathers, ¹⁹to drive out all your enemies from before you, as Yahweh has said.

²⁰When your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What are the covenant decrees, the statutes, and the other decrees that Yahweh our God commanded you?' ²¹then you will say to your son, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt; Yahweh brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand, ²²and he displayed signs and wonders, great and severe, on Egypt, on Pharaoh, and on all his house, before our eyes; ²³and he brought us out from there, so that he might bring us in, to give us the land that he swore to our fathers. ²⁴Yahweh commanded us to always keep all these statutes, to fear Yahweh our God for our good, so that he might keep us alive, as we are today. ²⁵If we keep all these commands before Yahweh our God, as he has commanded us, this will be our righteousness.'

Chapter 7

¹When Yahweh your God brings you into the land that you go to possess, he will drive out many nations before you—the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites—seven nations greater and mightier than you. ²It is Yahweh your God who gives them over to you when you defeat them, and then you must completely destroy them. You will make no covenant with them, and show them no mercy.

³Neither will you arrange any marriages with them. You will not give your daughters to their sons, and you will not take their daughters for your sons. ⁴For they will turn away your sons from following me, so that they may worship other gods. So the anger of Yahweh will be kindled against you, and he will destroy you quickly. ⁵This is how you will deal with them: You will break down their altars, dash their stone pillars in pieces, cut down their Asherah poles, and burn their cast idols.

⁶For you are a nation that is set apart to Yahweh your God. He has chosen you to be a people for him to possess, more than all the other peoples that are on the face of the earth. ⁷Yahweh did not set his love upon you or choose you because you were more in number than any people—for you {were} the fewest of all peoples—⁸but because he loves you, and he wished to keep the oath that he had sworn to your fathers. This is why Yahweh has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. ⁹Therefore know that Yahweh your God—he {is} God, the faithful God, who keeps covenants and faithfulness for a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commandments, ¹⁰but repays those who hate him to their face, to destroy them; he will not be lenient on whoever hates him; he will repay him to his face. ¹¹You will therefore keep the commandments, the statutes, and the decrees that I command you today, so that you will do them.

¹²If you listen to these decrees, and keep and do them, it will happen that Yahweh your God will keep with you the covenant and the faithfulness that he swore to your fathers. ¹³He will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will also bless the fruit of your body and the fruit of your ground, your grain, your new wine, and your oil, the multiplication of your cattle and the young of your flocks, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.

¹⁴You will be blessed more than all other peoples; there will not be a childless {male} or a barren {female} among you or among your cattle. ¹⁵Yahweh will take away from you all sickness; none of the evil diseases of Egypt that you have known will he put on you, but he will put them on all those who hate you. ¹⁶You will consume all the peoples whom Yahweh your God will give over to you, and your eye will not pity them. You will not worship their gods, for that {will be} a trap for you.

¹⁷If you say in your heart, 'These nations are more numerous than I; how can I dispossess them?'—¹⁸do not be afraid of them; you will call to mind what Yahweh your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt; ¹⁹the great sufferings that your eyes saw, the signs, the wonders, the mighty hand, and the outstretched arm by which Yahweh your God brought you out. Yahweh your God will do the same to all the peoples whom you fear. ²⁰Moreover, Yahweh your God will send the hornet among them, until those who are left and who hide themselves from you perish from your presence. ²¹You will not be frightened at them, for Yahweh your God {is} among you, a great and fearsome God. ²²Yahweh your God will drive out those nations before you little by little. You will not defeat them all at once, or the wild animals would become very many around you. ²³But Yahweh your God will give you victory over them when you meet them in battle; he will greatly confuse them until they are destroyed. ²⁴He will put their kings under your power, and you will make their name perish from under heaven. No one will be able to stand before you, until you have destroyed them. ²⁵You will burn the carved figures of their gods—do not covet the silver or the gold {that} covers them and take {it} for yourself, because if you do, you will become trapped by it—for it is an abomination to Yahweh your God. ²⁶You will not bring any abomination into your house and start to worship it. You will utterly detest and abhor it, for it {is} set apart for destruction.

Chapter 8

¹You must keep all the commands that I am giving you today, so that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers. ²You will call to mind all the ways that Yahweh your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order that he might humble you, that he might test you to know what {was} in your heart, as to whether you would keep his commandments or not. ³He humbled you, and made you hunger, and fed you with manna, which you had not known and which your fathers had not known. He did that to make you know that it is not by bread alone that people live; rather, it is by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh that people live. ⁴Your clothing did not wear out and fall off you, and your feet did not swell up during those forty years. ⁵You will think about in your heart, how, as a man disciplines his son, {so} Yahweh your God disciplines you. ⁶You will keep the commandments of Yahweh your God, so that you might walk in his ways and honor him. ⁷For Yahweh your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out into valleys and among hills; ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines, fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of olive trees and honey. ⁹It is a land in which you will eat bread without lack, and where you will not go without anything; a land whose stones {are} made of iron, and out of whose hills you may dig copper. ¹⁰You will eat and be full, and you will bless Yahweh your God for the good land that he has given you.

¹¹Be careful that you do not forget Yahweh your God, by failing to keep his commandments and his rules and statutes that I am commanding you today. ¹²Otherwise, {when} you eat and are full, and when you build good houses and live in them, your heart will be lifted up. ¹³Be careful {when} your herds and flocks multiply and when your silver and gold increase, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then your heart becomes lifted up and you forget Yahweh your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ¹⁵Do not forget him who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the rock of flint. ¹⁶He fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors had never known, so that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end, ¹⁷but you may say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand acquired all this wealth.' ¹⁸But you will call to mind Yahweh your God, for it is he who gives you the power to get wealth; that he may establish his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is today. ¹⁹It will happen that, if you will forget Yahweh your God and walk after other gods, worship them, and reverence them, I testify against you today that you will surely perish. ²⁰Like the nations that Yahweh is making to perish before you, so will you perish, because you would not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God.

Chapter 9

¹Hear, Israel; you {are} about to cross over the Jordan today, to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than yourself, and cities that are great and fortified up to heaven, ²a people great and tall, the sons of the Anakim, whom you know, and {of whom} you have heard {people say}, 'Who can stand before the sons of Anak?' ³Know therefore today that Yahweh your God {is} he who goes over before you {like} a devouring fire; he will destroy them, and he will subdue them before you; so will you drive them out and make them to perish quickly, as Yahweh has said to you. ⁴Do not say in your heart, after Yahweh your God has thrust them out from before you, '{It was} because of my righteousness that Yahweh has brought me in to possess this land,' for {it was} because of the wickedness of these nations {that} Yahweh is driving them out from before you. ⁵{It is} not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart {that} you are going in to possess their land, but it is because of the wickedness of these nations {that} your God is driving them out from before you, and so that he may make come true the word that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

⁶Know therefore, that Yahweh your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you {are} a stubborn people. ⁷Remember and do not forget how you provoked Yahweh your God to anger in the wilderness; from the day that you left the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against Yahweh. ⁸Also at Horeb you provoked Yahweh to anger, and Yahweh was angry {enough} with you to

destroy you. ⁹When I went up the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant that Yahweh made with you, I stayed on the mountain for forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water. ¹⁰Yahweh gave to me the two tablets of stone written with his finger; on them was written everything just like all the words that Yahweh announced to you on the mountain out of the middle of the fire on the day of the assembly. ¹¹It happened at the end of those forty days and forty nights that Yahweh gave me the two tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant. ¹²Yahweh said to me, 'Arise, go down quickly from here, for your people, whom you brought out of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. They have quickly turned aside out of the path that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a cast figure.' ¹³Furthermore, Yahweh spoke to me and said, 'I have seen this people; {they} are a stubborn people. ¹⁴Let 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.' ¹⁵So I turned around and came down the mountain, and the mountain was burning. The two tablets of the covenant {were} in my hands. ¹⁶I looked, and behold, you had sinned against Yahweh your God. You had molded for yourselves a calf. You had quickly turned aside out of the path that Yahweh had commanded you. ¹⁷I took the two tablets and threw them out of my hands. I broke them before your eyes. ¹⁸Again I lay facedown before Yahweh for forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all your sin that you had committed, in doing that which was evil in the sight of Yahweh, so as to provoke him to anger. ¹⁹For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure with which Yahweh was angry enough against you to destroy you. But Yahweh listened to me that time also. ²⁰Yahweh was very angry with Aaron so as to destroy him; I prayed for Aaron also at the same time. ²¹I took your sin, the calf that you had made, and burned it, beat it, and ground it very small, until it was as fine as dust. I threw its dust into the stream that came down from the mountain.

²²At Taberah, at Massah, and at Kibroth Hattaavah, you provoked Yahweh to wrath. ²³When Yahweh sent you from Kadesh Barnea and said, 'Go up and take possession of the land that I have given you,' then you rebelled against the commandment of Yahweh your God, and you did not believe or listen to his voice. ²⁴You have been rebellious against Yahweh from the day that I knew you.

²⁵So I lay facedown before Yahweh those forty days and forty nights, because he had said that he would destroy you. ²⁶I prayed to Yahweh and said, 'O Lord Yahweh, do not destroy your people or your inheritance whom you have redeemed through your greatness, which you have brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²⁷Call to mind your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; do not look at the stubbornness of this people, nor at their wickedness, nor at their sin, ²⁸so that the land from where you brought us should say, "Because Yahweh was not able to bring them into the land that he promised to them, and because he hated them, he has brought them out to kill them in the wilderness." ²⁹Yet they {are} your people and your inheritance, whom you brought out by your great strength and by the display of your power.'

Chapter 10

¹At that time Yahweh said to me, 'Carve two tablets of stone like the first, and come up to me on the mountain, and make an ark of wood. ²I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets that you broke, and you will put them in the ark.' ³So I made an ark of acacia wood, and I carved two tablets of stone like the first, and I went up the mountain, having the two tablets in my hand. ⁴He wrote on the tablets, like the first writing, the Ten Commandments which Yahweh had spoken to you on the mountain out of the middle of the fire on the day of the assembly; then Yahweh gave them to me. ⁵I turned and came down from the mountain, and put the tablets in the ark that I had made; there they are, as Yahweh commanded me." ⁶(The people of Israel journeyed from Beeroth Bene Jaakan to Moserah. There Aaron died, and there he was buried; Eleazar, his son, served in the priest's office in his place. ⁷From there they journeyed to Gudgodah, and from Gudgodah to Jotbathah, a land of streams of water. ⁸At that time Yahweh chose the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of Yahweh, to stand before Yahweh to serve him, and to bless people in his name, as today. ⁹Therefore Levi has no portion nor inheritance of land with his brothers; Yahweh is his inheritance, as Yahweh your God spoke to him.) ¹⁰"I stayed on the mountain as at the first time, forty days and forty nights. Yahweh listened to me that time also; Yahweh did not wish to destroy you.

¹¹Yahweh said to me, 'Arise, go before the people to lead them on their journey; they will go in and possess the land that I swore to their ancestors to give to them.'

¹²Now, Israel, what does Yahweh your God require of you, except to fear Yahweh your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, and to worship Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³to keep the commandments of Yahweh, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today for your own good? ¹⁴Behold, to Yahweh your God belongs heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth, with all that is in them. ¹⁵Only Yahweh took pleasure in your fathers so as to love them, and he chose you, their descendants, after them, more than any of the other peoples, as he does today. ¹⁶Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stubborn no longer. ¹⁷For Yahweh your God, he is God of gods and Lord of masters, the great God, the mighty one and the fearsome one, who favors no one and takes no bribes. ¹⁸He executes justice for the fatherless and widow, and he shows love for the foreigner by giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹Therefore love the foreigner; for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt. ²⁰You will fear Yahweh your God; him will you worship. To him you must cling, and by his name will you swear. ²¹He {is} your praise, and he {is} your God, who has done for you these great and fearsome things, which your eyes have seen. ²²Your fathers went down into Egypt as seventy persons; now Yahweh your God has made you as many as the stars of the heavens.

Chapter 11

¹Therefore you will love Yahweh your God and always keep his instructions, his statutes, his decrees, and his commandments. ²Notice that {I am} not {speaking} to your children, who have not known nor have they seen the punishment of Yahweh your God, his greatness, his mighty hand, or his outstretched arm, ³the signs and deeds that he did in the midst of Egypt to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and to all his land. ⁴Neither did they see what he did to the army of Egypt, to their horses, or to their chariots, how he made the water of the Sea of Reeds overwhelm them as they pursued after you, and {how} Yahweh has destroyed them until today, ⁵or what he did for you in the wilderness until you came to this place. ⁶They had not seen what Yahweh had done to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab son of Reuben, how the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, their households, their tents, and every living thing that followed them, in the middle of all Israel. ⁷But your eyes have seen all the great works of Yahweh that he did.

⁸Therefore keep all the commandments that I am commanding you today, that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land where you are going over to possess it, ⁹and that you may prolong {your} days in the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers to give to them and to their descendants, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰For the land, where you go in to possess it, is not like the land of Egypt, from where you came, where you sowed your seed and watered {it} with your foot, like a garden of herbs; ¹¹but the land, where you go over to possess it, {is} a land of hills and valleys, and drinks water of the rain of the heavens, ¹²a land that Yahweh your God cares for; the eyes of Yahweh your God {are} always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

¹³It will happen, if you will listen diligently to my commandments that I command you today, to love Yahweh your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹⁴that I will give the rain of your land in its season, the former rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. ¹⁵I will give grass in your fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be full. ¹⁶Pay attention to yourselves so that your heart is not deceived, and you turn aside and worship other gods and bow down to them; ¹⁷so that the anger of Yahweh is not kindled against you; and so that he does not shut up the heavens so that there will be no rain, and the land will not yield its fruit, and so that you perish quickly from off the good land that Yahweh is giving you.

¹⁸Therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and soul, bind them as a sign on your hand, and let them be as frontlets between your eyes. ¹⁹You will teach them to your children and talk about them when you sit in your house, when you walk on the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. ²⁰You will write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates, ²¹that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied

in the land that Yahweh swore to your ancestors to give them for as long as the heavens are above the earth. ²²For if you diligently keep all these commandments that I am commanding you, so as to do them, to love Yahweh your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cling to him, ²³then Yahweh will drive out all these nations from before you, and you will dispossess nations larger and mightier than yourselves. ²⁴Every place where the sole of your foot will tread will be yours; from the wilderness to Lebanon, from the river, the Euphrates River, to the western sea will be your border. ²⁵No man will be able to stand before you. Yahweh your God will lay the fear of you and the terror of you upon all the land that you tread on, as he has said to you.

²⁶Look, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: ²⁷the blessing, if you obey the commandments of Yahweh your God that I command you today, ²⁸and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of Yahweh your God, but turn aside from the way that I command you today, to go after other gods that you have not known. ²⁹It will happen, when Yahweh your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, that you will set the blessing on Mount Gerizim, and the curse on Mount Ebal. ³⁰{Are} they not beyond the Jordan, west of the western road, in the land of the Canaanites who live in the Arabah, over against Gilgal, beside the oaks of Moreh? ³¹For you are to cross over the Jordan to go in to possess the land that Yahweh your God is giving you, and you will possess it and live in it. ³²You will keep all the statutes and the decrees that I set before you today.

Chapter 12

¹These {are} the statutes and the decrees that you will keep in the land that Yahweh, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth. ²You will surely destroy all the places where the nations that you will dispossess worshiped their gods, on the high mountains, on the hills, and under every green tree. ³You must break down their altars, dash in pieces their stone pillars, and burn their Asherah poles. You must cut down the carved figures of their gods and destroy their name out of that place. ⁴You will not worship Yahweh your God like that. ⁵But to the place that Yahweh your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name, that will be the place where he lives, and it is there that you will go. ⁶It is there that you will bring your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, and the offerings presented by your hand, your offerings for vows, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks. ⁷It is there that you will eat before Yahweh your God and rejoice about everything that you have put your hand to, you and your households, where Yahweh your God has blessed you. ⁸You will not do all the things that we are doing here today; now everyone is doing whatever {is} right in his own eyes; ⁹for you have not yet come to the rest, to the inheritance that Yahweh your God is giving you.

¹⁰But {when} you go over the Jordan and live in the land that Yahweh your God is causing you to inherit, and he will give you rest from all your enemies round about, so that you live in safety. ¹¹Then to the place where Yahweh your God will choose to cause his name to live there—there you will bring everything I command you: your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, and the offerings presented by your hand, and all your choice offerings for vows that you will vow to Yahweh. ¹²You will rejoice before Yahweh your God—you, your sons, your daughters, your male servants, your female servants, and the Levites who {are} within your gate, because he has no portion or inheritance among you. ¹³Pay attention to yourself that you do not offer your burnt offerings at every place that you see; ¹⁴but it is at the place that Yahweh will choose among one of your tribes that you will offer your burnt offerings, and there you will do everything that I command you.

¹⁵However, you may kill and eat animals within all your gates, as you wish, receiving the blessing of Yahweh your God for all that he has given you; the unclean and the clean persons both may eat of it, animals such as the gazelle and the deer. ¹⁶But you will not eat the blood; you will pour it out on the earth like water. ¹⁷You may not eat within your gates from the tithe of your grain, your new wine, your oil, or the firstborn of your herd or flock; and you may not eat any of the meat you sacrifice along with any of your vows that you make, nor that of your freewill offerings, nor that of the offering you present with your hand. ¹⁸Instead, you will eat them before Yahweh your God in the place that Yahweh your God will choose—you, your son, your daughter, your male servant, your female servant, and the Levite who {is} within your gates; you will rejoice before Yahweh your God about everything to which you put your hand. ¹⁹Pay attention to yourself so that you do not forsake the Levite as long as you live on your land.

²⁰When Yahweh your God enlarges your borders, as he has promised you, and you say, 'I will eat flesh,' because of your desire to eat meat, you may eat meat, as your soul desires. ²¹If the place that Yahweh your God chooses to put his name is too far from you, then you will kill some of your herd and your flock that Yahweh has given you, as I have commanded you; you may eat within your gates, as your soul desires. ²²Like the gazelle and the deer are eaten, so you will eat of it; the unclean and the clean persons may eat of it alike. ²³Only be sure that you do not consume the blood, for the blood is the life; you will not eat the life with the meat. ²⁴You will not eat it; you will pour it out on the earth like water. ²⁵You will not eat it, so that it may go well with you, and with your children after you, when you will do {what is} right in the eyes of Yahweh. ²⁶But the things that belong to Yahweh that you have and the offerings for your vows—you will take these and go to the place that Yahweh chooses. ²⁷There you will offer your burnt offerings, the meat and the blood, on the altar of Yahweh your God; the blood of your sacrifices will be poured out on the altar of Yahweh your God, and you will eat the flesh. ²⁸Observe and listen to all these words that I command you, that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the eyes of Yahweh your God.

²⁹When Yahweh your God cuts off the nations from before you, when you go in to dispossess them, and you dispossess them, and live in their land, ³⁰pay attention to yourself that you are not trapped into following them, after they are destroyed from before you—trapped into investigating their gods, into asking, 'How do these nations worship their gods? I will do the same.' ³¹You must not worship Yahweh your God in that way, for everything that is an abomination to Yahweh, things that he hates—they have done these with their gods; they even burn their sons and their daughters in fire for their gods.

³²Whatever I command you, observe it. Do not add to it or take away from it.

Chapter 13

¹If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and if he gives you a sign or a wonder, ²and if the sign or the wonder comes about, of which he spoke to you and said, 'Let us go after other gods, that you have not known, and let us worship them,' ³do not listen to the words of that prophet, or to that dreamer of dreams; for Yahweh your God is testing you to know whether you love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴You will walk after Yahweh your God, honor him, keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and you will worship him and cling to him. ⁵That prophet or that dreamer of dreams will be put to death, because he has spoken rebellion against Yahweh your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and who redeemed you out of the house of bondage. That prophet wants to draw you out of the way in which Yahweh your God commanded you to walk. So put away the evil from among you.

⁶Suppose that your brother, the son of your mother, or your son, or your daughter, or the wife of your bosom, or your friend who is to you like your own soul, secretly entices you and says, 'Let us go and worship other gods that you have not known, {neither} you nor your ancestors— ⁷any of the gods of the peoples that {are} round about you, near to you, or far off from you, from the {one} end of the earth to the {other} end of the earth.' ⁸You must not give in to him or listen to him, and you must not permit your eye to pity him, and you must not spare him or conceal him. ⁹Instead, you will surely kill him; your hand will be the first on him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people. ¹⁰You will stone him to death with stones, because he has tried to draw you away from Yahweh your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ¹¹All Israel will hear and fear, and will not continue to do this kind of wickedness among you.

¹²If you hear anyone say about one of your cities, that Yahweh your God gives you to live in: ¹³Some wicked fellows have gone out from among you and have drawn away the inhabitants of their city and said, 'Let us go and worship other gods that you have not known.' ¹⁴Then you will examine the evidence, make search, and investigate it thoroughly. When you discover that it is true {and} certain {that} such an abominable thing has been done among you, then you will take action. ¹⁵You will surely attack the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, completely destroy it and all the people who are in it, along with its livestock, with the edge of the sword. ¹⁶You will

gather all the spoil from it into the middle of its street and will burn the city, as well as all its spoil—for Yahweh your God. The city will be a heap of ruins forever; it must never be built again. ¹⁷None of those things set apart for destruction must stick in your hand. This must be the case, so that Yahweh will turn from the fierceness of his anger, show you mercy, have compassion on you, and make you increase in numbers, as he has sworn to your fathers. ¹⁸He will do this because you are listening to the voice of Yahweh your God, to keep all his commandments that I am commanding you today, to do that which is right in the eyes of Yahweh your God.

Chapter 14

¹You {are} the people of Yahweh your God. Do not cut yourselves, nor shave any part of your face for the dead.

²For you {are} a nation that is set apart to Yahweh your God, and Yahweh has chosen you to be a people for his own possession, more than all peoples that are on the surface of the earth.

³You must not eat any abominable thing. ⁴These are the animals that you may eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat, ⁵the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the wild goat, and ibex, and the antelope, and the mountain sheep. ⁶You may eat any animals that parts the hoof, that is, that has the hoof divided in two, {and that} chews the cud.

⁷Nevertheless, you must not eat some animals that chew the cud or that have the hoof divided in two: the camel, the rabbit, and the rock badger; because they chew the cud but do not part the hoof, {they are} unclean to you.

⁸The pig is unclean to you as well because he parts the hoof but does not chew the cud; he is unclean to you. Do not eat pig meat, and do not touch their carcasses.

⁹Of these things that {are} in water you may eat: whatever has fins and scales; ¹⁰but whatever has no fins and scales you must not eat; they {are} unclean to you.

¹¹All clean birds you may eat. ¹²But these are the birds that you must not eat: the eagle, the vulture, the osprey, ¹³the red kite and black kite, any kind of falcon. ¹⁴You must not eat any kind of raven, ¹⁵and the ostrich, and the night hawk, the sea gull, any kind of hawk, ¹⁶the little owl, the great owl, the white owl, ¹⁷the pelican, the osprey, the cormorant. ¹⁸You must not eat the stork, any kind of heron, the hoopoe, and the bat. ¹⁹All winged, swarming things are unclean to you; they must not be eaten. ²⁰You may eat all clean flying things.

²¹You must not eat of anything that dies {of itself}; you may give it to the foreigner who {is} within your towns, that he may eat it; or you may sell it to a foreigner. For you {are} a nation that is set apart to Yahweh your God. You must not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

²²You must surely tithe all the yield of your seed, that which comes out from the field year after year. ²³You must eat before Yahweh your God, in the place that he will choose as his sanctuary, the tithe of your grain, of your new wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and your flock; that you may learn to always honor Yahweh your God. ²⁴If the journey is too long for you so that you are not able to carry it, because the place that Yahweh your God will choose as his sanctuary is too far from you, then, when Yahweh God blesses you, ²⁵you will convert the offering into money, tie up the money in your hand, and go to the place that Yahweh your God will choose.

²⁶There you will spend the money for whatever you desire: for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatever you desire; you will eat there before Yahweh your God, and you will rejoice, you and your household. ²⁷The Levite who {is} within your gates—do not forsake him, for he has no portion nor inheritance with you.

²⁸At the end of every three years you will present all the tithe of your produce in the same year, and you will store {it} up within your gates; ²⁹and the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the foreigner, and the fatherless, and the widow who {are} within your gates, will come and eat and be satisfied. Do this so that Yahweh your God may bless you in all the work of your hand that you do.

Chapter 15

¹At the end of {every} seven years, you must cancel debts. ²This is the manner of the release: Every creditor will cancel that which he has lent to his neighbor; he will not demand {it} from his neighbor or his brother because Yahweh's cancellation of debts has been proclaimed. ³From a foreigner you may demand it; but whatever of yours is with your brother your hand must release. ⁴However, there should be no poor among you (for Yahweh will surely bless you in the land that he gives you {as} an inheritance to possess), ⁵if only you diligently listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, to keep all these commandments that I am commanding you today. ⁶For Yahweh your God will bless you, as he promised you; you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.

⁷If there is a poor man among you, one of your brothers, within any of your gates in your land that Yahweh your God is giving you, you must not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother; ⁸but you must surely open your hand to him and surely lend him sufficient for his need. ⁹Be careful not to have a wicked thought in your heart, saying, 'The seventh year, the year of release, is near,' so that you will not be stingy in regard to your poor brother and give him nothing; he might cry out to Yahweh about you, and it would be sin for you. ¹⁰You must surely give to him, and your heart must not be sorry when you give to him, because in return for this Yahweh your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you put your hand to. ¹¹For the poor will never cease to exist in the land; therefore I command you and say, 'You must surely open your hand to your brother, to your needy, and to your poor in your land.'

¹²If your brother, a Hebrew man, or a Hebrew woman, is sold to you and serves you for six years, then in the seventh year you must let him go free from you. ¹³When you let him go free from you, you must not let him go empty-handed. ¹⁴You must liberally provide for him out of your flock, out of your threshing floor, and out of your winepress. As Yahweh your God has blessed you, you must give to him. ¹⁵You must remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and that Yahweh your God redeemed you; therefore I am commanding you today to do this. ¹⁶It will happen that if he says to you, 'I will not go away from you,' because he loves you and your house, and because he is well off with you, ¹⁷then you must take an awl and thrust {it} through his ear to a door, and he will be your servant for life. You must do the same with your female servant. ¹⁸It must not seem difficult for you to let him go free from you, because he has served you for six years and given twice the value of a hired person. Yahweh your God will bless you in all that you do.

¹⁹All the firstborn males in your herd and your flock you must set apart to Yahweh your God. You will do no work with the firstborn of your herd, nor shear the firstborn of your flock. ²⁰You must eat the firstborn before Yahweh your God year by year in the place that Yahweh will choose, you and your household. ²¹If it has any blemish—for example, {if it is} lame or blind, {or has} any blemish whatever—you must not sacrifice it to Yahweh your God. ²²You will eat {it} within your gates; the unclean and the clean persons alike must eat it, as you would eat a gazelle or a deer. ²³Only you must not eat its blood; you must pour its blood out on the ground like water.

Chapter 16

¹Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover to Yahweh your God, for in the month of Aviv Yahweh your God brought you out of Egypt by night. ²You will sacrifice the Passover to Yahweh your God with some of the flock and the herd in the place that Yahweh will choose as his sanctuary. ³You will eat no leavened bread with it; seven days will you eat unleavened bread with it, the bread of affliction; for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste. Do this all the days of your life so that you may call to mind the day when you came out of the land of Egypt. ⁴No yeast must be seen among you within all your borders during seven days; nor must {any} of the meat that you sacrifice in the evening on the first day remain until the morning. ⁵You may not sacrifice the Passover within any of your city gates that Yahweh your God is giving you. ⁶Instead, sacrifice at the place that Yahweh your God will choose as his sanctuary. There you will perform the sacrifice of the Passover in the evening at the going down of

the sun, at the time of year that you came out of Egypt. ⁷You must roast it and eat {it} at the place that Yahweh your God will choose; in the morning you will turn and go to your tents. ⁸For six days you will eat unleavened bread; on the seventh day there {will be} a solemn assembly for Yahweh your God; on that day you must do no work.

⁹You will count seven weeks for yourselves; from {the time} you begin {to put} the sickle to the standing grain you must start counting seven weeks. ¹⁰You must keep the Festival of Weeks for Yahweh your God with the contribution of a freewill offering from your hand that you will give, according as Yahweh your God has blessed you. ¹¹You will rejoice before Yahweh your God—you, your son, your daughter, your male servant, your female servant, the Levite who {is} within your city gates, and the foreigner, the fatherless, and the widow who {are} among you, at the place that Yahweh your God will choose for his sanctuary. ¹²You will call to mind that you were a slave in Egypt; you must observe and do these statutes.

¹³You must keep the Festival of Shelters for seven days after you have gathered in the harvest from your threshing floor and from your winepress. ¹⁴You will rejoice during your festival—you, your son, your daughter, your male servant, your female servant, the Levite, and the foreigner, and the fatherless and the widow who {are} within your gates. ¹⁵For seven days you must observe the festival for Yahweh your God at the place that Yahweh will choose, because Yahweh your God will bless you in all your harvest and all the work of your hands, and you must be completely joyful. ¹⁶Three times in a year all your males must appear before Yahweh your God at the place that he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, at the Festival of Weeks, and at the Festival of Shelters. No one will appear before Yahweh empty-handed; ¹⁷instead, every man {will give} as he is able, that you might know the blessing that Yahweh your God has given to you.

¹⁸You must make judges and officers within all your city gates that Yahweh your God is giving you; they will be taken from each of your tribes, and they must judge the people with righteous judgment. ¹⁹You must not take justice away by force; you must not show partiality nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. ²⁰You must follow after justice, after justice alone, so that you may live and inherit the land that Yahweh your God is giving you.

²¹You must not set up for yourselves an Asherah, any sort of pole, beside the altar of Yahweh your God that you will make for yourself. ²²Neither must you set up for yourself any sacred stone pillar, which Yahweh your God hates.

Chapter 17

¹You must not sacrifice to Yahweh your God an ox or a sheep in which is any blemish or anything bad, for that would be an abomination to Yahweh your God.

²If there is found among you, within any of your city gates that Yahweh your God is giving you, any man or woman who does what is evil in the sight of Yahweh your God and transgresses his covenant, ³anyone who has gone and worshiped other gods and bowed down to them, either the sun, the moon, or any of the host of heaven—nothing that I have commanded— ⁴and if you are told about this, or if you have heard {of it}, then you must make a careful investigation. If {it is} true {and} certain that such an abomination has been done in Israel, this is what you should do. ⁵You must bring that man or woman, who has done this evil thing, to your city gates, that very man or woman, and you must stone that person to death. ⁶At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, will he who must die be put to death; but at the mouth of only one witness he must not be put to death. ⁷The hand of the witnesses must be the first to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people; and you will remove the evil from among you.

⁸If a matter arises that is too hard for you to judge—perhaps a question of murder or accidental death, of one person's right and another person's right, or a question of one kind of harm done, or another kind of matter, matters of controversy within your city gates—then you must go up to the place that Yahweh your God will choose

as his sanctuary. ⁹You must go to the priests, the descendants of Levi, and to the judge who will be serving at that time; you will seek their advice, and they will give you the verdict. ¹⁰Then you must do according to what they order you to do, at the place Yahweh will choose. Be careful to do all that they teach you. ¹¹Follow the law they teach you, and do according to the decisions they give you. Do not turn aside from what they tell you, {to} the right hand or {to} the left. ¹²Anyone who acts arrogantly, in not listening to the priest who is standing to serve before Yahweh your God, or in not listening to the judge—that man will die; you will put away the evil from Israel. ¹³All the people must hear and fear, and act arrogantly no more.

¹⁴When you have come to the land that Yahweh your God gives you, and when you take possession of it and begin to live in it, and then you say, 'I will set a king over myself, like all the nations that {are} round about me,' ¹⁵then you must surely set as king over yourself someone whom Yahweh your God will choose. You must set as king over yourself someone from among your brothers. You may not put a foreigner, who is not your brother, over yourself. ¹⁶But he must not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt so that he may multiply horses, for Yahweh had said to you, 'You will never return that way again.' ¹⁷He must not take many wives for himself, so that his heart does not turn away. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

¹⁸When he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he must write for himself in a scroll a copy of this law, from the law that is before the priests, who are Levites. ¹⁹The scroll must be with him, and he must read in it all the days of his life, so that he may learn to honor Yahweh his God, so as to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to observe them. ²⁰He must do this so that his heart is not lifted up above his brothers, and so that he does not turn away from the commandments, {to} the right hand or {to} the left; for the purpose that he may prolong {his} days in his kingdom, he and his children, among Israel.

Chapter 18

¹The priests, who are Levites, and all the tribe of Levi, will have no portion nor inheritance with Israel; they must eat the offerings of Yahweh made by fire as their inheritance. ²They must have no inheritance among their brothers; Yahweh is their inheritance, as he said to them. ³This is the share given to the priests, given to them from the people who offer a sacrifice, whether {it be} an oxen or a sheep: the shoulder, the two cheeks, and the inner parts. ⁴The firstfruits of your grain, of your new wine, and of your oil, and the first of the fleece of your sheep, you must give him. ⁵For Yahweh your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand to serve in the name of Yahweh, him and his sons forever.

⁶If a Levite comes from any of your towns out of all Israel from where he is living, and desires with all his soul to come to the place Yahweh will choose, ⁷then he must serve in the name of Yahweh his God as all his brothers the Levites {do}, who stand there before Yahweh. ⁸They must have similar portions to eat, besides of what comes of the sale of his family's inheritance.

⁹When you have come into the land that Yahweh your God is giving you, you must not learn to observe the abominations of those nations. ¹⁰There must not be found among you {anyone} who sacrifices his son or his daughter in the fire, anyone who uses divination or tells fortunes, or reads signs found in a cup, or engages in witchcraft, ¹¹any charmer, anyone who conjurs up spirits, {or} one who casts spells, or who talks with spirits of the dead. ¹²For whoever does these things is an abomination to Yahweh; it is because of these abominations that Yahweh your God is driving them out from before you. ¹³You must be blameless before Yahweh your God. ¹⁴For these nations that you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery and divination; but as for you, Yahweh your God has not allowed you to do so.

¹⁵Yahweh your God will raise up for you a prophet from among you, one of your brothers, like me. You must listen to him. ¹⁶This is what you asked from Yahweh your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let us not hear again the voice of Yahweh our God, nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.'

¹⁷Yahweh said to me, 'What they have said is good. ¹⁸I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers,

just like you. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹It will happen that if anyone does not listen to the words of mine that he speaks in my name, I will require {it} of him.

²⁰But the prophet who speaks a word arrogantly in my name, a word that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that very prophet must die.' ²¹This is what you must say in your heart: 'How will we recognize a message that Yahweh has not spoken?' ²²You will recognize a message that Yahweh has spoken when a prophet speaks in the name of Yahweh. If that thing does not occur nor happen, then that is something that Yahweh has not spoken and the prophet has spoken it arrogantly, and you must not be afraid of him.

Chapter 19

¹When Yahweh your God cuts off the nations, those whose land Yahweh your God is giving you, and when you come after them and live in their cities and houses, ²you must select three cities for yourself in the middle of your land that Yahweh your God is giving you to possess. ³You must build a road and divide the borders of your land into three parts, the land that Yahweh your God is causing you to inherit, so that everyone who kills another person may flee there.

⁴This is the instruction concerning the one who kills another and flees from there in order to save his own life—the one who unintentionally kills his neighbor without hating him at the time of the accident. ⁵For example, if a man goes into the forest with his neighbor to cut wood and the ax head slips off of the handle and strikes his neighbor and kills him—then that man must flee to one of these cities and save his life. ⁶Otherwise the avenger of blood might go after the one who took a life, and in the heat of his anger overtake him, if the distance is too great, strike him and kill him, even though that man did not deserve to die, since he had not hated his neighbor in the past. ⁷Therefore I command you to select three cities for yourself. ⁸If Yahweh your God enlarges your borders, as he has sworn to your ancestors to do, and gives you all the land that he promised to give to your ancestors; ⁹if you keep all these commandments to do them, which I am commanding you today—commandments to love Yahweh your God and to always walk in his ways, then you must add three more cities for yourself, besides these three. ¹⁰Do this so that innocent blood is not shed in the midst of the land that Yahweh your God is giving you {as} an inheritance, so that no bloodguilt may be on you.

¹¹But if anyone hates his neighbor, lies in wait for him, rises up against him, and mortally wounds him so that he dies, and if he then flees into one of these cities— ¹²then the elders of his city must send and bring him back from there, and turn him over into the hand of the responsible relative, so that he may die. ¹³Your eye must not pity him; instead, you must eradicate {the bloodguilt} from Israel, that it may go well with you.

¹⁴You must not remove your neighbor's landmark that they set in place a long time ago, in your inheritance that you will inherit, in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you to possess.

¹⁵One sole witness must not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any matter that he sins; at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, must any matter be confirmed. ¹⁶Suppose that an unrighteous witness rises up against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing. ¹⁷Then both men, the ones between whom the controversy exists, must stand before Yahweh, before the priests and the judges who serve in those days. ¹⁸The judges must make diligent inquiries; see, {if} the witness is a false witness and has testified falsely against his brother, ¹⁹then must you do to him, as he had wished to do to his brother; and you will remove the evil from among you. ²⁰Then those who remain will hear and fear, and will from then on commit no longer any such evil among you. ²¹Your eyes must not pity; life will pay for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

Chapter 20

¹When you march out to battle against your enemies, and see horses, chariots, {and} a people more numerous than you, you must not be afraid of them; for Yahweh your God {is} with you, he who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. ²When you are about to enter into battle, the priest must approach and speak to the people. ³He must say to them, 'Listen, Israel, you are going to battle against your enemies. Do not let your hearts faint. Do not fear or tremble. Do not be afraid of them. ⁴For Yahweh your God {is} the one who is going with you to fight for you against your enemies and to save you.' ⁵The officers must speak to the people and say, 'What man {is} there who has built a new house and has not dedicated it? Let him go and return to his house, so that he does not die in battle and another man dedicates it. ⁶Is there anyone who has planted a vineyard and has not enjoyed its fruit? Let him go home, so he will not die in battle and another man enjoy its fruit. ⁷What man {is} there who is engaged to marry a woman but has not yet married her? Let him go home so that he does not die in battle and another man marries her.' ⁸The officers must speak further to the people and say, 'What man is there {who is} fearful or fainthearted? Let him go and return to his house, so that his brother's heart does not melt like his own heart.' ⁹When the officers have finished speaking to the people, they must appoint commanders over them.

¹⁰When you march up to attack a city, make those people {an offer of} peace. ¹¹If they accept your offer and open their gates to you, all the people {who are} found in it must become forced labor for you and must serve you. ¹²But if it makes no offer of peace to you, but instead makes war against you, then you must besiege it, ¹³and when Yahweh your God gives you victory and puts them under your control, you must kill every man in the town. ¹⁴But the women, the little ones, the cattle, and everything that is in the city, and all its spoil, you will take as booty for yourself. You will consume the booty of your enemies, whom Yahweh your God has given to you. ¹⁵You must act in this way toward all the cities {that are} very far from you, cities that are not of the cities of these following nations. ¹⁶In the cities of these peoples that Yahweh your God is giving you {as} an inheritance, you must save alive nothing that breathes. ¹⁷Instead, you must completely destroy them: the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, as Yahweh your God has commanded you. ¹⁸Do this so that they do not teach you to act in any of their abominable ways, as they have done with their gods. If you do, you will sin against Yahweh your God.

¹⁹When you will besiege a city for a long time, as you wage war against it to capture it, you must not destroy its trees by wielding an ax against them. For you may eat from them, so you must not cut them down. For is the tree of the field a man whom you should besiege? ²⁰Only the trees that you know are not trees for food, you may destroy and cut down; you will build siege works against the city that makes war with you, until it falls.

Chapter 21

¹If someone is found killed in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you to possess, lying in the field, {and} it is not known who has attacked him; ²then your elders and your judges must go out, and they must measure to the cities that are around him who has been killed. ³Then the elders of the town nearest to the dead man's body must take a heifer from the herd, one that has never been put to work, {and} that has not borne the yoke. ⁴Then they must lead the heifer down to a valley with running water, a valley that has been neither plowed nor sown, and there in the valley they must break the heifer's neck. ⁵The priests, descendants of Levi, must come forward, for Yahweh your God has chosen them to serve him and give blessing in the name of Yahweh and to decide every case of dispute and assault by their word. ⁶All the elders of the city that is the nearest to the killed {man} must wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley; ⁷and they must answer to the case and say, 'Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen {it}.' ⁸Forgive, Yahweh, your people Israel, whom you have redeemed, and do not put {guilt} for innocent bloodshed in the midst of your people Israel.' Then the bloodshed will be forgiven them. ⁹In this way you will put away the innocent blood from your midst, when you do {what is} right in the eyes of Yahweh.

¹⁰When you go out to do battle against your enemies and Yahweh your God gives you victory and puts them under your control, and you take them away as captives, ¹¹if you see among the captives a beautiful woman, and you have a desire for her and wish to take her for yourself as a wife, ¹²then you will bring her home to your house; she will shave her head and cut her nails. ¹³Then she will take off the clothes she was wearing when she was taken captive and she will remain in your house and mourn for her father and her mother a full month. After that you may lie with her and be her husband, and she will be your wife. ¹⁴But if you take no delight in her, then you may let her go where she wishes. But you must not sell her at all for money, and you must not treat her like a slave, because you have humiliated her.

¹⁵If a man has two wives and one is loved and the other is hated, and they have both borne him children—both the beloved wife and the hated wife—if the firstborn son is of her that is hated, ¹⁶then on the day that the man causes his sons to inherit what he possesses, he may not make the son of the beloved wife the firstborn before the son of the hated wife, the son who {is} actually the firstborn. ¹⁷Instead, he must acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the hated wife, by giving him a double portion of all that he possesses; for that son {is} the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn belongs to him.

¹⁸If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and {who}, even though they correct him, will not listen to them; ¹⁹then his father and his mother must lay hold on him and bring him out to the elders of his city and to the gate of his city. ²⁰They must say to the elders of his city, ‘This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.’ ²¹Then all the men of his city must stone him to death with stones; and you will remove the evil from among you. All Israel will hear of it and fear.

²²If a man has committed a sin worthy of death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, ²³then his body must not remain all night on the tree. Instead, you must surely bury him the same day; for whoever is hanged {is} cursed by God. Obey this commandment so that you do not defile the land that Yahweh your God is giving you {as} an inheritance.

Chapter 22

¹You must not watch your fellow Israelite’s ox or his sheep go astray and hide yourself from them; you must surely bring them back to him. ²If your fellow Israelite is not near to you, or if you do not know him, then you must bring the animal home to your house, and it must be with you until he looks for it, and then you must restore it to him. ³You must do the same with his donkey; you must do the same with his garment; you must do the same with every lost thing of your fellow Israelite’s, anything that he has lost and you have found; you must not hide yourself. ⁴You must not see your fellow Israelite’s donkey or his ox fallen down in the road and hide yourself from them; you must surely help him to lift it up again.

⁵A woman must not wear what pertains to a man, and neither must a man put on women’s clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to Yahweh your God.

⁶If a bird’s nest happens to be in front of you on the road, in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs in it, and the mother sitting on the young or on the eggs, you must not take the mother along with the young. ⁷You must surely let the mother go, but the young you may take for yourself. Obey this command so that it may go well with you, and {that} you may prolong {your} days.

⁸When you build a new house, then you must make a railing for your roof so that you do not bring blood on your house if anyone falls from there.

⁹You must not plant your vineyard with two kinds of seed, so that the whole harvest is not confiscated by the holy place, the seed that you have sown and the yield of the vineyard. ¹⁰You must not plow with an ox and a donkey together. ¹¹You must not wear fabric made of wool and linen together.

¹²You must make yourself fringes on the four corners of the cloak with which you clothe {yourself}.

¹³Suppose a man takes a wife, and he goes in to her, and then hates her, ¹⁴and then accuses her of shameful things and puts a bad reputation on her, and says, 'I took this woman, but when I came near to her, I {found} no proof of virginity in her.' ¹⁵Then the father and mother of the girl must take proof of her virginity to the elders at the city gate. ¹⁶The girl's father must say to the elders, 'I gave my daughter to this man as a wife, and he hates her. ¹⁷See, he has accused her of shameful things and said, "I did not find in your daughter the proof of virginity." But here is the proof of my daughter's virginity.' Then they will spread the garment out before the elders of the city. ¹⁸The elders of that city must take that man and punish him; ¹⁹and they must fine him one hundred {shekels} of silver, and give them to the father of the girl, because the man has caused a bad reputation for a virgin of Israel. She must be his wife; he may not send her away during all his days. ²⁰But if this thing is true, that the proof of virginity was not found in the girl, ²¹then they must bring out the girl to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city must stone her to death with stones, because she has committed a disgraceful action in Israel, to act as a harlot in her father's house; and you will remove the evil from among you.

²²If a man is found lying with a woman {who is} married to another man, then they must both die, the man who was lying with the woman and the woman herself; and you will remove the evil from among you.

²³If there is a girl who is a virgin, engaged to a man, and another man finds her in the city and lies with her, ²⁴take both of them to the city gate, and stone them to death. You must stone the girl, because she did not cry out, even though she was in the city. You must stone the man, because he violated his neighbor's wife; and you will remove the evil from among you.

²⁵But if the man finds the engaged girl in the field, and if he seizes her and lies with her, then only the man who lies with her must die. ²⁶But to the girl you must do nothing; {there is} no sin {worthy} of death in the girl. For this case is like when a man attacks his neighbor and kills him. ²⁷For he found her in the field; the engaged girl cried out, {but there} was no one to save her.

²⁸If a man finds a girl {who is} a virgin but who is not engaged, and if he seizes her and lies with her, and if they are discovered, ²⁹then the man who lay with her must give fifty {shekels} of silver to the girl's father, and she must become his wife, because he has violated her. He may not send her away during all his days.

³⁰A man must not take his father's wife as his own; he must not take away his father's marriage rights.

Chapter 23

¹No man injured by crushing or cutting off may enter the assembly of Yahweh.

²No illegitimate child may belong to the assembly of Yahweh; as far as to the tenth generation of his {descendants}, none of them may belong to the assembly of Yahweh.

³An Ammonite or a Moabite may not belong to the assembly of Yahweh; as far as to the tenth generation of his {descendants}, none of them may belong to the assembly of Yahweh. ⁴This is because they did not meet you with bread and with water on the road when you had come out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam son of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim, to curse you. ⁵But Yahweh your God would not listen to Balaam; instead, Yahweh your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because Yahweh your God loved you. ⁶You must never seek their peace or prosperity, during all your days.

⁷You must not detest an Edomite, for he {is} your brother; you must not abhor an Egyptian, because you were a foreigner in his land. ⁸The descendants of the third generation that are born to them may belong to the assembly of Yahweh.

⁹When you march out as an army against your enemies, then you must keep yourselves from every evil thing. ¹⁰If there is among you any man who is unclean because of what happened to him at night, then he must go out of the army's camp; he must not come back into the camp. ¹¹When evening comes, he must bathe himself in water; when the sun goes down, he will come back inside the camp. ¹²You must have a place also outside the camp to which you will go; ¹³and you will have something among your tools to dig with; when you squat down to relieve yourself, you must dig with it and then put back the earth and cover up what has come out from you. ¹⁴For Yahweh your God walks in the midst of your camp to give you victory and to give your enemies into your hand. Therefore your camp must be holy, so that he may not see any unclean thing among you and turn away from you.

¹⁵You must not give back to his master a slave who has escaped from his master. ¹⁶Let him live with you, in whatever town he chooses. Do not oppress him.

¹⁷There must be no cultic prostitute among any of the daughters of Israel, neither must there be a cultic prostitute among the sons of Israel. ¹⁸You must not bring the wages of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of Yahweh your God for any vow; for both {these are} abominations to Yahweh your God.

¹⁹You must not lend on interest to your fellow Israelite—interest of money, interest of food, or the interest of anything that is lent on interest. ²⁰To a foreigner you may lend on interest; but to your fellow Israelite you must not lend on interest, so that Yahweh your God may bless you in all that you put your hand to, in the land which you are going in to possess.

²¹When you make a vow to Yahweh your God, you must not be slow in fulfilling it, for Yahweh your God will surely require it of you; it would be sin for you not to fulfill it. ²²But if you will refrain from making a vow, it will be no sin for you. ²³That which has gone out from your lips you must observe and do; according as you have vowed to Yahweh your God, anything that you have freely promised with your mouth.

²⁴When you go into your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat as many grapes as you desire, but do not put {any} in your basket. ²⁵When you go into your neighbor's ripe grain, you may pluck the heads of grain with your hand, but do not put a sickle to your neighbor's ripe grain.

Chapter 24

¹When a man takes a wife and marries her, if she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some unsuitable thing in her, then he must write her a certificate of divorce, put {it} into her hand, and send her out of his house.

²When she has gone out of his house, she may go and be another man's {wife}. ³{If} the second husband hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce, puts {it} into her hand, and sends her out of his house; or if the second husband dies, the man who took her to be his wife— ⁴{then} her former husband, the one who had first sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has become impure; for that would be an abomination to Yahweh. You must not cause the land to become guilty, the land that Yahweh your God is giving you {as} an inheritance.

⁵When a man takes a new wife, he will not go to war with the army, neither may he be commanded to go on any forced duty; he will be free to be at home for one year and will cheer his wife whom he has taken.

⁶No man may take a mill or an upper millstone as a pledge, for that would be taking a person's life as a pledge.

⁷If a man is found kidnapping any of his brothers from among the people of Israel, and treats him as a slave and sells him, that thief must die; and you will remove the evil from among you.

⁸Take heed regarding any plague of leprosy, so that you carefully observe and follow every instruction given to you which the priests, the Levites, teach you; as I commanded them, so you will act. ⁹Call to mind what Yahweh your God did to Miriam as you were coming out of Egypt.

¹⁰When you make your neighbor any kind of loan, you must not go into his house to fetch his pledge. ¹¹You will stand outside, and the man to whom you have lent will bring the pledge outside to you. ¹²If he is a poor man, you must not lie down to sleep with his pledge in your possession. ¹³You must surely restore to him the pledge by the time the sun goes down, so that he may sleep in his cloak and bless you; it will be righteousness for you before Yahweh your God.

¹⁴You must not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is of your fellow Israelites, or of the foreigners who are in your land within your city gates; ¹⁵Each day you must give him his wage; the sun must not go down on this unsettled matter, for he is poor and is counting on it. Do this so that he does not cry out against you to Yahweh, and so that it not be a sin that you have committed.

¹⁶The parents must not be put to death for {their} children, neither must the children be put to death for {their} parents. Instead, everyone must be put to death for his own sin.

¹⁷You must not use force to take away the justice that is due the foreigner or the fatherless, nor take the widow's cloak as a pledge. ¹⁸Instead, you must call to mind that you were a slave in Egypt, and that Yahweh your God rescued you from there. Therefore I instruct you to obey this command.

¹⁹When you reap your harvest in your field, and if you have forgotten an omer of grain in the field, you must not go back to get it; it must be for the foreigner, for the fatherless, or for the widow, so that Yahweh your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. ²⁰When you shake your olive tree, you must not go over the branches again; it will be for the foreigner, for the fatherless, or for the widow. ²¹When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you must not glean {it} again. What is left over will be for the foreigner, for the fatherless, and for the widow. ²²You must call to mind that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I instruct you to obey this command.

Chapter 25

¹If there is a dispute between men and they go to court, and {the judges} judge them, then they will acquit the righteous and condemn the wicked. ²If the guilty man deserves to be beaten, then the judge will make him lie down and be beaten in his presence with the ordered number of blows, as was his crime. ³The judge may give him forty blows, but he may not exceed that number; for if he should exceed that number and beat him with many more blows, then your fellow Israelite would be humiliated before your eyes.

⁴You must not muzzle the ox when he treads out "the grain".

⁵If brothers live together and one of them dies, not having any son, then the wife of the dead man must not be {married} off to someone else outside {the family}. Instead, her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her to himself as a wife, and do the duty of a husband's brother to her. ⁶This is so that the firstborn that she bears will succeed in the name of that man's dead brother, so that his name will not perish from Israel. ⁷But if the man does not wish to take his brother's wife for himself, then his brother's wife must go up to the gate to the elders and say, 'My husband's brother refuses to raise up for his brother a name in Israel; he will not perform the duty of a husband's brother to me.' ⁸Then the elders of his city must call him and speak to him. But suppose that he insists and says, 'I do not wish to take her.' ⁹Then his brother's wife must come up to him in the presence of the elders, take off his sandal from his foot, and spit in his face. She must answer him and say, 'This is what is done to the man who does not build up his brother's house.' ¹⁰His name will be called in Israel, 'The house of him whose sandal has been taken off.'

¹¹If men fight with each other, and the wife of one comes to rescue her husband out of the hand of him who struck him, and if she stretches out her hand and takes him by the private parts, ¹²then you must cut off her hand; your eye must have no pity.

¹³You must not have in your bag different weights, a large and a small. ¹⁴You must not have in your house different measures, a large and a small. ¹⁵A perfect and just weight you must have; a perfect and just measure you must have, so that your days may be long in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you. ¹⁶For all who do such {things}, all that act unrighteously, {are} an abomination to Yahweh your God.

¹⁷Call to mind what Amalek did to you on the road as you came out of Egypt, ¹⁸how he met you on the road and attacked those of you at the rear, all who {were} feeble in your rear, when you were faint and weary; he did not honor God. ¹⁹Therefore, when Yahweh your God has given you rest from all your enemies round about, in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you to possess {as} an inheritance, you must not forget {that} you must blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

Chapter 26

¹When you have come into the land that Yahweh your God is giving you {as} an inheritance, and when you possess it and live in it, ²then you must take some of the first of all the harvest of the land that you have brought in from the land that Yahweh your God is giving you. You must put {it} in a basket and go to the place that Yahweh your God will choose as his sanctuary. ³You must go to the priest who will be serving in those days and say to him, 'I acknowledge today to Yahweh your God that I have come to the land that Yahweh swore to our ancestors to give us.' ⁴The priest must take the basket out of your hand and set it down before the altar of Yahweh your God. ⁵You must say before Yahweh your God, 'My ancestor {was} a wandering Aramean. He went down into Egypt and stayed there, and his people were few in number. There he became a great, mighty, and populous nation. ⁶The Egyptians treated us badly and afflicted us. They made us do the work of slaves. ⁷We cried out to Yahweh, the God of our fathers, and he heard our voice and saw our affliction, our labor, and our oppression. ⁸Yahweh brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, with great fearsomeness, with signs, and with wonders; ⁹and he has brought us to this place and has given us this land, a land that flows with milk and honey. ¹⁰Now look, I have brought the first of the harvest of the land that you, Yahweh, have given me.' You must set it down before Yahweh your God and worship before him; ¹¹and you must rejoice in all the good that Yahweh your God has done for you, for your house—you, and the Levite, and the foreigner who {is} among you.

¹²When you have finished giving all the tithe of your harvest in the third year, that is, the year of tithing, then you must give it to the Levite, to the foreigner, to the fatherless, and to the widow, so that they may eat within your city gates and be filled. ¹³You must say before Yahweh your God, 'I have brought out of {my} house the things that belong to Yahweh, and have given them to the Levite, to the foreigner, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all your commandments that you have given me. I have not transgressed any of your commandments, neither have I forgotten them. ¹⁴I have not eaten {any} of it in my mourning, nor have I put it somewhere else when I was impure, nor have I given {any} of it in honor of the dead. I have listened to the voice of Yahweh my God; I have obeyed everything you have commanded me to do. ¹⁵Look down from the holy place where you live, from heaven, and bless your people Israel, and the land that you have given us, as you had sworn to our fathers, a land flowing with milk and honey.'

¹⁶Today Yahweh your God is commanding you to obey these statutes and decrees; you will therefore keep them and do them with all your heart and with all your soul. ¹⁷You have declared today that Yahweh is your God, and that you will walk in his ways and keep his statutes, his commandments, and his decrees, and that you will listen to his voice. ¹⁸Today Yahweh has declared that you are a people who are his own possession, as he had promised you, and that {you} are to keep all his commandments, ¹⁹and he will set you high above all the other nations that he has made, and you will receive praise, fame, and honor. You will be a people that is set apart to Yahweh your God, just as he said."

Chapter 27

¹Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people and said, "Keep all the commandments that I command you today. ²On the day when you will pass over the Jordan to the land that Yahweh your God is giving you, you must set up some large stones and plaster them with plaster. ³You must write on them all the words of this law when you have passed over; that you may go into the land that Yahweh your God is giving you, a land flowing with milk and honey, as Yahweh, the God of your ancestors, has promised you. ⁴When you have passed over the Jordan, set up these stones that I am commanding you about today, on Mount Ebal, and plaster them with plaster. ⁵There you must build an altar to Yahweh your God, an altar of stones; but you must raise no iron {tool} to work the stones. ⁶You must build the altar of Yahweh your God of unworked stones; you must offer burnt offerings on it to Yahweh your God, ⁷and you will sacrifice fellowship offerings and will eat there; you will rejoice before Yahweh your God. ⁸You will write on the stones all the words of this law very plainly."

⁹Moses and the priests, the Levites, spoke to all Israel and said, "Be silent and listen, Israel: Today you have become the people of Yahweh your God. ¹⁰You must therefore obey the voice of Yahweh your God and obey his commandments and statutes that I am commanding you today."

¹¹Moses commanded the people the same day and said, ¹²"These tribes must stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people after you have passed over the Jordan: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin. ¹³These are the tribes that must stand on Mount Ebal to pronounce curses: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali. ¹⁴The Levites will answer and say to all the men of Israel in a loud voice:

¹⁵'May the man be cursed who makes a carved or cast figure, an abomination to Yahweh, the work of the hands of a craftsman, and who sets it up in secret.' Then all the people must answer and say, 'Amen.'

¹⁶'May the man be cursed who dishonors his father or his mother.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

¹⁷'May the man be cursed who removes his neighbor's landmark.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

¹⁸'May the man be cursed who makes the blind to wander away from the road.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

¹⁹'May the man be cursed who uses force to take away the justice due to a foreigner, fatherless, or widow.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²⁰'May the man be cursed who lies with his father's wife, because he has taken away his father's rights.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²¹'May the man be cursed who lies with any kind of beast.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²²'May the man be cursed who lies with his sister, the daughter of his father, or with the daughter of his mother.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²³'May the man be cursed who lies with his mother-in-law.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²⁴'May the man be cursed who kills his neighbor secretly.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²⁵'May the man be cursed who takes a bribe to kill an innocent person.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

²⁶'May the man be cursed who does not confirm the words of this law, that he will obey them.' Then all the people must say, 'Amen.'

Chapter 28

¹If you listen carefully to the voice of Yahweh your God so as to keep all his commandments that I am commanding you today, Yahweh your God will set you above all the other nations of the earth. ²All these blessings will come on you and overtake you, if you listen to the voice of Yahweh your God. ³Blessed will you be in the city, and blessed will you be in the field. ⁴Blessed {will be} the fruit of your body, and the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of your beasts, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock. ⁵Blessed {will be} your basket and your kneading trough. ⁶Blessed {will you be} when you come in, and blessed {will you be} when you go out.

⁷Yahweh will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be struck down before you; they will come out against you one way but will flee before you seven ways. ⁸Yahweh will command the blessing to come on you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to; he will bless you in the land that he is giving you. ⁹Yahweh will establish you as a people that is set apart for himself, as he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of Yahweh your God, and walk in his ways. ¹⁰All the peoples of the earth will see that you are called by the name of Yahweh, and they will be afraid of you. ¹¹Yahweh will make you very prosperous in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your cattle, in the fruit of your ground, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you. ¹²Yahweh will open to you his storehouse of the heavens to give the rain for your land at the right time, and to bless all the work of your hand; you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow. ¹³Yahweh will make you the head, and not the tail; you will be only above, and you will never be beneath, if you listen to the commandments of Yahweh your God that I am commanding you today, so as to observe and to do {them}, ¹⁴and if you do not turn away from any of the words that I am commanding you today, {to} the right hand or {to} the left, so as to go after other gods to serve them.

¹⁵But if you do not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, so as to keep all his commandments and his statutes that I am commanding you today, then all these curses will come on you and overtake you. ¹⁶Cursed {will you be} in the city, and cursed {will you be} in the field. ¹⁷Cursed {will be} your basket and your kneading trough. ¹⁸Cursed {will be} the fruit of your body, the fruit of your ground, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock. ¹⁹Cursed {will you be} when you come in, and cursed {will you be} when you go out.

²⁰Yahweh will send on you curses, confusion, and rebukes in all that you put your hand to, until you are destroyed, and until you perish quickly because of your wicked actions by which you will have forsaken me. ²¹Yahweh will make the plague cling to you until he destroys you from off the land that you are going in to possess. ²²Yahweh will attack you with infectious diseases, with fever, with inflammation, and with drought and blistering heat, and with scorching winds and mildew. These will pursue you until you perish. ²³Your skies that are over your head {will be} bronze, and the earth that is under you will be iron. ²⁴Yahweh will make the rain of your land into powder and dust; from the heavens it will come down on you, until you are destroyed.

²⁵Yahweh will cause you to be struck down before your enemies; you will go out one way against them but will flee before them seven ways. You will be tossed to and fro among all the kingdoms of the earth. ²⁶Your dead body will be food to all the birds of the heavens and to the beasts of the earth; there will be no one to frighten {them} away. ²⁷Yahweh will attack you with the boils of Egypt and with ulcers, scurvy, and itch, from which you cannot be healed. ²⁸Yahweh will attack you with madness, with blindness, and with mental confusion. ²⁹You will grope about at noonday like the blind grope in the darkness, and you will not prosper in your ways; you will be always oppressed and robbed, and there will be no one to {save} you. ³⁰You will become engaged to a woman, but another man will seize her and rape her. You will build a house but not live in it; you will plant a vineyard but not enjoy its fruit. ³¹Your ox {will be} slain before your eyes, but you will not eat its meat; your donkey will be forcibly taken away from before you and will not be restored to you. Your sheep {will be} given to your enemies, and you will have no one to aid you. ³²Your sons and your daughters {will be} given to other peoples; your eyes will look for them the entire day, but will fail with longing for them. There will be no strength in your hand. ³³The harvest of your land and of all your labors—a nation that you do not know will eat it up; you will always be oppressed and crushed, ³⁴so that you will become insane by what you have to see happen. ³⁵Yahweh will attack you in the knees and legs with severe boils from which you cannot be cured, from the bottom of your feet to the top of your head.

³⁶Yahweh will take you and the king whom you will place over yourself to a nation that you have not known, neither you nor your ancestors; there you will worship other gods of wood and stone. ³⁷You will become a source of horror, a proverb, and a byword, among all the peoples where Yahweh will lead you away. ³⁸You will take much seed out into the field, but will gather little seed in, for the locusts will consume it. ³⁹You will plant vineyards and cultivate {them}, but you will neither drink any {of} the wine, nor even gather in the {grapes}, for worms will eat them. ⁴⁰You will have olive trees within all your territory, but you will not rub any of the oil on {yourself}, for your olive trees will drop their fruit. ⁴¹You will have sons and daughters, but they will not remain yours, for they will go into captivity. ⁴²All your trees and the fruit of your ground—the locusts will take them over. ⁴³The foreigner who {is} among you will rise up above you higher and higher; you yourself will come down lower and lower. ⁴⁴He will lend to you, but you will not lend to him; he will be the head, and you will be the tail. ⁴⁵All these curses will come on you and will pursue and overtake you until you are destroyed. This will happen because you did not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, so as to keep his commandments and his regulations that he commanded you. ⁴⁶These curses will be on you as signs and wonders, and on your descendants forever.

⁴⁷Because you did not worship Yahweh your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart when you were in prosperity, ⁴⁸therefore will you serve the enemies that Yahweh will send against you; you will serve them in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in poverty. He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until he destroys you. ⁴⁹Yahweh will bring a nation against you from far away, from the ends of the earth, like an eagle flies to its victim, a nation whose language you do not understand; ⁵⁰a nation with a fierce face that does not respect the aged and does not show favor to the young. ⁵¹They will eat the young of your cattle and the fruit of your land until you are destroyed. They will leave for you no grain, new wine, or oil, no young of your cattle or of your flock, until they have caused you to perish. ⁵²They will besiege you in all your city gates, until your high and fortified walls come down everywhere in your land, walls in which you had trusted. They will besiege you within all your city gates throughout all the land that Yahweh your God had given you. ⁵³You will eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and of your daughters, whom Yahweh your God gave you, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemies will put upon you. ⁵⁴The man who is tender and very delicate among you—he will be envious of his brother and his own dear wife, and of whatever children he has left. ⁵⁵So he will not give to any of them the flesh of his own children that he is going to eat, because he will have nothing left for himself in the siege and in the distress which your enemy will put upon you within all your city gates. ⁵⁶The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to put the bottom of her foot on the ground for delicateness and tenderness—she will be envious of her own dear husband, of her son, and of her daughter, ⁵⁷and of her own newborn that comes out from between her legs, and of the children whom she will bear. She will eat them in private for lack of anything else, during the siege and in the distress which your enemy will put upon you within your city gates.

⁵⁸If you do not keep all the words of this law that are written in this book, so as to honor this glorious and fearful name, Yahweh your God, ⁵⁹then Yahweh will make your plagues terrible, and those of your descendants; they will be great plagues, of long duration, and severe diseases, of long duration. ⁶⁰He will bring on you again all the diseases of Egypt that you were afraid of; they will cling to you. ⁶¹Also every sickness and plague that {is} not written in the book of this law, those also Yahweh will bring on you until you are destroyed. ⁶²You will be left few in number, although you were like the stars of the heavens in number, because you did not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God. ⁶³As Yahweh once rejoiced over you in doing you good, and in multiplying you, so he will rejoice over you in making you perish and in destroying you. You will be plucked off the land that you are going into to possess. ⁶⁴Yahweh will scatter you among all peoples from the one end of the earth to the other end of the earth; there you will worship other gods that you have not known, neither you nor your ancestors, gods of wood and stone. ⁶⁵Among these nations will you find no ease, and there will be no rest for the bottoms of your feet; instead, Yahweh will give you there a trembling heart, failing eyes, and a soul that mourns. ⁶⁶Your life will hang in doubt before you; you will fear every night and day and will have no certainty at all in your life. ⁶⁷In the morning you will say, 'I wish {it were} evening!' and in the evening you will say, 'I wish it were morning!' because of the fear in your hearts and the things your eyes will have to see. ⁶⁸Yahweh will bring you into Egypt again by ships, by the route about which I had said to you, 'You will not see Egypt again.' There you will offer yourselves for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one will purchase {you}."

Chapter 29

¹These {are} the words that Yahweh commanded Moses to tell the people of Israel in the land of Moab, words that were added to the covenant that he had made with them at Horeb.

²Moses called to all Israel and said to them, “You have seen everything that Yahweh did before your eyes in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, to all his servants, and to all his land— ³the great sufferings that your eyes saw, the signs, and those great wonders. ⁴But until today Yahweh has not given you a heart to know, eyes to see, or ears to hear. ⁵I have led you for forty years in the wilderness; your clothes did not wear out on you, and your sandals did not wear out on your feet. ⁶You did not eat any bread, and you did not drink any wine or other alcoholic drinks, so that you might know that I {am} Yahweh your God. ⁷When you came to this place, Sihon, the king of Heshbon, and Og, the king of Bashan, came out against us to fight, and we struck them down. ⁸We took their land and gave it as an inheritance to the Reubenites, to the Gadites, and to the half tribe of Manasseh. ⁹Therefore keep the words of this covenant and do them, so that you may prosper in everything that you do.

¹⁰You stand today, all of you, before Yahweh your God; your chiefs, your tribes, your elders, and your officers—all the men of Israel, ¹¹your little ones, your wives, and the foreigner who {is} among you in your camp, from him who cuts your wood to him who draws your water. ¹²You are here in order to enter into the covenant of Yahweh your God and into the oath that Yahweh your God is making with you today, ¹³so that he may make you today into a people for himself, and {that} he may be God for you, as he spoke to you, and as he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

¹⁴For it is not only with you that I am making this covenant and this oath— ¹⁵with everyone standing here with us today before Yahweh our God—but also with those who are not here with us today.

¹⁶You know how we lived in the land of Egypt, and how we came through the midst of the nations through which you passed. ¹⁷You have seen their disgusting idols made of wood and stone, silver and gold, that {were} among them. ¹⁸Make sure there is not among you any man, woman, clan, or tribe whose heart is turning away today from Yahweh our God, so as to go worship the gods of those nations. Make sure there is not among you any root that produces gall and wormwood. ¹⁹When that person hears the words of this curse, he will bless himself in his heart and say, ‘I will have peace, though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart.’ This would destroy the wet together with the dry. ²⁰Yahweh will not pardon him, but instead, the anger of Yahweh and his jealousy will smolder against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book will come on him, and Yahweh will blot out his name from under heaven. ²¹Yahweh will set him apart for disaster out of all the tribes of Israel, in keeping with all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law.

²²The generation to come, your children who will rise up after you, and the foreigner who comes from a distant land, will speak when they see the plagues on this land and the diseases with which Yahweh has made it sick— ²³and when they see that the whole land has become sulfur and burning salt, where nothing {is} sown or bears fruit, where no vegetation grows, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboyim, that Yahweh destroyed in his anger and wrath— ²⁴they will say together with all the other nations, ‘Why has Yahweh done this to this land? What {does} the heat of this great anger {mean}?’ ²⁵Then {people} will say, ‘It is because they abandoned the covenant of Yahweh, the God of their ancestors, that he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt, ²⁶and because they went and served other gods and bowed down to them, gods that they had not known and that he had not given to them. ²⁷Therefore the anger of Yahweh has been kindled against this land, so as to bring on it all the curses that are written in this book. ²⁸Yahweh has uprooted them from their land in anger, in wrath, and in great fury, and has thrown them into another land, as today.’ ²⁹The secret matters belong alone to Yahweh our God; but the {things that are} revealed {belong} forever to us and to our descendants, so that {we} may do all the words of this law.

Chapter 30

¹When it comes to pass that all these things have come on you—the blessings and the curses that I have set before you—and when you bring them back to your mind among all the other nations where Yahweh your God has driven you, ²and when you return to Yahweh your God and listen to his voice, following all that I am commanding you today—you and your children—with all your heart and with all your soul, ³then Yahweh your God will reverse your captivity and have compassion on you, and he will return and gather you from all the peoples where Yahweh your God has scattered you. ⁴If {any} of your exiled people are in the farthest {places} under the heavens, from there Yahweh your God will gather you, and from there he will bring you. ⁵Yahweh your God will bring you into the land that your forefathers possessed, and you will possess it again; he will do you good and will multiply you more than he did your forefathers. ⁶Yahweh your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, so you will love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live. ⁷Yahweh your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, those who persecuted you. ⁸You will return and obey the voice of Yahweh, and you will do all his commandments that I am commanding you today. ⁹Yahweh your God will make you abundant in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your cattle, and in the fruit of your ground, for prosperity; for Yahweh will again rejoice over you for prosperity, as he rejoiced over your fathers. ¹⁰He will do this if you will obey the voice of Yahweh your God, so as to keep his commandments and regulations that are written in this book of the law, if you turn to Yahweh your God with all your heart and all your soul.

¹¹For this commandment that I am commanding you today is not {too} hard for you, neither is it too far for you to reach. ¹²It {is} not in heaven, so that you should have to say, 'Who will go up for us to heaven and bring it down to us and make us able to hear it, so that we may do it?' ¹³Neither {is} it beyond the sea, so that you should have to say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us and make us to hear it, so that we may do it?' ¹⁴But the word is very near to you, in your mouth and your heart, so that you may do it.

¹⁵See, today I have placed before you life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the decrees of Yahweh your God, in which I am commanding you today to love Yahweh your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments, his regulations, and his statutes, you will live and multiply, and Yahweh your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you do not listen but instead are drawn away and bow down to other gods and worship them, ¹⁸then I announce to you today that you will surely perish; you will not prolong {your} days in the land that you are passing over the Jordan to go into and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today {that} I have set before you life and death, the blessings and the curses; therefore choose life so that you may live, you and your descendants. ²⁰Do this so as to love Yahweh your God, to obey his voice, and to cling to him. For he {is} your life and the length of your days; do this so that you may live in the land that Yahweh swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

Chapter 31

¹Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel. ²He said to them, "I am now one hundred twenty years old; I can no more go out and come in; Yahweh has said to me, 'You will not go over this Jordan.' ³Yahweh your God, he will go over before you; he will destroy these nations from before you, and you will dispossess them. Joshua, he will go over before you, as Yahweh has spoken. ⁴Yahweh will do to them as he did to Sihon and to Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, which he destroyed. ⁵Yahweh will give you victory over them when you meet them in battle, and you will do to them all that I commanded you. ⁶Be strong and of good courage, fear not, and do not be afraid of them; for Yahweh your God, he it is who goes with you; he will not fail you nor forsake you." ⁷Moses called to Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you will go with this people into the land that Yahweh has sworn to their ancestors to give them; you will cause them to inherit it. ⁸Yahweh, he it is who goes before you; he will be with you; he will not fail you nor abandon you; do not be afraid, do not be discouraged."

⁹Moses wrote this law and gave it out to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of Yahweh; he also gave copies of it to all the elders of Israel. ¹⁰Moses commanded them and said, "At the end of every seven years, at the time fixed for the cancellation of debts, during the Festival of Shelters, ¹¹when all Israel has come to appear before Yahweh your God in the place that he will choose for his sanctuary, you will read this law before all Israel in their hearing. ¹²Assemble the people, the men, the women, and the little ones, and your foreigner who is within your city gates, so that they may hear and learn, and so that they may honor Yahweh your God and keep all the words of this law. ¹³Do this so that their children, who have not known, may hear and learn to honor Yahweh your God, as long as you live in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess."

¹⁴Yahweh said to Moses, "Look, the day is coming when you must die; call Joshua and present yourselves in the tent of meeting, so that I may give him a command." Moses and Joshua went and presented themselves in the tent of meeting. ¹⁵Yahweh appeared in the tent in a pillar of cloud; the pillar of cloud stood over the door of the tent. ¹⁶Yahweh said to Moses, "Look, you will sleep with your fathers; this people will rise up and act like a prostitute going after the strange gods that are among them in the land where they are going. They will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. ¹⁷Then, on that day, my anger will be kindled against them and I will abandon them. I will hide my face from them and they will be devoured. Many disasters and troubles will find them so that they will say on that day, 'Have these disasters not come upon us because our God is not in our midst?' ¹⁸I will surely hide my face from them on that day because of all the evil that they will have done, because they have turned to other gods. ¹⁹Now therefore write this song for yourselves and teach it to the people of Israel. Put it in their mouths, so that this song may be a witness for me against the people of Israel. ²⁰For when I will have brought them into the land that I swore to give to their ancestors, a land flowing with milk and honey, and when they have eaten and become satisfied and fat, then they will turn to other gods and they will serve them and they will despise me and they will break my covenant. ²¹When many evils and troubles come upon this people, this song will testify before them as a witness (for it will not be forgotten from the mouths of their descendants). For I know the plans that they are forming today, even before I have brought them into the land that I promised them." ²²So Moses wrote this song the same day and taught it to the people of Israel. ²³Yahweh gave Joshua son of Nun a command and said, "Be strong and of good courage; for you will bring the people of Israel into the land that I swore to them, and I will be with you."

²⁴It happened that when Moses had finished writing the words of this law in a book, ²⁵that he commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of Yahweh, and he said, ²⁶"Take this book of the law and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of Yahweh your God, so that it may be there as a witness against you. ²⁷For I know your rebellion and your stiff neck; look, while I am still alive with you even today, you have been rebellious against Yahweh; how much more after my death? ²⁸Assemble 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. ²⁹For I know that after my death you will utterly corrupt yourselves and turn aside out of the path that I have commanded you; disaster will come on you in the following days. This will happen because you will do what is evil in the sight of Yahweh, so as to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands."

³⁰Moses recited in the ears of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song until they were finished.

Chapter 32

¹Give ear, you heavens, and let me speak.

Let the earth listen to the words of my mouth.

²Let my teaching drop down like the rain,

let my speech distill like the dew,

like the gentle rain on the tender grass,

and like the showers on the plants.

³For I will proclaim the name of Yahweh,
and ascribe greatness to our God.

⁴The Rock, his work {is} perfect;

for all his paths are just.

He is the faithful God, without iniquity.

He is just and upright.

⁵They have acted corruptly against him.

{They are} not his children. It is their disgrace.

They are a perverted and crooked generation.

⁶Do you reward Yahweh in this way,

you foolish and senseless people?

{Is} he not your father, the one {who} has created you?

He made you and established you.

⁷Call to mind the days of ancient times,

think about the years of many ages past.

Ask your father and he will show you,

your elders and they will tell you.

⁸When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance—

when he divided all of mankind,

and he set the boundaries of the peoples,

as he also fixed the number of their gods.

⁹For Yahweh's portion {is} his people;

Jacob {is} his apportioned inheritance.

¹⁰He found him in a desert land,

and in the barren and howling wilderness;

he shielded him and cared for him,

he guarded him as the apple of his eye.

¹¹As an eagle that guards her nest

and flutters over her young,

Yahweh spread out his wings and took them,

and carried them on his pinions.

¹²Yahweh alone led him;

no foreign god {was} with him.

¹³He made him ride on high places of the land,

and he fed him the fruits of the field;

he nourished him with honey from the rock,

and oil from the flinty crag.

¹⁴He ate butter from the herd and drank milk from the flock,

with fat of lambs,

rams of Bashan and goats,

with the finest of the wheat—

and you drank foaming wine made from the juice of grapes.

¹⁵But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked—

you grew fat, you were too fat, and you had eaten your fill—

he abandoned the God {who} made him,

and he rejected the Rock of his salvation.

¹⁶They made Yahweh jealous by their strange {gods};

with their abominations they angered him.

¹⁷They sacrificed to demons, which are not God—

{gods} they had not known,

{gods} that recently appeared,

gods your fathers did not fear.

¹⁸You have deserted the Rock, who became your father,

and you forgot the God {who} gave you birth.

¹⁹Yahweh saw this and he rejected {them,}

because his sons and his daughters provoked him so.

²⁰"I will hide my face from them," he said,

"and I will see what their end {will be};

for they are a perverse generation,

children who {are} unfaithful.

²¹They have made me jealous by {what} is not god

and angered me by their worthless things.

I will make them envious by {those who are} not a people;

by a foolish nation I will make them angry.

²²For a fire is kindled by my anger

and is burning to the lowest Sheol;

it is devouring the earth and its harvest;

it is setting on fire the foundations of the mountains.

²³I will heap disasters on them;

I will shoot all my arrows at them;

²⁴{They will be} wasted by hunger and devoured by burning heat

and bitter destruction;

I will send on them the teeth of wild animals,

with the poison of things that crawl in the dust.

²⁵Outside the sword will bereave,

and in the bedrooms terror will do so.

It will destroy both young man and virgin,

the nursing baby, and the man of gray hairs.

²⁶I said that I would scatter them far away,

that I would make the memory of them to cease from among mankind.

²⁷Were it not that I feared the provocation of the enemy,

and that their enemies would judge mistakenly,

and that they would say, 'Our hand {is} exalted,'

I would have done all this.

²⁸For Israel is a nation devoid of wisdom,

and {there is} no understanding in them.

²⁹Oh, {that} they were wise, {that} they understood this,

that they would consider their coming fate!

³⁰How could one chase a thousand,

and two put ten thousand to flight,

unless their Rock had sold them,

and Yahweh had given them up?

³¹For our enemies' rock {is} not like our Rock,
just as even our enemies admit.

³²For their vine comes from the vine of Sodom,
and from the fields of Gomorrah;
their grapes {are} grapes of poison;
their clusters {are} bitter.

³³Their wine {is} the poison of serpents
and the cruel venom of asps.

³⁴Is not this plan secretly kept by me,
sealed up among my treasures?

³⁵Vengeance is mine to give, and recompense,
at the time when their foot slips;
for the day of disaster for them {is} near,
and the things that are to come on them will hurry to happen."

³⁶For Yahweh will give justice to his people,
and he will pity his servants.
He will see that {their} power is gone,
and no one remains, either slaves or free people.

³⁷Then he will say, "Where {are} their gods,
the rock in whom they took refuge?—

³⁸The gods who ate the fat of their sacrifices
{and} drank the wine of their drink offerings?
Let them rise up and help you;
let them be your protection.

³⁹See now that I, {even} I, {am} God,
and that there is no god besides me;
I kill, and I make alive;
I wound, and I heal,
and {there is} no one who can save you from my might.

⁴⁰For I lift up my hand to heaven
and say, '{As} I live forever, I will act.

⁴¹When I sharpen my glittering sword,
and when my hand begins to bring justice,
I will render vengeance on my enemies,
and I will pay back those who hate me.

⁴²I will make my arrows drunk with blood,
and my sword will devour flesh
with the blood of the killed and the captives,
and from the heads of the leaders of the enemy.”

⁴³Rejoice, you nations, {with} God's people,
for he will avenge the blood of his servants;
he will render vengeance on his enemies,
and he will make atonement for his land, for his people.

⁴⁴Moses came and recited all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Joshua son of Nun. ⁴⁵Then Moses finished reciting all these words to all Israel. ⁴⁶He said to them, “Fix your mind on all the words that I have witnessed to you today, so that you may command your children to keep them, all the words of this law. ⁴⁷For this is no trivial matter for you, because it {is} your life, and through this thing you will prolong {your} days in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

⁴⁸Yahweh spoke to Moses on that same day and said, ⁴⁹“Go up into this range of the mountains of Abarim, up Mount Nebo, which {is} in the land of Moab, opposite Jericho. You will look at the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel as their possession. ⁵⁰You will die on the mountain that you go up, and you will be gathered to your people, as Aaron your fellow Israelite died on Mount Hor and was gathered to his people. ⁵¹This will happen because you were unfaithful to me among the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah in Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin; because you did not treat me with honor and respect among the people of Israel. ⁵²For you will see the land before you, but you will not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel.”

Chapter 33

¹This {is} the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the people of Israel before his death. ²He said:

Yahweh came from Sinai
and rose from Seir upon them.
He shined out from Mount Paran,
and he came with ten thousands of holy ones.
In his right hand were flashes of lightning.

³Indeed, he loves the peoples;
all his holy ones are in your hand,
and they bowed down at your feet;

they received your words.

⁴Moses commanded us a law,
an inheritance for the assembly of Jacob.

⁵Then there was a king in Jeshurun,
when the heads of the people had gathered,
all the tribes of Israel together.

⁶Let Reuben live and not die,
but may his men be few.

⁷This is the blessing for Judah. Moses said:

Listen, Yahweh, to the voice of Judah,
and bring him to his people again.

Fight for him;
be a help against his enemies.

⁸About Levi, Moses said:

Your Thummim and your Urim belong to your faithful one,
the one whom you tested at Massah,
with whom you struggled at the waters of Meribah.

⁹The man who said about his father and mother, "I have not seen them."

Neither did he acknowledge his brothers,
nor did he take account of his own children.

For he guarded your word
and kept your covenant.

¹⁰He teaches Jacob your decrees
and Israel your law.

He will put incense before you
and whole burnt offerings on your altar.

¹¹Bless, Yahweh, his possessions,
and accept the work of his hands.

Shatter the loins of those who rise up against him,
and those of the people who hate him, so that they do not rise up again.

¹²About Benjamin, Moses said:

The one loved by Yahweh lives in security beside him;
Yahweh shields him all the day long,
and he lives between Yahweh's arms.

13About Joseph, Moses said:

May his land be blessed by Yahweh
with the precious things of heaven, with the dew,
and with the deep that lies beneath.

14May his land be blessed with the precious things of the harvest of the sun,
with the precious things of the produce of the months,

15with the finest things of the ancient mountains,
and with the precious things of the everlasting hills.

16May his land be blessed with the precious things of the earth and its abundance,
and with the good will of him who was in the bush.

Let {the blessing} come on the head of Joseph,
and on the top of the head of him {who was} prince over his brothers.

17The firstborn of an ox, majestic is he,
and his horns are the horns of a wild ox.

With them he will push the peoples, all of them, to the ends of the earth.

These {are} the ten thousands of Ephraim;
these {are} the thousands of Manasseh.

18About Zebulun, Moses said:

Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out,
and you, Issachar, in your tents.

19They will call the peoples {to} the mountains.

There will they offer sacrifices of righteousness.

For they will suck the abundance of the seas,
and from the sand on the seashore.

20About Gad, Moses said:

Blessed be he who enlarges Gad.

He will live there like a lioness,
and he will tear off an arm or a head.

²¹He provided the best {part} for himself,
for there was the leader's portion of land reserved.
He came {with} the heads of the people.
He carried out the justice of Yahweh
and his decrees with Israel.

²²About Dan, Moses said:

Dan {is} a lion cub
that leaps out from Bashan.

²³About Naphtali, Moses said:

Naphtali, satisfied with favor,
and full of the blessing of Yahweh,
take possession of the land to the west and south.

²⁴About Asher, Moses said:

Blessed be Asher more than the other sons;
let him be acceptable to his brothers,
and let him dip his foot in olive oil.

²⁵May your city bars be iron and bronze;

as long as will be your days, {so} long will your security {be}.

²⁶{There is} no one like God, Jeshurun—the upright one,

{who} rides through the heavens to your help,
and in his majesty on the clouds.

²⁷The eternal God {is} a refuge,

and underneath {are} the everlasting arms.

He thrust out the enemy from before you,

and he said, "Destroy!"

²⁸Israel dwelt in safety.

Jacob's spring was secure

in a land of grain and new wine;

indeed, let his heavens drop dew on him.

²⁹Your blessings are many, Israel!

Who is like you, a people saved by Yahweh,

the shield of your help,
and the sword of your majesty?
Your enemies will come trembling to you;
you will trample down their high places.

Chapter 34

¹Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. There Yahweh showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan, ²and all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, to the western sea, ³and the Negev, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the City of Palms, as far as Zoar. ⁴Yahweh said to him, "This is the land that I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have allowed you to look at {it} with your eyes, but you will not go over there."

⁵So Moses the servant of Yahweh, died there in the land of Moab, as the word of Yahweh promised. ⁶Yahweh buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth Peor, but no one knows where his grave is to this day.

⁷Moses {was} one hundred twenty years old when he died; his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated. ⁸The people of Israel mourned for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days, {and} then the days of mourning for Moses were finished.

⁹Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. The people of Israel listened to him and did what Yahweh had commanded Moses. ¹⁰There has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom Yahweh knew face to face. ¹¹There has never been any prophet like him in all the signs and wonders that Yahweh sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land. ¹²There has never been any prophet like him in all the great, fearsome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

Joshua

Chapter 1

¹Now it happened after the death of Moses the servant of Yahweh, that Yahweh spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, saying, ²"Moses, my servant, is dead. So now, rise, cross over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land that I am about to give to them, to the sons of Israel. ³Every place on which the sole of your foot will tread, I give it to you just as I spoke to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and this Lebanon and as far as the great river, the Euphrates River, all the land of the Hittites, and as far as the great sea, the going of the sun, will be your boundary. ⁵A man will not station himself against your face all the days of your life. I will be with you just as I was with Moses. I will not abandon you and I will not leave you. ⁶Be strong and be courageous, for you yourself will cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give to them. ⁷Only be strong and be very courageous, watching to do according to all the law that Moses, my servant, commanded you. Do not turn aside from it right or left, so that you may be wise in every place where you go. ⁸This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth and you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you will watch to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your ways prosperous and then you will be wise. ⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and be courageous! Do not tremble and do not be dismayed. For Yahweh your God is with you in every place where you go."

¹⁰And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, ¹¹"Pass over within the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves because in yet three days you will be about to cross over this Jordan to enter to possess the land that Yahweh your God is about to give to you to possess it.'"

¹²And to the Reubenite and to the Gadite and to the half of the tribe of Manasseh, Joshua spoke, saying, ¹³"Remember the word that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded you, saying, 'Yahweh your God is about to give rest to you and he will give to you this land.' ¹⁴Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock will stay in the land that Moses gave to you on the other side of the Jordan. But you, you shall cross over before the face of your brothers arrayed for battle, all the mighty men of the army, and shall help them ¹⁵until when Yahweh gives rest to your brothers as you, and they, they also, possess the land that Yahweh your God is about to give to them. Then you shall return to the land of your possession and shall possess it, which Moses the servant of Yahweh gave to you on the other side of the Jordan, the rising place of the sun." ¹⁶And they answered Joshua, saying, "All that you have commanded us we will do, and to every place where you send us we will go. ¹⁷As in everything that we listened to Moses so we will listen to you. But Yahweh your God will be with you, just as he was with Moses. ¹⁸Every man who rebels against your mouth and will not hear your words for all that you command him will be put to death. Only be strong and be courageous."

Chapter 2

¹And Joshua the son of Nun secretly sent from the Shittim two men, spies, saying, "Go, see the land and Jericho." And they went and entered the house of a woman, a prostitute, and her name was Rahab, and they lay down there. ²And it was said to the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men have come here tonight from the sons of Israel to search the land." ³And the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men, the ones coming to you, who came to your house, because they have come to search all the land." ⁴And the woman took the two men and hid them. And she said, "Indeed, the men came to me and I did not know from where they were. ⁵And the gate was to shut at the darkness and the men went out. I do not know to where the men went. Pursue after them quickly for you will overtake them." ⁶(Now she had brought them up to the roof and had hidden them in the flaxes of the stalk

arranged by her on the roof.) ⁷And the men pursued after them on the road of the Jordan to the fords. And they had shut the gate after when the pursuers had gone out after them.

⁸Now before they had laid down she went up to them on the roof. ⁹And she said to the men, "I know that Yahweh has given to you the land and that dread of you has fallen on us and that all who dwell in the land have melted from your face. ¹⁰For we have heard that Yahweh dried up the water of the Sea of Reeds from before your face when you went out from Egypt, and what you did to two of the kings of the Amorite who were on the other side of the Jordan, to Sihon and to Og, them whom you completely destroyed. ¹¹And we have heard and our hearts have melted and the spirit in a man no longer stands from your face. For Yahweh your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth below. ¹²And now, please swear to me by Yahweh because I am doing kindness with you, that you also will do kindness with the house of my father and will give to me a sign of truth, ¹³and you will keep alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all who belong to them. And you will rescue our lives from death." ¹⁴And the men said to her, "Our lives in place of yours to death! If you do not tell this matter of ours, then it will happen when Yahweh gives to us the land that we will do kindness and faithfulness with you."

¹⁵And she lowered them down by a rope out through the window because her house was in the side of the wall, and she was dwelling in the wall. ¹⁶And she said to them, "Go to the mountain lest the ones pursuing meet you. And hide there three days until the ones pursuing have returned. And after you may go to your way." ¹⁷And the men said to her, "We will be innocent from this oath of yours which you have caused us to swear: ¹⁸Behold, we are about to come into the land! You shall tie this cord of thread of crimson in the window by which you lowered us down, and your father and your mother and your brothers and all the house of your father you shall gather to you at the house. ¹⁹And it will be that anyone who goes out from the doors of your house to the outside, his blood will be on his head and we will be innocent. But anyone who is with you in the house, his blood will be on our heads if a hand should be on him. ²⁰And if you tell this matter of ours, then we will be innocent from the oath of yours which you caused us to swear." ²¹And she said, "According to your words, so be it." And she sent them away and they went. And she tied the cord of crimson in the window.

²²And they went and came to the mountain and they stayed there three days until the pursuers had returned. And the ones pursuing searched in all the road and did not find them. ²³And the two men returned and went down from the mountain and crossed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun. And they recounted to him all that was finding them. ²⁴And they said to Joshua, "Truly Yahweh has given all the land into our hand. And also all those who dwell in the land are melting away from our face."

Chapter 3

¹And Joshua got up early in the morning and they set out from the Shittim. And they came as far as the Jordan, he and all the sons of Israel, and they stayed overnight there before they crossed over. ²And it happened at the end of three days, that the officers passed through the midst of the camp. ³And they commanded the people, saying, "As soon as you see the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh your God and the priests, the Levites, lifting it, then you yourselves shall set out from your place and shall go after it. ⁴But a distance shall be between you and it of about 2,000 cubits in measurement. Do not come near to it, so that you will know the way in which you should go, since you have not passed over by the way from yesterday or the day before.

⁵And Joshua said to the people, "Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow Yahweh will do wonders in your midst." ⁶And Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, "Lift up the Box of the Covenant and cross over before the face of the people." And they lifted up the Box of the Covenant and went before the face of the people.

⁷And Yahweh said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to make you great in the eyes of all Israel who will know that just as I was with Moses, I am with you. ⁸And as for you, you shall command the priests who lift the Box of the Covenant, saying, 'As soon as you come as far as the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand in the Jordan.'"

⁹And Joshua said to the sons of Israel, "Come near to here and hear the words of Yahweh your God." ¹⁰And Joshua said, "By this you will know that the living God is in your midst and will surely dispossess from your face the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Hivite and the Perizzite and the Girgashite and the Amorite and the Jebusite.

¹¹Behold, the Box of the Covenant of the Lord of all the earth is about to cross over before your face in the Jordan.

¹²And now, take for yourselves 12 men from the tribes of Israel, one man, one man for the tribe. ¹³And it will happen as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who lift the Box of Yahweh the Lord of all the earth rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan will be cut off, the waters going down from above. And they will stand as one heap."

¹⁴And it happened when the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, that the priests lifting the Box of the Covenant were before the face of the people. ¹⁵And as soon as those lifting the Box came as far as the Jordan then the feet of the priests lifting the Box were dipped in the edge of the water. (Now the Jordan was full over all its banks all the days of the harvest.) ¹⁶Then the waters going down from above stood. They rose up as one heap at a great distance away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those going down to the sea of the Arabah, the Sea of Salt, were completely cut off. (Now the people crossed over opposite Jericho.) ¹⁷So the priests lifting the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan. And all Israel was crossing over on dry ground until when all the nation had finished crossing over the Jordan.

Chapter 4

¹And it happened just as all the nation finished crossing over the Jordan that Yahweh spoke to Joshua, saying,

²"Take 12 men for yourselves from the people, one man, one man from a tribe. ³And command them saying: 'Lift up for yourselves 12 stones from here, from the midst of the Jordan, from the firm standing place of the feet of the priests. And you shall bring them over with you and you shall rest them in the lodging place in which you will lodge tonight.'"

⁴And Joshua called out to the 12 men whom he had appointed from the sons of Israel, one man, one man from a tribe. ⁵And Joshua said to them, "Cross over before the face of the Box of Yahweh your God into the midst of the Jordan. And lift up for yourselves, one stone a man upon his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Israel, ⁶so that this will be a sign in your midst. When your sons ask tomorrow, saying, 'What are these stones to you?' ⁷Then you will say to them, 'When the waters of the Jordan were cut off from the face of the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh, when it crossed over in the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.' And these stones will be for a memorial for the sons of Israel until eternity."

⁸And the sons of Israel did thus, just as Joshua commanded. And they lifted up 12 stones from the midst of the Jordan, just as Yahweh said to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Israel. And they brought them over with them to the lodging place and they rested them there. ⁹And Joshua set up 12 stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place of the standing place of the feet of the priests who carried the Box of the Covenant. And they are there until this day. ¹⁰And the priests who carried the Box stood in the midst of the Jordan until every thing that Yahweh commanded Joshua to speak to the people was finished, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. And the people hurried and crossed over. ¹¹And it happened just as all the people had finished crossing over, that the Box of Yahweh with the priests crossed over before the face of the people. ¹²And the sons of Reuben, and the sons of Gad, and the half of the tribe of Manasseh, armed men, crossed over before the face of the sons of Israel, just as Moses had spoken to them. ¹³About 40,000 men equipped for war of the army crossed over before the face of Yahweh to the plains of Jericho for the battle.

¹⁴On that day Yahweh made Joshua great in the eyes of all Israel. And they feared him just as they had feared Moses all the days of his life.

¹⁵And Yahweh spoke to Joshua, saying, ¹⁶"Command the priests who carry the Box of the Testimony and they shall come up from the Jordan." ¹⁷And Joshua commanded the priests, saying, "Come up from the Jordan." ¹⁸And it happened that when the priests carrying the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh came up from the midst of the Jordan,

the soles of the feet of the priests were drawn out to dry ground, then the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and went over all its banks, as yesterday and three days ago.

¹⁹Now the people came up from the Jordan on ten of the first month. And they camped at the Gilgal, at the end of the sunrise of Jericho. ²⁰And Joshua set up in the Gilgal these 12 stones that they had taken from the Jordan. ²¹And he spoke to the sons of Israel, saying, "When your sons ask their fathers tomorrow, saying, 'What are these stones?' ²²then you shall cause your sons to know, saying, 'Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry ground.' ²³For Yahweh your God dried up the waters of the Jordan from your face until you crossed over, just as Yahweh your God did to the Sea of Reeds, which he dried up before us until we crossed over, ²⁴so that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of Yahweh, that it is mighty, so that you will fear Yahweh your God all the days."

Chapter 5

¹And it happened that when all the kings of the Amorite who were on the other side of the Jordan toward the sea, and all the kings of the Canaanite who were beside the sea, heard that Yahweh had dried up the waters of the Jordan from the face of the sons of Israel until they had crossed over, then their heart melted, and there was no longer a spirit in them from the face of the sons of Israel.^[1]

²At that time Yahweh said to Joshua, "Make for yourself knives of flint and return, circumcise the sons of Israel a second time." ³And Joshua made for himself knives of flint. And he circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. ⁴And this is the reason that Joshua circumcised: All the people who had gone out from Egypt, the males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way, when they had gone out from Egypt. ⁵For all the people who went out were circumcised, but all the people who were born in the wilderness on the way as they went out from Egypt had not been circumcised. ⁶For the sons of Israel had walked in the wilderness 40 years, until the finishing of all the nation of the men of war who had gone out from Egypt, who had not listened to the voice of Yahweh, to whom Yahweh had sworn to not let them see the land that Yahweh had sworn to their fathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. ⁷And he raised up their sons instead of them, them Joshua circumcised. For they were uncircumcised because they had not circumcised them on the way. ⁸And it happened just as all the nation had finished being circumcised, that they stayed under them in the camp until their recovering. ⁹And Yahweh said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the disgrace of Egypt from on you." And the name of that place is called Gilgal until this day.

¹⁰And the sons of Israel camped at the Gilgal and they performed the Passover on day 14 of the month, in the evening, in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹And they ate from the produce of the land, from the next day of the Passover, unleavened bread and roasted grain, on this same day. ¹²And the manna stopped from the day after when they ate from the yield of the land, and there was no longer manna for the sons of Israel. And they ate from the produce of the land of Canaan in that year.

¹³And it happened when Joshua was in Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing in front of him and his drawn sword was in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" ¹⁴And he said, "No, but I, the leader of the army of Yahweh, now I have come. And Joshua fell on his face to the ground and bowed down. And he said to him, "What is my lord going to speak to his servant?" ¹⁵And the leader of the army of Yahweh said to Joshua, "Slip off your sandal from on your foot, because the place on which you are standing, it is holy." And Joshua did thus.

5:1 ^[1]

Chapter 6

¹And Jericho was shut and shut up from the face of the sons of Israel. There was no going out and there was no coming in. ²And Yahweh said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, and its king, the mighty ones of

the army. ³And you shall go around the city, all the men of war, going around the city one time. Thus you shall do six days. ⁴And seven priests shall lift seven horns of rams before the face of the Box. And on the seventh day you shall go around the city seven times and the priests shall blow with the horns. ⁵And it will happen that when sounding a blast with the horn of the ram, as soon as you hear the sound of the horn, all the people shall shout a great shout. And the wall of the city will fall under itself and the people will go up, a man straight in front of him."

⁶And Joshua the son of Nun called to the priests and said to them, "Lift the Box of the Covenant, and seven priests shall lift seven horns of rams before the face of the Box of Yahweh." ⁷And he said to the people, "Pass over and go around the city, and the men equipped for war will pass over before the face of the Box of Yahweh." ⁸And it happened that, as soon as Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying seven horns of rams before the face of Yahweh passed over and blew with the horns. And the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh was going behind them. ⁹And the men equipped for war were walking before the face of the priests, blowing the horns. And the rear guard were walking behind the Box, walking and blowing with the horns. ¹⁰And Joshua commanded the people, saying, "You shall not shout and you shall not make your voice heard, and a word shall not go out from your mouth until the day I say to you, 'Shout!' Then you shall shout." ¹¹And he brought the Box of Yahweh around the city, circling one time. And they entered the camp and they stayed the night in the camp.

¹²And Joshua got up early in the morning. And the priests lifted up the Box of Yahweh. ¹³And the seven priests who were carrying the seven horns of rams before the face of the Box of Yahweh were walking continually and blowing with the horns. And the men equipped for war were walking before their face, and the rear guard was walking behind the Box of Yahweh, walking and blowing with the horns. ¹⁴And they went around the city one time on the second day and returned to the camp. Thus they did six days.

¹⁵And it happened on the seventh day that they got up early as soon as the dawn had risen, and they went around the city according to this manner seven times. Only on that day they went around the city seven times. ¹⁶And it happened that on the seventh time, the priests blew with the horns. And Joshua said to the people, "Shout, for Yahweh has given to you the city! ¹⁷And the city, it and all that is in it, is a banned thing for Yahweh. Only Rahab the prostitute will live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers whom we sent. ¹⁸But only you, keep from the banned thing, lest you put under the ban and take from the banned thing and make the camp of Israel into a banned thing and trouble it. ¹⁹And all the silver and gold and objects of bronze and iron, it is a holy thing for Yahweh. It shall enter the storehouse of Yahweh." ²⁰And the people shouted and they blew with the horns. And it happened as soon as the people heard the sound of the horn, that the people shouted with a great shout. And the wall fell under itself, and the people went up to the city, a man straight in front of him, and they captured the city. ²¹And they completely destroyed all that was in the city by the mouth of the sword, from man and as far as woman, from young and as far as old, and as far as ox and sheep and donkey.

²²And Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, "Enter the house of the woman, the prostitute, and bring out from there the woman and all who belong to her, just as you swore to her." ²³And the young men, the ones who had spied, entered and brought out Rahab and her father and her mother and her brothers and all who belonged to her. And they brought out all her relatives and rested them outside the camp of Israel. ²⁴And they burned with fire the city and all that was in it. Only the silver and the gold and the objects of bronze and iron they gave to the storehouse of the house of Yahweh. ²⁵And Joshua kept alive Rahab the prostitute and the house of her father and all who belonged to her. And she has dwelt in the midst of Israel to this day because she hid the messengers whom Joshua had sent to spy on Jericho.

²⁶And Joshua made them take an oath at that time, saying, "Cursed is the man before the face of Yahweh who rises up and builds this city, Jericho. With his firstborn he will found it and with his youngest he will set up its doors."

²⁷And Yahweh was with Joshua. And the report of him was in all the land.

Chapter 7

¹And the sons of Israel were unfaithful in unfaithfulness with the banned thing. And Achan the son of Karmi the son of Zabdi the son of Zerah, from the tribe of Judah, took from the banned thing. And the nose of Yahweh burned against the sons of Israel.

²And Joshua sent men from Jericho to the Ai, which was near Beth Aven, from the east of Bethel. And he spoke to them, saying, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up and spied out the Ai. ³And they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Do not let all the people go up. About 2,000 men or about 3,000 men should go up and strike the Ai. Do not cause all the people to be weary there because they are few." ⁴And some from the people went up to there, about 3,000 men, and they fled before the face of the men of the Ai. ⁵And the men of the Ai struck down from them about 36 men and they pursued them before the face of the gate as far as the Shebarim. And they struck them down on the slope. And the heart of the people melted and became water.

⁶And Joshua tore his garments and fell on his face to the earth before the face of the Box of Yahweh until the evening, he and the elders of Israel. And they caused dust to go up on their heads. ⁷And Joshua said, "Ah, my Lord Yahweh! Why at all did you bring this people across the Jordan to give us into the hand of the Amorite, to cause us to perish? And if only we had been content and had stayed on the other side of the Jordan! ⁸Please, my Lord! What can I say, after Israel has turned the back of the neck before the face of its enemies? ⁹And the Canaanite and all those who dwell in the land will hear and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will you do for your great name?"

¹⁰And Yahweh said to Joshua, "Get yourself up! Why is this—you are falling on your face? ¹¹Israel has sinned and also passed over my covenant, which I commanded them, and also taken from the banned thing and also stolen and also deceived and also placed among their things. ¹²And the sons of Israel were not able to stand before the face of their enemies. They turned the back of the neck before the face of their enemies because they have become a banned thing. I will not be with you again if you do not destroy the banned thing from your midst. ¹³Get up! Consecrate the people and you shall say, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel, "A banned thing is in your midst, Israel. You will not be able to stand before the face of your enemies until you remove the banned thing from your midst." ¹⁴And you shall be brought near in the morning by your tribes. And it will happen that the tribe that Yahweh catches shall come near by the clans. And the clan that Yahweh catches shall come near by the houses. And the house that Yahweh catches shall come near by the men. ¹⁵And it will happen that the one who is caught with the banned thing shall be burned with the fire, he and all that belongs to him, because he has crossed over the covenant of Yahweh, and because he has done a disgraceful thing in Israel."

¹⁶And Joshua got up early in the morning and brought Israel near by its tribes. And the tribe of Judah was caught. ¹⁷And he brought near the clans of Judah and the clan of the Zerahite was caught. And he brought near the clan of the Zerahite by the men and Zabdi was caught. ¹⁸And he brought near his house by the men and Achan the son of Karmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, from the tribe of Judah, was caught. ¹⁹And Joshua said to Achan, "My son, now give glory to Yahweh the God of Israel and give thanks to him. And tell me now what you have done. Do not hide it from me." ²⁰And Achan answered Joshua and said, "Truly, I have sinned against Yahweh the God of Israel. And like this and like this I did: ²¹And I saw among the spoil one good coat of Shinar and 200 shekels silver and one tongue-shaped piece of gold (50 shekels was its weight). And I desired them and took them. And behold, they are hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent and the silver is under it."

²²And Joshua sent messengers and they ran to the tent. And behold, it was hidden in his tent and the silver was under it. ²³And they took them from the midst of the tent and brought them to Joshua and to all the sons of Israel. And they poured them out before the face of Yahweh. ²⁴And Joshua took Achan the son of Zerah and the silver and the coat and the tongue-shaped piece of gold and his sons and his daughters and his ox and his donkey and his sheep and his tent and all that was for him, and all Israel with him. And they brought them to the Valley of Trouble. ²⁵And Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? Yahweh will trouble you on this day." And all Israel stoned him with

stone. And they burned them with the fire and they stoned them with the stones. ²⁶And they raised up over him a great pile of stones until this day. And Yahweh turned from the burning of his nose. Therefore the name of that place is called the Valley of Trouble until this day.

Chapter 8

¹And Yahweh said to Joshua, "Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Take with you all the people of war and rise, go up to the Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of the Ai and his people and his city and his land. ²And you shall do to the Ai and its king just as you have done to Jericho and its king, except you will plunder its spoil and its livestock for yourselves. Set for yourselves an ambush against the city from behind it."

³And Joshua and all the people of war rose to go up to the Ai. And Joshua chose 30,000 men, mighty ones of the army, and sent them at night. ⁴And he commanded them, saying, "See, you lie in ambush against the city from behind the city. You shall not be very far from the city. And all of you shall be ready. ⁵As for me and all the people who are with me, we will come near to the city. And it will happen when they come out to meet us just as at the first, that we will flee before their face. ⁶And they will come out after us until we have drawn them from the city. For they will say, 'They are fleeing before our face just as at the first.' And we will flee before their face. ⁷And you will rise from ambush and take possession of the city. And Yahweh your God will give it into your hand. ⁸And it will happen that when you capture the city, you will kindle the city with fire. You will do according to the word of Yahweh. See, I have commanded you." ⁹And Joshua sent them and they went to the ambush place and they stayed between Bethel and the Ai from west of the Ai. And Joshua stayed overnight that night in the midst of the people.

¹⁰And Joshua got up early in the morning and mustered the people. And he and the elders of Israel went up before the face of the people to the Ai. ¹¹And all the people of war who were with him went up and approached and came before the city. And they camped from north of the Ai and the valley was between them and the Ai. ¹²And he took about 5,000 men. And he set them in ambush between Bethel and the Ai, from west of the city. ¹³And the people set all the camp that was from north of the city and its rear guard from west of the city. And Joshua went in that night into the midst of the valley. ¹⁴And it happened that as soon as the king of the Ai saw, then the men of the city hurried and got up early and went out to meet Israel for the battle, he and all his people, at an appointed place before the face of the Arabah. Now he did not know that an ambush was against him from behind the city. ¹⁵And Joshua and all Israel let themselves be struck before the face of them. And they fled the way of the wilderness. ¹⁶And all the people who were in the city were summoned to pursue after them. And they pursued after Joshua and were drawn away from the city. ¹⁷And there was not a man left in the Ai or Bethel who had not pursued after Israel. And they left the city open and they pursued after Israel.

¹⁸And Yahweh said to Joshua, "Stretch out with the javelin that is in your hand toward the Ai, because I will give it into your hand." And Joshua stretched out with the javelin that was in his hand toward the city. ¹⁹And the ambush rose quickly from its place and they ran when he stretched out his hand. And they entered the city and captured it and hurried and kindled the city with fire. ²⁰And the men of the Ai turned behind them and looked, and behold, the smoke of the city went up to the heavens! And it was not in their hands to flee here or there. And the people who had fled to the wilderness turned around toward the pursuers. ²¹And Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city went up. And they turned back and struck down the men of the Ai. ²²And these came out from the city to meet them and they were in the midst of Israel, these from here and these from there. And they struck them down until he left no survivor or refugee of them. ²³And they seized the king of the Ai alive. And they brought him near to Joshua.

²⁴And it happened when Israel had finished slaying all those who dwelled in the Ai in the field in the wilderness in which they pursued them, and all of them had fallen by the mouth of the sword until they were finished, that all Israel returned to the Ai and struck it with the mouth of the sword. ²⁵And it happened that all the ones who fell on that day, from man and as far as woman, were 12,000, all the men of the Ai. ²⁶And Joshua did not turn back his hand which he had stretched out with the javelin, until when he had completely destroyed all those who dwelled in

the Ai. ²⁷Israel plundered for themselves only the livestock and the spoil of that city, according to the word of Yahweh which he had commanded Joshua. ²⁸And Joshua burned the Ai. And he made it a mound of eternity, a desolation until this day. ²⁹And he hanged the king of the Ai on a tree until the time of the evening. And when the sun was going, Joshua commanded and they brought down his corpse from the tree and threw it at the opening of the gate of the city and raised over it a great pile of stones until this day.

³⁰Then Joshua built an altar to Yahweh the God of Israel on Mount Ebal. ³¹It was just as Moses the servant of Yahweh had commanded the sons of Israel, as written in the book of the law of Moses: "An altar of whole stones, over which no one has wielded an iron tool." And they offered up on it burnt up offerings to Yahweh and sacrificed peace offerings. ³²And there on the stones he wrote a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote before the face of the sons of Israel. ³³And all Israel and its elders and officers and its judges were standing from here and from there at the Box in front of the priests and the Levites who carried the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh, like the foreigner so the native, half of them toward the front of Mount Gerizim and half of them toward the front of Mount Ebal. It was just as Moses the servant of Yahweh had commanded to bless the people of Israel at the first. ³⁴And afterward, he read all the words of the law, the blessings and the curses, according to all that is written in the book of the law. ³⁵There was not a word from all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read in front of all the assembly of Israel and the women and the children and the sojourners who are going in the midst of them.

Chapter 9

¹And it happened that as soon as all the kings heard it who were on the other side of the Jordan, in the hill country, and in the lowlands and in all the coast of the great sea toward the front of the Lebanon (the Hittite and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite), ²then they gathered themselves together as one mouth to fight against Joshua and against Israel.

³And those who dwelled in Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to the Ai. ⁴And they, even they, acted with cunning. And they went and acted as envoys and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys and worn-out and torn and mended skins of wine.^[1] ⁵And worn-out and patched sandals were on their feet, and worn-out garments were on them, and all the bread of their provisions was dry and had become crumbs. ⁶And they went to Joshua in the camp at the Gilgal. And they said to him and to a man of Israel, "We have come from a distant land, and now cut a covenant for us." ⁷And they said, a man of Israel, to the Hivite, "Perhaps you are dwelling among us. And how can I cut a covenant for you?" ⁸And they said to Joshua, "We are your servants." And Joshua said to them, "Who are you? And where did you come from?" ⁹And they said to him, "Your servants have come from a very distant land for the name of Yahweh your God. For we have heard a report of him and all that he did in Egypt, ¹⁰and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorite who were on the other side of the Jordan, to Sihon the king of Heshbon, and to Og the king of the Bashan who was in Ashtaroth. ¹¹And our elders and all those who dwell in our land spoke to us, saying, 'Take provisions in your hand for the road and go to meet them. And you shall say to them, "We are your servants. And now cut a covenant for us."' ¹²This bread of ours was hot, we took it as our provision from our houses on the day of our going out to come to you. And now, behold, it is dry and has become crumbs. ¹³And these skins of wine that we filled were new, and behold, they are torn. And these, our garments and our sandals, are worn-out from the very great length of the road." ¹⁴And the men took from their provisions. But they did not ask the mouth of Yahweh. ¹⁵And Joshua made peace for them, and cut a covenant for them to let them live. And the leaders of the congregation swore to them.

¹⁶And it happened from the end of three days after when they had cut a covenant for them, that they heard that they were near to them and they were dwelling among them. ¹⁷And the sons of Israel set out and came to their cities on the third day. And their cities were Gibeon and Kephirah and Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim. ¹⁸And the sons of Israel did not strike them down because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by Yahweh the God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the leaders. ¹⁹And all the leaders said to all the congregation, "We ourselves have sworn to them by Yahweh the God of Israel. And now we are not able to touch them. ²⁰We will do this to them and let them live. And wrath will not be on us on account of the oath which we swore to them."

²¹And the leaders said to them, "Let them live." And they became cutters of trees and drawers of water for all the congregation, just as the leaders had spoken to them.

²²And Joshua called to them and spoke to them, saying, "Why did you deceive us, saying, 'We are very far from you,' but you are dwelling among us? ²³And now you are cursed. And a slave will not be cut off from you, and cutters of trees and drawers of water for the house of my God." ²⁴And they answered Joshua and said, "Because it was clearly told to your servants that Yahweh your God commanded his servant Moses to give to you all the land and to destroy all those who dwell in the land from before your face. And we were very afraid for our lives because of your face, so we did this thing. ²⁵And now, behold, we are in your hand. Do to us as is good and as is right in your eyes to do." ²⁶And he did thus to them. And he rescued them from the hand of the sons of Israel and they did not slay them. ²⁷And on that day Joshua made them cutters of trees and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of Yahweh, until this day, in the place that he would choose.

9:4 ^[1]

Chapter 10

¹And it happened that as soon as Adoni-Zedek the king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had captured the Ai and had completely destroyed it (just as he had done to Jericho and to its king, so he had done to the Ai and to its king), and that those who dwelled in Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were among them, ²then they were very afraid because Gibeon was a great city, like one of the cities of the kingdom, and because it was greater than the Ai, and all its men were mighty ones. ³And Adoni-Zedek the king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham the king of Hebron and to Piram the king of Jarmuth and to Japhia the king of Lachish and to Debir the king of Eglon, saying, ⁴"Come up to me and help me. And let us strike Gibeon. For it has made peace with Joshua and with the sons of Israel."

⁵And the five kings of the Amorites gathered and went up: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon—they and all their camps. And they camped against Gibeon and fought against it. ⁶And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua, to the camp at the Gilgal, saying, "Do not let your hand drop from your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us and help us because all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the hill country have gathered against us." ⁷And Joshua went up from the Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him and all the mighty ones of the army.

⁸And Yahweh said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid from them, for they are given into your hand. Not a man from them will stand before you." ⁹And Joshua came to them suddenly, all the night he went up from the Gilgal. ¹⁰And Yahweh confused them before the face of Israel and struck them down with a great blow in Gibeon. And he pursued them on the road going up to Beth Horon and he struck them down as far as Azekah and as far as Makkedah. ¹¹And it happened when they fled from the face of Israel, they were on the slope of Beth Horon, that Yahweh threw large stones on them from the heavens as far as Azekah and they died. There were more who died by the stones of hail than the sons of Israel slew with the sword.

¹²Then Joshua spoke to Yahweh on the day Yahweh gave the Amorites before the face of the sons of Israel. And he said before the eyes of Israel,

"Sun, be still in Gibeon,

and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."

¹³And the sun was still and the moon stood

until the nation took vengeance on its enemies.

Is it not written in the Book of the Upright?

"And the sun stood in the middle of the heavens,

and it did not hurry to go for about a whole day.^[1] ¹⁴And there has been no day like this before the face of it or after it, when Yahweh listened to the voice of a man. For Yahweh fought for Israel. ¹⁵And Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp at the Gilgal.

¹⁶And these five kings had fled and hidden themselves in the cave in Makkedah. ¹⁷And it was told to Joshua, saying, "The five kings have been found hidden in the cave in Makkedah." ¹⁸And Joshua said, "Roll large stones to the mouth of the cave and assign men beside it to guard them. ¹⁹But you, do not stay! Chase after your enemies and strike their rear. Do not allow them to enter into their cities for Yahweh your God has given them into your hand." ²⁰And it happened as soon as Joshua and the sons of Israel finished striking them down with a very great blow until they had finished, that the escapees escaped from them and entered into the cities of fortification. ²¹And all the people returned in peace to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah. No man sharpened his tongue against the sons of Israel.

²²And Joshua said, "Open the mouth of the cave. And bring out to me these five kings from the cave." ²³And they did so and brought out to him these five kings from the cave: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon. ²⁴And it happened as soon as they brought out these kings to Joshua, that Joshua called to every man of Israel and said to the commanders of the men of war, the ones who had gone with him, "Come near. Set your feet on the necks of these kings." So they came near and set their feet on their necks. ²⁵And Joshua said to them, "Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Be strong and be courageous, for thus Yahweh will do to all your enemies, they whom you are about to fight." ²⁶And Joshua struck them down afterward and he put them to death and hanged them on five trees. And they were hanging on the trees until the evening. ²⁷And it happened that at the time of the going of the sun Joshua commanded and they brought them down from on the trees and threw them into the cave there where they were hidden. And they set large stones over the mouth of the cave until this same day.

²⁸And Joshua captured Makkedah on that day. And he struck down it and its king by the mouth of the sword. He completely destroyed them and all the life that was in it; he did not leave a survivor. And he did to the king of Makkedah just as he had done to the king of Jericho.

²⁹And Joshua and all Israel with him passed over from Makkedah to Libnah. And he fought against Libnah. ³⁰And Yahweh also gave it and its king into the hand of Israel, and he struck it down with the mouth of the sword and all the life that was in it; he did not leave a survivor in it. And he did to its king just as he had done to the king of Jericho.

³¹And Joshua and all Israel with him passed over from Libnah to Lachish. And he camped against it and fought against it. ³²And Yahweh gave Lachish into the hand of Israel and he captured it on the second day. And he struck it down by the mouth of the sword and all the life that was in it like all that he had done to Libnah.

³³Then Horam the king of Gezer went up to help Lachish. And Joshua struck him and his people down until he left no survivor for him. ³⁴And Joshua and all Israel with him passed over from Lachish to Eglon. And they camped against it and fought against it. ³⁵And they captured it on that day and struck it down by the mouth of the sword. And he completely destroyed all the life that was in it on that day like all that he had done to Lachish.

³⁶And Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron. And they fought against it. ³⁷And they captured it and struck it down by the mouth of the sword and its king and all its cities and all the life that was in it. He did not leave a survivor, like all that he had done to Eglon. And he completely destroyed it and all the life that was in it.

³⁸And Joshua and all Israel with him turned to Debir. And he fought against it. ³⁹And they captured it and its king and all its cities and struck them down by the mouth of the sword and completely destroyed all the life that was in it; he did not leave a survivor. Just as he had done to Hebron, thus he did to Debir and to its king, and just as he had done to Libnah and to its king.

⁴⁰And Joshua struck down all the land: the hill country, and the Negev, and the lowlands, and the slopes, and all their kings. He did not leave a survivor. And he completely destroyed every breathing thing, just as Yahweh the God of Israel had commanded. ⁴¹And Joshua struck them down from Kadesh Barnea and as far as Gaza and all the land of Goshen and as far as Gibeon. ⁴²And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time. For Yahweh the God of Israel fought for Israel. ⁴³And Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp at the Gilgal.

10:13 ^[1]

Chapter 11

¹And it happened as soon as Jabin the king of Hazor heard, that he sent to Jobab the king of Madon and to the king of Shimron and to the king of Akshaph ²and to the kings who were from the north in the hill country and in the Arabah south of Kinnereth and in the lowlands and in the heights of Dor from the west, ³the Canaanite from sunrise and from the west, and the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Jebusite in the hill country and the Hivite below Hermon in the land of the Mizpah. ⁴And they went out, they and all their camps with them, many people like the sand that is on the shore of the sea with respect to abundance and very many horses and chariots. ⁵And all these kings gathered by appointment and came and camped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel.

⁶And Yahweh said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid because of their face, because tomorrow at this time I am going to make all of them pierced ones before the face of Israel. You will hamstring their horses and you will burn their chariots with fire." ⁷And Joshua and all the people of war with him came against them suddenly beside the waters of Merom. And they fell on them. ⁸And Yahweh gave them into the hand of Israel and they struck them down and chased them as far as Great Sidon and as far as Misrephoth Maim and as far as the Valley of Mizpah toward sunrise. And they struck them down until he did not leave a survivor for them. ⁹And Joshua did to them just as Yahweh said to him. He hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.

¹⁰And Joshua returned at that time and captured Hazor, and struck down its king with the sword because Hazor, it was formerly the head of all these kingdoms. ¹¹And they struck down all the life that was in it by the mouth of the sword, destroying completely, there was not left any breathing thing. And he burned Hazor with fire. ¹²And Joshua captured all the cities of these kings and all their kings and struck them down by the mouth of the sword. He completely destroyed them just as Moses the servant of Yahweh had commanded. ¹³Only all the cities standing on their mounds, Israel did not burn them, except Hazor, it alone Joshua burned. ¹⁴And all the spoil of these cities and the livestock, the sons of Israel plundered for themselves. Only every man they struck down by the edge of the sword until they had annihilated them. They did not leave any breathing thing. ¹⁵Just as Yahweh had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He did not remove a thing from all that Yahweh had commanded Moses.

¹⁶And Joshua took all this land: the hill country, and all the Negev, and all the land of Goshen, and the lowlands, and the Arabah, and the hill country of Israel, and its lowlands; ¹⁷from Mount Halak the ascent to Seir, and as far as Baal Gad in the valley of the Lebanon below Mount Hermon. And he captured all their kings and struck them down and put them to death. ¹⁸Joshua made war with all these kings many days. ¹⁹There was not a city that made peace with the sons of Israel except the Hivites who dwelled in Gibeon. They took all in battle. ²⁰For it was from Yahweh to harden their heart to meet battle with Israel in order to completely destroy them, so that there would not be favor for them. But it was in order to annihilate them just as Yahweh had commanded Moses.

²¹And Joshua came at that time and cut off the Anakites 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 completely destroyed them with their cities. ²²No Anakites were left in the land of the sons of Israel, except they remained in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod. ²³And Joshua took all the land, according to all that Yahweh had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their portions by their tribes. And the land was at rest from war.

Chapter 12

¹And these are the kings of the land, whom the sons of Israel struck down and dispossessed of their land on the other side of the Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from the wadi of Arnon to Mount Hermon, and all the Arabah toward sunrise:

²Sihon the king of the Amorites, who dwelled in Heshbon, who ruled from Aroer, which is on the lip of the wadi of Arnon and the middle of the wadi, and half of the Gilead and up to the Jabbok wadi, the border of the sons of Ammon,

³and the Arabah to the Sea of Kinnereth toward sunrise, and to the Sea of the Arabah (the Sea of Salt) toward sunrise, the road to Beth Jeshimoth, and from the south below the slopes of the Pisgah.

⁴And the territory of Og the king of the Bashan, from the remnant of the Rephaites, who dwelled in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, ⁵and who ruled in Mount Hermon, and in Salekah, and in all the Bashan, as far as the border of the Geshurite and the Maacathite, and half of the Gilead, the border of Sihon the king of Heshbon. ⁶Moses the servant of Yahweh and the sons of Israel had struck them down. And Moses the servant of Yahweh had given it as a possession to the Reubenite and to the Gadite and to the half of the tribe of Manasseh.

⁷And these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel struck down on the other side of the Jordan, to the west, from Baal Gad in the valley of the Lebanon, and to Mount Halak, which ascends toward Seir. And Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a possession according to their portions, ⁸in the hill country, and in the lowlands, and in the Arabah, and in the slopes, and in the wilderness, and in the Negev—the Hittite, the Amorite, and the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: ⁹the king of Jericho, one; the king of the Ai, which is from the side of Bethel, one; ¹⁰the king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one; ¹¹the king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one; ¹²the king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one; ¹³the king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one; ¹⁴the king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one; ¹⁵the king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one; ¹⁶the king of Makkedah, one; the king of Bethel, one; ¹⁷the king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hopher, one; ¹⁸the king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one; ¹⁹the king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one; ²⁰the king of Shimron Meron, one; the king of Akshaph, one; ²¹the king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one; ²²the king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam of Carmel, one; ²³the king of Dor of Naphoth Dor, one; the king of the Nations of Gilgal, one; ²⁴and the king of Tirzah, one. All the kings were 31.

Chapter 13

¹Now Joshua was old and had come in the days. And Yahweh said to him, “You are old and have come in the days and very much land remains to take possession of. ²This is the remaining land: all the territories of the Philistine, and all of the Geshurite, ³from Shihor, which is on the face of Egypt, and as far as the border of Ekron to the north (it is counted as Canaanite), the five rulers of the Philistines, the Gazite, and the Ashdodite, the Ashkelonite, the Gathite, and the Ekronite, and the Avvites; ⁴from the south, all the land of the Canaanite, and a cave that is for the Sidonians, as far as Aphek, as far as the border of the Amorite; ⁵and the land of the Gebalite, and all the Lebanon toward the rising of the sun, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon as far as Lebo Hamath. ⁶All those who dwell in the hill country from the Lebanon as far as Misrephoth Maim, all the Sidonians, I myself will dispossess them from the face of the sons of Israel. Only you shall cause it to fall to Israel as an inheritance, just as I commanded you.

⁷And now apportion this land as an inheritance to the nine tribes and the half of the tribe of Manasseh.”

⁸With him the Reubenite and the Gadite had taken their inheritance that Moses gave to them on the other side of the Jordan toward sunrise, just as Moses the servant of Yahweh had given to them: ⁹from Aroer, which is on the lip of the wadi of Arnon, and the city that is in the middle of the wadi, and all the plateau of Medeba to Dibon; ¹⁰and all the cities of Sihon the king of the Amorite, who reigned in Heshbon, as far as the border of the sons of Ammon; ¹¹and the Gilead, and the territory of the Geshurite and the Maacathite, and all Mount Hermon, and all the Bashan

as far as Salekah; ¹²all the kingdom of Og in the Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (he remained from the remnant of the Rephaites) and Moses struck them down and dispossessed them. ¹³But the sons of Israel did not dispossess the Geshurite and the Maacathite. And Geshur and Maacath dwell in the midst of Israel to this day. ¹⁴Only to the tribe of Levi he did not give an inheritance. The offerings made by fire to Yahweh the God of Israel, they are his inheritance, just as he spoke to him.

¹⁵And Moses gave to the tribe of the sons of Reuben, according to their clans. ¹⁶And the territory for them was from Aroer, which is on the lip of the wadi of Arnon, and the city that is in the middle of the wadi, and all the plateau beside Medeba, ¹⁷Heshbon and all its cities that are in the plateau, Dibon, and Bamoth Baal, and Beth Baal Meon, ¹⁸and Jahaz, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath, ¹⁹and Kiriathaim, and Sibmah, and Zereth Shahaar on the hill of the valley, ²⁰and Beth Peor, and the slopes of the Pisgah, and Beth Jeshimoth, ²¹and all the cities of the plateau, and all the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses had struck down, he and the leaders of Midian: Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba (the princes of Sihon who had dwelled in the land). ²²And the sons of Israel slew with the sword Balaam the son of Beor, the diviner, with their pierced ones. ²³And it happened that the border of the sons of Reuben was the Jordan and the border. This is the inheritance of the sons of Reuben according to their clans—the cities and their villages.

²⁴And Moses gave to the tribe of Gad, to the sons of Gad according to their clans. ²⁵And the territory for them was Jazer and all the cities of the Gilead and half of the land of the sons of Ammon, as far as Aroer, which is on the face of Rabbah, ²⁶and from Heshbon to Ramath Mizpah and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the border of Debir, ²⁷and in the valley, Beth Haram, and Beth Nimrah, and Succoth, and Zaphon, and the rest of the kingdom of Sihon the king of Heshbon, with the Jordan and the border, as far as the end of the Sea of Kinnereth, beyond the Jordan toward sunrise. ²⁸This is the inheritance of the sons of Gad according to their clans—the cities and their villages.

²⁹And Moses gave to the half of the tribe of Manasseh, and it was to the half of the tribe of the sons of Manasseh according to their clans. ³⁰And their territory was from Mahanaim, all the Bashan, all the kingdom of Og the king of the Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which are in the Bashan, 60 cities; ³¹and half of the Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei (the cities of the kingdom of Og in the Bashan) were for the sons of Machir the son of Manasseh, for half of the sons of Machir according to their clans. ³²These are what Moses gave as an inheritance in the plains of Moab, from the other side of the Jordan, Jericho toward sunrise.

³³But Moses did not give an inheritance to the tribe of the Levite. Yahweh the God of Israel, he is their inheritance, just as he spoke to them.

Chapter 14

¹And these are what the sons 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 sons of Israel gave them as an inheritance. ²Their inheritance was by lot for the nine tribes and the half of the tribe, just as Yahweh had commanded by the hand of Moses. ³For Moses had given the inheritance of the two tribes and the half of the tribe from the other side of the Jordan. But to the Levites he had not given an inheritance in the midst of them. ⁴For the sons of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. And they did not give a portion to the Levites in the land, but rather cities to dwell in, and their pasturelands for their livestock and for their property. ⁵Just as Yahweh had commanded Moses, so the sons of Israel did. And they apportioned the land.

⁶And the sons of Judah came near to Joshua in the Gilgal, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You yourself know the word which Yahweh spoke to Moses the man of God on account of me and on account of you at Kadesh Barnea. ⁷I was a son of 40 years when Moses the servant of Yahweh sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land. And I brought back word to him just as was in my heart. ⁸And my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt. But I was fully after Yahweh my God. ⁹And Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land on which your foot has trodden will be for an inheritance for you and for your sons until eternity.

For you were fully after Yahweh my God.¹⁰ And now, behold! Yahweh has kept me alive these 45 years, just as he spoke, from when Yahweh spoke this word to Moses, when Israel walked in the wilderness. And now, behold! Today I am a son of 85 years.¹¹ I am still as strong today just as on the day Moses sent me. As my strength was then, so my strength is now, for war, and for going out, and for coming in.¹² And now, give to me this hill country of which Yahweh spoke on that day. For you yourself heard on that day that the Anakites were there and great fortified cities. Perhaps Yahweh will be with me and I will dispossess them, just as Yahweh has spoken.”

¹³And Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance.¹⁴ Therefore, Hebron belongs to Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite for an inheritance until this day, because he was fully after Yahweh the God of Israel.¹⁵ (And the name of Hebron formerly was Kiriath Arba. He was a great man among the Anakites.) And the land was at rest from war.

Chapter 15

¹And the lot for the tribe of the sons of Judah, according to their clans, was to the border of Edom, from the wilderness of Zin in the Negev, from the end of the south.² And the border of the south for them was from the end of the Sea of Salt, from the tongue turning to the south.³ And it went out to the south to the Ascent of Scorpions and passed over to Zin, and went up from the south to Kadesh Barnea, and passed over to Hebron, and went up to Addar, and went around to the Karka.⁴ And it passed over to Azmon, and went out the wadi of Egypt, and the exits of the border were at the sea. This will be for you the border of the south.⁵ And the border of the east was the Sea of Salt, as far as the end of the Jordan. And the border to the side of the north was from the tongue of the sea from the end of the Jordan.⁶ And the border went up to Beth Hoglah and passed over from the north to Beth Arabah. And the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.⁷ And the border went up to Debir from the Valley of Trouble, and to the north, turning to the Gilgal, which is in front of the ascent of Adummim, which is from the south of the wadi. And the border passed over to the waters of En Shemesh and its exits are at En Rogel.⁸ And the border went up the valley of Ben Hinnom to the shoulder of the Jebusites from the south (it is Jerusalem). And the border went up to the head of the hill that is on the face of the valley of Hinnom, to the west, which is at the end of the valley of the Rephaites to the north.⁹ And the border turned from the head of the hill to the spring of the waters of Nephtoah, and went out to the cities of Mount Ephron. And the border turned to Baalah (it is Kiriath Jearim).¹⁰ And the border went around from Baalah to the west to Mount Seir, and passed over to the shoulder of Mount Jearim from the north (it is Kesalon), and went down to Beth Shemesh, and passed over to Timnah.¹¹ And the border went out to the shoulder of Ekron to the north. And the border turned toward Shikkeron and passed over to Mount Baalah, and went out to Jabneel. And the exits of the border were at the sea.¹² And the border of the west was the great sea and the border. This is the border of the sons of Judah all around, according to their clans.

¹³And to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a portion in the midst of the sons of Judah according to the mouth of Yahweh to Joshua: Kiriath Arba (the father of the Anak), it is Hebron.¹⁴ And Caleb dispossessed from there the three sons of the Anak: Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai, the children of the Anak.¹⁵ And he went up from there against those dwelling in Debir. And the name of Debir was formerly Kiriath Sepher.¹⁶ And Caleb said, “Whoever strikes down Kiriath Sepher and captures it, I will give to him Aksah my daughter for a wife.”¹⁷ And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, captured it. And he gave to him Aksah his daughter for a wife.¹⁸ And it happened when she came to him, that she incited him to ask for a field from with her father. And she got down from on the donkey, and Caleb said to her, “What is for you?”¹⁹ And she said, “Give to me a blessing. Because you have given me the land of the Negev, then you must give to me springs of water.” And he gave to her the upper springs and lower springs.

²⁰This is the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Judah, according to their clans:²¹ And the cities were at the end of the tribe of the sons of Judah, toward the border of Edom in the Negev: Kabzeel and Eder and Jagur²² and Kinah and Dimonah and Adadah²³ and Kedesh and Hazor and Ithnan,²⁴ Ziph and Telem and Bealoth²⁵ and Hazor Hadattah and Kerioth Hebron (it is Hazor),²⁶ Amam and Shema and Moladah²⁷ and Hazar Gaddah and Heshmon and Beth Pelet²⁸ and Hazar Shual and Beersheba and Biziothiah,²⁹ Baalah and Iyim and Ezem³⁰ and Eltolad and

Kesil and Hormah ³¹and Ziklag and Madmannah and Sansannah ³²and Lebaoth and Shilhim and Ain and Rimmon. All the cities were 29 and their villages.

³³In the lowlands: Eshtaol and Zorah and Ashnah ³⁴and Zanoah and En Gannim, Tappuah and the Enam, ³⁵Jarmuth and Adullam, Sokoh and Azekah ³⁶and Shaaraim and Adithaim and the Gederah and Gederothaim; 14 cities and their villages. ³⁷Zenan and Hadashah and Migdalgad ³⁸and Dilean and the Mizpah and Joktheel, ³⁹Lachish and Bozkath and Eglon ⁴⁰and Kabbon and Lahmas and Kitlish ⁴¹and Gederoth, Beth Dagon and Naamah and Makkedah; 16 cities and their villages.

⁴²Libnah and Ether and Ashan ⁴³and Iphtah and Ashnah and Nezib ⁴⁴and Keilah and Akzib and Maresha; nine cities and their villages. ⁴⁵Ekron, and its daughters and its villages; ⁴⁶from Ekron and to the sea, all that were on the hand of Ashdod and their villages. ⁴⁷Ashdod and its towns and its villages, Gaza and its towns and its villages, as far as the wadi of Egypt and the great sea and the border.

⁴⁸And in the hill country: Shamir and Jattir and Sokoh ⁴⁹and Dannah and Kiriath Sannah (it is Debir) ⁵⁰and Anab and Eshtemoh and Anim ⁵¹and Goshen and Holon and Giloh; 11 cities and their villages. ⁵²Arab and Dumah and Eshan ⁵³and Janim and Beth Tappuah and Aphekah ⁵⁴and Humtah and Kiriath Arba (it is Hebron) and Zior; nine cities and their villages.

⁵⁵Maon, Carmel and Ziph and Juttah ⁵⁶and Jezreel and Jokdeam and Zanoah, ⁵⁷the Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah; ten cities and their villages. ⁵⁸Halhul, Beth Zur and Gedor ⁵⁹and Maarath and Beth Anoth and Eltekon; six cities and their villages. ⁶⁰Kiriath Baal (it is Kiriath Jearim) and the Rabbah; two cities and their villages.

⁶¹In the wilderness: Beth Arabah, Middin and Secacah ⁶²and Nibshan and the City of Salt and En Gedi; six cities and their villages.

⁶³And the Jebusites who dwelled in Jerusalem, the sons of Judah were not able to dispossess them, so the Jebusites have dwelled with the sons of Judah in Jerusalem until this day.

Chapter 16

¹And the lot for the sons of Joseph went out from the Jordan at Jericho, to the waters of Jericho toward sunrise, the wilderness going up from Jericho in the hill country of Bethel. ²And it went out from Bethel to Luz and passed over to the border of the Arkites at Ataroth. ³And it went down to the west to the border of the Japhletite, as far as the border of Lower Beth Horon, and as far as Gezer, and its exits were at the sea.

⁴And the sons of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, received an inheritance. ⁵And the border of the sons of Ephraim was according to their clans. And the border of their inheritance toward sunrise was Ataroth Addar as far as Upper Beth Horon, ⁶And the border went out to the sea, the Mikmethath from the north, and the border went around toward sunrise at Taanath Shiloh and passed by it from the sunrise to Janoah. ⁷And it went down from Janoah to Ataroth and Naarah and reached Jericho and came out at the Jordan. ⁸From Tappuah the border went to the west to the wadi of Kanah and its exits were at the sea. This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Ephraim, according to their clans, ⁹and the cities that were set apart for the sons of Ephraim in the midst of the inheritance of the sons of Manasseh, all the cities and their villages. ¹⁰And they did not dispossess the Canaanite who dwelled in Gezer, so the Canaanite has dwelled within Ephraim until this day, and he has become a forced laborer who serves.

Chapter 17

¹And the lot was for the tribe of Manasseh (because he was the firstborn of Joseph), for Makir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of the Gilead. And the Gilead and the Bashan were given to him because he himself was a

man of war. ²And it was for the remaining sons of Manasseh, according to their clans, for the sons of Abiezer and for the sons of Helek and for the sons of Asriel and for the sons of Shechem and for the sons of Hephher and for the sons of Shemida. These were the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the males according to their clans. ³And for Zelophehad the son of Hephher, the son of Gilead, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh, there were no sons for him, but rather daughters. And these were the names of his daughters: Mahlah and Noah, Hoglah, Milkah and Tirzah. ⁴And they came near before the face of Eleazar the priest and before the face of Joshua the son of Nun and before the face of the leaders, saying, "Yahweh commanded Moses to give to us an inheritance in the midst of our brothers." And he gave to them an inheritance according to the mouth of Yahweh in the midst of the brothers of their father. ⁵And ten measured portions of Manasseh fell, apart from the land of the Gilead and the Bashan, which were from the other side of the Jordan. ⁶For the daughters of Manasseh inherited an inheritance in the midst of his sons. And the land of the Gilead was for the remaining sons of Manasseh.

⁷And the border of Manasseh was from Asher to the Mikmethath, which is on the face of Shechem. And the border went to the right to those dwelling at the spring of Tappuah. ⁸(The land of Tappuah was for Manasseh. And Tappuah at the border of Manasseh was for the sons of Ephraim.) ⁹And the border went down to the wadi of Kanah, to the south of the wadi. These cities were for Ephraim in the midst of the cities of Manasseh. And the border of Manasseh was from north of the wadi, and its exits were at the sea. ¹⁰To the south was for Ephraim, and to the north was for Manasseh, and the sea was its border. And it meets with Asher from the north and with Issachar from the sunrise. ¹¹And for Manasseh in Issachar and in Asher was Beth Shan and its daughters and Ibleam and its daughters and those who dwelled in Dor and its daughters and those who dwelled in En Dor and its daughters and those who dwelled in Taanach and its daughters and those who dwelled in Megiddo and its daughters, the three of Napheth. ¹²And the sons of Manasseh were not able to take possession of these cities. And the Canaanite was determined to dwell in this land. ¹³And it happened when the sons of Israel were strong, that they put the Canaanite to forced labor. And they did not completely dispossess them.

¹⁴And the sons of Joseph spoke with Joshua, saying, "Why have you given to me one lot and one measured portion as an inheritance, and I am a numerous people, Yahweh has blessed me until up to now?" ¹⁵And Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up for yourself to the forest and clear for yourself there in the land of the Perizzite and the Rephaites. For the hill country of Ephraim is narrow for you." ¹⁶And the sons of Joseph said, "The hill country is not enough for us, and the chariot of iron is with every Canaanite who dwells in the land of the valley, for those who are in Beth Shan and its daughters and those who are in the valley of Jezreel." ¹⁷And Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, "You are a numerous people and great power is for you. There will not be one lot for you. ¹⁸But the hill country will be for you, though it is a forest, and you will clear it and its exits will be for you. For you will dispossess the Canaanite, though the chariot of iron is for him, though he is strong."

Chapter 18

¹And all the congregation of the sons of Israel assembled at Shiloh and placed the Tent of Meeting there. And the land was subdued before their face. ²And seven tribes remained among the sons of Israel that had not apportioned their inheritance. ³And Joshua said to the sons of Israel, "Until when will you be showing yourselves slack to enter to possess the land that Yahweh the God of your fathers has given to you? ⁴Provide for yourselves three men according to the tribe. And I will send them out and they will rise and walk about in the land and write it down according to the mouth of their inheritance and come to me. ⁵And they will apportion it among themselves for seven portions. Judah will stand on its border from the south, and the house of Joseph will stand on their border from the north. ⁶And you will write down the land in seven portions and bring them here to me. And I will throw a lot for you here before the face of Yahweh our God. ⁷But there is no portion within you for the Levites because the priesthood of Yahweh is their inheritance. And Gad and Reuben and the half of the tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance from the other side of the Jordan toward sunrise, which Moses the servant of Yahweh gave to them."

⁸And the men rose and went. And Joshua commanded the ones who went to write down the land, saying, "Go and walk about in the land and write it down and return to me. And I will throw a lot for you here before the face of Yahweh in Shiloh." ⁹And the men went and passed over in the land and wrote it down on a book according to the cities in seven portions. And they came to Joshua, to the camp at Shiloh. ¹⁰And Joshua threw a lot for them in Shiloh before the face of Yahweh. And there Joshua apportioned the land to the sons of Israel according to their portions.

¹¹And the lot of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin according to their clans went up. And the border of their lot went out between the sons of Judah and the sons of Joseph. ¹²And the border for them was to the side to the north from the Jordan. And the border went up to the shoulder of Jericho from the north and went up in the hill country to the west. And its exits were at the wilderness of Beth Aven. ¹³And the border passed over from there toward Luz, to the shoulder of Luz to the south (it is Bethel). And the border went down to Ataroth Addar, beside the mountain that is from south of Lower Beth Horon. ¹⁴And the border turned and went around at the side of the west toward the south, from the mountain that is on the face of Beth Horon to the south. And its exits were at Kiriath Baal (it is Kiriath Jearim, a city of the sons of Judah). This was the side of the west. ¹⁵And the side to the south was from the end of Kiriath Jearim. And the border went out to the west and went out to the spring of the waters of Nephtoah. ¹⁶And the border then went down to the end of the mountain that is on the face of the valley of Ben Hinnom, which is in the valley of the Rephaites to the north. And it went down the valley of Hinnom to the shoulder of the Jebusite to the south and went down En Rogel. ¹⁷Then it turned northward and went out to En Shemesh and went out to Geliloth, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim. Then it went down to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben. ¹⁸And it passed over to the shoulder of the front of the Arabah to the north and went down to the Arabah. ¹⁹And the border passed over to the shoulder of Beth Hoglah to the north. And the exits of the border were at the tongue of the Sea of Salt to the north, at the end of the Jordan to the south. This was the border of the south. ²⁰And the Jordan borders it to the side toward the east. This was the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin, according to its borders all around, according to their clans.

²¹And the cities of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin, according to their clans, were: Jericho and Beth Hoglah and the valley of Keziz ²²and Beth Arabah and Zemaraim and Bethel ²³and the Avvim, and the Parah, and Ophrah, ²⁴and Kephrah Ammoni and the Ophni and Geba; 12 cities and their villages. ²⁵Gibeon and the Ramah and Beeroth ²⁶and the Mizpah and the Kephirah and the Mozah ²⁷and Rekem and Irpeel and Taralah ²⁸and Zelah, Haeleph, and the Jebusite (it is Jerusalem), Gibeah, Kiriath; 14 cities and their villages. This was the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin according to their clans.

Chapter 19

¹And the second lot went out for Simeon, for the tribe of the sons of Simeon according to their clans. And their inheritance was in the midst of the inheritance of the sons of Judah. ²And with their inheritance for them was Beersheba and Sheba and Moladah ³and Hazar Shual and Balah and Ezem ⁴and Eltolad and Bethul and Hormah ⁵and Ziklag and Beth Markaboth and Hazar Susah ⁶and Beth Lebaoth and Sharuhin; 13 cities and their villages. ⁷Ain, Rimmon and Ether and Ashan; four cities and their villages ⁸and all the villages that were around these cities as far as Baalath Beer (Ramah of the Negev). This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Simeon according to their clans. ⁹Some of the measured portion of the sons of Judah was the inheritance of the sons of Simeon. For the portion of the sons of Judah was greater than them, so the sons of Simeon inherited in the midst of their inheritance.

¹⁰And the third lot went up for the sons of Zebulun according to their clans. And the border of their inheritance was up to Sarid. ¹¹And their border went up toward the sea and Maralah and it met with Dabbesheth and met at the wadi that is on the face of Jokneam. ¹²And it turned from Sarid toward the east, the rising of the sun, beside the border of Kisloth Tabor. And it went out to the Daberath and went up Japhia. ¹³And from there it passed over toward the east, toward the sunrise, to Gath Hopher, to Eth Kazin. And it went out to Rimmon, turning toward Neah. ¹⁴And the border went around it from the north of Hannathon (and its exits were the valley of Iphtah El),

¹⁵and Kattath and Nahalal and Shimron and Idalah and Bethlehem; 12 cities and their villages. ¹⁶This was the inheritance of the sons of Zebulun according to their clans—these cities and their villages.

¹⁷The fourth lot went out for Issachar, for the sons of Issachar according to their clans. ¹⁸And their border was toward Jezreel and the Chesulloth and Shunem ¹⁹and Hapharaim and Shion and Anaharath ²⁰and the Rabbith and Kishion and Ebez ²¹and Remeth and En Gannim and En Haddah and Beth Pазzez. ²²And the border met with Tabor, and Shahazumah and Beth Shemesh. And the exits of their border were at the Jordan; 16 cities and their villages. ²³This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Issachar according to their clans—their cities and their villages.

²⁴And the fifth lot went out for the tribe of the sons of Asher according to their clans. ²⁵And their border was Helkath and Hali and Beten and Akshaph ²⁶and Allammelek and Amad and Mishall. And it met with Carmel toward the sea and with Shihor Libnath. ²⁷And it turned back toward the rising of the sun to Beth Dagon and it met with Zebulun and with the valley of Iptah El to the north, Beth Emek, and Neiel. And it went out to Kabul from the left ²⁸and Abdon and Rehob and Hammon and Kanah, as far as Great Sidon. ²⁹And the border turned back to the Ramah and up to the city of fortification of Tyre. And the border turned back to Hosah, and its exits were to the sea, from the measured portion of Akzib ³⁰and Ummah and Aphek and Rehob; 22 cities and their villages. ³¹This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Asher according to their clans—these cities and their villages.

³²The sixth lot went out for the sons of Naphtali, for the sons of Naphtali according to their clans. ³³And their border was from Heleph, from the oak in Zaananim and Adami Nekeb and Jabneel, as far as Lakkum. And its exits were at the Jordan. ³⁴And the border turned back toward the west to Aznoth Tabor and went out from there to Hukkok. And it met with Zebulun from the south and met with Asher from the west and with Judah at the Jordan at the rising of the sun. ³⁵And the cities of fortification were the Ziddim, Zer and Hammath, Rakkath and Kinnereth ³⁶and Adamah and the Ramah and Hazor ³⁷and Kedesh and Edrei and En Hazor ³⁸and Yiron and Migdal El, Horem and Beth Anath and Beth Shemesh; 19 cities and their villages. ³⁹This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Naphtali according to their clans—the cities and their villages.

⁴⁰The seventh lot went out for the tribe of the sons of Dan according to their clans. ⁴¹And the border of their inheritance was Zorah and Eshtaol and Ir Shemesh ⁴²and Shaalabbin and Aijalon and Ithlah ⁴³and Elon and Timnah and Ekron ⁴⁴and Eltekeh and Gibbethon and Baalath ⁴⁵and Jehud and Bene Berak and Gath Rimmon ⁴⁶and the waters of the Jarkon and the Rakkon with the territory in front of Joppa. ⁴⁷And the border of the sons of Dan went out from them. And the sons of Dan went up and fought against Leshem and captured it and struck it down by the mouth of the sword. And they possessed it and settled in it and called Leshem Dan, like the name of Dan their father. ⁴⁸This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Dan according to their clans—these cities and their villages.

⁴⁹And they finished inheriting the land according to its borders. And the sons of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua the son of Nun in the midst of them. ⁵⁰In accordance with the mouth of Yahweh they gave to him the city that he asked for: Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim. And he built the city and dwelled in it.

⁵¹These are the inheritances that Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the sons of Israel apportioned as an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the face of Yahweh at the opening of the tent of meeting. And they finished from apportioning the land.

Chapter 20

¹And Yahweh spoke to Joshua, saying, ²“Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘Give for yourselves the cities of refuge, which I spoke about to you by the hand of Moses, ³so that the one who kills, who strikes down a person by mistake without knowledge, may flee to there. And they will be for you as a refuge from the avenger of blood. ⁴And he shall flee into one from these cities and stand at the opening of the gate of the city and speak his words in the ears of the elders of that city. And they shall gather him into the city to themselves and give to him a place and he shall

dwelt with them. ⁵And if the avenger of blood pursues after him, then they shall not deliver the one who kills into his hand. For without knowledge he struck down his neighbor and he was not hating him from yesterday and three days ago. ⁶And he shall dwell in that city until he stands before the face of the congregation for judgment, until the death of he who is the great priest in those days. Then the one who kills may return and enter into his city and into his house, into the city that he fled from.”

⁷And they set apart Kedesh in the Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali and Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and Kiriath Arba (it is Hebron) in the hill country of Judah. ⁸And from the other side of the Jordan, to Jericho toward the sunrise, they gave Bezer in the wilderness on the plateau from the tribe of Reuben and Ramoth in the Gilead from the tribe of Gad and Golan in the Bashan from the tribe of Manasseh. ⁹These were the cities of appointment for all the sons of Israel and for the sojourner who sojourned in the midst of them, so that all who struck down a person by mistake could flee to there and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood until he stood before the face of the assembly.

Chapter 21

¹And the heads of the fathers of the Levites came near to Eleazar the priest and to Joshua the son of Nun and to the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the sons of Israel. ²And they spoke to them in Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, “Yahweh commanded by the hand of Moses to give to us cities to dwell in, with their pasturelands for our livestock.” ³And the sons of Israel gave these cities and their pasturelands to the Levites from their inheritance, according to the mouth of Yahweh. ⁴And the lot went out for the clans of the Kohathites. And there were 13 cities by the lot for the sons of Aaron the priest (from the Levites) from the tribe of Judah and from the tribe of the Simeonite and from the tribe of Benjamin.

⁵And for the remaining sons of Kohath were ten cities by the lot from the clans of the tribes of Ephraim and from the tribe of Dan and from the half of the tribe of Manasseh.

⁶And for the sons of Gershon were 13 cities by the lot from the clans of the tribe of Issachar and from the tribe of Asher and from the tribe of Naphtali and from the half of the tribe of Manasseh in the Bashan.

⁷For the sons of Merari according to their clans were 12 cities from the tribe of Reuben and from the tribe of Gad and from the tribe of Zebulun. ⁸And the sons of Israel gave to the Levites by the lot these cities and their pasturelands, just as Yahweh had commanded by the hand of Moses.

⁹And they gave from the tribe of the sons of Judah and from the tribe of the sons of Simeon these cities, them which were called by name. ¹⁰And they were for the sons of Aaron from the clans of the Kohathites from the sons of Levi because the first lot was for them. ¹¹And they gave to them Kiriath Arba, the father of the Anak (it is Hebron), in the hill country of Judah and its pasturelands around it. ¹²And the field of the city and its villages they had given to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as his possession.

¹³And to the sons of Aaron the priest they gave a city of refuge of the one who kills, Hebron and its pasturelands and Libnah and its pasturelands ¹⁴and Jattir and its pasturelands and Eshtemoa and its pasturelands ¹⁵and Holon and its pasturelands and Debir and its pasturelands ¹⁶and Ain and its pasturelands and Jutta and its pasturelands and Beth Shemesh and its pasturelands; nine cities from with the two of these tribes.

¹⁷And from the tribe of Benjamin were Gibeon and its pasturelands, Geba and its pasturelands, ¹⁸Anathoth and its pasturelands, and Almon and its pasturelands; four cities. ¹⁹All the cities of the sons of Aaron, the priests, were 13 cities and their pasturelands.

²⁰And for the clans of the sons of Kohath, the Levites, the remaining ones from the sons of Kohath, were the cities of their lot from the tribe of Ephraim. ²¹And they gave to them a city of refuge of the one who kills, Shechem and its pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim and Gezer and its pasturelands ²²and Kibzaim and its pasturelands and Beth Horon and its pasturelands; four cities.

²³And from the tribe of Dan were Eltekeh and its pasturelands, Gibbethon and its pasturelands, ²⁴Aijalon and its pasturelands, Gath Rimmon and its pasturelands; four cities.

²⁵And from the half of the tribe of Manasseh were Taanach and its pasturelands and Gath Rimmon and its pasturelands; two cities. ²⁶All the ten cities and their pasturelands were for the remaining clans of the sons of Kohath.

²⁷And for the sons of Gershon from the clans of the Levites, from the half of the tribe of Manasseh was a city of refuge of the one who kills, Golan in the Bashan and its pasturelands, and Be Eshterah and its pasturelands; two cities.

²⁸And from the tribe of Issachar were Kishion and its pasturelands, Daberath and its pasturelands, ²⁹Jarmuth and its pasturelands, En Gannim and its pasturelands; four cities.

³⁰And from the tribe of Asher were Mishal and its pasturelands, Abdon and its pasturelands, ³¹Helkath and its pasturelands, and Rehob and its pasturelands; four cities.

³²And from the tribe of Naphtali were a city of refuge of the one who killed, Kedesh in the Galilee and its pasturelands and Hammoth Dor and its pasturelands and Kartan and its pasturelands; three cities. ³³All the cities of the Gershonites according to their clans were 13 cities and their pasturelands.

³⁴And for the clans of the sons of Merari, the remaining Levites, from with the tribe of Zebulun were Jokneam and its pasturelands, Kartah and its pasturelands, ³⁵Dimnah and its pasturelands, Nahalal and its pasturelands; four cities. ³⁶And from the tribe of Reuben were Bezer and its pasturelands and Jahaz and its pasturelands, ³⁷Kedemoth and its pasturelands and Mephaath and its pasturelands; four cities.

³⁸And from the tribe of Gad were a city of refuge of the one who killed, Ramoth in the Gilead and its pasturelands and Mahanaim and its pasturelands, ³⁹Heshbon and its pasturelands, Jazer and its pasturelands; all of the cities were four. ⁴⁰All the cities for the sons of Merari according to their clans, the remaining ones from the clans of the Levites, were 12 cities by their lot.

⁴¹All the cities of the Levites in the midst of the possession of the sons of Israel were 48 cities and their pasturelands. ⁴²These cities were city by city, and its pasturelands were around it. It was so for all these cities.

⁴³And Yahweh gave to Israel all the land that he had sworn to give to their fathers. And they possessed it and dwelled in it. ⁴⁴And Yahweh gave rest to them from all around, according to all that he had sworn to their fathers. And a man did not stand against their face from all their enemies. Yahweh gave all their enemies into their hand.

⁴⁵A word did not fall from every good word that Yahweh had spoken to the house of Israel. The whole came to be.

Chapter 22

¹Then Joshua called to the Reubenite and to the Gadite and to the half of the tribe of Manasseh. ²And he said to them, "You yourselves have kept all that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded you. And you have listened to my voice according to all that I have commanded you. ³You have not forsaken your brothers this many days, until this day. And you have kept the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh your God. ⁴And now Yahweh your God has given rest to your brothers, just as he spoke to them. And now, turn and go for yourselves to your tents, to the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of Yahweh gave to you on the other side of the Jordan. ⁵Only watch exceedingly to do the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded you, to love Yahweh your God and to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments and to cling to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your self." ⁶And Joshua blessed them. And he sent them away and they went to their tents.

⁷Now to the half of the tribe of Manasseh, Moses had given in the Bashan, and to the half of him, Joshua gave with their brothers on the other side of the Jordan to the sea. And when Joshua had also sent them away to their tents, then he blessed them. ⁸And he spoke to them, saying, "Return to your tents with many riches and with very much livestock, with silver and with gold and with bronze and with iron and with very many garments. Apportion the spoil of your enemies with your brothers." ⁹And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half of the tribe of Manasseh turned back and went from with the sons of Israel, from Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go to the land of the Gilead, to the land of their possession, it which they had seized for themselves in accordance with the mouth of Yahweh by the hand of Moses.

¹⁰And they entered into the territories of the Jordan that are in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half of the tribe of Manasseh built there an altar beside the Jordan—an altar large of appearance. ¹¹And the sons of Israel heard, saying, "Behold, the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half of the tribe of Manasseh have built the altar at the front of the land of Canaan, at the territories of the Jordan, at the side of the sons of Israel." ¹²And the sons of Israel heard and all the congregation of the sons of Israel assembled at Shiloh to go up for war against them.

¹³And the sons of Israel sent Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, to the sons of Reuben and to the sons of Gad and to the half of the tribe of Manasseh, into the land of the Gilead. ¹⁴And ten leaders were with him, one leader by one leader of the house of the father of all the tribes of Israel. And they were each a man of the head of the house of their fathers of the thousands of Israel. ¹⁵And they came to the sons of Reuben and to the sons of Gad and to the half of the tribe of Manasseh, into the land of the Gilead. And they spoke with them, saying, ¹⁶"Thus says all the congregation of Yahweh, 'What is this unfaithfulness that you have done unfaithfully against the God of Israel, to turn today from after Yahweh when you built for yourselves an altar today for your rebelling against Yahweh? ¹⁷Was the iniquity of Peor little for us, it from which we have not purified ourselves until this day? And there was a plague among the congregation of Yahweh. ¹⁸But as for you, you are turning from after Yahweh today! And it will happen that you yourselves will rebel against Yahweh today and tomorrow he will be furious toward all the congregation of Israel. ¹⁹However, if the land of your possession is defiled, cross over for yourselves into the land of the possession of Yahweh, there where the dwelling of Yahweh dwells, and take possession in the midst of us. But do not rebel against Yahweh and do not rebel against us by your building an altar for yourselves apart from the altar of Yahweh our God. ²⁰Did not Achan the son of Zerah act unfaithfully in unfaithfulness with the banned thing and wrath was on all the congregation of Israel? And he did not perish as one man in his iniquity.'"

²¹And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half of the tribe of Manasseh answered and spoke with the heads of the thousands of Israel: ²²"Yahweh is God of gods! Yahweh is God of gods! He knows, and as for Israel, let it know! If it was in rebellion or if in unfaithfulness against Yahweh, do not save us this day! ²³If it was to build an altar for ourselves to turn from after Yahweh, or if to offer on it burnt up offerings or grain offerings or if to make on it the sacrifices of peace offerings, Yahweh himself will seek out. ²⁴But no! Because of anxiety from a matter we did this, saying, 'Tomorrow your sons might say to our sons, saying, "What is for you and for Yahweh, the God of Israel? ²⁵And Yahweh has given a border between us and between you sons of Reuben and sons of Gad, the Jordan. There is no portion for you in Yahweh.'" And your sons might make our sons cease so that they are not fearing Yahweh. ²⁶And we said, 'Let us now prepare for ourselves to build the altar, not for a burnt up offering and not for a sacrifice. ²⁷But it will be a witness between us and between you and between our generations after us, to serve the service of Yahweh before his face, with our burnt up offerings and with our sacrifices and with our peace offerings. And your sons will not say to our sons tomorrow, "There is no portion for you in Yahweh.'" ²⁸And we said, 'And it will happen if they speak to us or to our generations of tomorrow, that we will say, "See the copy of the altar of Yahweh, which our fathers made, not for a burnt up offering and not for a sacrifice, but it is a witness between us and between you.'" ²⁹May it be far from us for us to rebel against Yahweh, and turn today from after Yahweh to build an altar for a burnt up offering, for a grain offering, or for a sacrifice, apart from the altar of Yahweh our God that is before the face of his dwelling!'"

³⁰And Phinehas the priest and the leaders of the congregation and the heads of the thousands of Israel who were with him heard the words that the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the sons of Manasseh spoke. And it was good in their eyes. ³¹And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said to the sons of Reuben and to the sons of

Gad and to the sons of Manasseh, "Today we know that Yahweh is in the midst of us, that you have not acted unfaithfully in this unfaithfulness against Yahweh. Therefore you have rescued the sons of Israel from the hand of Yahweh." ³²And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest and the leaders returned from with the sons of Reuben and from with the sons of Gad, from the land of the Gilead, to the land of Canaan, to the sons of Israel. And they brought them back a word. ³³And the word was good in the eyes of the sons of Israel. And the sons of Israel blessed God and did not speak of going up against them for war to destroy the land in which the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad were dwelling. ³⁴And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad called the altar "Truly it is a witness between us that Yahweh is God."

Chapter 23

¹And it happened from many days afterward, when Yahweh had given rest to Israel from all their enemies from all around, that Joshua was old, he came into the days. ²And Joshua called for all Israel, for its elders and for its heads and for its judges and for its officers. And he said to them, "I am old, I have come into the days. ³But as for you, you have seen all that Yahweh your God has done to all these nations from your face. For Yahweh your God, he is the one who fights for you. ⁴See, I have caused to fall for you these remaining nations as an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan and all the nations that I cut off and the great sea, from the going of the sun. ⁵And Yahweh your God, he will push them from your face and will dispossess them from before your face. And you will possess their land, just as Yahweh your God spoke to you. ⁶And you shall be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, to not turn aside from it right or left, ⁷to not go among these nations, these remaining ones with you. And by the name of their gods you shall not mention and not swear. And you shall not serve them and not bow down to them. ⁸But rather to Yahweh your God you shall cling, just as you have done until this day. ⁹And Yahweh has dispossessed great and numerous nations from your face. And as for you, a man has not stood against your face until this day. ¹⁰One man from you pursues a thousand. For Yahweh is your God. He is the one who fights for you, just as he has spoken to you. ¹¹And you shall keep yourselves exceedingly for your selves, to love Yahweh your God. ¹²For if you ever turn back and cling to the remainder of these nations, these remaining ones with you, and you intermarry with them and you go among them and they among you, ¹³you shall know assuredly that Yahweh your God will not continue to dispossess these nations from before your face. And they will be to you as a trap and as a snare and as a whip on your sides and as thorns in your eyes, until you perish from on this good ground that Yahweh your God has given to you.

¹⁴And behold, today I am about to go the way of all the earth. And you know with all your heart and with all your soul that not one word has fallen from all the good words that Yahweh your God spoke concerning you. The whole has come to you, not one word from it has fallen. ¹⁵And it will happen that just as all the good word that Yahweh your God spoke to you has come upon you, so Yahweh will bring upon you all the evil word until he has destroyed you from this good ground that Yahweh your God has given to you. ¹⁶When you pass over the covenant of Yahweh your God that he commanded you and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, then the nose of Yahweh will burn against you. And you will quickly perish from the good land that he has given to you."

Chapter 24

¹And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem. And he called for the elders of Israel, and for its heads, and for its judges, and for its officers. And they presented themselves before the face of God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel, 'Your fathers dwelled beyond the river from long ago—Terah the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor. And they served other gods. ³And I took your father Abraham from beyond the river and brought him into all the land of Canaan. And I multiplied his seed and gave to him Isaac. ⁴And I gave Jacob and Esau to Isaac. And I gave to Esau the hill country of Seir to possess it. And Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt. ⁵And I sent Moses and Aaron, and I struck Egypt just as I did within it. And afterward I brought you out. ⁶And I brought your fathers out from Egypt, and you came to the sea. And Egypt chased after your fathers

with chariot and horsemen to the sea of reeds. ⁷And they cried out to Yahweh, and he put darkness between you and the Egyptians. And he brought the sea over him and covered him. And Your eyes saw what I did against Egypt. And you dwelled in the wilderness many days. ⁸And I brought you to the land of the Amorite, the ones who dwelled on the other side of the Jordan, and they fought with you. And I gave them into your hand, and you possessed their land, and I destroyed them from before your face. ⁹And Balak the son of Zippor, the king of Moab, got up and fought against Israel. And he sent and called for Balaam the son of Beor to curse you. ¹⁰And I was not willing to listen to Balaam. And he blessed you repeatedly, and I rescued you from his hand. ¹¹And you crossed over the Jordan and came to Jericho. And the men of Jericho, the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Girgashite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, fought against you. And I gave them into your hand. ¹²And I sent the hornet before your face and it drove them out from before your face—two kings of the Amorite. It was not by your sword and not by your bow. ¹³And I gave to you a land for which you did not labor, and cities that you did not build and you dwell in them. You are eating vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.'

¹⁴And now, you shall fear Yahweh and serve him with completeness and with faithfulness. And you shall remove the gods that your fathers served beyond the river and in Egypt, and serve Yahweh. ¹⁵But if it is evil in your eyes to serve Yahweh, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were beyond the river, or the gods of the Amorite in whose land you are dwelling. But as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh."

¹⁶And the people answered and said, "Far be it for us from leaving Yahweh to serve other gods! ¹⁷For Yahweh is our God, he is the one who brought us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, from the house of slavery, and who did these great signs before our eyes. And he kept us in all the way in which we went, and among all the peoples among whom we passed. ¹⁸And Yahweh drove out from our face all the peoples, even the Amorite who dwelled in the land. We too, we will serve Yahweh because he is our God."

¹⁹And Joshua said to the people, "You will not be able to serve Yahweh because he is a holy God. He is a jealous God, he will not lift your transgressions and your sins. ²⁰If you forsake Yahweh and serve the gods of the foreigner, then he will turn and do harm to you and finish you, after he has done good to you." ²¹And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve Yahweh." ²²And Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you yourselves have chosen for yourselves Yahweh, to serve him." And they said, "Witnesses." ²³And now, remove the gods of the foreigner that are among you. And bend your heart to Yahweh the God of Israel." ²⁴And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve Yahweh our God, and we will listen to his voice." ²⁵And Joshua cut a covenant for the people on that day. And he set for them a statute and a judgment in Shechem. ²⁶And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God. And he took a large stone and set it up there beneath the oak tree that was at the Holy Place of Yahweh.

²⁷And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone will be for a witness against us, because it has heard all the words of Yahweh which he spoke to us. And it will be for a witness against you, lest you act deceptively against your God." ²⁸And Joshua sent the people away, a man to his inheritance.

²⁹And it happened after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Yahweh, died, a son of 110 years. ³⁰And they buried him in the border of his inheritance, in Timnath Serah, which is in the hill country of Ephraim, from the north of Mount Gaash. ³¹And Israel served Yahweh all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who lengthened days after Joshua, and who knew every deed of Yahweh that he had done for Israel.

³²And the bones of Joseph, which the sons of Israel brought up from Egypt, they buried in Shechem, in the portion of the field that Jacob had bought from with the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem, with a hundred pieces of money. And it became an inheritance for the sons of Joseph. ³³And Eleazar the son of Aaron died. And they buried him in Gibeah of Phinehas his son, which had been given to him in the hill country of Ephraim.

Judges

Chapter 1

¹Now it happened that after the death of Joshua, the sons of Israel asked Yahweh, saying, "Who will go up for us first against the Canaanite, to fight him?" ²Yahweh answered, "Judah will go up, Behold, I have given the land into his hand." ³Then Judah said to Simeon, his brother, "Go up with me into my allotted territory, and let us fight together against the Canaanite. I will fight likewise myself, with you in your allotted territory." So Simeon went with him. ⁴Judah went up, and Yahweh gave the Canaanite and the Perizzite into their hand. They smote ten thousand men at Bezek. ⁵They found Adoni-Bezek in Bezek, and they fought against him. They smote the Canaanite and the Perizzite. ⁶Then Adoni-Bezek fled, but they pursued after him. They seized him, and they chopped off the thumbs of his hands and the big toes of his feet. ⁷Adoni-Bezek said, "Seventy kings with the thumbs of their hands and the big toes of their feet chopped off were gathering scraps of food beneath my table. Just as I have done, so God has repaid to me." Then they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there.

⁸The sons of Judah fought against Jerusalem and they took it. They smote it with the mouth of the sword and they sent the city into fire. ⁹Afterwards, the sons of Judah went down to fight them, against the Canaanites living in the hill country region, the southern wilderness, and the western lowland. ¹⁰Then Judah went down to the Canaanite that lived in Hebron (the name of Hebron before was Kiriath Arba), and they smote Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai.

¹¹He went from there to those living in Debir; the name of Debir before was Kiriath Sepher. ¹²Then Caleb said, "Whoever will smite Kiriath Sepher and capture it, I will give him Aksah, my daughter, for a wife." ¹³Othniel, the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb younger than him, captured it, so he gave him Aksah his daughter for a wife. ¹⁴Now it happened that at her coming she incited him to ask for a field from her father. She descended from atop the donkey, and Caleb said to her, "What can I do for you?" ¹⁵Then she said to him, "Give me a blessing. Although you have given me the land of the Negev, you shall also me springs of waters." So Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

¹⁶The sons of the Kenite, the father-in-law of Moses, went up from the city of palm trees with the sons of Judah, to the wilderness of Judah, which is in the south country of Arad. So he went and he dwelt with the people. ¹⁷Then Judah went with Simeon his brother and they smote the Canaanite dwelling in Zephath. So they devoted it to destruction and they called the name of the city Hormah. ¹⁸Judah also captured Gaza and the territory of it, Ashkelon and the territory of it, and Ekron and the territory of it. ¹⁹Now it happened that Yahweh was with Judah and he took possession of the hill country, but he did not dispossess those dwelling in the valley because of their chariotry of iron. ²⁰They gave Hebron to Caleb just as Moses had directed, and he dispossessed from there the three sons of the Anak. ²¹But the Jebusite dwelling in Jerusalem, the sons of Benjamin did not dispossess. So the Jebusite have dwelt with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem until this day.

²²Likewise, the house of Joseph went up against Bethel, even they, and Yahweh was with them. ²³The house of Joseph sent out spies to assess Bethel; the name of the city before was Luz. ²⁴The observers saw a man going out from the city, and they said to him, "Show us, please, the entrance of the city, and we will extend kindness to you." ²⁵So he showed them the entrance of the city, and then they smote the city with the mouth of the sword, but they let the man and all his family go free. ²⁶Then the man went to the land of the Hittites and he built a city. He called its name Luz, which is its name until this day.

²⁷But Manasseh did not take possession of Beth Shan and its daughters, or Taanach and its daughters, or the one dwelling in Dor and its daughters, or those dwelling in Ibleam and its daughters, or those dwelling in Megiddo and its daughters, because the Canaanite had resolved to dwell in that land. ²⁸Now it happened that when Israel became strong, he imposed tribute upon the Canaanite, but he did not take possession of him.

²⁹Neither did Ephraim dispossess the Canaanite who dwelled in Gezer, so the Canaanite dwelled in Gezer in the midst of him.

³⁰Zebulun did not dispossess those dwelling in Kitron, or those dwelling in Nahalol, so the Canaanite dwelled in his midst. But they were subject to tribute.

³¹Asher did not dispossess those dwelling in Akko, or those dwelling in Sidon, or Ahlab, or Akzib, or Helbah, or Aphek, or Rehob. ³²So the Asherite dwelled in the midst of the Canaanite who dwelled in the land, because he did not dispossess him.

³³Naphtali did not dispossess those dwelling in Beth Shemesh, or those dwelling in Beth Anath. So he dwelled in the midst of the Canaanite who dwelled in the land. However, those dwelling in Beth Shemesh and Beth Anath were subject to tribute to them.

³⁴The Amorite pressed the sons of Dan to the hill country, for he did not permit him to go down into the valley.

³⁵The Amorite resolved to dwell at Mount Heres, in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim, but the hand of the house of Joseph became heavy and they were subject to tribute. ³⁶The border of the Amorite was from the ascent of Akrabbim, from the cliff and upward.

Chapter 2

¹The messenger of Yahweh went up from the region of Gilgal to the region of Bokim, and said, "I am leading you up from Egypt, and I have brought you to the land that I have sworn to your fathers. I have said, 'I will not break my covenant with you for eternity. ²You must not cut a covenant with those dwelling in this land. Their altars you must surely tear down.' But you have not heeded my voice. What is this you have done? ³Furthermore, I have said, 'I will not drive them out from before you, but they will be against you as adversaries, and their gods will be against you as a snare.'" ⁴Now it happened that when the messenger of Yahweh spoke these words to all the sons of Israel, the people lifted up their voice and wept. ⁵So they called the name of that place Bokim, and they offered a sacrifice there to Yahweh.

⁶Then Joshua dismissed the people, and the sons of Israel went each to his inheritance to possess the land. ⁷The people served Yahweh all the days of Joshua and all of the days of the elders who had prolonged their days after Joshua, who had seen all of the great deeds of Yahweh that he had done for Israel. ⁸Joshua, the son of Nun, the servant of Yahweh, died a son of one hundred ten years. ⁹Then they buried him within the border of his inheritance in Timnath Heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, to the north of Mount Gaash. ¹⁰When all of that generation had also been gathered to his fathers, another generation rose up after them who did not know Yahweh or even the deed that he had done for Israel.

¹¹The sons of Israel did the wickedness in the sight of Yahweh and they served the Baals. ¹²Thus they forsook Yahweh, the God of their fathers, the One Who brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods from the gods of the people groups who were around them, and they bowed down to them. They provoked Yahweh to anger. ¹³They forsook Yahweh and they served the Baal and the Ashtoreths. ¹⁴Then the anger of Yahweh burned against Israel, so he gave them into the hand of plunderers, and they plundered them. He surrendered them into the hand of their enemies from all around, so that they were not able any longer to stand before their enemies. ¹⁵In every way, whenever they went out the hand of Yahweh was against them for calamity, just as Yahweh had spoken and just as Yahweh had sworn to them. Thus he pressed them exceedingly.

¹⁶Then Yahweh raised up judges, and they saved them from the hand of their plunderers. ¹⁷Even to their judges they would not listen. For they pursued adulterously after other gods and they bowed down to them. They turned away quickly from the way that their fathers had walked. They did not do likewise to heed the commands of Yahweh. ¹⁸When Yahweh raised up judges for them, Yahweh would be with the judges and he would save them from the hand of their enemies all of the days of the judges. For Yahweh would become remorseful on account of their groaning from the presence of those tormenting them and oppressing them. ¹⁹Now it would happen that at

the death of the judge, they would turn back and behave corruptly more than their fathers, walking after other gods to serve them and to bow down to them. They did not drop any of their evil deeds or their shameless behavior. ²⁰As a result the anger of Yahweh burned against Israel, and he said, "In that this nation transgressed my covenant that I had commanded their fathers, but they have not heeded my voice, ²¹I also will not continue to drive out anyone out of their presence from the nations that Joshua left when he died. ²²in order to test Israel by them, whether they are observing the way of Yahweh, walking in them just as their fathers observed, or not." ²³So Yahweh allowed those nations to stay, not dispossessing them hastily and he did not give them into the hand of Joshua.

Chapter 3

¹Now those nations which Yahweh allowed to remain in order to test Israel by them, all who had not known any of the wars of Canaan, ²only for the sake of the generations of the sons of Israel knowing, to teach them warfare, only who formerly had not experienced them, ³the five governors of the Philistines, and all of the Canaanite, the Sidonian, and the Hivite dwelling in the mountain of Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hermon as far as Lebo Hamath. ⁴They were to test Israel by them, to know whether they would heed the commandments of Yahweh, which He had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. ⁵So the sons of Israel settled in the midst of the Canaanite, the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. ⁶Then their daughters they took for themselves as wives, and their daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods.

⁷So the sons of Israel did this evil in the eyes of Yahweh and they forgot Yahweh their God. They served the baals and the asherahs. ⁸Therefore, the anger of Yahweh blazed against Israel, so he sold them into the hand of Cushan-Rishathaim, the king of Aram Naharaim. The sons of Israel served Cushan-Rishathaim eight years. ⁹When the sons of Israel cried out to Yahweh, Yahweh raised up a deliverer for the sons of Israel, and he delivered them: Othniel, the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb younger than him. ¹⁰The spirit of Yahweh came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went forth to battle and Yahweh gave Cushan-Rishathaim, the king of Aram, into his hand. Thus his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim. ¹¹So the land had tranquility forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

¹²Then the sons of Israel started again to do this evil in the eyes of Yahweh. So Yahweh strengthened Eglon, the king of Moab against Israel, because they did this evil in the eyes of Yahweh. ¹³Then he mobilized to himself the sons of Ammon and Amalek and he went and attacked Israel, and they took possession of the city of the palm trees. ¹⁴So the sons of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

¹⁵When the sons of Israel cried out to Yahweh, Yahweh raised up for them a deliverer, Ehud, the son of Gera, the Benjamite, a man impeded in his right hand. The sons of Israel sent tribute by his hand to Eglon, the king of Moab. ¹⁶Then Ehud made for himself a sword and it had two edges, a span was its length. He bound it on from beneath his clothing on his right thigh. ¹⁷Then he bought the tribute near to Eglon, the king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man. ¹⁸Now it happened that when he had completed bringing over the tribute, he sent away the people, the bearers of the tribute. ¹⁹But he himself turned back from the quarries which were near the Gilgal, and he said, "I have a private message for you, O king." He said, "Silence!" So all those who were standing around him went out from around him. ²⁰So Ehud came to him. Now he was sitting in the roof chamber in the coolness, which was for him alone. Ehud said, "I have a message from God for you," and he rose up from upon the seat. ²¹Then Ehud stretched out his left hand and took the sword from upon his right thigh, and he thrust it into his belly. ²²Also the handle went in following the blade, and the fat closed up over the handle because he did not pull the sword out of his belly. Then he proceeded to the vestibule, ²³and Ehud went out to the porch and he closed the doors of the roof chamber behind him and locked them.

²⁴After he had gone out, his servants came. They inspected and behold, the doors of the roof chamber were locked. So they said, "Surely he is covering his feet in the chamber in the coolness." ²⁵They waited until it was inappropriate, but behold, he was not opening the doors of the roof chamber. So they took the key and they opened them, and behold, their majestic lord had fallen to the floor, dead.

²⁶Meanwhile Ehud had escaped during their tarrying and he passed beyond the quarries, then he fled to Seirah.

²⁷Now it happened that at his coming in, he blew on the shofar in the hill country of Ephraim. Then the sons of Israel went down with him from the hill country, and he was before them. ²⁸Then he said to them, "Follow after me, for Yahweh has given your enemies, Moab, into your hand." So they went down after him and they captured the fords of the Jordan opposite Moab. Thus they did not allow anyone to cross over. ²⁹So they routed Moab at that time, about ten thousand men. All were robust and all were men of strength, but not anyone escaped. ³⁰Moab was subdued on that day under the hand of Israel, and the land was tranquil eighty years.

³¹After him was Shamgar, the son of Anath, and he smote Philistines, 600 men with a cattle prod. Thus he also delivered Israel.

Chapter 4

¹Then the sons of Israel resumed once again to do this evil in the eyes of Yahweh, after Ehud died. ²So Yahweh handed them over into the hand of Jabin, the king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. Now the commander of his army was Sisera, and he was residing in Harosheth Haggoyim. ³Then the sons of Israel cried out to Yahweh, because he had nine hundred chariots of iron and he oppressed the sons of Israel with severe might twenty years.

⁴Now Deborah was a woman, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth. She was judging Israel at that time. ⁵She would sit beneath the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel came up to her for justice. ⁶She sent and called for Barak, the son of Abinoam, from Kedesh Naphtali. She said to him, "Has Yahweh, the God of Israel, not commanded: 'Go and draft at Mount Tabor, and you shall take with you ten thousand men from the sons of Naphtali and from the sons of Zebulun?' ⁷I will draw out Sisera, the commander of the army of Jabin, to you along the Kishon River, and his chariot and his multitude, and I will give him into your hand'." ⁸Barak replied to her, "If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go." ⁹She declared, "I will indeed go with you, for naught, since it will not be your honor on the way which you are going, but with a hand of a woman Yahweh will give over Sisera." Then Deborah rose up and she went with Barak to Kedesh. ¹⁰Then Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh. He went up, ten thousand men were at his feet, and Deborah went up with him.

¹¹Now Heber the Kenite had separated himself from Cain, from the sons of Hobab, the father-in-law of Moses. He pitched his tent as far as an oak tree in Zaananim, which is near Kedesh.

¹²When they reported to Sisera that Barak, the son of Abinoam, had gone up to Mount Tabor, ¹³Sisera summoned all of his chariotry, nine hundred chariots of iron, and all of the people who were with him, from Harosheth Haggoyim to the Kishon River. ¹⁴Then Deborah directed to Barak, "Arise! For this day when Yahweh has given Sisera into your hand, has not Yahweh gone forth before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor along with ten thousand men beside him. ¹⁵Yahweh dismayed Sisera and all of the chariotry and all of the army with an edge of a sword before Barak. So Sisera dismounted from atop the chariot and fled away on his feet. ¹⁶But Barak pursued after the chariotry and after the army as far as Harosheth Haggoyim, and the entire army of Sisera fell by an edge of a sword, not even one remained.

¹⁷However Sisera had fled on his feet 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. ¹⁸Jael went out to meet Sisera and she said to him, "Turn aside, my lord, turn aside to me. Do not fear." So he turned to her, into the tent, and she concealed him with the coverlet. ¹⁹He requested of her, "Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." So she opened the leather bag of milk and gave him drink, and then she covered him. ²⁰Then he directed her, "Stand at the entrance of the tent. It shall be if anyone should come and ask you and say, 'Is there anyone here?', then you shall say 'There is not'." ²¹Then Jael, the wife of Heber, took the peg of the tent and she put the hammer in her hand. She came to him in the silence, and she drove the peg into his temple and pounded down to the ground. For he had been soundly sleeping and weary, instead he died. ²²Then, behold, Barak was pursuing Sisera, and Jael went out to meet

him and she said to him, "Come, and let me show you the man whom you are seeking." So he came to her, and behold, Sisera had fallen dead, and the peg was in his temple.

²³So on that day God vanquished Jabin, the king of Canaan, before the sons of Israel. ²⁴Thus the hand of the sons of Israel had gone on becoming increasingly severe against Jabin, the king of Canaan, up to the point that they had destroyed Jabin, the king of Caanan.

Chapter 5

¹So Deborah sang with Barak, the son of Abinoam, on that day, saying:

²"When long hair flowed freely in Israel, as people enlisted themselves willingly, everyone bless Yahweh!

³Hear, O kings! Give ear, O rulers! I, unto Yahweh, even I, I will sing, I will make music unto Yahweh, the God of Israel.

⁴Yahweh, because of your going forth out of Seir,
because of your marching out of the open land of Edom,
the earth quaked, the heavens also dripped,
also the dark clouds dripped down water.

⁵Mountains flowed because of the presence of Yahweh,
this Sinai, because of the presence of Yahweh, the God of Israel.

⁶In the days of Shamgar, the son of Anath,
in the days of Jael, main roads were abandoned,
and walkers of footpaths would walk crooked paths.

⁷Rural people ceased to be in Israel,
they ceased to be until when I arose, Deborah, when I arose, a mother in Israel!

⁸When he chose new gods,
then there was fighting at the city gates,
neither shield nor spear was seen
among forty thousand in Israel.

⁹My heart is alongside those pledging order in Israel,
those freely enlisting themselves among the people.
Everyone bless Yahweh!

¹⁰Riding on white donkeys,
sitting on carpets,
or walking along a road, sing of this,

¹¹louder than the sound of those distributing water from watering places.

There they continuously celebrate the righteous deeds of Yahweh,
the righteous actions of his rural people in Israel.

Then the people of Yahweh went down to the gates.

¹²Awake, awake, Deborah!

Awake, awake, utter a song!

Arise, Barak, and lead away captive your prisoner, the son of Abinoam.

¹³Then a survivor prevails over nobles,
the people of Yahweh prevail at my side against the warriors.

¹⁴From Ephraim, their root was against Amalek;
after you, Benjamin, among your peoples.
From Machir those with resolve came down,
and from Zebulun those who wield the scepter of a scribe.

¹⁵My princes in Issachar were with Deborah;
and Issachar was also with Barak
into a plain he was sent out on his feet.
Among the divisions of Reuben
there were great resolutions of heart.

¹⁶Why did you sit among the campfires,
in order to hear signaling for flocks?
As for the divisions of Reuben
there were great resolutions of heart.

¹⁷Gilead settled in the region beyond the Jordan;
but Dan, why does he sojourn on ships?
Asher dwelt at the coast of the seas
and he resides along his harbors.

¹⁸Zebulun was a people willfully scorning its soul even to death,
also Naphtali on the elevated places of the battlefield.

¹⁹Kings came, they did battle;
at that time the kings of Canaan did battle at Taanach
along the waters of Megiddo.
Plunder of silver they did not take.

²⁰From the heavens the stars did battle,
from their courses they did battle against Sisera.

²¹The Kishon River swept them away,
the ancient river, the Kishon River.

Tread on, O my soul, in strength!

²²Then hooves of a horse beat down,
from rushing, the rushing of his valiant ones.

²³'Curse Meroz!' said the messenger of Yahweh.
'You shall surely curse those dwelling in it,
because they did not come to the aid of Yahweh—
to the aid of Yahweh against the mighty men.'

²⁴Jael is most blessed of women,
the wife of Heber, the Kenite,
out of women in the tent she is blessed.

²⁵Water he requested, milk she gave, in a bowl suitable for nobles,
she brought curdled milk.

²⁶They reached out, her hand to the tent peg,
and her right hand to a hammer of workmen;
she struck Sisera, she shattered his head.
She struck through and she pierced his temple.

²⁷Between her feet, he bowed, he fell, he lay down.
Between her feet he bowed, he fell;
at the place where he bowed, there he fell violently destroyed.

²⁸Through the window she had looked down and lamented,
the mother of Sisera through the lattice window.
'Why has his chariot delayed in coming?
Why are the hoofbeats of his chariots late?'

²⁹The wisest of her princesses answered,
yet she continued her utterance to herself:

³⁰Are they not finding, are they dividing up spoil,
a maiden, two maidens for every warrior,

spoil of dyed fabrics for Sisera,
 spoil of dyed fabrics, embroidered,
 dyed fabric embroidered on both sides for the necks as spoil?

³¹So may all of your enemies perish, Yahweh!

But may those who love him be as the coming forth of the sun in its strength."

Then the land was tranquil forty years.

Chapter 6

¹The sons of Israel did this evil in the eyes of Yahweh, so Yahweh gave them over into the hand of Midian seven years. ²Then the hand of Midian prevailed over Israel. On account of the presence of Midian, the sons of Israel made the dens for themselves which were in the mountains, the caves, and the strongholds. ³Now it would happen whenever Israel sowed, that Midian and Amalek would come up, even sons of the east would come up against him. ⁴They encamped around them and they ruined the produce of the land as far as your coming into Gaza. As a result means of sustaining life would not remain in Israel, neither sheep, nor cattle, nor donkey. ⁵When they and their livestock would come up, along with their tents, they would come up as an abundance of a locust swarm because of the multitude. Of them and of their camels there was no counting thus they came into the land in order to destroy it. ⁶Israel was severely impoverished because of the presence of Midian, so the sons of Israel cried out to Yahweh.

⁷Now it happened that when the sons of Israel cried out to Yahweh on account of Midian, ⁸that Yahweh sent a man, a prophet to the sons of Israel. He said to them, "Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: 'I myself, have brought you up out of Egypt, and I have brought you out of the house of slavery. ⁹I rescued you from the hand of Egypt, and from the hand of all of those oppressing you. I drove them out of your presence, and I have surely given to you their land. ¹⁰I said to you, "I am Yahweh your God; you shall not revere the gods of the Amorite, when you are dwelling in their land." But you have not heeded my voice.'"

¹¹Now the messenger of Yahweh came and sat beneath the oak which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash, the Abiezrite. Meanwhile Gideon, his son, was threshing out wheat at the winepress in order to hide from the presence of Midian. ¹²Then the messenger of Yahweh appeared to him and declared to him, "Yahweh is with you, O warrior of valor!" ¹³Gideon said to him, "With me, my lord? If Yahweh is with us, then why has all of this come to us? Where are all of his miraculous workings that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not Yahweh bring us up out of Egypt?' But now Yahweh has forsaken us and given us over into the grasp of Midian." ¹⁴Then Yahweh turned to him and said, "Go in this strength of yours and you shall deliver Israel from the grasp of Midian. Have I not sent you?" ¹⁵Then he replied to him, "Please, my lord! In what manner will I deliver Israel? See, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the most insignificant in the house of my father." ¹⁶Then Yahweh said to him, "Because I will be with you, indeed you shall destroy Midian as one man." ¹⁷He replied to him, "If indeed I have found favor in your eyes, then perform a sign for me that it is you speaking to me. ¹⁸Please, do not depart from this place, until my coming to you then I will bring out my offering and I will set it before you." So he said, "Myself, I will stay until your returning."

¹⁹Then Gideon went and he prepared a young goat and from an ephah of flour, unleavened bread. He placed the meat in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot and brought them out to him to beneath the oak tree, and he presented them. ²⁰Then the messenger of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened bread and place them on this rock, and pour out the broth," and he did so. ²¹Then the messenger of Yahweh stretched out the edge of the staff that was in his hand. He touched the meat and the unleavened bread; the fire went up out of the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened bread. Then the messenger of Yahweh went away out of his sight. ²²When Gideon saw that he was the messenger of Yahweh, Gideon lamented, "Alas, O my Lord Yahweh, for

because of this I have seen the messenger of Yahweh face to face!" ²³But Yahweh replied to him, "Peace be unto you! Do not be afraid, you will not die." ²⁴So Gideon built an altar there to Yahweh and he named it Yahweh is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah of the Abiezerite.

²⁵Now it happened on that night that Yahweh said to him, "Take the young bull that belongs to your father, and the second bull seven years old, break into pieces the altar of Baal that belongs to your father, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it. ²⁶You shall build an altar to Yahweh your God on the top of this place of refuge in the usual arrangement. Then you shall take the second bull and you shall offer a whole burnt offering, on the wood pieces from the Asherah that you shall cut down." ²⁷So Gideon took ten men out of his servants and did just as Yahweh had instructed to him. Now it happened that because he was afraid of the household of his father and the men of the city to do it by day, he did it by night.

²⁸When the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was torn down, the Asherah that was beside it had been cut down, and the second bull had been offered on the altar that had been built. ²⁹As a result each man said to his neighbor, "Who has done this thing?" When they inquired and searched, they said, "Gideon, the son of Joash has done this thing." ³⁰Then the men of the city said to Joash, "Bring out your son so that he may die, because he tore down the altar of Baal, and because he cut down the Asherah that was beside it." ³¹Joash said to all who stood against him, "Will you really contend on behalf of Baal? Will you really help him? Whoever contends for him, he will be put to death while it is still the morning. If he is a god, let him contend for himself when someone tears down his altar." ³²Therefore on that day he called him "Jerub Baal," saying, "May the Baal contend against him," because he had torn down his altar.

³³Now all of Midian, Amalek, and the sons of the east assembled themselves together, and they crossed over and they camped in the Valley of Jezreel. ³⁴But the Spirit of Yahweh clothed Gideon. As a result he blew the shofar, thus he summoned Abiezer after him. ³⁵Then he sent messengers in all of Manasseh, and he summoned him also after him. He also sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali, and they went up to meet them.

³⁶Then Gideon said to the true God, "If it is you delivering Israel by my hand, just as you have spoken, ³⁷Look, I am putting this fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If dew shall be upon the fleece, only it, but on all of the ground it is dry, then I will know that you will deliver Israel by my hand, just as you have spoken." ³⁸Now it happened afterwards that he rose early on the next day, and he pressed the fleece together. He wrung out dew from the fleece, the amount that fills the basin with water. ³⁹Then Gideon said to the true God, "Do not let your anger burn against me, but may I speak only this time. May I please test only this time with the fleece? May it be, I pray, dry on the fleece, only it, but on all of the ground may there be dew." ⁴⁰So God did this during that night. It was dry on the fleece, only it, but on all of the ground there was dew.

Chapter 7

¹Then Jerubbaal, that is, Gideon, rose up early, and all of the people who were with him, and they encamped beside the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was northward from him, toward the hill of Moreh in the valley.

²Yahweh said to Gideon, "Too many are the people who are with you for my giving Midian into their hand, lest Israel get glory themselves over me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' ³Now therefore, announce in the ears of the people saying, 'Whoever is afraid and trembling, let him return and depart from Mount Gilead.'" So twenty-two thousand of the people turned back, but ten thousand remained.

⁴Then Yahweh said to Gideon, "Still the people are too numerous. Bring them down to the water, and I will further refine them for you there. So it will be whoever I will say to you, 'This one will go with you,' he will go with you. But anyone of whom I will say to you, 'This one will not go with you,' he will not go." ⁵So he brought the people down to the water, and Yahweh said to Gideon, "Anyone who laps up with his tongue from the water, just as would lap the dog, you shall set him apart, likewise anyone who kneels down on his knees to drink." ⁶Now it happened that the number of those who lapped with their hand to their mouth was three hundred men, but all of the rest of the

people knelt down on their knees to drink water. ⁷Then Yahweh said to Gideon, "With the three hundred men those who lapped, I will deliver you and I will give Midian over into your hand. So let the other people go back each one to his own place." ⁸Then the people took provision into their hand and their shofars but the other men of Israel he sent away, each man to his tents, except for the three hundred of the men he retained. Now the camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

⁹Now it happened during that night Yahweh said to him, "Arise! Go down into the camp, for I have given him over into your hand. ¹⁰But if you are afraid to go down, go down, you and Purah your armor bearer to the camp, ¹¹and you shall hear what they are speaking, and afterwards your hands will be encouraged and you shall go down against the camp." So he went down, he and Purah his armor bearer, to the edge of the fifty who were in the camp. ¹²Now Midian, Amalek, and all of the sons of the east were lying down in the valley, as a locust swarm in abundance. As far as their camels they were innumerable, as the sand that is along the edge of the sea in abundance. ¹³Gideon came, and look, a man was telling a dream to his neighbor. He said, "Look! I have dreamed a dream, and look, a round loaf of barley bread was tumbling into the camp of Midian. It came as far as the tent, and struck it so that it fell and turned it upside down, so that the tent collapsed." ¹⁴His neighbor answered and said, "There is nothing else this can be if not the sword of Gideon, the son of Joash, the man of Israel. The true God has given Midian into his hand and all of the camp."

¹⁵Now it happened when Gideon heard the narration of the dream and its interpretation, that he bowed down in worship. He returned to the camp of Israel and said, "Rise up! For Yahweh has given the camp of Midian into your hand." ¹⁶Then he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put shofars into the hand of all of them as well as empty jars, with torches inside of the jars. ¹⁷He said to them, "You shall look to me and thus you shall do. Watch! When I am coming along the edge of the camp, it shall be just as I do, thus you must do. ¹⁸When I blow the shofar, I and everyone who is with me, then you shall blow the shofars, also you around all of the camp. Then you shall shout, 'For Yahweh and for Gideon!'"

¹⁹So Gideon and one hundred men who were with him came to the edge of the camp, at the beginning of the middle nightwatch. They had only just stationed the guards, when they blew the shofars and they shattered the jars that were in their hand. ²⁰Then the three companies blew the shofars and they broke the jars. They held the torches in their left hand and the shofars in their right hand to blow. They shouted out, "A sword for Yahweh and for Gideon." ²¹Each man stood in his place around the camp and all of the camp ran. They shouted and fled away. ²²When they blew the three hundred shofars, Yahweh set the sword of each man against his comrade and against all of the camp. As a result the army fled as far as Beth Shittah toward Zererah, as far as the edge of Abel Meholah, towards Tabbath. ²³Then the men of Israel from Naphtali, and from Asher, and from all of Manasseh were summoned, and they pursued after Midian.

²⁴Also Gideon sent messengers throughout all of the hill country of Ephraim, saying, "Go down opposite Midian and seize before them the waters, as far as Beth Barah and the Jordan." Thus all of the men of Ephraim were summoned and they captured the waters, as far as Beth Barah and the Jordan. ²⁵They captured the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. They killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb, and they killed Zeeb at the winepress of Zeeb. They pursued after Midian, and they brought the head of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon, from across the Jordan.

Chapter 8

¹The men of Ephraim said to him, "What is this thing you have done to us, not summoning us when you went to fight against Midian?" Then they complained forcefully against him. ²He said to them, "What have I done now according to you? Are not the grape gleanings from Ephraim better than the grape harvest of Abiezer? ³God has given over the princes of Midian into your hand, Oreb and Zeeb! So what was I able to do compared to you?" Then their spirit concerning him abated when he was speaking this word.

⁴Then Gideon came to the Jordan, crossing over, he and the three hundred men who were with him. They were weary, yet they continued pursuing. ⁵Then he said to the men of Succoth, "Please give round loaves of bread to the

people who are at my feet, for they are weary, yet I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian.”

⁶The princes of Succoth replied, “Is the palm of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand that we should give bread to your army?” ⁷So Gideon declared, “Assuredly when Yahweh has given Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, I will thresh your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and briers.” ⁸Then he went up from there to Peniel and also spoke to them in this manner, but the men of Peniel answered him just as the men of Succoth had answered. ⁹So he declared also to the men of Peniel saying, “When I return in peace, I will tear down this tower.”

¹⁰Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor and their troops were with them, about fifteen thousand, all the remaining out of all of the camp of the sons of the east, for the fallen were one hundred twenty thousand men drawing a sword. ¹¹Then Gideon went up the road of those dwelling in the tents, from the east to Nobah and Jogbehah. He struck the camp, when the camp was feeling secure. ¹²Zebah and Zalmunna fled, but he pursued after them and he captured the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna. Thus he caused all of the camp to tremble in terror.

¹³Then Gideon, the son of Joash, returned from the battle, going through the ascent of Heres. ¹⁴He captured a young man out of the men of Succoth and he interrogated him. He wrote down for him the princes of Succoth and its elders, seventy-seven men. ¹⁵Then he came to the men of Succoth and he said, “Look at Zebah and Zalmunna, about whom you taunted me saying, ‘Is the palm of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand that we should give bread to your weary men.’” ¹⁶He took the elders of the city and the thorns of the wilderness and the briers, and he made the men of Succoth undergo them. ¹⁷Then he tore down the tower of Peniel and he killed the men of the city.

¹⁸Next he said to Zebah and Zalmunna, “What sort were the men who you killed at Tabor?” They replied, “As you are, so were they. Each one was as the form of the sons of the king.” ¹⁹So he said, “They were my brothers, the sons of my mother. As Yahweh lives, if only you had let them live, I would not have killed you.” ²⁰Then he said to Jether his firstborn, “Arise, kill them!” But the young man did not pull out his sword because he was afraid, for he was still a youth. ²¹Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, “Arise yourself and fall upon us! Truly like a man with his own power.” So Gideon rose up and he killed Zebah and Zalmunna. He also took the crescent-shaped ornaments that were on the necks of their camels.

²²Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, “Rule over us, both you and your son, and even the son of your son, because you have delivered us out of the hand of Midian.” ²³But Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you myself, neither will my son rule over you. Yahweh will rule over you.” ²⁴Then Gideon said to them, “Let me ask a request of you, that each man give me the earring from his spoil.” For they had earrings of gold because they were Ishmaelites. ²⁵They replied, “We will surely give them.” So they spread out the garment and each man threw the earring from his spoil onto there. ²⁶Now the weight of the earrings of gold that he requested was one thousand seven hundred pieces of gold, besides that of the crescent-shaped ornaments, the pendants, the dyed purple garments that were upon the kings of Midian, and besides that of the collars that were around the necks of their camels. ²⁷Then Gideon made it into an ephod and placed it in his city, in Ophrah, and all of Israel pursued adulterously after it there. It became as a snare for Gideon and for his house. ²⁸So Midian was subdued before the sons of Israel and they did not continue to raise up their heads. So the land was tranquil forty years during the days of Gideon.

²⁹Jerubbaal, the son of Joash, went and lived in his house. ³⁰Now Gideon had seventy sons coming forth from his loins, for he had many wives. ³¹His concubine, who was in Shechem, even she bore him a son, and he made his name Abimelech. ³²Gideon, the son of Joash, died at a good old age and he was buried in the tomb of Joash his father, at Ophrah of the Abiezerite.

³³Now it happened that when Gideon had died, the sons of Israel turned back again and pursued adulterously after the Baals. They made Baal-Berith for themselves as a god. ³⁴The sons of Israel did not remember Yahweh, their God, the one who had delivered them from the hand of all of their enemies all around. ³⁵They did not show lasting loyalty with the house of Jerubbaal, Gideon, in accordance with all of the good that he did within Israel.

Chapter 9

¹Now Abimelech, the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to the brothers of his mother and he spoke to them and to all of the family of the house of the father of his mother saying, ²"Please speak in the ears of all of the citizens of Shechem, 'What is better for you, seventy men ruling over you, all of the sons of Jerubbaal, or one man ruling over you? Remember that I am your bone and your flesh.'" ³The brothers of his mother spoke all of these things on his behalf in the ears of all of the citizens of Shechem, and their heart turned aside after Abimelech, for they said, "He is our brother." ⁴Then they gave him seventy pieces of silver from the house of Baal Berith, and Abimelech hired with them unprincipled and undisciplined men, so they went after him. ⁵Then he went to the house of his father at Ophrah, and he killed his brothers, the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men upon one stone. But Jotham was left, the youngest son of Jerubbaal, for he had hidden himself. ⁶Then all of the prominent citizens of Shechem and all of Beth Millo assembled themselves and they went and installed Abimelech as king beside an oak tree near the standing pillar that was in Shechem.

⁷When they told Jotham, he went and stood on the top of Mount Gerizim. He lifted up his voice and cried out and said to them, "Listen to me, citizens of Shechem, so God will listen to you. ⁸Once the trees went about in order to anoint a king over themselves. So they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us.' ⁹But the olive tree replied to them, 'Have I stopped producing my fatness, when by me they honor gods and men, that I should go to wave over the trees?' ¹⁰So the trees said to the fig tree, 'You come! Reign over us.' ¹¹But the fig tree said to them, 'Have I stopped producing my sweetness and my good fruit, that I should go to wave over the trees?' ¹²Then the trees said to the vine, 'You come! Reign over us.' ¹³Then the vine said to them, 'Have I stopped producing my new wine, which cheers gods and man, that I should go to wave over the trees?' ¹⁴Then all of the trees said to the thornbush, 'You come, reign over us.' ¹⁵The thornbush said to the trees, 'If in truth you are anointing me as king over you, come, seek refuge in my shade. But if not, may fire go forth from the thornbush and consume the cedars of Lebanon.' ¹⁶Therefore, now if in truth and in integrity you have acted when you installed Abimelech as king, and if you have done well concerning Jerubbaal and with his household, and if according to the deed of his hands you have done to him, ¹⁷that my father fought on your behalf, and threw aside his life even out front, when he delivered you out of the hand of Midian, ¹⁸but today you have risen up against the house of my father and have killed his sons, seventy men, upon one stone. Then you have installed Abimelech, the son of his female servant, as king over the citizens of Shechem, because he is your brother. ¹⁹Now if you have acted in truth and in integrity with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, rejoice about Abimelech, and he himself will also rejoice about you. ²⁰But if not, fire shall come forth from Abimelech and it shall consume the citizens of Shechem and Beth Millo. Fire shall also come forth from the citizens of Shechem and from Beth Millo and it shall consume Abimelech." ²¹Then Jotham fled away and escaped, and he went to Beer. He settled there away from the presence of Abimelech, his brother.

²²Now Abimelech ruled over Israel three years. ²³Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and between the citizens of Shechem so that the citizens of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech, ²⁴by revisiting the violent treatment of the seventy sons of Jerubbaal and by putting their blood upon Abimelech their brother, who had killed them, and upon the citizens of Shechem who strengthened his hands to kill his brothers. ²⁵So the citizens of Shechem positioned men in ambush after him along the tops of the hills. They robbed everyone who would pass by them along the road, and it was reported to Abimelech.

²⁶Then Gaal, the son of Ebed came along with his brothers and they went over to Shechem. The citizens of Shechem trusted him. ²⁷They went out into the field and they picked grapes from their vineyards, and they pressed them. They celebrated harvest festivals and they went into the house of their gods, then they ate and they drank, and they cursed Abimelech. ²⁸Then 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 Zebul his deputy? Serve the men of Hamor, the father of Shechem. Why should we serve him, ourselves? ²⁹Who will give this people into my hand? Then I would depose Abimelech. He said to Abimelech, 'Enlarge your army and come forth.'"

³⁰When Zebul, the prince of the city, heard the words of Gaal, the son of Ebed, his anger burned. ³¹So he sent messengers to Abimelech in secret, saying, "Look, Gaal the son of Ebed and his brothers are coming to Shechem,

and look, they are inciting the city against you. ³²Therefore, now, rise up by night, you and the people who are with you, and lie in ambush in the field. ³³Then it shall happen, in the morning, at the rising of the sun, you shall set out early and you shall spread out in an attack against the city. Watch, when he and the people who are with him are coming out to you, then you do to him just as your hand finds occasion."

³⁴So Abimelech and all of the people who were with him rose up by night, and they set up an ambush against Shechem. They were four units. ³⁵Gaal, the son of Ebed, went out and he stood in the entrance of the gate of the city. Then Abimelech and the people who were with him rose up from the ambush. ³⁶When Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, "Look, a group of people is coming down from the tops of the hills!" Zebul said to him, "You are seeing the shadow of the hills as men." ³⁷Again, Gaal continued to speak and said, "Look, groups of people are coming down from beside the summit of the land, and one unit is coming from the way of the oak of the diviners." ³⁸Then Zebul said to him, "Where then is your mouth, with which you said, 'Who is Abimelech that we should serve him?' Is this not the people who you regard it with contempt? Indeed, go out now and fight against him." ³⁹So Gaal went out before the citizens of Shechem, and he fought against Abimelech. ⁴⁰Abimelech pursued him, and he fled from his presence. Many fell fatally wounded as far as the entrance of the city gate.

⁴¹Then Abimelech settled in Arumah. Zebul drove Gaal and his brothers away from dwelling in Shechem. ⁴²Now it happened that the next day the people went out into the field, and they reported it to Abimelech. ⁴³So he took the people, and he split up into three units. Then he waited in ambush in the field. When he saw and look, the people were going out of the city, then he rose up against them and he killed them. ⁴⁴Abimelech and the units that were with him spread out and they stood at the entrance of the gate of the city. But two units spread out against everyone who was in the field and they killed them. ⁴⁵Abimelech fought against the city all that day. He captured the city, and he killed the people who were in it. Then he tore down the city and scattered salt on it.

⁴⁶When all the lords of the tower of Shechem heard, they went into the citadel of the house of El-Berith. ⁴⁷Then it was reported to Abimelech that all the lords of the tower of Shechem had assembled themselves. ⁴⁸So Abimelech went up to Mount Zalmon, he and all the people who were with him. Abimelech took the proper ax in his hand and cut off a branch from the trees. He lifted it and set it upon his shoulder and said to the people who were with him, "Whatsoever you have seen that I have done, hurry, do the same as me." ⁴⁹So all the people also each cut off a branch and they went after Abimelech. Then they piled them on top of the underground chamber, thus on account of them they burned the underground chamber with fire. As a result all the distinguished people in the tower of Shechem also died, about a thousand men and women.

⁵⁰Then Abimelech went to Thebez, and he set up camp around Thebez and he captured it. ⁵¹But there was a strong tower in the midst of the city, so all of the men and the women and all the prominent citizens of the city fled to there. They closed it up behind themselves and they went up on the roof of the tower. ⁵²Then Abimelech came towards the tower and he fought against it, and he approached as far as the entrance of the tower in order to burn it with fire. ⁵³But one woman threw down an upper millstone onto the head of Abimelech and it crushed his skull. ⁵⁴Then he cried out hurriedly to the young man bearing his armor, and he said to him, "Draw out your sword and put me to death, lest they will say about me, 'A woman killed him.'" So his young man stabbed him so that he died. ⁵⁵When the men of Israel saw that Abimelech had died, they went each to his own place. ⁵⁶Thus God avenged the evil of Abimelech that he did to his father by killing his seventy brothers. ⁵⁷All the evil of the men of Shechem God caused to return back upon their own heads and on them came the curse of Jotham, the son of Jerubbaal.

Chapter 10

¹Now after Abimelech, Tola, the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, arose in order to deliver Israel. He settled in Shamir, in the hill country of Ephraim. ²He judged Israel twenty-three years. He died and was buried in Shamir.

³Then arose after him Jair the Gileadite. He judged Israel twenty-two years. ⁴Now he had thirty sons, riding on thirty donkeys. There were thirty cities for them, they call them Havvoth Jair to this day, that are in the land of the Gilead. ⁵Then Jair died and he was buried in Kamon.

⁶The sons of Israel continued to do this evil in the eyes of Yahweh: they worshiped the Baals, the Ashtoreths, the gods of Aram, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the sons of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines. They forsook Yahweh and did not serve him. ⁷The anger of Yahweh burned against Israel, so he gave them over into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the sons of Ammon. ⁸They shattered and oppressed the sons of Israel in that year, and for eighteen years all the sons of Israel who were on the opposite side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in the Gilead. ⁹Then the sons of Ammon also crossed over the Jordan to fight against Judah, against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim, and as a result there was for Israel exceedingly great distress.

¹⁰Then the sons of Israel cried out to Yahweh, saying, "We have sinned against you, because we have forsaken our God and we have served the Baals." ¹¹Then Yahweh said to the sons of Israel, "Was it not from the Egyptians, from the Amorite, from the sons of Ammon, from the Philistines, ¹²the Sidonians and Amalek and Maon, when they oppressed you that you cried out to me, and I delivered you from their hand? ¹³Yet you have abandoned me and you have served other gods. Therefore, I will not continue to deliver you. ¹⁴Go and cry out to the gods that you have chosen for yourselves. They should deliver you at the time of your distress." ¹⁵Then the sons of Israel said to Yahweh, "We have sinned. You do to us according to all that is good in your eyes. Only rescue us please this day." ¹⁶They removed the foreign gods from their midst and they worshiped Yahweh. Then His soul became dismayed with the suffering of Israel.

¹⁷Now the sons of Ammon were summoned and they encamped in Gilead. So the sons of Israel gathered together and they encamped at Mizpah. ¹⁸Then the people, the princes of Gilead each said to his fellow man, "Who is the man who will begin to fight against the sons of Ammon? He will become the leader over all who are residing in Gilead."

Chapter 11

¹Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a warrior of strength, but he was the son of a woman committing fornication. Gilead begat Jephthah. ²The wife of Gilead also gave birth to his sons. When the sons of the wife grew up, they drove out Jephthah and they said to him, "You will not inherit from the house of our father since a son of another woman are you." ³So Jephthah fled from the presence of his brothers and he settled in the land of Tob. Unprincipled men associated around Jephthah and they went about with him.

⁴Now it happened after some days that the sons of Ammon fought with Israel. ⁵It was when the sons of Ammon fought with Israel, that the elders of Gilead went to summon Jephthah from the land of Tob. ⁶Then they said to Jephthah, "Come and you will be for us as commander so we may fight against the sons of Ammon." ⁷But Jephthah replied to the elders of Gilead, "Do you yourselves not hate me since you drove me out of the house of my father? Why have you come to me now when you have trouble?" ⁸Then the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "Rightly, now we have turned back to you; so come with us and fight against the sons of Ammon, and you will become commander for us over all residing in Gilead." ⁹Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you bring me back to fight against the sons of Ammon, and Yahweh gives them over before me, I will actually be your leader?" ¹⁰Then the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "Yahweh will be a witness between us, surely according to your word, thus we will do!" ¹¹So Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people set him as commander and leader over themselves. Jephthah spoke all his words before Yahweh in the Mizpah.

¹²Then Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the sons of Ammon, saying, "What has happened with respect to me and to you, that you have come against me to fight over my land?" ¹³The king of the sons of Ammon responded to the messengers of Jephthah, "Because Israel seized my land at his going up out of Egypt, from Arnon up to the

Jabbok, and over to the Jordan. Now return them in peace.” ¹⁴Then Jephthah continued again and sent messengers to the king of the sons of Ammon, ¹⁵and he said to him, “Thus Jephthah said: Israel did not take the land of Moab or the land of the sons of Ammon. ¹⁶However in their coming up from Egypt, Israel went through the wilderness as far as the Sea of Reeds and he came to Kadesh. ¹⁷When Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, ‘Please may I pass through your land,’ the king of Edom would not listen. He likewise sent to the king of Moab, but he was not willing. So Israel stayed at Kadesh. ¹⁸Then he went through the wilderness and turned away from the land of Edom and the land of Moab, and he went to the place of the rising of the sun for the land of Moab. They camped on the other side of the Arnon, but they did not go within the border of Moab, for the Arnon was the border of Moab. ¹⁹Israel sent messengers to Sihon, the king of the Amorite, the king of Heshbon. Israel said to him, ‘Please, let us pass through your land as far as my place.’ ²⁰But Sihon did not trust Israel passing through within his border. So Sihon assembled all of his people together and they camped at Jahaz, and he fought with Israel. ²¹Then Yahweh, the God of Israel, gave Sihon and all of his people over into the hand of Israel and they defeated them. Thus Israel possessed all of the land of the Amorite inhabiting that region. ²²They possessed everything within the territory of the Amorite, from the Arnon to the Jabbok, and from the wilderness as far as the Jordan. ²³Since therefore Yahweh, the God of Israel, has expelled the Amorite out of the presence of his people Israel, will you indeed possess it? ²⁴Will you not take possession if Chemosh, your god, allows you to possess it? So all that Yahweh our God has dispossessed before us, we will possess it. ²⁵Now are you really better than Balak, the son of Zippor, the king of Moab? Did he dare contend with Israel or did he ever wage war against them? ²⁶While Israel resided three hundred years in Heshbon and in its villages, and in Aroer and in its villages, and in all the cities that are along the banks of the Arnon—why then did you not repossess during that time? ²⁷I have not sinned against you, but you are doing wrong in dealing with me by fighting against me. Yahweh, the judge, will decide today between the sons of Israel and between the sons of Ammon.” ²⁸But the king of the sons of Ammon did not listen to the words of Jephthah that he had sent to him.

²⁹Then the Spirit of Yahweh came on Jephthah, and he passed through the Gilead and Manasseh, and he passed through Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed through the sons of Ammon. ³⁰Jephthah vowed a vow to Yahweh and said, “If you truly give the sons of Ammon into my hand, ³¹then it shall be the one who comes out, whoever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the sons of Ammon, that he will belong to Yahweh, and I will offer him up as a whole burnt offering.” ³²So Jephthah passed through to the sons of Ammon to fight against them, and Yahweh gave them into his hand. ³³Then he attacked them from Aroer and as far as your coming in to Minnith, twenty cities, and up to Abel Keramim, an exceedingly great slaughter. So the sons of Ammon were subdued by the presence of the sons of Israel.

³⁴Jephthah came into the Mizpah area, to his house, and look, his daughter was coming out to meet him with tambourines and with dancing. However, she was an only child; he did not have a son or daughter apart from her. ³⁵Now it happened when he saw her that he tore his garments and he said, “Alas, my daughter! Indeed, you have made me bow in grief, and you are among those who cause me pain! For I have opened my mouth to Yahweh and I am not able to turn back.” ³⁶Then she said to him, “My father, you have opened your mouth to Yahweh. Do to me according to what came forth from your mouth, after what Yahweh has done for you: complete vengeance against your enemies, against the sons of Ammon.” ³⁷She said to her father, “Let this thing be done for me. Release me for two months, so I may go away and I will fall prostrate on the hills and I will weep on account of my virginity, I and my companions.” ³⁸He replied, “Go.” Then he sent her away for two months. She went, she and her companions, and she wept on account of her virginity on the hills. ³⁹Now it happened at the end of two months that she returned to her father, and he carried out his vow with respect to her that he had vowed. She did not know a man, and it became a custom in Israel. ⁴⁰From time to time the daughters of Israel went to commemorate the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite for four days during the year.

Chapter 12

¹Now the men of Ephraim were summoned and they passed northward and they said to Jephthah, “Why did you pass through in order to fight against the sons of Ammon but you did not call us to go with you? We will burn your

house down over you with fire.”²Jephthah said to them, “A man in exceedingly great dispute I have been, I and my people and the sons of Ammon. When I summoned you, you did not rescue me from their hand.³When I saw that you were not coming to assist, I put my life in my own hand. I passed through to the sons of Ammon, and Yahweh gave them over into my hand. Now why have you come up to me to fight against me this day?”⁴Then Jephthah assembled all of the men of Gilead and he fought Ephraim. The men of Gilead struck Ephraim because they had said, “Fugitives of Ephraim are you, O people of Gilead, in the midst of Ephraim, in the midst of Manasseh.”⁵Gilead captured the crossing places of the Jordan along Ephraim. It happened when any of the survivors of Ephraim would say, “May I cross over,” that the men of Gilead would say to him, “Are you an Ephraimite?” If he said, “No,”⁶then they would say to him, “Please say: Shibboleth.” But if he said “Sibboleth,” for he was not prepared to pronounce it correctly, they would seize him and they would slaughter him at the crossing places of the Jordan. Forty-two thousand from Ephraim fell at that time.

⁷Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died and he was buried among the cities of Gilead.

⁸Then after him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel.⁹Now he had thirty sons. He sent away thirty daughters to the outside, and he brought in thirty daughters for his sons from the outside. He judged Israel seven years.¹⁰Then Ibzan died and he was buried in Bethlehem.¹¹After him Elon the Zebulunite judged Israel. He judged Israel ten years.¹²Then Elon the Zebulunite died and he was buried in Aijalon in the land of Zebulun.

¹³After him, Abdon, the son of Hillel the Pirathonite judged Israel.¹⁴Now he had forty sons and thirty sons of sons, who rode on seventy young male donkeys. He judged Israel eight years.¹⁵Then Abdon, the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and he was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the hill country of the Amalekite.

Chapter 13

¹The sons of Israel continued to do this evil in the eyes of Yahweh, so Yahweh gave them over into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

²Now there was one man from Zorah, of the families of the Danites, and his name was Manoah. His wife was barren and she had never given birth.³The messenger of Yahweh appeared to the wife and he said to her, “Look, please, you are barren and you have not given birth, but you will conceive and you will bear a son.⁴Now take care that you surely do not drink wine or strong drink, and you do not eat anything unclean.

⁵For surely you are pregnant and you will bear a son. A razor will not go up upon his head, for a Nazirite to God from the womb the boy will be. He will begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines.”⁶Then the woman came in and she explained to her husband saying, “The man of God came to me. His appearance was as the appearance of the messenger of God, exceedingly fearsome, so I did not ask him from where he had come. He did not reveal to me his name.⁷Then he said to me, ‘Surely, you are pregnant, and you will bear a son. So now, you must not drink wine or strong drink, and you must not eat anything unclean, because the boy will be a Nazirite to God from the womb until the day of his death.’”

⁸Then Manoah prayed to Yahweh and he said, “Oh please, my Lord, please let the man of God who you sent come again to us so that he may instruct us about what we must do for the boy who is to be born.”⁹The true God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the messenger of God came to the woman again when she was sitting in the field. But Manoah her husband was not with her.¹⁰So the woman hurried and she ran and she reported to her husband, and she said to him, “Look! The man has appeared to me who came to me that day!”¹¹So Manoah rose up and he went after his wife. When he came to the man, he said to him, “Are you the man who spoke to this woman?” He replied, “I am.”¹²Then Manoah said, “Now may your words come to pass. What will be the protocol for the boy, and his work?”¹³The messenger of Yahweh replied to Manoah, “Because of all that I have said to the woman, she must take heed herself.¹⁴From anything that comes forth from the vine of the wine, she must not consume. She must not drink wine or strong drink, and anything unclean she must not eat. Everything that I have commanded her, she must do.”

¹⁵Then Manoah said to the messenger of Yahweh, "Please let us detain you, so that we may prepare a young kid from the goats on account of your presence." ¹⁶The angel of Yahweh replied to Manoah, "Even if you would detain me, I will not eat your bread. But if you would prepare a burnt offering for Yahweh, you may offer it." For Manoah did not know that he was the messenger of Yahweh. ¹⁷Then Manoah said to the messenger of Yahweh, "What is your name, that when your words come to pass we may honor you?" ¹⁸The messenger of Yahweh replied to him, "Why is this, you are asking about my name, but it is incomprehensible!" ¹⁹Manoah took the young kid from the goats and the offering and he brought up a sacrifice upon the rock to Yahweh. Meanwhile he was about to perform an act causing wonder while Manoah and his wife were watching. ²⁰Now it happened when the flame went up from upon the altar towards the heavens, that the messenger of Yahweh went up in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife were watching. As a result they fell on their faces to the ground.

²¹But the messenger of Yahweh did not continue to appear any longer to Manoah or to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was the messenger of Yahweh. ²²Manoah said to his wife, "Surely we will die, because we have seen God!" ²³But his wife replied to him, "If Yahweh had desired to kill us, he would not have taken from our hand the whole burnt offering and the offering. He would not have shown us all these things, and at this time would he have not allowed us to hear about this." ²⁴The woman gave birth to a son, and she called his name Samson. The boy grew up and Yahweh blessed him. ²⁵Now the Spirit of Yahweh began to tap him in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and between Eshtaol.

Chapter 14

¹Samson went down to Timnah, and he saw a woman in Timnah, from the daughters of the Philistines. ²Then he went back up and he reported to his father and to his mother, and he said, "I saw a woman in Timnah, among the daughters of the Philistines. So now take her for me for a wife." ³His father and his mother replied to him, "Is there not a woman among the daughters of your relatives, or among all of my people, that you are going to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" Samson said to his father, "Take her for me, because she is right in my eyes." ⁴But his father and his mother did not know that this matter was from Yahweh, for he was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines. Now at that time the Philistines were ruling over Israel.

⁵Then Samson went down along with his father and his mother to Timnah. They came as far as the vineyards of Timnah, and look, a young lion among the lions was roaring when encountering him. ⁶The Spirit of Yahweh rushed upon him, and he tore it to pieces like butchering a young goat. There was not anything in his hand, but he did not disclose to his father or to his mother what he had done. ⁷Then he went down and he spoke to the woman, and she seemed right in the eyes of Samson. ⁸Then he returned after some days to take her. He turned aside to look for the carcass of the lion, and look, there was a swarm of bees in the dead body of the lion and honey. ⁹He scraped it into the palms of his hands and he went along, walking and eating as he went to his father and to his mother. He even gave some to them so that they ate, but he did not disclose to them that he had scooped the honey out of the dead body of the lion.

¹⁰Then his father went down to the woman, and there Samson prepared a drinking feast, because so would do the young men. ¹¹Now it happened when they saw him, that they brought thirty close friends and they were with him. ¹²Samson said to them, "Let me propose to you a riddle. If indeed you explain it to me during the seven days of the drinking feast, and truly you have found out, then I will give to you thirty linen outer garments and thirty changes of clothes. ¹³But if you are not able to provide an explanation to me, then you must yourselves give to me thirty linen outer garments and thirty changes of clothes." They said to him, "Set forth your riddle, so we may hear it." ¹⁴He said to them,

"From the eater came forth food;

and from a strong one came forth sweetness."

But they were not able to explain the riddle in three days.

¹⁵Now it happened on the seventh day that they said to the wife of Samson, "Entice your husband so he may reveal to us the riddle, lest we burn you and the house of your father with fire. Have you invited us in order to dispossess us or not?" ¹⁶Then the wife of Samson wept beside him and she said, "Surely you hate me! You do not love me! You have put forth a riddle to the sons of my people, but you have not informed me." He said to her, "Look, I have not informed my father or my mother, should I inform you?" ¹⁷She continued to weep beside him during the seven days that they had the drinking feast. Now it happened on the seventh day that he informed her because she pressed him, with the result that she revealed the riddle to the sons of her people. ¹⁸Then the men of the city said to him before the sun went down on the seventh day,

"What is sweeter than honey?

and what is stronger than a lion?"

So he said to them,

"If you had not plowed with my heifer,

you would not have found out my riddle."

¹⁹Then the Spirit of Yahweh rushed upon him. He went down to Ashkelon and he struck down thirty of their men. He took their spoil, and he gave the changes of clothes from the riddle. His anger blazed, and he went up to the house of his father. ²⁰Then the wife of Samson came to be the wife of his close friend, who associated with him.

Chapter 15

¹Now it happened after some days, during the days of the harvest of wheat, that Samson visited his wife with a kid from the goats. for he said, "I will go in to my wife, to the inner room." But her father did not allow him to go in.

²Her father said, "Truly I said that surely you hated her, so I gave her to your close friend. Is not her younger sister better than she? Please may she be yours in her place." ³Samson said to them, "This time I am blameless concerning the Philistines when I am inflicting calamity against them." ⁴Then Samson went and captured three hundred foxes and he made them turn tail to tail. He took torches, and he set one torch between two of the tails in the middle. ⁵He kindled fire in the torches, he let them loose into the standing grain of the Philistines. As a result he burned both the stack of sheaves and also the standing grain, even a vineyard, and olive orchard. ⁶So the Philistines said, "Who has done this?", and they replied "Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he took his wife and he gave her to his close friend." As a result the Philistines went up and they burned her and her father with fire. ⁷Samson said to them, "Since you have actually acted like this, surely I have avenged myself against you, and afterwards, I will stop." ⁸He struck them on the lower leg as well as the thigh, a great slaughter. Then he went down and he remained in the cleft of the rock of Etam.

⁹But the Philistines went up and they encamped in Judah and they had spread themselves out in Lehi. ¹⁰Now the men of Judah said, "Why have you come up against us?" They replied, "We have come up in order to bind Samson, to do to him just as he has done to us." ¹¹Then three thousand men of Judah went down to the cleft of the rock of Etam, and they said to Samson, "Do you not know that the Philistines are ruling over us? What is this you have done to us?" He replied to them, "Just as they have done to me, so I have done to them." ¹²They replied to him, "We have come down to bind you in order to give you over into the hand of the Philistines." But Samson said to them, "Swear to me that you will not instead attack me yourselves." ¹³They replied to him saying, "No, however surely we will bind you and we will give you over into their hand. But truly we will not kill you." Then they bound him with two new ropes and they brought him up from the rock.

¹⁴He had come as far as Lehi, and then the Philistines shouted as they encountered him. Then the Spirit of Yahweh rushed upon him. The ropes which were on his arms became as flax stalks which they had burned in fire, so his bands were loosed from upon his hands. ¹⁵He found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, and he stretched forth his hand and he took it and he slaughtered a thousand men with it. ¹⁶Then Samson said,

"With the jawbone of the donkey, one heap, two heaps,
with the jawbone of the donkey I have slaughtered a thousand men."

¹⁷Now it happened when he finished speaking that he hurled the jawbone out of his hand, and he named that place Ramath Lehi. ¹⁸Then he was very thirsty and cried out to Yahweh and he said, "You Yourself have given this great victory into the hand of Your servant. But now must I die with this thirst so that I will fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?" ¹⁹So God split open the hollow place that is at Lehi and water came out of it. When he drank, his spirit returned so that he revived. Therefore he called the name of it En Hakkore, which is in Lehi to this day. ²⁰Thus he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

Chapter 16

¹Now Samson went to Gaza and he saw a woman there, a harlot, and he went in to her. ²Thus the Gazites were saying, "Samson has come here." So they encircled and they laid in wait for him all the night at the gate of the city. They kept themselves quiet all the night, saying, "At the light of the morning, then we will kill him." ³Samson lay down until the middle of the night. Then he arose in the middle of the night and he seized the doors of the gate of the city and the two doorposts. He pulled them up along with the bolt, he hoisted them upon his shoulders, and he brought them up to the top of the hill which is in front of Hebron.

⁴Now it happened after this that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek. Her name was Delilah. ⁵The governors of the Philistines came up to her, and they said to her, "Make him open up. See by what means is his great strength, and how we can prevail over him, so that we may bind him in order to weaken him. Then we will each give you one thousand one hundred silver pieces." ⁶So Delilah said to Samson, "Please, tell me by what means is your great strength, and how can you be bound in order to weaken you?" ⁷Samson replied to her, "If they would bind me with seven fresh cords that have not been dried, then I would become weak and I would be just as one of the other men." ⁸Then the governors of the Philistines brought up to her seven fresh cords that had not been dried, and she tied him up with them. ⁹Now she had the ambush group staying in the room when she said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" But he tore the cords to shreds just as a wick of flax fiber is torn to shreds when it draws in fire. So his strength did not become known.

¹⁰As a result Delilah said to Samson, "Look, you have deceived me and you have spoken lies to me. Now tell me, please, by what means you can be bound." ¹¹He replied to her, "If in fact they would bind me with new cords with which work has not been done with them, I would become weak and I would be just as one of the other men." ¹²So Delilah took new cords and she bound him with them. She said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" with the ambush group staying in the room. But he flicked them off from upon his arms like they were thread.

¹³Then Delilah said to Samson, "Until now you have dealt deceitfully with me and you have spoken lies to me. Reveal to me in what manner you may be bound." So he said to her, "If you would only weave seven of the locks of hair from my head with the loom." ¹⁴She fastened them together with a pin, and she said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" However he woke from his sleep and he pulled out the pin from the weaving and the warp of the loom.

¹⁵Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' yet your heart is not with me? You have dealt deceitfully with me these three times and you have not revealed to me by what means is your great strength." ¹⁶Now it happened that she pressured him with her speech throughout the day. She also continually pressed him so that his soul was vexed to death. ¹⁷So he told her everything in his heart and he said to her, "A razor has never gone up upon my head, because I have been a Nazirite to God from the womb of my mother. If I would be completely shaved, then my strength would leave me, and I would become weak. I would be just as any of the other men."

¹⁸When Delilah perceived that he had told her everything in his heart, she sent and she called to the governors of the Philistines, saying, "Come up one more time, for he has told me everything in his heart." Then the rulers of the Philistines came up to her, and they brought the silver in their hand. ¹⁹Then she made him fall asleep on her knees

and she called to the man while she shaved off the seven locks from his head. Thus she had begun to weaken him, and his strength departed from upon him. ²⁰Then she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" He woke up from his sleep and he said, "I will escape like time after time and I will shake myself loose." But he did not know that Yahweh had departed from upon him. ²¹The Philistines seized him and they gouged out his eyes. They brought him down to Gaza and they bound him with a pair of bronze fetters. Now it happened that he was grinding at the house of the prisoners. ²²However, the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

²³The governors of the Philistines assembled themselves together to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and for a celebration. They said, "Our god has given Samson into our hand, our great enemy." ²⁴When the people saw him, they praised their god, for they said, "Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the devastator of our land, who heaped up our slain ones." ²⁵Now it happened when their heart was merry, that they said, "Call for Samson, that he may make us laugh." So they called for Samson from the house of the prisoners and he caused laughter in front of them. They had made him stand between the columns. ²⁶Samson said to the young man who was holding onto his hand, "Let me rest! Let me touch the columns, those which the building is situated upon them, so that I may support myself on them." ²⁷Now the building was full of the men and the women, and situated there were all of the governors of the Philistines. On the roof there were about three thousand men and women, who were watching while Samson was entertaining.

²⁸Then Samson called out to Yahweh and he said, "My Lord Yahweh, remember me, please! Strengthen me please, just this time, O God, so that I may avenge myself by one act of vengeance on the Philistines because of my two eyes." ²⁹Samson took hold of the two center columns on which the building was situated on them. He leaned himself against them, one in his right hand, and one in his left. ³⁰Then Samson said, "My soul will die with the Philistines!" He stretched out with his strength and the building fell on the governors and on all of the people who were in it. So the ones who died that he killed at his death were more than those he killed during his life. ³¹Then his brothers and all the house of his father went down. They carried him, as they went back up. They buried him between Zorah and between Eshtaol in the burial place of Manoah, his father. He had judged Israel twenty years.

Chapter 17

¹Now there was a man from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Micah. ²He said to his mother, "The one thousand one hundred silver pieces that were taken from you, about which you swore a curse, and moreover you uttered it in my ears—look! The silver is with me. I took it myself." His mother said, "Blessed is my son by Yahweh!" ³Then he brought back the one thousand one hundred silver pieces to his mother and his mother said, "I had entirely consecrated the silver to Yahweh, from my hand to my son in order to make an idol and a cast image. So now, I will return it back to you." ⁴Even so he restored the silver to his mother, his mother took two hundred silver pieces and she gave them to the refiner. He made it into an idol and a cast image, and so it was in the house of Micah. ⁵Now the man Micah he had a house of gods. He made an ephod and family idols, and he even filled the hand of one of his sons so he was as a priest for him. ⁶In those days there was not a king in Israel. Each man would do whatever was right in his eyes.

⁷Now there was a young man from Bethlehem in Judah, from the family of Judah, and he was a Levite. He was sojourning there. ⁸The man went out of the city, from Bethlehem in Judah to sojourn in whatever place he might find. He came to the hill country of Ephraim as far as the house of Micah as he made his way. ⁹Micah said to him, "Where have you come from?" He replied to him, "I am a Levite from Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to sojourn in whatever place I might find." ¹⁰Micah said to him, "Stay with me, and be as a father and as a priest to me. I myself will give to you ten silver pieces for the days, and provision of garments and your sustenance." So the Levite went in. ¹¹So the Levite was willing to stay with the man, and the young man became to him as one of his sons. ¹²Micah filled the hand of the Levite, and the young man became as a priest for him. So it was in the house of Micah. ¹³Then Micah said, "Now I know that Yahweh will cause success for me, because I have this Levite as a priest."

Chapter 18

¹In those days there was not a king in Israel. Now in those days the tribe of the Danite was looking for a territory for itself to settle, because up to that day one had not fallen to it among the tribes of Israel for an inheritance. ²The sons of Dan sent five men from their family, from their members men, sons of valor from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to scout out the land on foot, and to examine it thoroughly. They said to them, "Go! Search out the land thoroughly." They came to the hill country of Ephraim, as far as the house of Micah, and they spent the night there. ³They were among the house of Micah and they recognized the voice of the young Levite man. So they turned aside there and they said to him, "Who brought you here? What are you doing in this place? What do you have here?" ⁴He replied to them, "Like this and like this Micah has done for me; he has hired me and I am to him as a priest." ⁵They said to him, "Inquire, please, of God, that we may know whether our journey will have success, which we are going on it." ⁶The priest said to them, "Go in peace, before Yahweh is your journey which you are going on it."

⁷Then the five men left and they came to Laish. They saw the people who were in the midst of it were living in safety as the manner of the Sidonians, quiet and secure. There was no one causing them shame in any way in the land. Possessing restraint, they were far away from the Sidonians and there was no interaction for them with anyone. ⁸Then they went to their brothers in Zorah and Eshtaol. Their brothers said to them, "How are you?" ⁹They responded, "Get up at once that we may go up against them! For we have seen the land and look, it is exceedingly good. Yet you are keeping still. You must not be sluggish to go to enter in to possess the land. ¹⁰When you go, you will come to a people living securely, and the land is spacious on both hands! For God has given it into your hands, a place where there is not a lack of any thing that is on the earth."

¹¹So they journeyed away from there, six hundred men from the family of the Danite, out from Zorah and Eshtaol, girded with weapons of war. ¹²They went up and they camped at Kiriath Jearim, in Judah. On account of this they call that place Mahaneh Dan to this day. It is back behind Kiriath Jearim. ¹³They crossed over from there to the hill country of Ephraim, and they came up to the house of Micah.

¹⁴Then the five men who had gone to scout out the land of Laish on foot responded to their brothers and they said, "Do you know that there are in these houses an ephod, family idols, a carved image, and a cast image? So now, consider what you will do." ¹⁵So they turned in there and they came to the house of the young man, the Levite, at the house of Micah, and they asked about his welfare. ¹⁶Now six hundred men who were from the sons of Dan, the ones who were girded in their weapons of war, were stationed at the entrance of the gate. ¹⁷The five men who had gone to scout out the land by foot went up, they came there. They took the carved image, the ephod, the family idols, and the cast image, while the priest was standing at the entrance of the gate along with the six hundred men who were girded with the weapons of war. ¹⁸When these came into the house of Micah, and they took the carved image, the ephod, the family idols, and the cast image, the priest said to them, "What are you doing?" ¹⁹They said to him, "Be quiet! Put your hand over your mouth and come with us, and be for us as a father and as a priest. Is it better your being a priest for the house of one man, or your being a priest for a tribe and for a family in Israel?" ²⁰The heart of the priest was agreeable, so he took the ephod, the family idols, and the carved image, and he went in the midst of the people.

²¹Then they turned and they went away. They put the little children, the cattle, and the property of value in front of themselves. ²²They had gone a great distance from the house of Micah, when the men who were in the houses which were near the house of Micah were called together, and they overtook the sons of Dan. ²³They called to the sons of Dan. They turned their faces around and they said to Micah, "What has happened to you that you have assembled together?" ²⁴He replied, "You took my gods that I made, and the priest, and you left. What do I have any longer? So how is it you can say to me, 'What has happened to you?'" ²⁵The sons of Dan responded to him, "You should not make your voice heard among us, lest some men fierce in temperment will come with hostility against you, with the result that you would reap the destruction of your soul and the soul of your household." ²⁶So the sons of Dan went their way since Micah perceived that they were stronger than him. He turned back and he returned to his house.

²⁷Now they had taken what Micah had made, and the priest who was his, and they came to Laish, to a people living undisturbed and feeling secure. They slaughtered them with the mouth of the sword and they burned the city with fire. ²⁸There was not a deliverer because it was far from Sidon, and there was no involvement for them with any man. It was in the valley that is near Beth Rehob. They rebuilt the city and they lived in it. ²⁹They called the name of the city Dan, in honor of the name of Dan their father, who was born to Israel. However Laish was the name of the city at the first. ³⁰The sons of Dan raised up the carved image for themselves. Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manesseh, he along with his sons were priests for the tribe of the Danite until the day of the exile of the land. ³¹So they set up for themselves the carved image belonging to Micah that he had made, all the days of the house of the true God being at Shiloh.

Chapter 19

¹Now it happened in those days, when there was no king over Israel, that there was a man, a Levite, sojourning in the remotest parts of the hill country of Ephraim. He took for himself a woman, a concubine, from Bethlehem in Judah. ²However, his concubine played the harlot against him and she went away from being with him to the house of her father, to Bethlehem in Judah. She was there for a period of days, four months. ³Then her husband rose up and he went after her, to speak to her heart, in order to persuade to return to him. His young man was with him, and a team of donkeys. She brought him into the house of her father, and when the father of the young woman saw him, he was glad to meet him. ⁴His father-in-law, the father of the young woman, prevailed against him so he stayed with him three days. They ate and they drank, and they spent the night there. ⁵Now it happened on the fourth day that they got up early in the morning and he rose up to go, however the father of the young woman said to his son-in-law, "Strengthen your heart with a piece of bread, then afterwards you shall go." ⁶So the two of them sat down and they ate together, and they drank. Then the father of the young woman said to the man, "Please be willing and spend the night and your heart will be glad." ⁷Then the man rose up in order to leave, however his father-in-law urged him. So he stayed and he spent the night there. ⁸He got up early in the morning on the fifth day in order to leave, but the father of the young woman said, "Please strengthen your heart." So they lingered until the turning aside of the day, and the two of them ate. ⁹When the man rose up to go, he and his concubine and his young man, his father-in-law, the father of the young woman said to him, "Look, please, the day has drawn toward evening. Please stay the night. See, the day is declining. Spend the night here and your heart will be glad. Then make an early start tomorrow for your journey and go to your tent."

¹⁰But the man was not willing to spend the night. So he got up and he left. He came as far as the region opposite Jebus, that is Jerusalem. Now with him was a team of donkeys equipped for riding, and also his concubine was with him. ¹¹They were near Jebus, and the daylight had greatly diminished. So the young man said to his master, "Come, please, we should turn aside into this city of the Jebusite so we can spend the night in it." ¹²However his master said to him, "We will not turn aside into a city of a foreigner, where there are none here from the sons of Israel. Instead we will pass by until reaching Gibeah." ¹³Then he said to his young man, "Come, let us draw near to one of these places, and we will spend the night in either Gibeah or in Ramah." ¹⁴So they passed by and they went on. But the sun went down with regard to them in proximity to the region of Gibeah, which belonged to Benjamin. ¹⁵As a result they turned aside there to come in to spend the night in the Gibeah area. They came in and they sat down in the open plaza of the city, but no one was receiving them into the house to spend the night.

¹⁶Now, look, an old man was coming from his work, from the field at the evening. The man was from the hill country of Ephraim, and he was sojourning in the Gibeah area. But the men of the place were Benjamite. ¹⁷He raised his eyes and he saw the traveling man in the open plaza of the city. Then the old man said, "Where are you going and from where are you coming?" ¹⁸He said to him, "We are passing through from Bethlehem in Judah to the remote parts of the hill country of Ephraim. I am from there. I went to Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to the house of Yahweh. However there is no one receiving me into the house. ¹⁹Moreover, there is straw, also fodder for our donkeys. There is even bread and wine for me and for your maidservant, and for the young man with your servants. There is no lack of anything." ²⁰The old man said, "Peace to you! Surely all of your need is upon me. Only

you must not spend the night in the open plaza.” ²¹So he brought him into his house and he poured out feed for the donkeys. They washed their feet and they ate and they drank.

²²They were making their heart glad, but look, the men of the city, men of sons of wickedness, had encircled themselves around the house, pounding repeatedly on the door. They said to the old man, the master of the house, saying, “Bring out the man who came to your house, so we will know him.” ²³The man, the master of the house, went out to them and said to them, “No, my brothers, please you must not act wickedly! Seeing that this man has come into my house, you must not do this disgraceful thing! ²⁴Here is my virgin daughter and his concubine. Please let me bring them out so you can violate them and do to them what is good in your eyes. But to this man do not do this wicked thing!” ²⁵But the men were not willing to listen to him, so the man seized his concubine and made her go forth to them who were outside. They knew her and they abused her the whole night until the morning. Then they sent her away at the rising of the dawn. ²⁶The woman came at the changing of the morning and she fell down at the entrance of the house of the man where her master was there, until the daylight.

²⁷Her master rose up in the morning and he opened the doors of the house and went out to go on his way. But look, the woman, his concubine had fallen at the entrance of the house, and her hands were on the threshold. ²⁸He said to her, “Get up and let us go!” But there was no answering, so he took her on the donkey. Thus the man rose up and he went to his place. ²⁹When he came to his house, he took the knife, and he seized his concubine, and he cut her in pieces to her bones, into twelve pieces, and he sent her into all of the territory of Israel. ³⁰Now it would happen, everyone who saw it said, “Nothing has happened and never has been seen anything like this from the day of the coming up of the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt until this day. Consider about it for yourselves! Make a plan and speak up!”

Chapter 20

¹Then all of the sons of Israel came forth, and the company was assembled as one man, from Dan and as far as Beersheba and the land of Gilead, before Yahweh at Mizpah. ²The leaders of all of the people, of all of the tribes of Israel, stationed themselves among the company of the people of the true God, four hundred thousand, each a footsoldier wielding a sword. ³Now the sons of Benjamin heard that the sons of Israel had gone up to Mizpah. Then the sons of Israel said, “Explain how this wicked thing has been brought about.” ⁴So the Levite man, the husband of the woman who had been murdered, answered. He said, “I came, myself and my concubine, to the Gibeah region that belongs to Benjamin, to spend the night. ⁵The citizens of the Gibeah region rose up against me. They surrounded the house at night because of me. They intended to kill me. Instead they assaulted my concubine so that she died. ⁶I took back my concubine and cut her in pieces, and I sent her out into every territory of the inheritance of Israel, because they have committed a heinous crime and a disgrace in Israel. ⁷Look, all of you sons of Israel, decide for yourselves advice and a plan here.”

⁸All of the people rose up as one man, saying, “We will not go back, each one to his tent, and we will not return, each one to his house! ⁹Instead now this is the thing that we should do to the Gibeah region, against it by lot. ¹⁰We will take ten men of a hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and one hundred of a thousand, and one thousand of ten thousand, to get provision for the people, in order to do at their coming to Gibeah in Benjamin, according to all the disgrace that it committed in Israel.” ¹¹So every man of Israel was assembled against the city, as one man, united companions.

¹²The tribes of Israel sent men into all the tribes of Benjamin, saying, “What is this wickedness that has been done among you? ¹³Therefore, now, give over the men, the sons of worthlessness, who are in the region of Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and thus we may incinerate evil out of Israel.” But they were not willing, Benjamin, to heed the voice of their brothers, the sons of Israel. ¹⁴Then the sons of Benjamin assembled themselves out of the cities to the region of Gibeah, coming out to the battle against the sons of Israel. ¹⁵The sons of Benjamin mobilized together from the cities on that day twenty-six thousand men wielding a sword. In addition, out of the inhabitants of the Gibeah region seven hundred chosen men had been mobilized. ¹⁶Among all of these people were seven

hundred chosen men, impeded in his right hand, each of whom could sling with a stone at a specific hair and he would not miss.

¹⁷The men of Israel, besides Benjamin, mustered up for themselves four hundred thousand men wielding a sword, all of whom were men of war. ¹⁸Then they arose and they went up to Bethel. The sons of Israel asked God and they said, "Who should go up for us at the beginning to the battle with the sons of Benjamin?" Yahweh directed, "It shall be Judah at the beginning."

¹⁹So the sons of Israel arose in the morning and they encamped near the region of Gibeah. ²⁰The men of Israel went forth to the battle against Benjamin. The men of Israel set themselves up for a battle against those in Gibeah. ²¹But the sons of Benjamin came forth out of the Gibeah region, and they struck down among Israel twenty-two thousand men to the ground on that day. ²²However the people, the men of Israel, strengthened themselves and they continued to set up for battle at the place where they had set up there on the first day. ²³Then the sons of Israel went up and they wept before Yahweh until evening. They asked Yahweh, saying, "Should I continue to attack, to the battle against the sons of Benjamin, my brother?" Yahweh replied, "Go up against him!"

²⁴So the sons of Israel drew near to the sons of Benjamin on the second day. ²⁵Benjamin came forth to confront them from the Gibeah region on the second day, and against the sons of Israel they struck down to the ground another eighteen thousand men. All of these were wielders of a sword. ²⁶Then the sons of Israel and all the people went up and they came to Bethel. They wept, and they sat there before Yahweh. They fasted on that day until the evening, then they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before Yahweh. ²⁷The sons of Israel asked Yahweh, for the ark of the covenant of the true God was there in those days, ²⁸when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, was serving before it in those days, saying, "Should I continue to go forth to the battle once more against the sons of Benjamin, my brother, or should I stop?" Yahweh said, "Go up, for tomorrow I will give him into your hand."

²⁹So Israel set groups in ambush around the Gibeah region on all sides. ³⁰The sons of Israel went up against the sons of Benjamin on the third day, and they set up for battle against the Gibeah region as was time after time. ³¹The sons of Benjamin went forth to confront the people. They were lured away from the city, and they began to strike down some of the people. About thirty men of Israel were slain as was the other time on the roads, of which one went up to Bethel, and one went to the Gibeah region through the field. ³²Then the sons of Benjamin said, "They have been defeated before us, just as at the first." But the sons of Israel said, "Let us flee so that we will draw him away from the city to the roads." ³³Then every man of Israel rose up out of his place and they set up battle lines at Baal Tamar. The one hiding in ambush of Israel burst forth out of his place from Maareh Gibeah. ³⁴Ten thousand men, chosen out of all Israel came out in the sight of the Gibeah region, and the battle was heavy. But they did not know that this calamity was coming near to them. ³⁵Thus Yahweh defeated Benjamin before Israel. The sons of Israel destroyed Benjamin on that day, twenty five thousand one hundred men, everyone of those were wielding a sword.

³⁶So the sons of Benjamin saw that they were defeated. The men of Israel had given a place to Benjamin, because they were confident in the group hiding in ambush that they had placed around the Gibeah region. ³⁷Then the group hiding in ambush hurried and they spread out around the Gibeah region. The group hiding in ambush marched out and it struck all of the city with the edge of the sword. ³⁸Now there was the prearranged plan for the men of Israel on behalf of the group hiding in ambush: load up so that they would send the rising column of the smoke up out of the city, ³⁹when the men of Israel retreated from the battle. Then Benjamin began to attack, among the men of Israel about thirty men were slain. For they said, "Surely he is absolutely defeated before us, as in the first battle." ⁴⁰But when the signal began to rise up out of the city, a pillar of smoke, then Benjamin retreated away from it. Indeed, look, the entirety of the city had gone up to the heavens. ⁴¹Then the men of Israel turned back. Each man of Benjamin was horrified, for he saw that the calamity had come upon them. ⁴²So they retreated before the men of Israel to the way of the wilderness, but the fighting overtook him. Meanwhile those coming out from the cities were destroying him in the very midst of him. ⁴³They surrounded Benjamin, they put him to flight. With ease they trampled him down as far as opposite the Gibeah region, in the direction of the rising sun. ⁴⁴They fell from Benjamin, eighteen thousand men, all of these were men of valor. ⁴⁵Then they turned and they fled to the

wilderness to the rock of Rimmon. They gleaned along the pathways five thousand men. They pursued closely after him as far as Gidom, and they struck down from him two thousand more men. ⁴⁶So it happened that all of the fallen ones of Benjamin were twenty-five thousand men wielding a sword, on that day. All of these were men of valor. ⁴⁷But six hundred men turned back and they fled to the wilderness, toward the rock of Rimmon. They stayed at the rock of Rimmon four months. ⁴⁸Then the men of Israel returned to the sons of Benjamin. They struck them down with the edge of the sword, even a city in entirety, including cattle as well as everything that was found. Also all of the cities that were found, they set on fire.

Chapter 21

¹Now each man of Israel bound himself by an oath at Mizpah, saying, "Everyone of us shall not give his daughter to Benjamin for a wife." ²Then the people came to Bethel and they sat there until the evening before the true God. They lifted up their voices and they wept, a loud weeping. ³They said, "Why, O Yahweh, God of Israel, has this happened to Israel, to be missing today one tribe from Israel?" ⁴Now it happened the next day that the people rose up early and they built an altar there and they offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings. ⁵The sons of Israel said, "Who is it that did not go up with the assembly out of all the tribes of Israel to Yahweh?" For the great oath was against whoever did not go up to Yahweh at Mizpah, saying, "Surely he must be put to death." ⁶The sons of Israel were moved to pity towards Benjamin, his brother. They said, "Today one tribe has been hewn down from Israel. ⁷What can we do for them, for the ones remaining, for a wife, since we have put ourselves under an oath to Yahweh to not give to them from our daughters for a wife?"

⁸They said, "Who is anyone from the tribes of Israel who did not go up to Yahweh at Mizpah?" Now look, not anyone had gone to the camp, to the assembly, from Jabesh Gilead. ⁹When the people inspected themselves, look, not anyone was there from the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead. ¹⁰So the assembly sent twelve thousand men there, from the sons of the army, and they instructed them, saying, "Go, and you must strike down the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead with the edge of the sword, even the women and the children. ¹¹"This is the thing that you must do: every male, and every woman who has known the bed of a male, you must ban for destruction." ¹²They found among the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead four hundred young women, virgins, who had not known a man by lying with a male, and they brought them to the camp at Shiloh which was in the land of Canaan.

¹³The entire assembly reached out and they spoke to the sons of Benjamin who were at the rock of Rimmon, and they proclaimed peace to them. ¹⁴Benjamin returned at that time and they gave to them the women who were alive from the women of Jabesh Gilead. But they had not found sufficient for them. ¹⁵Now the people were sorry for Benjamin, because Yahweh had made a breach between the tribes of Israel.

¹⁶Then the elders of the assembly said, "How can we provide wives for the remaining ones, since women from Benjamin have been exterminated?" ¹⁷They said, "There must be an inheritance for the escaped remnant of Benjamin, so that a tribe is not blotted out from Israel. ¹⁸But we are not able to give them wives from our daughters, because the sons of Israel are bound to an oath, saying, 'Cursed is anyone who gives a wife to Benjamin.'" ¹⁹So they said, "Look, there is a feast for Yahweh from time to time at Shiloh, which is on the north of Bethel, to the direction of the rising of the sun on the road that goes up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah." ²⁰They instructed the sons of Benjamin, saying, "Go and wait in hiding in the vineyards. ²¹You must watch, and look when the daughters of Shilo are coming forth to dance in the dances, then you come forth out of the vineyards. You will catch for yourselves, each one his wife from the daughters of Shiloh, and then you can go back to the land of Benjamin. ²²It will happen, when their fathers or their brothers come out to argue with us, that we will say to them, 'Give them freely to us, because we did not take for each man his wife in the battle. Since you did not give them at that time, you would be guilty.'" ²³The sons of Benjamin did so. They carried off wives sufficient for their number from the ones who were dancing, who they snatched away. Then they went and they returned to their inheritance. They rebuilt the cities and they lived in them. ²⁴Then the sons of Israel disbursed themselves from there at that time, each one to his tribe and to his family. Thus they went away from there each one to his inheritance.

²⁵In those days there was not a king in Israel. Each one would do what was right in his own eyes.

Ruth

Chapter 1

¹Now it happened in the days of the ruling of the judges that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man from Bethlehem of Judah went to live in the fields of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ²And the name of the man was Elimelek, and the name of his wife was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. All of them were Ephrathites from Bethlehem of Judah. So they traveled to the fields of Moab and lived there.

³Then Elimelek, the husband of Naomi, died. And she was left, her and her two sons. ⁴And they took wives for themselves from the women of Moab; the name of the first woman was Orpah, and the name of the second woman was Ruth. And they lived there for about ten years. ⁵And the two of them, Mahlon and Kilion, also died, and the woman was left without her two children or her husband.

⁶Then she and her daughters-in-law arose to return from the fields of Moab, for she had heard in a field of Moab that Yahweh had visited his people, giving them bread. ⁷So she went out from the place where she had been living, and her two daughters-in-law were with her. And they traveled down the road to return to the land of Judah.

⁸Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return, each woman to the house of her mother. May Yahweh act with you in covenant faithfulness as you have acted with the dead and with me. ⁹May Yahweh grant to you that you shall find rest, each woman in the house of her husband." Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and cried.

¹⁰But they said to her, "Rather, we will return with you to your people."

¹¹But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters! Why would you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb, that they may become husbands for you? ¹²Turn back, my daughters, go! For I am too old to belong to a husband. If I said I have hope, and if I belonged to a husband even tonight, and even if I would give birth to sons, ¹³would you therefore wait until the time when they are grown? Would you for this reason keep yourselves from belonging to a husband? No, my daughters! For it is exceedingly bitter for me, more than for you, that the hand of Yahweh has gone out against me."

¹⁴Then they lifted up their voices and cried again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵Then she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has turned back to her people and to her gods. Go back after your sister-in-law."

¹⁶But Ruth said, "Do not press me to forsake you or to turn back from following you. For I will go to the place where you go, and I will stay in the place where you stay. Your people are my people, and your God is my God. ¹⁷In the place where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May Yahweh do thus to me, and thus may he add, if death separates between me and between you."

¹⁸Then she saw that she was determined to go with her, and she refrained from speaking to her.

¹⁹So the two of them traveled until they came to Bethlehem. And it happened that, as soon as they came to Bethlehem, the entire town was very excited on account of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?"

²⁰But she said to them, "Do not call me Naomi. Call me Mara, for the Almighty has acted exceedingly bitterly to me.

²¹As for me, I went out full, but Yahweh has brought me back empty. Why would you call me Naomi? But as for Yahweh, he has testified against me, and the Almighty has done evil to me."

²²So Naomi returned, with Ruth the Moabite woman her daughter-in-law, with her, the woman who returned from the fields of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the harvest of barley.

Chapter 2

¹Now Naomi had a relative of her husband, a man of great worth from the clan of Elimelek. And his name was Boaz.^[1]

²And Ruth, the Moabite woman, said to Naomi, "Please, I want to go to the field and glean heads of grain after the one in whose eyes I find favor."

And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."

³So she left and went to glean in the field after the reapers. And by chance, she came to the portion of the field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek.

⁴Then behold, Boaz coming from Bethlehem! And he said to the reapers, "Yahweh be with you."

And they said to him, "May Yahweh bless you."

⁵Then Boaz said to his servant who was set over the reapers, "Who does this young woman belong to?"

⁶Then the servant who was set over the reapers answered and said, "She is a young Moabite woman, the woman who came back with Naomi from the land of Moab. ⁷And she said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the bundles of grain after the reapers.' And she came and has continued from then, in the morning, until now. This is her resting in the house a little."^[2]

⁸Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Will you not listen to me, my daughter? Do not go to glean in another field, and do not even go away from here. But do this: stick closely to my young female workers. ⁹Keep your eyes on the field where they are reaping and follow behind them. Have I not instructed the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the waterpots and drink from what the young men draw."

¹⁰Then she fell on her face and bowed down to the ground and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?"

¹¹Then Boaz answered and said to her, "Everything that you have done with your mother-in-law after the death of your husband has been fully reported to me. You left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and you came to a people whom you did not know the day before yesterday. ¹²May Yahweh reward your work, and may your full wages come from Yahweh, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge."

¹³Then she said, "May I find favor in your eyes, my lord, since you have comforted me, and since you have spoken to the heart of your female servant. But as for me, I am not even like one of your female servants."

¹⁴Then, at the time of the meal, Boaz said to her, "Come here, and eat from the bread, and dip your piece in the vinegar." So she sat beside the reapers, and he offered to her some roasted grain. And she ate, and she was satisfied, and she had some left over. ¹⁵Then she got up to glean. Then Boaz commanded his young men, saying, "Let her glean even among the bundles, and do not shame her. ¹⁶Even be sure to pull some out from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her!"

¹⁷So she gleaned in the field until the evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. ¹⁸And she lifted it up and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. Then she took out what she had left over after she was satisfied, and she gave it to her.

¹⁹Then her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today, and where did you work? May the one who noticed you be blessed."

Then she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked. And she said, "The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz."

²⁰Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by Yahweh, who has not forsaken his covenant faithfulness both with the living and with the dead." Naomi also said to her, "That man is closely related to us. He is one of our kinsman-redeemers."

²¹Then Ruth the Moabite woman said, "In addition, he said to me, 'You should keep close by the servants who belong to me until the time when they have finished all of the harvest that belongs to me.'"

²²Then Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young female workers, so that they do not harm you in any other field."

²³So she stayed close by the young female workers of Boaz to glean until the harvest of barley and the harvest of wheat were finished. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

2:1 ^[1]

2:7 ^[2]

Chapter 3

¹Then Naomi, her mother-in-law, said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek a resting place for you, that will be good for you? ²So now, is not Boaz our relative, the one with whose young female workers you have been working? Look, he will be winnowing barley at the threshing floor tonight. ³Now wash yourself, and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak, and go down to the threshing floor. Do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.^[1] ⁴And let it be that when he lies down, you know the exact place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet, and lie down. Then he, himself, will tell you what you should do."

⁵And she said to her, "Everything that you say, I will do."

⁶So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to everything that her mother-in-law had instructed her. ⁷And Boaz ate and drank, and his heart was good, and he went to lie down at the end of the pile of grain. Then she came secretly, and uncovered his feet, and lay down. ⁸Then it happened in the middle of the night that the man was startled and turned over. And behold, a woman was lying at his feet!

⁹And he said, "Who are you?"

Then she said, "I am Ruth, your female servant. And you can spread the edge of your cloak over your female servant, for you are a kinsman-redeemer."

¹⁰Then he said, "Blessed be you by Yahweh, my daughter! You have made your covenant faithfulness better at the end than at the beginning by not going after the young men, either poor or rich. ¹¹So now, my daughter, do not be afraid! Everything that you say, I will do for you; for the whole gate of my people knows that you are a woman of worth. ¹²And now, it is indeed true that I am a kinsman-redeemer, but there is a kinsman-redeemer even nearer than I. ¹³Stay here tonight. And when it is morning, if he will redeem you, good, let him redeem you. But if he does not want to redeem you, then I will redeem you myself, as Yahweh lives. Lie down until morning."

¹⁴So she lay at his feet until the morning, but she got up before a man could recognize his friend. And he said, "Do not let it be known that the woman came to the threshing floor."

¹⁵Then he said, "Bring the cloak that is on you, and hold it." So she held it. And he measured six measures of barley and put it on her. Then he went into the city.^[2]

¹⁶Then she came to her mother-in-law, and she said, "Who are you, my daughter?" Then she told her everything that the man had done for her.

¹⁷And she said, "He gave to me these six measures of barley, for he said, 'You must not go empty to your mother-in-law.'"

¹⁸Then she said, "Sit, my daughter, until the time when you know how the matter falls. For the man will not rest unless he has finished this matter today."

3:3 ^[1]

3:15 ^[2]

Chapter 4

¹Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the kinsman-redeemer was passing by, the same man about whom Boaz had spoken earlier. And he said, "Turn aside and sit down here, a certain someone." So he turned aside and sat down. ²Then he took ten men from the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.

³Then he said to the kinsman-redeemer, "Naomi, the woman who has returned from the fields of Moab, is selling the portion of the field that belonged to our brother Elimelek. ⁴Now as for me, I said that I should uncover your ear, saying, 'Buy it,' in the presence of those who are sitting here and in the presence of 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 besides you, and I am after you."

Then he said, "I will redeem it myself."^{[1][2]}

⁵Then Boaz said, "On the day that you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite woman, the wife of the dead man, in order to raise up the name of the dead over his inheritance."^[3]

⁶Then the kinsman-redeemer said, "I am not able to redeem it for myself without damaging my own inheritance. You redeem for yourself my right of redemption, for I am not able to redeem it." ⁷Now, in earlier times in Israel, this is how any matter was confirmed concerning redemption and concerning the exchange of goods: a man took off his sandal and gave it to his friend. So this was the form of legal agreement in Israel. ⁸So the kinsman-redeemer said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself," and he took off his sandal.

⁹Then Boaz said to the elders and to all the people, "You are witnesses today that I am buying from the hand of Naomi everything that belonged to Elimelek and everything that belonged to Kilion and Mahlon. ¹⁰And Ruth, the Moabite woman, the widow of Mahlon, I am also acquiring as my wife, in order to raise up the name of the dead man over his inheritance, so that the name of the dead man will not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his place. Today you are witnesses!"

¹¹And all the people who were in the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May Yahweh make this woman who is coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, the two who built up the house of Israel. Achieve honor in Ephrathah, and be renowned in Bethlehem! ¹²And may your house become like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, from the offspring that Yahweh gives you from this young woman."

¹³So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife, and he went in to her. Then Yahweh gave her conception, and she bore a son.

¹⁴Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be Yahweh, who has not left you today without a kinsman-redeemer. May his name be renowned in Israel! ¹⁵Now he will be for you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you, has borne him—she who is better to you than seven sons."

16And Naomi took the child and put him on her lap, and she became his nurse. **17**So the neighbor women called out a name for him, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." And they called his name Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

18Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron; **19**and Hezron fathered Ram; and Ram fathered Amminadab; **20**and Amminadab fathered Nahshon; and Nahshon fathered Salmon; **21**and Salmon fathered Boaz; and Boaz fathered Obed; **22**and Obed fathered Jesse; and Jesse fathered David.

4:4 ^[1]

4:4 ^[2]

4:5 ^[3]

1 Samuel

Chapter 1

¹Now there was one man from the Ramathaim, the Zuphites, from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite.^[1] ²And for him were two wives: the name of the first was Hannah and the name of the second was Peninnah. And it happened that for Peninnah were children, but for Hannah there were no children. ³And that man went up from his city from days to days to worship and to sacrifice to Yahweh of hosts in Shiloh. And the two of the sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, priests of Yahweh, were there. ⁴And it happened the day when Elkanah sacrificed that he gave portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and her daughters. ⁵But to Hannah he would give one portion of two faces, for he loved Hannah. (Now Yahweh had shut her womb.) ⁶And her rival would provoke her, even with provocation in order to cause her to thunder, because Yahweh had shut up her womb. ⁷And thus it would be year by year, as often as she went up in the house of Yahweh, thus she would provoke her. And she would weep and would not eat. ⁸And Elkanah her husband would say to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart displeased? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

⁹And Hannah got up after eating and after drinking in Shiloh. (Now Eli the priest was sitting upon the seat by the doorway to the temple of Yahweh.) ¹⁰And she was bitter of spirit, and she prayed to Yahweh and wept abundantly. ¹¹And she vowed a vow and said, "Yahweh of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your female servant and remember me, and not forget your female servant, and give to your female servant a seed of men, then I will give him to Yahweh all the days of his life, and a razor will not go up on his head."

¹²And it happened when she increased to pray before the face of Yahweh that Eli was watching her mouth. ¹³Now Hannah, she was speaking to her heart, only her lips were quivering and her voice was not heard. So Eli thought of her as drunk. ¹⁴And Eli said to her, "Until when will you make yourself drunk? Remove your wine from with you!" ¹⁵And Hannah answered and said, "No, my master, a woman difficult of spirit am I. And wine and intoxicating drink I have not drunk, but I have been pouring out my soul before the face of Yahweh. ¹⁶Do not give your female servant to the face of a daughter of worthlessness. For I have been speaking from the abundance of my complaint and my provocation until now." ¹⁷And Eli answered and said, "Go in peace. And may the God of Israel grant your request that you requested from with him." ¹⁸And she said, "May your female servant find favor in your eyes." And the woman went to her way and she ate. And her face was no longer against her.

¹⁹And they rose early in the morning and worshiped before the face of Yahweh. And they returned and came to their house in the Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife and Yahweh remembered her. ²⁰And it happened at the turning of the days that Hannah conceived and bore a son. And she called his name Samuel, for, "I requested him from Yahweh."

²¹And the man Elkanah and all his house went up to sacrifice to Yahweh the sacrifice of the days and his vow. ²²But Hannah did not go up. For she had said to her husband, "Until the boy is weaned, then I will bring him. And he will appear with the face of Yahweh and dwell there until eternity." ²³And Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do the good thing in your eyes. Stay until you have weaned him. Only, may Yahweh raise up his word." And the woman stayed and nursed her son until she weaned him. ²⁴And she brought him up with her when she had weaned him, with three bulls and one ephah of flour and a skin of wine. And she brought him to the house of Yahweh in Shiloh. (Now the boy was a boy.) ²⁵And they slaughtered the bull. And they brought the boy to Eli. ²⁶And she said, "Please, my master! As your spirit is alive, my master! I am the woman who was standing with you at here to pray to Yahweh. ²⁷For this boy I prayed and Yahweh gave to me my request which I had requested from with him. ²⁸And also I have lent him to Yahweh all the days that he is lent to Yahweh." And he worshiped Yahweh there.

1:1 ^[1] but it is understood that really refers to the region in which the clan descended from Zuph resided.

Chapter 2

¹And Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in Yahweh.

My horn is exalted in Yahweh.

My mouth is wide against my enemies.

For I rejoice in your salvation.

²There is no one holy like Yahweh.

Indeed, there is no one besides you.

And there is no rock like our God.

³Do not speak so much very proudly!

Let arrogance go out from your mouth.

For Yahweh is a God of knowledge.

And by him actions are weighed.

⁴Mighty men are shattered of bow.

But those who stumble gird on strength.

⁵The satisfied ones hired themselves out for bread,

but the hungry ones cease.

Even the barren woman bears seven,

but the woman of many sons languishes.

⁶Yahweh puts to death and brings to life,

brings down to Sheol and brings up.

⁷Yahweh makes poor and makes rich,

makes low, but also lifts up.

⁸Raising the lowly from the dust,

he lifts up the needy from the trash heap

to make sit with nobles

and causes them to inherit the seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are for Yahweh

and he has set the world on them.

⁹He will keep the feet of his loyal ones,

but the wicked ones will be silenced in the darkness.

For not by strength does a man prevail.

¹⁰By Yahweh the ones who oppose him will be shattered.

He makes thunder against him in the heavens.

Yahweh will judge the ends of the earth.

And he will give strength to his king

and lift up the horn of his anointed one."

¹¹And Elkanah went to the Ramah, to his house. And the boy was serving Yahweh with the face of Eli the priest.

¹²Now the sons of Eli were sons of worthlessness. They did not know Yahweh. ¹³And the custom of the priests with the people was: when any man was sacrificing a sacrifice, then the servant of the priest would come with a fork of three prongs in his hand as soon as the meat was boiling. ¹⁴And he would stick it into the pan, or into the kettle, or into the cauldron, or into the pot. All that the fork brought up the priest would take with him. Thus they did to all Israel, the ones who came there at Shiloh. ¹⁵Also, before they burned the fat, the servant of the priest would come, and he would say to the man who was sacrificing, "Give meat to roast for the priest. And he will not take boiled meat from you, but only living." ¹⁶And the man would say to him, "Let them burn the fat completely as the day, then take for yourself what your self desires," And he would say, "No, rather now you will give it; and if not, I will take it by force." ¹⁷And the sin of the young men was very great with the face of Yahweh. For the men spurned the offering of Yahweh.

¹⁸And Samuel was serving with the face of Yahweh, a boy girded with an ephod of linen. ¹⁹And his mother would make a small robe for him and she would bring it to him from days to days, when she came up with her husband to sacrifice the sacrifice of the days. ²⁰And Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and would say, "May Yahweh set seed from this woman for you in place of the request that he requested to Yahweh." And they would go to his place.

²¹Because Yahweh visited Hannah, she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew with Yahweh.

²²Now Eli was very old. And he heard all that his sons were doing to all Israel and that they were lying with the women who were serving at the opening of the Tent of Meeting. ²³And he said to them, "Why do you do like these things that I am hearing, your evil things, from with all these people? ²⁴No, my sons! For the report is not good that I am hearing the people of Yahweh passing on. ²⁵If a man sins against a man, then God will mediate for him; but if a man sins against Yahweh, who will intercede for him?" And they would not listen to the voice of their father, for Yahweh desired to put them to death. ²⁶Now the boy Samuel was going and growing, and good, both with Yahweh and also with men.

²⁷And a man of God came to Eli and said to him, "Thus says Yahweh, 'Did I clearly reveal myself to the house of your father, when they were in Egypt for the house of Pharaoh? ²⁸And I chose him from all the tribes of Israel to be for me for a priest, to bring up on my altar, to burn incense, to carry an ephod before my face. And I gave to the house of your father all the offerings made by fire of the sons of Israel. ²⁹Why do you kick at my sacrifice and at my offering that I commanded for the Dwelling, and honor your sons more than me by fattening yourselves from the first of every offering of Israel, of my people?' ³⁰Therefore, this is the declaration of Yahweh the God of Israel: 'I indeed said your house and the house of your father would walk about before my face until eternity.' But now this is the declaration of Yahweh: 'Far be it for me! For I will honor those who honor me, but those who despise me will be slighted. ³¹Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your arm and the arm of the house of your father from there being an old man in your house. ³²And you will see the distress of the Dwelling, in all that he will do good with Israel. And there will not be an old man in your house all the days. ³³But I will not cut off a man from near my altar for you, to cause your eyes to fail and to cause your spirit to grieve. But all the increase of your house will die as men. ³⁴And this is the sign for you that will come to the two of your sons, to Hophni and Phinehas: in

one day the two of them will die. ³⁵And I will raise up for myself a priest who is faithful. He will do just as is in my heart and in my self. And I will build for him a house that is faithful; and he will walk before the face of my anointed one all the days. ³⁶And it will happen that all the ones who remain in your house will come to bow down to him for a payment of silver and a round loaf of bread. And he will say, "Please assign me to one of the priestly positions to eat a bit of bread."

Chapter 3

¹Now the boy Samuel was serving Yahweh before the face of Eli. And the word of Yahweh was rare in those days; there was no widespread vision. ²And it happened in that day, that Eli was lying down in his place. And his eyes had begun to be dim; he was not able to see. ³And before the lamp of God had gone out Samuel was lying down in the temple of Yahweh, there where the Box of God was.

⁴And Yahweh called to Samuel. And he said, "Here I am." ⁵And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called to me." And he said, "I did not call. Go back, lie down." And he went and lay down. ⁶And Yahweh did again call again, "Samuel." And Samuel rose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called to me." And he said, "I did not call, my son. Go back, lie down." ⁷(Now it was before Samuel knew Yahweh, and before the word of Yahweh had been revealed to him.) ⁸And Yahweh did again call Samuel at the third time. And he rose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called to me." And Eli understood that Yahweh was calling to the boy. ⁹And Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down. And it will happen that, if he calls to you, then you shall say, 'Speak, Yahweh, for your servant is listening.'" And Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰And Yahweh came and stationed himself and called as time on time, "Samuel, Samuel." And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

¹¹And Yahweh said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel that everyone who hears it, the two of his ears will tingle. ¹²In that day I will raise against Eli all that I have spoken against his house, beginning and ending. ¹³And I have told him that I am about to judge his house until eternity because of the iniquity that he knew. For his sons were cursing against themselves and he did not rebuke them. ¹⁴And therefore, I have sworn to the house of Eli: The iniquity of the house of Eli will not be covered by sacrifice or by offering until eternity." ¹⁵And Samuel lay down until the morning, and he opened the doors of the house of Yahweh. And Samuel was afraid of telling the vision to Eli. ¹⁶And Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." ¹⁷And he said, "What is the word that he spoke to you? Do not hide it from me! Thus may God do to you and thus may he add, if you hide from me a word of all the word that he spoke to you." ¹⁸And Samuel told him all the words, and did not hide it from him. And he said, "It is Yahweh. May he do the good in his eyes."

¹⁹And Samuel grew. And Yahweh was with him and he did not cause any of his words to fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan and as far as Beersheba knew that Samuel was faithful as a prophet of Yahweh. ²¹And Yahweh continued to appear in Shiloh. For Yahweh revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of Yahweh.

Chapter 4

¹And the word of Samuel was to all Israel.

And Israel went out to meet the Philistines for the battle. And they camped at Ebenezer and the Philistines camped at Aphek. ²And the Philistines lined up to meet Israel and the battle spread and Israel was defeated before the face of the Philistines. And they struck down about 4,000 men in the battle line in the field.^[1] ³And the people came into the camp and the elders of Israel said, "Why did Yahweh strike us today before the face of the Philistines? Let us take for ourselves the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh from Shiloh. And it will come in our midst and it will save us from the palm of our enemies." ⁴And the people sent to Shiloh and from there they lifted the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh of hosts, who sits on the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the Box of the Covenant of God.

⁵And it happened as soon as the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh came into the camp, that all Israel shouted a great shout. And the earth resounded. ⁶And the Philistines heard the sound of the shout, and they said, "What is the sound of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews?" Then they knew that the Box of Yahweh had come into the camp. ⁷And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, "A god has come into the camp." And they said, "Woe to us! For it was not like this yesterday and three days ago! ⁸Woe to us! Who will rescue us from the hand of these mighty gods? These are they: the gods who struck the Egyptians with every plague in the wilderness. ⁹Strengthen yourselves and become men, Philistines, lest you serve for the Hebrews, just as they have served for you. Now become men and fight!" ¹⁰And the Philistines fought, and Israel was struck and fled, a man to his tent, and it was a very great blow. And 30,000 foot soldiers from Israel fell. ¹¹And the Box of God was taken. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

¹²And a man of Benjamin ran from the battle line and came to Shiloh on that day. And his clothing was torn and earth was on his head. ¹³And he came, and behold, Eli was sitting on the seat at the hand of the road watching because his heart was trembling concerning the Box of God. Now the man came to report in the city, and all the city cried out. ¹⁴And Eli heard the sound of the outcry, and he said, "What is the sound of this tumult?" And the man hurried and came and reported to Eli. ¹⁵Now Eli was a son of 98 years. And his eyes were set and he was not able to see. ¹⁶And the man said to Eli, "I am the one who has come from the battle line. As for me, I fled from the battle line today." And he said, "What was the matter, my son?" ¹⁷And the one who brought news answered and said, "Israel fled before the face of the Philistines. And also, there has been a great blow among the people. And also, the two of your sons, Hophni and Phinehas, died, and the Box of God was taken." ¹⁸And it happened, as soon as he mentioned the Box of God, that he fell backward from on the seat beside the hand of the gate. And his neck was broken and he died, because the man was old and heavy. And he had judged Israel 40 years.

¹⁹Now his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas, was pregnant, about to give birth. And she heard the news about the Box of God being taken and that her father-in-law and her husband died. And she knelt down and gave birth, for her pains had turned on her. ²⁰And about the time of her dying, the women who stood over her said, "Do not be afraid, for you have given birth to a son." But she did not answer and did not put her heart. ²¹And she called the boy Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" about the Box of God being taken, and about her father-in-law and her husband. ²²And she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, because the Box of God has been taken."

4:2 ^[1]

Chapter 5

¹Now the Philistines had taken the Box of God. And they brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. ²And the Philistines took the Box of God, and brought it to the house of Dagon. And they placed it beside Dagon. ³And the Ashdodites rose early on the next day, and behold, Dagon had fallen to his face to the ground before the face of the Box of Yahweh! And they took Dagon and returned him to his place. ⁴And they rose early in the morning on the next day, and behold, Dagon had fallen to his face to the ground before the face of the Box of Yahweh! And the head of Dagon and the two of the palms of his hands were cut off, on the threshold. Only Dagon was left on him.

⁵Therefore, the priests of Dagon and all the ones who enter the house of Dagon do not tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod, until this day.

⁶And the hand of Yahweh was heavy on the Ashdodites and he devastated them. And he struck them with tumors, Ashdod and its territories. ⁷And the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, and they said, "The Box of the God of Israel should not stay with us because his hand is hard on us and on Dagon our god." ⁸And they sent and gathered all of the rulers of the Philistines to them. And they said, "What should we do with the Box of the God of Israel?" And they said, "Let the Box of the God of Israel be brought around to Gath." And they brought around the Box of the God of Israel.

⁹And it happened after they brought it around, that the hand of Yahweh was on the city, a very great tumult. And he struck the men of the city from small and as far as great. And tumors broke out to them. ¹⁰And they sent the Box of God to Ekron. And it happened as soon as the Box of God entered Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, "They have brought around to me the Box of the God of Israel to put me and my people to death!" ¹¹And they sent and gathered all the rulers of the Philistines. And they said, "Send away the Box of the God of Israel, and let it return to its place, and it will not put me and my people to death." For there was a tumult of death in all the city. The hand of God was very heavy there. ¹²And the men who did not die were struck with the tumors. And the cry of the city went up to the heavens.

Chapter 6

¹And the Box of Yahweh was in the field of the Philistines seven months. ²And the Philistines called to the priests and to the ones who practice divination, saying, "What should we do for the Box of Yahweh? Make known to us with what we should send it away to its place." ³And they said, "If you are about to send away the Box of the God of Israel, do not send it away empty, but surely return to him a guilt offering. Then you will be healed, and it will be known to you why his hand has not turned aside from you." ⁴And they said, "What is the guilt offering that we should return to him?" And they said, "Five tumors of gold and five mice of gold, from the number of the rulers of the Philistines, for one plague was for all of them and for your rulers. ⁵And you shall make images of your tumors and images of your mice, the ones destroying the land, and you shall give glory to the God of Israel. Perhaps he will lighten his hand from on you and from on your gods and from on your land. ⁶And why do you make heavy your heart, just as the Egyptians and Pharaoh made their heart heavy? When he dealt severely with them, did they not send them away and they went? ⁷So now, take and make one new cart with two nursing cows on which a yoke has not gone up. And tie the cows to the cart and return their sons from behind them to the house. ⁸And take the Box of Yahweh and put it into the cart, and set the objects of gold that you are returning to him as a guilt offering in the box by its side. And send it away and it will go. ⁹And look; if it goes up the way of its own territory, Beth Shemesh, he has done this great evil to us. But if not, then we will know that his hand did not strike us. It happened to us by chance."

¹⁰And the men did thus, and they took two nursing cows, and tied them to the cart. But they shut up their sons in the house. ¹¹And they set the Box of Yahweh into the cart with the box and the mice of gold and the images of their tumors. ¹²And the cows went straight in the way, on the road of Beth Shemesh. They went in one highway, going and lowing, and they did not turn aside right or left. And the rulers of the Philistines were going after them as far as the border of Beth Shemesh. ¹³Now Beth Shemesh was reaping the harvest of wheat in the valley. And they lifted up their eyes and saw the Box, and they rejoiced to see it. ¹⁴And the cart came into the field of Joshua the Bethshemite and stood there, and a large stone was there. And they split the wood pieces of the cart, and offered up the cows as a burnt up offering to Yahweh.

¹⁵And the Levites brought down the Box of Yahweh and the box that was with it, in which was the objects of gold, and they set them on the large stone. And the men of Beth Shemesh offered up burnt up offerings and sacrificed sacrifices on that day to Yahweh. ¹⁶And the five rulers of the Philistines saw and returned to Ekron on that day.

¹⁷And these are the tumors of gold which the Philistines returned as a guilt offering to Yahweh: one for Ashdod, one for Gaza, one for Ashkelon, one for Gath, one for Ekron. ¹⁸And the mice of gold were from the number of all the cities of the Philistines of the five rulers, from the cities of fortification and as far as the villages of the open country, and as far as the great Abel on which they rested the Box of Yahweh. It is in the field of Joshua the Bethshemite until this day. ¹⁹And he struck among the men of Beth Shemesh because they had looked in the Box of Yahweh. And he struck 50,070 men among the people. And the people mourned because Yahweh had stricken a great blow among the people.^[1] ²⁰And the men of Beth Shemesh said, "Who is able to stand before the face of Yahweh, this holy God? And to whom will he go up from on us?" ²¹And they sent messengers to those dwelling in Kiriath Jearim, saying, "The Philistines have returned the Box of Yahweh; come down and bring it up to you."

6:19 ^[1], a few later copies and modern versions have, .

Chapter 7

¹And the men of Kiriath Jearim came and lifted up the Box of Yahweh, and brought it into the house of Abinadab on the hill. And they consecrated Eleazar his son to keep the Box of Yahweh.

²And it happened from the day of the dwelling of the Box in Kiriath Jearim, that the days were numerous, and they were 20 years. And all the house of Israel lamented after Yahweh. ³And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, saying "If you are going to return to Yahweh with all your heart, remove the gods of the foreigner and the Ashtoreths from your midst. And make firm your heart to Yahweh, and serve him alone, then he will rescue you from the hand of the Philistines." ⁴And the sons of Israel removed the Baals and the Ashtoreths. And they served Yahweh alone.

⁵And Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to the Mizpah. And I will pray for you to Yahweh." ⁶And they gathered at the Mizpah, and drew water and poured it out before the face of Yahweh. And they fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against Yahweh." And Samuel judged the sons of Israel in the Mizpah. ⁷And the Philistines heard that the sons of Israel had gathered at the Mizpah, and the rulers of the Philistines went up against Israel. And the sons of Israel heard, and they were afraid because of the face of the Philistines. ⁸And the sons of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not be silent from us, from crying out to Yahweh our God! And may he save us from the hand of the Philistines." ⁹And Samuel took one lamb of milk and he offered it up, a whole burnt up offering to Yahweh. And Samuel cried out to Yahweh for Israel, and Yahweh answered him. ¹⁰(Now Samuel was offering up the burnt up offering, and the Philistines approached for the battle with Israel.) And Yahweh thundered with a great sound on that day against the Philistines and confused them, and they were struck before the face of Israel. ¹¹And the men of Israel went out from the Mizpah, and they pursued the Philistines and struck them down as far as below Beth Kar.

¹²And Samuel took one stone and set it between the Mizpah and the Shen. And he called its name Ebenezer, and he said, "As far as here Yahweh has helped us." ¹³And the Philistines were subdued and did not do again to enter the border of Israel. And the hand of Yahweh was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. ¹⁴And the cities that the Philistines had taken from with Israel were returned to Israel, from Ekron and as far as Gath. And Israel rescued their territory from the hand of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

¹⁵And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. ¹⁶And he went as often as year by year and went around Bethel, and the Gilgal, and the Mizpah. And he judged Israel, all these places. ¹⁷And his returning place was the Ramah, because his house was there; and there he judged Israel. And he built an altar there to Yahweh.

Chapter 8

¹And it happened when Samuel was old, that he appointed his sons judges of Israel. ²And the name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah. They were judges in Beersheba. ³But his sons did not walk in his ways, and they reached out after dishonest gain. And they took a bribe and perverted justice.

⁴And all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at the Ramah. ⁵And they said to him, "Behold, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations."

⁶And the matter was evil in the eyes of Samuel when they said, "Give to us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to Yahweh.

⁷And Yahweh said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people according to all that they say to you. For they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from reigning over them. ⁸Like all the deeds that they have done from the day I brought them up from Egypt and until this day, they have forsaken me and served other gods. So they are

doing also to you. ⁹And now, listen to their voice. However, solemnly warn them and tell them the custom of the king who will rule over them."

¹⁰And Samuel said all the words of Yahweh to the people who were requesting a king from him. ¹¹And he said, "This will be the custom of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them for himself in his chariots and among his horsemen, and they will run before the face of his chariot; ¹²and appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and to plow his plowing, and to harvest his harvest, and to make the implements of his warfare and the implements of his chariot. ¹³And he will take your daughters for perfumers and for cooks and for bakers. ¹⁴And your fields and your vineyards and your olive orchards, the good ones, he will take and give to his servants. ¹⁵And he will take a tenth of your seeds and your vineyards, and give to his officials and to his servants. ¹⁶And your male servants and your female servants and your young men, the good ones, and your donkeys he will take and make for his work. ¹⁷He will take a tenth of your flock. And you yourselves will be for him for servants. ¹⁸And on that day you will cry out from before the face of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves. But Yahweh will not answer you on that day." ¹⁹And the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But a king will be over us. ²⁰And we also, we will be like all the nations. And our king will judge us and go out before our face and fight our battles." ²¹And Samuel heard all the words of the people. And he spoke them in the ears of Yahweh. ²²And Yahweh said to Samuel, "Listen to their voice and cause a king to reign for them." And Samuel said to the men of Israel, "Go, a man to his city."

Chapter 9

¹And there was a man from Benjamin and his name was Kish the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bekorath, the son of Aphiah, the son of a man of a Yaminite, a mighty one of strength. ²And for him was a son and his name was Saul, a young man and good. And there was no man from the sons of Israel better than him. From his shoulder and upward he was taller than all the people. ³Now the female donkeys of Kish, the father of Saul, were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, "Take now one from the servants with you, and rise, go seek the female donkeys." ⁴And he passed through the hill country of Ephraim and passed through the land of Shalishah, but they did not find them. And they passed through the land of Shaalim, but there was nothing. And he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they did not find them.

⁵They themselves entered in the land of Zuph, and Saul said to his servant who was with him, "Come, let us return, lest my father cease about the female donkeys and worry about us." ⁶And he said to him, "Behold, please, a man of God is in this city, and the man is honored; all that he speaks certainly comes. Let us go there now. Perhaps he will tell us our way on which we have gone." ⁷And Saul said to his servant, "Now behold, we will go, but what will we bring to the man? For the bread is gone from our vessels and there is no gift to bring to the man of God. What is with us?" ⁸And the servant added to answer Saul, and he said, "Behold, one-fourth of a shekel of silver has been found in my hand. And I will give it to the man of God and he will tell us our way." ⁹(Before in Israel, a man said thus when he went to seek God, "Come and let us go to the seer." For the prophet today was called the seer before.) ¹⁰And Saul said to his servant, "Your word is good. Come, let us go." And they went to the city there where the man of God was. ¹¹They were going up on the ascent to the city, and they themselves found young women going out to draw water. And they said to them, "Is the seer in this place?" ¹²And they answered them, and said, "There is, behold, before your face. Hurry now, for today he has come to the city, because the sacrifice of the day is for the people at the high place. ¹³As soon as you enter the city then you will find him, before he goes up to the high place to eat. For the people will not eat until he comes, because he himself will bless the sacrifice; afterwards the ones who are called will eat. So now go up, for, as for him, you will find him as soon as today." ¹⁴And they went up to the city. They were entering in the midst of the city, and behold, Samuel was going out to meet them to go up to the high place.

¹⁵Now Yahweh had uncovered the ear of Samuel one day before the coming of Saul, saying: ¹⁶"About this time tomorrow I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be ruler over my people Israel. And he will save my people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have seen my people, for its cry has come

to me." ¹⁷And Samuel saw Saul, and Yahweh answered him, "Behold, the man whom I said to you! This one will restrain my people." ¹⁸And Saul approached Samuel in the midst of the gate. And he said, "Please tell me, where is the house of the seer?" ¹⁹And Samuel answered Saul and said, "I am the seer. Go up before my face to the high place, and you will eat with me today. And I will send you away in the morning, and I will tell you all that is in your heart. ²⁰As for your female donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not set your heart to them, for they have been found. Now for whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not for you and for all the house of your father?" ²¹And Saul answered and said, "Am I not a Benjamite, from the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my clan the least from all the clans of the tribe of Benjamin? Yet why have you spoken to me like this word?"

²²And Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them to the room. And he gave to them a place at the head of the ones who had been called. (Now they were about 30 men.) ²³And Samuel said to the cook, "Give the portion which I gave to you, of which I said to you, 'Set it with you.'" ²⁴And the cook lifted the thigh and what was on it and set it before the face of Saul. And he said, "Behold, what has been left over is set before your face. Eat, because it has been kept for you for the appointed time, saying, 'I have called the people.'" And Saul ate with Samuel on that day.

²⁵And they came down from the high place to the city. And he spoke with Saul on the roof. ²⁶And they rose early. And it happened as soon as the dawn went up that Samuel called to Saul on the roof, saying, "Get up and I will send you away." And Saul got up, and the two of them went out, he and Samuel, to the outside. ²⁷They were going down to the end of the city, and Samuel said to Saul, "Speak to the servant so he may pass on before our face," and he passed on. "But you stand now, and I will cause you to hear the word of God."

Chapter 10

¹And Samuel took a flask of oil, and poured it on his head, and kissed him. And he said, "Is it not Yahweh who has anointed you to be ruler over his inheritance? ²When you go today from with me, then you will find two men near the tomb of Rachel in the territory of Benjamin in Zelzah. And they will say to you, 'The female donkeys that you went to seek have been found. And behold, your father has stopped the matter of the female donkeys and is worried about you, saying, "What should I do about my son?"' ³And you will go on from there and further, and you will come as far as the oak of Tabor. And you will find three men there going up to God at Bethel, one carrying three young goats, and one carrying three round loaves of bread, and one carrying a skin of wine. ⁴And they will ask about you with respect to well-being and give to you two bread loaves, and you will take from their hand. ⁵Afterward you will come to the hill of God, there where the garrisons of the Philistines are. And it will happen as soon as you come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets going down from the high place. And before their face will be a harp and a tambourine and a flute and a lyre. And they will be prophesying. ⁶And the spirit of Yahweh will rush on you, and you will prophesy with them. And you will be changed into another man. ⁷And it will happen that when these signs come to you, do for yourself what your hand finds, for God is with you. ⁸And go down before my face to the Gilgal. And behold, I will come down to you to offer up burnt up offerings, to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings. Wait seven days until my coming to you and I will make known to you what you shall do." ⁹And it happened as soon as he turned his shoulder to go from with Samuel, that God turned for him another heart. And all these signs came on that day.

¹⁰And they came there to the hill, and behold, a group of prophets met him. And the spirit of God rushed on him and he prophesied in their midst. ¹¹And it happened that every one who knew him from yesterday and three days ago saw, and behold, he prophesied with the prophets! And the people said, a man to his neighbor, "What is this that has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" ¹²And a man from there answered and said, "And who is their father?" Therefore, it became a proverb, "Is Saul also among the prophets?" ¹³And he finished from prophesying, and he came to the high place. ¹⁴And the uncle of Saul said to him and to his servant, "Where did you go?" And he said, "To seek the female donkeys. And we saw that there was nothing, and we went to Samuel." ¹⁵And the uncle of Saul said, "Please tell me what Samuel said to you." ¹⁶And Saul said to his uncle, "He

told us indeed that the female donkeys had been found." But he did not tell him the word of the kingship, which Samuel had said.

¹⁷And Samuel called together the people to Yahweh at the Mizpah. ¹⁸And he said to the sons of Israel, "Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: 'I myself brought up Israel from Egypt. And I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians, and from the hand of all the kingdoms that oppressed you.' ¹⁹But you today have rejected your God, him who saves you from all your calamities and your distresses. And you have said to him, 'Rather set a king over us.' And now station yourselves before the face of Yahweh according to your tribes and according to your thousands." ²⁰And Samuel brought near all the tribes of Israel. And the tribe of Benjamin was taken. ²¹And he brought near the tribe of Benjamin according to its clans, and the clan of the Matrites was taken. And Saul the son of Kish was taken and they sought him, but he was not found. ²²And they asked of Yahweh again, "Has a man come here yet?" And Yahweh said, "Behold, he has hidden himself with the things." ²³And they ran and took him from there. And he stationed himself in the midst of the people. And he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders and upward. ²⁴And Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see him whom Yahweh has chosen? Indeed there is no one like him among all the people!" And all the people saw and said, "May the king live!"

²⁵And Samuel spoke to the people the ordinance of the kingship, and he wrote it in the book, and rested it before the face of Yahweh. And Samuel sent away all the people, a man to his house. ²⁶And Saul also went to his house at Gibeah. And with him went the mighty whose hearts God had touched. ²⁷But the sons of worthlessness said, "How can this one save us?" And they despised him and did not bring to him a gift. But he was like one being silent.

Chapter 11

¹And Nahash the Ammonite went up and camped against Jabesh Gilead. And all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, "Cut a covenant for us, and we will serve you." ²And Nahash the Ammonite said to them, "By this will I cut for you, by gouging out for you every right eye. And I will set it as a disgrace against all Israel." ³And the elders of Jabesh said to him, "Leave us alone seven days, so that we may send messengers through all the territory of Israel. And if there is no one to save us, then we will go out to you." ⁴And the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul, and they spoke the words in the ears of the people. And all the people lifted up their voice and wept.

⁵And behold, Saul was coming behind the cattle from the field. And Saul said, "What is for the people that they are weeping?" And they recounted to him the words of the men of Jabesh. ⁶And the Spirit of God rushed on Saul when he heard these words. And his nose burned exceedingly. ⁷And he took a pair of cattle, and cut it into pieces, and sent away through all the territory of Israel by the hand of the messengers, saying, "Whoever is not coming out behind Saul and behind Samuel, thus will be done to his cattle." And the dread of Yahweh fell on the people, and they went out as one man. ⁸And he mustered them at Bezek. And the sons of Israel were 300,000, and the men of Judah were 30,000. ⁹And they said to the messengers who had come, "Thus you will say to the men of Jabesh Gilead, 'Tomorrow deliverance will be for you, at the heat of the sun.'" And the messengers went and told the men of Jabesh, and they rejoiced. ¹⁰And the men of Jabesh said, "Tomorrow we will go out to you. And you may do to us according to all the good in your eyes."

¹¹And it happened from the next day that Saul set the people in three heads. And they came into the midst of the camp at the watch of the morning, and they struck down Ammon until the heat of the day. And it happened that the remaining ones were scattered, and two among them did not remain together. ¹²And the people said to Samuel, "Who are those who said, 'Will Saul reign over us?' Give the men, and we will put them to death." ¹³And Saul said, "A man shall not be put to death on this day. For today Yahweh has done a deliverance in Israel."

¹⁴And Samuel said to the people, "Come, and let us go to the Gilgal. And let us renew the kingship there." ¹⁵And all the people went to the Gilgal and caused Saul to reign there before the face of Yahweh in the Gilgal. And there they sacrificed sacrifices, peace offerings, before the face of Yahweh. And there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced up to abundance.

Chapter 12

¹And Samuel said to all Israel, "Behold, I have listened to your voice, according to all that you said to me. And I have caused a king to reign over you. ²And now, behold the king is walking about before your face. And as for me, I am old and gray; and my sons, behold they are with you. And I myself have walked about before your face from my youth until this day. ³Here I am! Testify against me in front of Yahweh and in front of his anointed one. Whose ox have I taken, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed or from whose hand have I taken a bribe so that I hid my eyes with it? And I will restore to you." ⁴And they said, "You have not defrauded us, and have not oppressed us, and have not taken anything from the hand of a man." ⁵And he said to them, "Yahweh is a witness against you, and his anointed one is a witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand." And he said, "Witness."

⁶And Samuel said to the people, "It is Yahweh who made Moses and Aaron, and who brought up your fathers from the land of Egypt. ⁷And now, station yourselves so that I may be judged with you before the face of Yahweh with all the righteous deeds of Yahweh, which he did with you and with your fathers. ⁸When Jacob came to Egypt, and your fathers cried out to Yahweh, then Yahweh sent Moses and Aaron, and they brought out your fathers from Egypt and they caused them to dwell in this place. ⁹And they forgot Yahweh their God. And he sold them into the hand of Sisera, the commander 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. ¹⁰And they cried out to Yahweh and said, 'We have sinned, because we have forsaken Yahweh and have served the Baals and the Ashtoreths. And now rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and we will serve you.' ¹¹And Yahweh sent Jerub Baal and Bedan and Jephthah and Samuel. And he rescued you from the hand of your enemies from all around you, and you dwelled securely. ¹²And you saw that Nahash the king of the sons of Ammon came against you, and you said to me, 'No! Rather a king will reign over us.' But Yahweh your God was your king. ¹³And now, behold the king whom you have chosen, whom you have requested! And behold, Yahweh has given a king over you! ¹⁴If you fear Yahweh and serve him and listen to his voice and do not rebel against the mouth of Yahweh, then both you and the king who reigns over you will be after Yahweh your God. ¹⁵But if you do not listen to the voice of Yahweh, and you rebel against the mouth of Yahweh, then the hand of Yahweh will be against you and against your fathers. ¹⁶Even now station yourselves and see this great thing that Yahweh is about to do before your eyes. ¹⁷Is it not the harvest of wheat today? I will call to Yahweh, and he will give thunder and rain. And know and see that your evil is great, which you have done in the eyes of Yahweh, by requesting a king for yourselves."

¹⁸And Samuel called to Yahweh, and Yahweh gave thunder and rain on that day. And all the people greatly feared Yahweh and Samuel. ¹⁹And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to Yahweh your God, so that we may not die. For we have added evil onto all our sins by requesting a king for ourselves."

²⁰And Samuel said to the people, "Do not fear. You yourselves have done all this evil. Only do not turn aside from after Yahweh, but serve Yahweh with all your heart. ²¹And do not turn aside! For it is after the empty thing that does not profit and does not rescue, because they are emptiness. ²²For Yahweh will not leave his people, for the sake of his great name. For Yahweh was pleased to make you into a people for himself. ²³Also me, far be it for me from sinning against Yahweh by ceasing to pray for you. And I will instruct you in the good and straight way. ²⁴Only fear Yahweh and serve him in faithfulness with all your heart. Indeed, see what he has made great with you! ²⁵But if you continually do evil, both you and your king will be carried away."

Chapter 13

¹Saul was a son of a year when he reigned. And he reigned over Israel two years.^[1] ²And Saul chose for himself 3,000 from Israel. And 2,000 were with Saul in Michmash and in the hill country of Bethel, and 1,000 were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. And the rest of the people he sent away, a man to his tent. ³And Jonathan struck down the garrison of the Philistines that was at Geba and the Philistines heard. And Saul blew with the horn in all

the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear!" ⁴And all Israel heard, saying, "Saul struck down the garrison of the Philistines, and also Israel has become a stench among the Philistines." And the people were called together after Saul at the Gilgal.

⁵And the Philistines gathered to fight against Israel: 30,000 chariots and 6,000 horsemen and a people like the sand that is on the shore of the sea with respect to abundance. And they went up and camped at Michmash, east of Beth Aven. ⁶And the men of Israel saw that it was narrow for them, for the people were hard-pressed. And the people hid themselves in the caves and in the thornbushes and in the cliffs and in the underground chambers and in the pits. ⁷And Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. But Saul was still at the Gilgal and all the people trembled after him.

⁸And he waited seven days to the appointed time when Samuel would be there, but Samuel did not come to the Gilgal. And the people scattered from beside him. ⁹And Saul said, "Bring near to me the burnt up offering and the peace offerings." And he offered up the burnt up offering. ¹⁰And it happened as soon as he finished offering up the burnt up offering that, behold, Samuel came! And Saul went out to meet him to bless him. ¹¹And Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people scattered from beside me, and you, you did not come by the appointed time of days, and the Philistines were gathering at Michmash, ¹²then I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at the Gilgal, and I have not appeased the face of Yahweh.' So I forced myself and offered up the burnt up offering." ¹³And Samuel said to Saul, "You have acted foolishly! You have not kept the command of Yahweh your God that he commanded you. For then Yahweh would have established your reign over Israel until eternity. ¹⁴But now your reign will not stand. Yahweh has sought for himself a man according to his heart, and Yahweh has commanded him to be leader over his people, for you did not keep what Yahweh commanded you."

¹⁵And Samuel rose and went up from the Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul mustered the people who were found with him, about 600 men. ¹⁶Now Saul and Jonathan his son and the people who were found with him were staying in Geba of Benjamin. And the Philistines camped at Michmash. ¹⁷And destroyers went out from the camp of the Philistines, three heads. One head turned to the way of Ophrah, to the land of Shual. ¹⁸And one head turned the way of Beth Horon. And one head turned the way of the border that looks down over the valley of Zeboyim, toward the wilderness.

¹⁹Now a blacksmith could not be found in all the land of Israel. For the Philistines said, "Lest the Hebrews make sword or spear." ²⁰And all Israel used to go down to the Philistines, a man to sharpen his plow and his mattock and his axe and his sickle. ²¹And the charge was a pim for the plowshares and for the mattocks and for three picks and for the axes and for straightening the goads. ²²And it happened on the day of battle that a sword or spear was not found in the hands of any of the people who were with Saul and with Jonathan, but was found for Saul and for his son Jonathan. ²³And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the pass of Michmash.

13:1 ^[1]

Chapter 14

¹And it happened one day that Jonathan the son of Saul said to his servant who carried his equipment, "Come, and let us cross over to the garrison of the Philistines that is on the other side from here." But he did not tell his father. ²Now Saul was staying at the end of the Gibeah under the pomegranate tree that is in Migron. And the people who were with him were about 600 men, ³and Ahijah the son of Ahitub the brother of Ichabod the son of Phinehas the son of Eli, the priest of Yahweh at Shiloh who was carrying an ephod. And the people did not know that Jonathan had gone. ⁴Now between the passes that Jonathan sought to pass over to the garrison of the Philistines was the tooth of the cliff on one side from this and the tooth of the cliff on the other side from this. And the name of one was Bozez and the name of one was Seneh. ⁵The tooth of the one was a pillar from the north in front of Michmash. And the one from the south was in front of Geba.

⁶And Jonathan said to his servant who carried his equipment, "Come, and let us pass over to the garrison of these uncircumcised ones! Perhaps Yahweh will act for us, for there is no hindrance for Yahweh to save by many or by few." ⁷And the one who carried his equipment said to him, "Do all that is in your heart. Turn for yourself; behold, I am with you according to your heart." ⁸And Jonathan said, "Behold, we will cross over to the men. And we will reveal ourselves to them. ⁹If thus they say to us, 'Be still until we reach you,' then we will stand under ourselves and not go up to them. ¹⁰But if thus they say, 'Come up to us,' then we will go up, for Yahweh has given them into our hand. And this will be the sign for us." ¹¹And the two of them revealed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said, "Behold, Hebrews are coming out from the holes there where they have hidden themselves." ¹²And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and the one who carried his equipment, and said, "Come up to us, and we will cause you to know a thing." And Jonathan said to the one who carried his equipment, "Go up behind me, for Yahweh has given them into the hand of Israel." ¹³And Jonathan went up on his hands and on his feet, and the one who carried his equipment was behind him. And they fell before the face of Jonathan, and the one who carried his equipment was putting to death behind him. ¹⁴And the first blow that Jonathan and the one who carried his equipment struck was about 20 men in about half of a furrow, a yoke of a field. ¹⁵And a trembling was in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and the destroyers, even they trembled. And the earth quaked and it became a trembling of God. ¹⁶And the lookouts of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and behold, the crowd melted away and went even here.

¹⁷And Saul said to the people who were with him, "Muster now and see who has gone from with us." And they mustered, and behold, there was no Jonathan or the one who carried his equipment! ¹⁸And Saul said to Ahijah, "Bring near the Box of God." For on that day the Box of God was with the sons of Israel. ¹⁹And it happened while Saul spoke to the priest, that the tumult that was in the camp of the Philistines was going continually and increasingly. And Saul said to the priest, "Withdraw your hand." ²⁰And Saul and all the people who were with him were called together and came to the battle. And behold, the sword of a man was against his companion, a very great confusion. ²¹Now some Hebrews were for the Philistines according to yesterday and three days ago, who had gone up with them into the camp all around. But even they were to be with Israel, who were with Saul and Jonathan. ²²And all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines fled, and they also pursued after them in the battle. ²³And Yahweh saved Israel on that day. And the battle passed over Beth Aven.

²⁴And the men of Israel were hard-pressed on that day. And Saul had made the people swear, saying, "Cursed is the man who eats food until the evening and I take vengeance from my enemies." So all the people had not tasted food. ²⁵And all the land entered into the forest. And honey was on the face of the field. ²⁶And the people entered into the forest, and behold, the flowing of honey! But no one reached his hand to his mouth for the people feared the oath. ²⁷But Jonathan had not heard when his father had made the people swear. And he extended the end of the staff that was in his hand and dipped it in the honeycomb of the honey. And he returned his hand to his mouth and his eyes became bright. ²⁸And a man from the people answered and said, "Your father surely made the people swear, saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats food today.' So the people are faint." ²⁹And Jonathan said, "My father has troubled the land. See now that my eyes have become bright because I tasted a little of this honey. ³⁰How much more if the people had eaten freely today from the plunder of their enemies that they found? For now the blow has not been great among the Philistines."

³¹And on that day they struck down the Philistines from Michmash to Aijalon. And the people were very faint. ³²And the people rushed with shouting on the plunder and took sheep and cattle and sons of cattle, and they slaughtered on the ground. And the people ate with the blood. ³³Then they told Saul, saying, "Behold, the people are sinning against Yahweh by eating with the blood!" And he said, "You have acted deceptively. Roll a big stone to me today." ³⁴And Saul said, "Disperse among the people and say to them, 'Bring near to me, a man his ox and a man his sheep, and slaughter here and eat. And you shall not sin against Yahweh by eating with the blood.'" And all the people brought near, a man his ox by his hand that night and they slaughtered there. ³⁵And Saul built an altar to Yahweh, it he began to build an altar to Yahweh.

³⁶And Saul said, "Let us go down after the Philistines by night and plunder them until the light of morning. And let us not leave a man among them." And they said, "Do all the good in your eyes." And the priest said, "Let us draw near to God here." ³⁷And Saul asked of God, "Should I go down after the Philistines? Will you give them into the hand of Israel?" But he did not answer him on that day. ³⁸And Saul said, "Come near here, all the corners of the people! And know and see by what this sin has happened today. ³⁹For, as Yahweh is alive, the one who saves Israel, even if it is by Jonathan my son, indeed he will surely die." But there was no one answering him from all the people. ⁴⁰And he said to all Israel, "You will be on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on one side." And the people said to Saul, "Do the good in your eyes." ⁴¹And Saul said to Yahweh the God of Israel, "Give a perfect one!" And Jonathan and Saul were taken, but the people went out. ⁴²And Saul said, "Cause it to fall between me and Jonathan my son." And Jonathan was taken.

⁴³And Saul said to Jonathan, "Tell me what you have done." And Jonathan told him and said, "Indeed I tasted a little honey with the end of the staff that was in my hand. Here I am; I will die." ⁴⁴And Saul said, "May God do so and may he add so, for you shall surely die, Jonathan." ⁴⁵And the people said to Saul, "Should Jonathan die, who has made this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As Yahweh is alive, a hair of his head will not fall to the ground! For he has worked with God this day." And the people ransomed Jonathan and he did not die.

⁴⁶And Saul went up from after the Philistines. And the Philistines went to their place. ⁴⁷Now Saul had taken the kingship over Israel. And he fought against all his enemies all around: against Moab and against the sons of Ammon and against Edom and against the kings of Zobah and against the Philistines. And he inflicted punishment against everywhere he turned. ⁴⁸And he acted strongly and struck down the Amalekites. And he rescued Israel from the hand of those who plundered it.

⁴⁹Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan and Ishvi and Malki-Shua. As for the names of the two of his daughters: the name of the firstborn was Merab and the name of the younger was Michal. ⁵⁰The name of the wife of Saul was Ahinoam the daughter of Ahimaaz. And the name of the commander of his army was Abner the son of Ner the uncle of Saul. ⁵¹And Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel. ⁵²And the battle was strong against the Philistines all the days of Saul. When Saul saw any man of might, or any son of strength, then he gathered him to himself.

Chapter 15

¹And Samuel said to Saul, "Yahweh sent me to anoint you as king over his people, over Israel. And now, listen to the voice of the words of Yahweh. ²Thus says Yahweh of hosts, 'I have noted what Amalek did to Israel when he set against him on the way when he came up from Egypt. ³Now go and strike down Amalek and completely destroy all that is for him, and do not have compassion on him. But put to death from man as far as woman, from child and as far as infant, from ox and as far as sheep, from camel and as far as donkey.'"

⁴And Saul caused the people to hear and mustered them at the Telaim: 200,000 on foot, and 10,000 men of Judah. ⁵Then Saul came as far as the city of Amalek and he lie in ambush in the wadi. ⁶And Saul said to the Kenites, "Go, depart, go down from the midst of the Amalekite, lest I remove you with him. As for you, you did kindness with all the sons of Israel when they came up from Egypt." And the Kenites departed from the midst of Amalek. ⁷And Saul struck down Amalek, from Havilah as you enter Shur, which is on the face of Egypt. ⁸And he seized Agag the king of Amalek alive. But he completely destroyed all the people by the mouth of the sword. ⁹And Saul and the people had compassion on Agag and on the best of the sheep and the cattle and the second ones and on the young rams and on all the good, and they were not willing to completely destroy them. But all the despised and weak property, it they completely destroyed.^[1]

¹⁰And the word of Yahweh was to Samuel, saying, ¹¹"I regret that I have caused Saul to reign as king, for he has turned from after me and has not raised up my words." And it was hot for Samuel, and he cried out to Yahweh all the night. ¹²And Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul. And it was told to Samuel, saying, "Saul came to the Carmel, and behold, he is setting up a monument for himself! And he turned around and passed over and went

down to the Gilgal." ¹³And Samuel came to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed are you by Yahweh! I have raised up the word of Yahweh." ¹⁴And Samuel said, "And what is the sound of this flock in my ears? And the sound of the cattle that I am hearing?" ¹⁵And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekite. For the people had compassion on the best of the sheep and the cattle, in order to sacrifice to Yahweh your God. But the excess we have completely destroyed." ¹⁶And Samuel said to Saul, "Stop, and let me tell you what Yahweh spoke to me at night." And he said to him, "Speak!"

¹⁷And Samuel said, "Although you are small in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? And Yahweh anointed you as king over Israel. ¹⁸And Yahweh sent you on your way. And he said, 'Go and completely destroy the sinners, Amalek. And fight against them until they have finished them.' ¹⁹And why did you not listen to the voice of Yahweh? But you rushed with shouting on the spoil and you did evil in the eyes of Yahweh."

²⁰And Saul said to Samuel, "I have listened to the voice of Yahweh, and have gone on the way that Yahweh sent me. And I have brought Agag the king of Amalek and have completely destroyed Amalek. ²¹And the people took from the spoil sheep and cattle, the first of the banned thing, to sacrifice to Yahweh your God at the Gilgal." ²²And Samuel said, "Is the delight of Yahweh in burnt up offerings and sacrifices, as in listening to the voice of Yahweh? Behold, listening is better than sacrifice, paying attention is more than the fat of rams. ²³For rebellion is the sin of divination, and to display pushing is iniquity and idols. Because you have rejected the word of Yahweh, he has rejected you from being king."

²⁴And Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned! For I have passed over the mouth of Yahweh and your words, because I feared the people and listened to their voice. ²⁵And now, please lift up my sin. And return with me so I may worship Yahweh." ²⁶And Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of Yahweh, and Yahweh has rejected you from being king over Israel." ²⁷And Samuel turned around to go. And he grabbed the edge of his robe, and it was torn. ²⁸And Samuel said to him, "Yahweh has torn the kingdom of Israel from on you today. And he has given it to your companion, the better one than you. ²⁹And also, the Perpetual One of Israel will not act falsely and will not change his mind. For he is not a man, changing his mind." ³⁰And he said, "I have sinned! Now please honor me in front of the elders of my people and in front of Israel. And return with me, so I may worship Yahweh your God." ³¹And Samuel returned behind Saul. And Saul worshiped Yahweh.

³²And Samuel said, "Bring near to me Agag the king of Amalek." And Agag went to him in bonds. And Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death has turned aside." ³³And Samuel said, "Just as your sword has made women childless, so will your mother be made childless among women." And Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the face of Yahweh at the Gilgal.

³⁴And Samuel went to the Ramah. And Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul. ³⁵And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel mourned for Saul. And Yahweh regretted that he had caused Saul to reign over Israel.

15:9 ^[1]

Chapter 16

¹And Yahweh said to Samuel, "Until when will you be mourning for Saul, while I myself have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have seen among his sons a king for me." ²And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears, then he will slay me." And Yahweh said, "Take a heifer of the cattle in your hand and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to Yahweh.' ³And call for Jesse at the sacrifice, and I myself will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me whom I say to you." ⁴And Samuel did what Yahweh had spoken and he came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the city trembled to meet him and said, "Are you coming in peace?" ⁵And he said, "In peace; I have come to sacrifice to Yahweh. Consecrate yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and called them to the sacrifice. ⁶And it happened when they came, that he saw Eliab. And he said, "Surely in front of Yahweh is his

anointed one." ⁷And Yahweh said to Samuel, "Do not look on his outward appearance or on the height of his stature because I have rejected him. For it is not what the man sees, for the man sees by the eyes, but Yahweh sees to the heart." ⁸And Jesse called for Abinadab and made him pass over before the face of Samuel. And he said, "Also Yahweh has not chosen this one." ⁹And Jesse made Shammah pass over. And he said, "Also Yahweh has not chosen this one." ¹⁰And Jesse made seven of his sons pass over before the face of Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "Yahweh has not chosen among these." ¹¹And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are your young men complete?" And he said, "The youngest one still remains, and behold, he is tending among the flock." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not turn around until he comes here." ¹²And he sent and brought him. (Now he was ruddy with beautiful eyes and a good appearance.) And Yahweh said, "Rise, anoint him, for this is he." ¹³And Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the middle of his brothers. And the Spirit of Yahweh rushed on David from that day and onward. And Samuel rose and went to the Ramah.

¹⁴Now the Spirit of Yahweh turned aside from with Saul, and a spirit of evil from with Yahweh terrified him. ¹⁵And the servants of Saul said to him, "Behold, an evil spirit of God is terrifying you." ¹⁶Let our master please say to your servants before your face, "Seek a man who knows how to play on the lyre. And it will happen that when the evil spirit of God is on you, then he will play by his hand and it will be good for you." ¹⁷And Saul said to his servants, "See now for me a man who is good at playing and bring him to me." ¹⁸And one from the young men answered and said, "Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, knowing how to play and mighty of strength and a man of war and discerning of word and a man of appearance. And Yahweh is with him." ¹⁹And Saul sent messengers to Jesse. And he said, "Send to me David your son, who is with the flock." ²⁰And Jesse took a donkey, bread, and a skin of wine, and one kid of the goats, and he sent them by the hand of David his son to Saul. ²¹And David came to Saul and he stood before his face. And he loved him greatly, and he became for him one who carried the equipment. ²²And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Let David now stand before my face, for he has found favor in my eyes." ²³And it happened that whenever the spirit of God was on Saul, then David took the lyre and played by his hand. And it would be relief for Saul and good for him, and the spirit of evil would turn aside from on him.

Chapter 17

¹And the Philistines gathered their camps for the battle. And they were gathered at Sokoh, which is of Judah. And they camped between Sokoh and Azekah in Ephes Dammim. ²And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered and they camped in the valley of Elah. And they arranged for battle to meet the Philistines. ³Now the Philistines were standing on this mountain, and Israel was standing on that mountain. And the valley was between them. ⁴And a man of the space between came out from the camp of the Philistines, Goliath was his name, from Gath. His height was six cubits and a span. ⁵And a helmet of bronze was on his head and he was wearing body armor of scales. And the weight of the body armor was 5,000 shekels of bronze. ⁶And shin guards of bronze were on his legs. And a javelin of bronze was between his shoulders. ⁷And the wood of his spear was like the beam of those who weave. And the point of his spear was 600 iron shekels. And the one who carried his shield was going before his face. ⁸And he stood and called out to the ranks of Israel, and he said to them, "Why have you come out to arrange for battle? Am not I a Philistine, and you, servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me. ⁹If he is able to fight with me and strike me down, then we will become servants for you. But if I prevail against him and strike him down, then you will become servants for us and you will serve us." ¹⁰And the Philistine said, "I myself taunt the ranks of Israel this day. Give to me a man so we may fight together." ¹¹And Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine. And they were dismayed and feared greatly.

¹²Now David was the son of this Ephrathite man from Bethlehem in Judah, and his name was Jesse. And eight sons were for him. And the man was old in the days of Saul, coming among men. ¹³And the oldest three of the sons of Jesse had gone, they went after Saul to the battle. And the names of the three of his sons who went into the battle were Eliab the firstborn and his second Abinadab and the third Shammah. ¹⁴Now David, he was the youngest. And the three oldest ones had gone after Saul. ¹⁵But David was going and returning from with Saul to tend the flock of

his father at Bethlehem. ¹⁶And the Philistine came near at early morning and at evening. And he stationed himself 40 days.

¹⁷And Jesse said to David his son, "Take now to your brothers an ephah of this roasted grain and ten loaves of this bread, and bring quickly to the camp, to your brothers. ¹⁸And bring these ten cuts of cheese to the commander of the thousand. And observe your brothers with respect to well-being and take their pledge. ¹⁹Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel are in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines." ²⁰And David rose early in the morning and left the flock with one who keeps. And he carried and went, just as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the entrenchment and the army was going out to the battle line and they shouted in the battle. ²¹And Israel and the Philistines arranged, battle line to meet battle line. ²²And David left the equipment from on him on the hand of one who keeps the equipment, and he ran to the battle line. And he came and asked his brothers with respect to well-being. ²³And he was speaking with them, and behold, the man of the between space was coming up, Goliath the Philistine was his name, from Gath, from the ranks of the Philistines, and he spoke like these words. And David heard. ²⁴And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, they fled from his face and feared greatly. ²⁵And the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who is coming up? Surely he is coming up to taunt Israel! And it will happen that the king will make rich with great wealth the man who strikes him down, and he will give his daughter to him, and he will make the house of his father free in Israel." ²⁶And David said to the men who were standing with him, saying, "What will be done for the man who strikes down this Philistine and removes the disgrace from on Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should taunt the ranks of the living God?" ²⁷And the people said to him like this word, saying, "Thus it will be done for the man who strikes him down."

²⁸And Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And the nose of Eliab burned against David, and he said, "Why is this—you came down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I myself know your presumptuousness and the evil of your heart, for you have come down in order to see the battle!" ²⁹And David said, "What have I done now? Was it not a word?" ³⁰And he turned around from beside him toward the front of another and spoke like this word. And the people returned a word to him like the first word.

³¹And they heard the words that David spoke. And they told before the face of Saul, and he took him. ³²And David said to Saul, "Do not let the heart of a man fall on himself. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." ³³And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him. For you are a boy, but he a man of war from his youth." ³⁴And David said to Saul, "Your servant has been tending for his father among the flock. And the lion or the bear has come and has carried a sheep from the flock. ³⁵And I have gone out after it and struck it and rescued from its mouth. If it rose against me, then I would grasp its jaw and strike it down and put it to death. ³⁶Your servant has struck down both the lion and the bear. And this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, for he has taunted the ranks of the living God." ³⁷And David said, "Yahweh who has rescued me from the hand of the lion and from the hand of the bear, he will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and Yahweh be with you." ³⁸And Saul clothed David with his garments and put a helmet of bronze on his head. And he clothed him with body armor. ³⁹And David strapped on his sword over his garments and he undertook to walk because he had not trained. And David said to Saul, "I am not able to walk with these, for I have not trained." And David removed them from on him. ⁴⁰And he took his staff in his hand and chose for himself five smooth stones from the wadi, and he put them in the bag of the shepherds that belonged to him, even in the pouch, and his sling was in his hand. And he came near to the Philistine. ⁴¹And the Philistine came, coming on and near to David. And the man who carried the shield was before his face. ⁴²And the Philistine looked and saw David, and he despised him, for he was a boy, and ruddy with a beautiful appearance. ⁴³And the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you are coming to me with staves?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ⁴⁴And the Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and let me give your flesh to the bird of the heavens and to the beast of the field."

⁴⁵And David said to the Philistine, "You are coming to me with sword and with spear and with javelin. But I am coming to you in the name of Yahweh of hosts, the God of the ranks of Israel, whom you have taunted. ⁴⁶This day Yahweh will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and remove your head from on you. And this day I will give the corpse of the army of the Philistines to the bird of the heavens and to the living thing of the earth. And

all the earth will know that there is a God for Israel. ⁴⁷And all this assembly will know that Yahweh does not save by sword or by spear. For the battle belongs to Yahweh, and he will give you into our hand."

⁴⁸And it happened when the Philistine rose and went and came near to meet David, that David hurried and ran to the battle line to meet the Philistine. ⁴⁹And David sent his hand into his bag, and took a stone from there, and slung. And it struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sank into his forehead and he fell on his face to the ground.

⁵⁰And David was stronger than the Philistine with the sling and with the stone. And he struck down the Philistine and put him to death. (Now there was no sword in the hand of David.) ⁵¹And David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it from its sheath and put him to death and cut off his head with it. And the Philistines saw that their strong man was dead and they fled. ⁵²And the men of Israel and Judah rose and they shouted and pursued the Philistines as far as your coming to the valley and as far as the gates of Ekron. And the pierced ones of the Philistines fell on the way of Shaaraim and as far as Gath and as far as Ekron. ⁵³And the sons of Israel returned from burning after the Philistines. And they plundered their camp. ⁵⁴And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem. And he set his equipment in his tent.

⁵⁵Now as soon as Saul saw David going out to meet the Philistine, he said to Abner the commander of the army, "This boy is the son of whom, Abner?" And Abner said, "As your self is alive, king, if I know!" ⁵⁶And the king said, "You ask the son of whom is this boy." ⁵⁷And as soon as David returned from striking down the Philistine, then Abner took him and brought him before the face of Saul. And the head of the Philistine was in his hand. ⁵⁸And Saul said to him, "The son of whom are you, boy?" And David said, "The son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

Chapter 18

¹And it happened as soon as he finished speaking to Saul, that the self of Jonathan was bound to the self of David. And Jonathan loved him like his own self. ²And Saul took him on that day. And he did not give him to return to the house of his father. ³And Jonathan cut a covenant with David because he loved him like his own self. ⁴And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and he gave it to David, and his garments and even to his sword and even to his bow and even to his belt. ⁵And David went out, he succeeded at wherever Saul sent him. And Saul set him over the men of war. And he was good in the eyes of all the people and also in the eyes of the servants of Saul.

⁶And it happened when they came, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, that the women came out from all the cities of Israel to sing with the dancing ones, to meet Saul the king, with tambourines, with joy, and with three-stringed instruments. ⁷And the women sang who were playing, and said:

"Saul has struck down his thousands,

and David his ten thousands."

⁸And it burned greatly for Saul, and this thing was evil in his eyes. And he said, "They have given to David ten thousands, but to me they have given the thousands. And only the kingship is yet for him!" ⁹And it happened that Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day and onward.

¹⁰And it happened from the next day that an evil spirit of God rushed on Saul and he prophesied in the midst of the house. And David was playing by his hand, as day by day. And the spear was in the hand of Saul. ¹¹And Saul hurled the spear, and he said, "I will strike David, even into the wall!" But David turned around from his face two times.

¹²And Saul was afraid from before the face of David. For Yahweh was with him but had turned aside from with Saul.

¹³And Saul removed him from with him and set him as a commander of a thousand for himself. And he went out and came in before the face of the people.

¹⁴And David was succeeding in all his ways. And Yahweh was with him. ¹⁵And Saul saw that he was succeeding greatly. And he dreaded his face. ¹⁶But all Israel and Judah were loving David, for he was going out and coming in before their face.

¹⁷And Saul said to David, "Behold, my oldest daughter Merab. I will give her to you for a wife. Only become for me a son of strength and fight the battles of Yahweh." And Saul said, "Let not my hand be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him." ¹⁸And David said to Saul, "Who am I, and who are my relatives of the clan of my father in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" ¹⁹And it happened at the time to give Merab the daughter of Saul to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite for a wife. ²⁰And Michal the daughter of Saul loved David. And they told Saul and the matter was right in his eyes. ²¹And Saul said, "I will give her to him and may she become a snare for him and may the hand of the Philistines be against him." And Saul said to David a second time, "You will be a son-in-law of mine today." ²²And Saul commanded his servants, "Speak to David in secrecy, saying, 'Behold, the king delights in you and all his servants love you. And now, become a son-in-law of the king.'" ²³And the servants of Saul spoke these words in the ears of David. And David said, "Is it insignificant in your eyes to be a son-in-law of the king? And I am a poor man and lightly esteemed." ²⁴And the servants of Saul told him, saying, "Like these words David spoke."

²⁵And Saul said, "Thus you shall say to David, 'There is no desire of the king for the bride price, except for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged on the enemies of the king.'" (Now Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.) ²⁶And his servants told David these words, and the word was right in the eyes of David, to become son-in-law of the king. And the days were not fulfilled. ²⁷And David rose and went, he and his men, and he struck down 200 men among the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins and they fulfilled them for the king, to become son-in-law of the king. And Saul gave to him Michal his daughter for his wife.

²⁸And Saul saw and he knew that Yahweh was with David and Michal the daughter of Saul loved him. ²⁹And Saul added to be more afraid from the face of David. And Saul was being hostile to David all the days. ³⁰And the commanders of the Philistines came out. And it happened that as often as they came out, David was more successful than all the servants of Saul and his name became greatly esteemed.

Chapter 19

¹And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants to put David to death. But Jonathan the son of Saul delighted greatly in David. ²And Jonathan told David, saying, "Saul my father is seeking to put you to death. And now, please be on guard in the morning and stay in the hiding place and hide yourself. ³As for me, I will go out and stand by the hand of my father in the field there where you are, and I myself will speak of you to my father. And I will see whatever and I will tell you."

⁴And Jonathan spoke good of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Do not let the king sin against his servant, against David. For he has not sinned against you and indeed his deeds were very good for you. ⁵And he set his life in his palm and struck down the Philistine. And Yahweh made a great salvation for all Israel. You saw and rejoiced. And why would you sin against innocent blood by putting David to death without cause?" ⁶And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. And Saul swore, "As Yahweh is alive, he shall not be put to death!" ⁷And Jonathan called out to David, and Jonathan told him all these words. And Jonathan brought David to Saul and he was before his face as yesterday and three days ago.

⁸And there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines and struck them a great blow. And they fled from his face. ⁹And an evil spirit of Yahweh was on Saul and he was sitting in his house and his spear was in his hand. And David was playing by hand. ¹⁰And Saul sought to strike into David with the spear, even into the wall, but he escaped from the face of Saul, and he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and slipped away on that night.

¹¹And Saul sent messengers to the house of David to watch him and to put him to death in the morning. And Michal his wife told David, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be put to death." ¹²And Michal lowered David out through the window. And he went and fled and slipped away. ¹³And Michal took the household idol and put it on the bed. And she put a quilt of the goats at the place of its head. And she covered it with the clothes. ¹⁴And Saul sent messengers to take David. And she said, "He is sick."

¹⁵And Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed to put him to death." ¹⁶And the messengers came, and behold, the household idol was on the bed! And the quilt of the goats was at the place of its head. ¹⁷And Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like so and sent away my enemy, so that he slipped away?" And Michal said to Saul, "He himself said to me, 'Send me away. Why should I put you to death?'"

¹⁸Now David fled and slipped away and came to Samuel in the Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and stayed in Naioth. ¹⁹And it was told to Saul, saying, "Behold, David is in Naioth in the Ramah." ²⁰And Saul sent messengers to take David. And they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel was standing, stationed over them. And the Spirit of God was on the messengers of Saul and they also prophesied. ²¹And they told Saul and he sent other messengers and they also prophesied. And Saul did again and sent messengers a third time, and they also prophesied. ²²And he went, he also, to the Ramah and came as far as the great cistern that is in Seku. And he asked and said, "Where are Samuel and David?" And one said, "Behold, in Naioth in the Ramah." ²³And he went there to Naioth in the Ramah. And the Spirit of God was on him, him also, and he went along and he prophesied until he entered in Naioth in the Ramah. ²⁴And he also stripped off his clothes and he also prophesied before the face of Samuel. And he lay naked all that day and all the night. Therefore they said, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

Chapter 20

¹And David fled from Naioth in the Ramah. And he came and said before the face of Jonathan, "What have I done? What is my iniquity? And what is my sin before the face of your father, that he is seeking my life?" ²And he said to him, "Far from it! You will not die. Behold, my father does not do a great thing or a small thing and not uncover my ear. And why would my father hide this thing from me? There is not this!" ³And David swore again and said, "Your father surely knows that I have found favor in your eyes. And he said, 'Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.' But indeed, as Yahweh is alive, and as your soul is alive, surely between me and death is like a step!" ⁴And Jonathan said to David, "Whatever your self says, I will do for you."

⁵And David said to Jonathan, "Behold, the new moon is tomorrow, and surely I should sit with the king to eat. But you shall send me away and I will hide myself in the field until the third evening. ⁶If your father misses me at all, then you shall say, 'David earnestly asked from me to run to Bethlehem, his city, for the sacrifice of the days is there for all the clan.' ⁷If thus he says, 'Good,' peace is for your servant. But if it burns intensely for him, know that the evil is completed from with him. ⁸And you shall do covenant faithfulness with your servant. For you have brought your servant into a covenant of Yahweh with you. But if there is iniquity in me, put me to death yourself. And why should you bring me as far as your father?" ⁹And Jonathan said, "Far be it for you! For if I ever know that the evil has been completed from with my father to come on you, then will I not tell it to you?" ¹⁰And David said to Jonathan, "Who will tell me if what your father answers you is harsh?" ¹¹And Jonathan said to David, "Come and let us go out to the field." And the two of them went out to the field.

¹²And Jonathan said to David, "By Yahweh the God of Israel, surely I will sound out my father around this time tomorrow, or the third. If behold, good is to David, then will I not then send to you and uncover your ear? ¹³Thus may Yahweh do to Jonathan and thus may he add if the evil on you is good to my father and I do not uncover your ear and send you away, so you may go in peace! And may Yahweh be with you just as he was with my father. ¹⁴And if I am still alive, then you will do the covenant faithfulness of Yahweh with me, and I will not die. ¹⁵And you shall not cut off your covenant faithfulness from with my house until eternity, not even when Yahweh cuts off the enemies of David, a man from on the face of the ground." ¹⁶And Jonathan cut with the house of David, "And may

Yahweh seek from the hand of the enemies of David!" ¹⁷And Jonathan caused David to swear again because he loved him. For he loved him like the loving of his self.

¹⁸And Jonathan said to him, "Tomorrow is the new moon. And you will be missed because your seat will be missing.

¹⁹And the third day you shall go down greatly and come to the place there where you hid yourself on the day of the deed. And you shall stay beside the stone Ezel. ²⁰And as for me, I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as sending forth for me to a target. ²¹And behold, I will send the boy, 'Go find the arrows.' If I say clearly to the boy, 'Behold, the arrows are on this side from you; take them,' then come; for peace is for you and there is no matter, as Yahweh is alive. ²²But if I say thus to the boy, 'Behold, the arrows are beyond from you,' go, for Yahweh has sent you away. ²³As for the word which I and you have spoken, behold, Yahweh is between me and you until eternity."

²⁴And David hid himself in the field. And it was the new moon, and the king sat at the food to eat. ²⁵And the king sat on his seat, as time by time, on the seat by the wall. And Jonathan rose, and Abner sat by the side of Saul. And the place of David was missing. ²⁶And Saul did not speak anything on that day, for he said, "It is an accident. He is not clean, surely not clean." ²⁷And it happened on the next day of the new moon, the second, that the place of David was missing. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, "Why has the son of Jesse not come to the food both yesterday and today?" ²⁸And Jonathan answered Saul, "David earnestly asked from with me as far as Bethlehem. ²⁹And he said, 'Please send me away. For the sacrifice of our clan is in the city, and he, my brother, has commanded me. And now, if I have found favor in your eyes, please let me slip away and let me see my brothers.' Therefore he has not come to the table of the king."

³⁰And the nose of Saul burned against Jonathan, and he said to him, "Son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do I not know that you are choosing the son of Jesse to your shame, and to the shame of the nakedness of your mother?

³¹For all the days that the son of Jesse lives on the earth, you and your kingdom will not be established. And now, send and take him to me, for he is a son of death." ³²And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and he said to him, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" ³³And Saul hurled the spear at him to strike him down. And Jonathan knew that it was completed from with his father to put David to death. ³⁴And Jonathan rose from with the table with a burning nose. And he did not eat food on the second day of the new moon, for he was grieved for David, because his father had dishonored him.

³⁵And it happened in the morning, that Jonathan went out to the field to the appointment with David. And a small boy was with him. ³⁶And he said to his boy, "Run, find now the arrows that I am about to shoot." The boy ran and he shot the arrow to pass over him. ³⁷And the boy came as far as the place of the arrow that Jonathan had shot. And Jonathan called after the boy and said, "Is not the arrow beyond from you?" ³⁸And Jonathan called after the boy, "Quickly hurry! Do not stay!" And the boy of Jonathan picked up the arrows and came to his master. ³⁹Now the boy did not know anything. Only Jonathan and David knew the matter. ⁴⁰And Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy who was for him. And he said to him, "Go, bring to the city." ⁴¹The boy went, and David rose from beside the south, and fell before his face to the ground, and bowed three times. And they kissed, a man with his companion. And they wept, a man with his companion, until David did the most. ⁴²And Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, because we, the two of us, have sworn in the name of Yahweh, saying, 'Yahweh is between me and you, and between my seed and your seed until eternity.'" And he rose and went, and Jonathan came to the city. ^[3]

20:14 ^[1]

20:41 ^[2]

20:42 ^[3]

Chapter 21

¹And David came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest. And Ahimelech trembled to meet David and said to him, "Why are you by yourself and there is no man with you?" ^[1] ²And David said to Ahimelech the priest, "The king has commanded me with a matter and has said to me, 'Do not let a man know anything about the matter which I am

sending you, and which I have commanded you.' And I have caused the young men to know about a certain place, a certain one. ³And now what is there under your hand? Give five bread loaves into my hand, or the found thing."

⁴And the priest answered David and said, "There is no common bread toward under my hand. But there is the holy bread, if the young men have kept themselves only from women." ⁵And David answered the priest and said to him, "Surely a woman has been kept away with respect to us as yesterday and three days ago, as whenever I have gone out. And the vessels of the men have been holy, even though it was a common journey. And how much more today will it be holy with the vessels!" ⁶And the priest gave to him the holy thing. For bread was not there except the bread of the face, which was removed from before the face of Yahweh, in order to put hot bread on the day it was taken away.

⁷Now a man from the servants of Saul was there on that day, he was detained before the face of Yahweh. And his name was Doeg the Edomite, a powerful one of the herders who were for Saul.

⁸And David said to Ahimelech, "Now is there not here under your hand a spear or sword? For both my sword and my weapons I did not take in my hand, because the matter of the king was urgent." ⁹And the priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you struck down in the valley of Elah, behold, it is wrapped in the cloak behind the ephod. If you want to take it for yourself, take, for there is no other except it in this place." And David said, "There is none like it. Give it to me."

¹⁰And David rose and fled on that day from the face of Saul. And he came to Achish the king of Gath. ¹¹And the servants of Achish said to him, "Is this not David the king of the land? Did they not sing with respect to this one in the dances, saying,

'Saul has struck down his thousands,

and David his ten thousands?'"

¹²And David put these words in his heart and was very afraid from the face of Achish the king of Gath. ¹³And he changed his behavior in their eyes and pretended to be insane in their hand. And he made marks on the doors of the gate and caused his saliva to go down to his beard. ¹⁴And Achish said to his servants, "Behold, you see a man being insane. Why did you bring him to me? ¹⁵Do I lack insane men, so that you have brought this one to be insane near me? Should this one enter into my house?"

21:1 ^[1]

Chapter 22

¹And David went from there and slipped away to the cave of Adullam. And his brothers and all the house of his father heard, and they went down there to him. ²And they gathered to him: every man of distress, and every man for whom was a creditor, and every man bitter of spirit. And he became commander over them. And they were with him, about 400 men. ³And David went from there to Mizpah of Moab. And he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and my mother go out with you until when I know what God will do for me." ⁴And he led them into the face of the king of Moab. And they stayed with him all the days of David being in the stronghold. ⁵And Gad the prophet said to David, "Do not stay in the stronghold. Go and come for yourself to the land of Judah." And David went and came to the forest of Hereth.

⁶And Saul heard that David was known, and the men who were with him. Now Saul was sitting in the Gibeah under the tamarisk tree on the height, and his spear was in his hand, and all his servants were stationed beside him. ⁷And Saul said to his servants who were stationed beside him, "Listen now, Benjaminites! Will the son of Jesse give fields and vineyards even to all of you? Will he make all of you commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds?

⁸For all of you have conspired against me! And there was no uncovering my ear when my son cut with the son of Jesse. And there was no grieving from you for me or uncovering my ear that my son has raised up my servant against me to lie in ambush as this day." ⁹And Doeg the Edomite answered (now he was stationed beside the

servants of Saul) and said, "I saw the son of Jesse. He came to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. ¹⁰And he inquired of Yahweh for him, and he gave provisions to him. And he gave to him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."

¹¹And the king sent to call Ahimelech the son of Ahitub the priest and all the house of his father, the priests who were in Nob. And all of them came to the king. ¹²And Saul said, "Listen now, son of Ahitub." And he said, "Here I am, my master." ¹³And Saul said to him, "Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, by your giving to him bread, and a sword, and inquiring of God for him, to rise up against me, to lie in ambush, as this day?"

¹⁴And Ahimelech answered the king and said, "Now who among all your servants is faithful like David, the son-in-law of the king, and commander over your guards, and is honored in your house? ¹⁵Did I begin to inquire of God for him today? Far be it for me! Do not let the king set a word against his servant, against all the house of my father. For your servant does not know of any of this, small matter or great." ¹⁶And the king said, "You will surely die, Ahimelech, you and all the house of your father!" ¹⁷And the king said to the ones who run, the ones who were stationed beside him, "Turn around and put to death the priests of Yahweh, because their hand also is with David, and because they knew that he was fleeing, but did not uncover my ear." But the servants of the king were not willing to send forth their hand to attack the priests of Yahweh.

¹⁸And the king said to Doeg, "You turn around and attack the priests!" And Doeg the Edomite turned around and he himself attacked the priests. And on that day he put to death 85 men who carried the linen ephod. ¹⁹And Nob, the city of the priests, he struck down by the mouth of the sword, from man and as far as woman, from child and as far as infant, and ox and donkey and sheep by the mouth of the sword. ²⁰And one son of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub slipped away, and his name was Abiathar. And he fled after David. ²¹And Abiathar told David that Saul had slain the priests of Yahweh. ²²And David said to Abiathar, "I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I myself have turned around against all the life of the house of your father! ²³Stay with me, do not be afraid. For who seeks my life seeks your life. Surely you will be kept safe with me."

Chapter 23

¹And they told David, saying, "Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and they are plundering the threshing floors." ²And David inquired of Yahweh, saying, "Should I go and strike these Philistines?" And Yahweh said to David, "Go and strike the Philistines and save Keilah." ³And the men of David said to him, "Behold, we are afraid here in Judah. And the more so if we go to Keilah against the ranks of the Philistines!" ⁴And David did yet again inquire of Yahweh. And Yahweh answered him and said, "Rise, go down to Keilah, for I am about to give the Philistines into your hand." ⁵And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines. And he drove off their livestock and struck them a great blow. And David saved those who dwelled in Keilah.

⁶And it happened that when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah an ephod came down in his hand. ⁷And it was told to Saul that David had gone to Keilah. And Saul said, "God has alienated him into my hand. For he has shut himself in by entering into a city of doors and a bar." ⁸And Saul caused all the people to hear for the battle, to go down to Keilah, to lay siege against David and against his men. ⁹And David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him. And he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring near the ephod." ¹⁰And David said, "Yahweh, the God of Israel, your servant has certainly heard that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah, to destroy the city because of me. ¹¹Will the masters of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? Will Saul come down, just as your servant has heard? Yahweh, the God of Israel, please tell your servant." And Yahweh said, "He will come down." ¹²And David said, "Will the masters of Keilah deliver me and my men up into the hand of Saul?" And Yahweh said, "They will deliver up." ¹³And David and his men, about 600 men, rose and went out from Keilah, and they walked about in wherever they could walk about. And it was told to Saul that David had slipped away from Keilah, and he stopped going out. ¹⁴And David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and he stayed in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him all the days, but God did not give him into his hand.

¹⁵And David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. Now David was in the wilderness of Ziph in the wood.

¹⁶And Jonathan the son of Saul rose and went to David at the wood. And he strengthened his hand in God. ¹⁷And he said to him, "Do not be afraid, for the hand of Saul my father will not find you. As for you, you will reign over Israel, but I will be as second to you. And even Saul my father knows so." ¹⁸And the two of them cut a covenant before the face of Yahweh. And David stayed in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

¹⁹And Ziphites went up to Saul at the Gibeah, saying, "Is not David hiding himself among us in the strongholds in the wood, on the hill of the Hakilah, which is south of the Jeshimon?" ²⁰And now, the king, according to all the desire of your soul to come down, come down! And it is for us to deliver him up into the hand of the king." ²¹And Saul said, "May you be blessed by Yahweh. For you have had compassion on me. ²²Go now, confirm again, and know, and see his place where his foot is. Who has seen him there? For one has said to me, 'He is very crafty.' ²³And see and know of all the hiding places there where he hides himself. And return to me with certain information, and I will go with you. And it will happen that if there is he in the land, then I will search for him in all the thousands of Judah."

²⁴And they rose and went to Ziph before the face of Saul. Now David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah, to the south of the Jeshimon. ²⁵And Saul and his men went to seek. And they told David, and he went down to the crag and stayed in the wilderness of Maon. And Saul heard and pursued after David from the wilderness of Maon. ²⁶And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men were on that side of the mountain. And it happened that David was hurrying away to go from the face of Saul. And Saul and his men were circling in on David and on his men to capture them. ²⁷And a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and go, for the Philistines have raided against the land." ²⁸And Saul returned from pursuing after David and went to meet the Philistines. Therefore they called that place the crag of the divisions. ²⁹And David went up from there and stayed in the strongholds of Engedi.^[1]

23:29 ^[1]

Chapter 24

¹And it happened when Saul returned from after the Philistines, that they told him, saying, "Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi."^[1] ²And Saul took 3,000 men chosen from all Israel. And he went to seek David and his men on the face of the rocks of the wild goats. ³And he came to the pens of the sheep on the way, and a cave was there. And Saul entered to cover his feet. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost part of the cave. ⁴And the men of David said to him, "Behold, today is what Yahweh said to you, 'Behold, I am about to give your enemy into your hand, and you will do to him as is good in your eyes.'" And David rose and cut off the edge of the robe which belonged to Saul in secrecy. ⁵And it happened after thus that the heart of David struck him because he had cut off the edge, which belonged to Saul. ⁶And he said to his men, "Far be it for me from Yahweh if I do this thing to my master, to the anointed one of Yahweh, to stretch out my hand against him. For he is the anointed one of Yahweh." ⁷And David divided his men with the words and did not give them to rise against Saul. And Saul rose from the cave and went in the way.

⁸And David rose after thus and went out from the cave. And he called out behind Saul, saying, "My master the king!" And Saul looked behind him, and David bowed, nostrils to the ground, and he bowed down. ⁹And David said to Saul, "Why do you listen to the words of a man, saying, 'Behold, David is seeking your harm?' ¹⁰Behold, this day your eyes have seen that Yahweh gave you into my hand today in the cave. And some said to slay you, but it looked on you with compassion. And I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against my master, for he is the anointed one of Yahweh.' ¹¹And see, my father, even see the edge of your robe in my hand! For when I cut off the edge of your robe I did not slay you. Know and see that there is no evil or transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against you, and you are lying in wait to take my life. ¹²May Yahweh judge between you and me, and may Yahweh avenge me against you, but my hand will not be against you. ¹³As the proverb of the ancients says, 'From the wicked ones goes out wickedness.' But my hand will not be against you. ¹⁴After whom does the king of Israel come out? After

whom are you pursuing? After a dead dog? After one flea? ¹⁵And may Yahweh become judge and judge between me and you. And may he see and argue my case and judge me out of your hand."

¹⁶And it happened as soon as David had finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" And Saul lifted up his voice and wept. ¹⁷And he said to David, "You are more righteous than I. For you did good to me, but I did evil to you. ¹⁸And you have declared today that you have done good with me, that Yahweh delivered me into your hand but you did not slay me. ¹⁹And if a man finds his enemy, will he send him away on the good way? And may Yahweh reward you with good in return for what you have done for me this day. ²⁰And now, behold, I know that you will surely reign and the kingdom of Israel will rise in your hand. ²¹And now, swear to me by Yahweh, that you will not cut off my seed after me, and that you will not destroy my name from the house of my father." ²²And David swore to Saul. And Saul went to his house, and David and his men went up on the stronghold.

24:1 ^[1]

Chapter 25

¹And Samuel died, and all Israel gathered and mourned for him, and they buried him in his house in the Ramah. And David rose and went down to the wilderness of Paran.

²Now a man was in Maon and his work was in the Carmel, and the man was very great. And for him were 3,000 sheep and 1,000 goats. And he was shearing his sheep in the Carmel. ³And the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife was Abigail. Now the woman was good of insight and beautiful of form. But the man was harsh and evil of deeds, and he was a Calebite. ⁴And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. ⁵And David sent ten young men. And David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and ask him in my name with respect to well-being. ⁶And you shall say thus, 'To life! And peace to you and peace to your house and peace to all that is for you. ⁷And now, I have heard that those who shear belong to you. Now the shepherds who belong to you have been with us. We have not harmed them and not anything of them was missing all the days of their being in the Carmel. ⁸Ask your young men and they will tell you. And let the young men find favor in your eyes, for we have come on a good day. Please give whatever your hand finds to your servants and to your son, to David.'"

⁹And the young men of David came, and they spoke to Nabal according to all these words in the name of David. And they rested. ¹⁰And Nabal answered the servants of David. And he said, "Who is David? And who is the son of Jesse? Today there are many servants who are breaking away, a man from the face of his master. ¹¹And should I take my bread and my water and my slaughtered thing that I have slaughtered for my ones who shear, and give it to men whom I do not know where they are from?" ¹²And the young men of David turned to their way. And they returned and came and told him according to all these words. ¹³And David said to his men, "Strap on a man his sword." And they strapped on, a man his sword. And David also strapped on his sword. And about 400 men went up behind David, and 200 stayed with the things.

¹⁴But one young man from the young men told Abigail the wife of Nabal, saying, "Behold, David sent messengers from the wilderness to bless our master, and he screamed at them. ¹⁵But the men were very good to us. And we were not harmed and did not miss anything all the days of our going about with them when we were in the field. ¹⁶They were a wall for us both night and day, all the days of our being with them tending the sheep. ¹⁷And now know and see what you should do, for evil is determined against our master and against all his house. And he is a son of worthlessness from speaking to him."

¹⁸And Abigail hurried and took 200 bread loaves and two skins of wine and five prepared sheep and five seah of roasted grain and 100 bunches of raisins and 200 cakes of figs. And she put them on the donkeys. ¹⁹And she said to her young men, "Pass over before my face. Behold, I will come behind you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal. ²⁰And she was riding on the donkey and going down in the cover of the mountain, and behold, David and

his men were coming down to meet her! And she encountered them. ²¹Now David had said, "Surely for a lie have I kept all that is for this one in the wilderness, and not anything was missed from all that is for him. And he has returned to me evil in place of good. ²²Thus may God do to the enemies of David and thus may he add, if I leave over until the morning any who are for him who urinate against the wall!"

²³And Abigail saw David, and she hurried and got down from on the donkey. And fell before the face of David on her face and bowed down to the ground. ²⁴And she fell on his feet and said, "On me myself, my master, be the iniquity. Please let your female servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your female servant. ²⁵Please do not let my master set his heart against this man of worthlessness, against Nabal, for as his name is, so he is. Nabal is his name, and senselessness is with him. But I your female servant did not see the young men of my master, whom you sent. ²⁶And now, my master, as Yahweh is alive, and as your spirit is alive, it is Yahweh who has withheld you from entering into bloodshed and your hand saving for yourself. And now may your enemies and the ones who seek evil against my master be like Nabal. ²⁷And now let this blessing that your female servant has brought to my master be given to the young men, the ones going about at the feet of my master. ²⁸Please lift up the transgression of your female servant! For Yahweh will certainly make my master a sure house, because my master is fighting the battles of Yahweh. And evil will not be found in you from your days. ²⁹If a man rises up to pursue you and to seek your life, then the life of my master will be bound in the bundle of the living ones by Yahweh your God. And he will sling away the life of your enemies in the midst of the palm of the sling. ³⁰And it will happen that when Yahweh does for my master according to all the good that he spoke concerning you, and has appointed you for a ruler over Israel, ³¹then this will not become an obstacle for you or a stumbling block of heart for my master, or as the pouring out of blood without cause, or as my master saving himself. And Yahweh will do good for my master, and you will remember your female servant."

³²And David said to Abigail, "May Yahweh, the God of Israel, be blessed, who sent you this day to meet me. ³³And blessed be your discernment and blessed be you, who have withheld me this day from entering into bloodshed and my hand saving for myself! ³⁴But indeed, as Yahweh is alive, the God of Israel is he who has withheld me from doing evil to you. For if you had not hurried and come to meet me, surely there would not have been left over for Nabal until the light of the morning one who urinates against a wall." ³⁵And David took from her hand what she had brought to him. And to her he said, "Go up in peace to your house. See, I have listened to your voice and have lifted up your face."

³⁶And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, for him was a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. And the heart of Nabal was good with him and he was drunk to abundance. And she did not tell him a thing small or great until the light of the morning. ³⁷And it happened in the morning, when the wine had gone out from Nabal, that his wife told him these things. And his heart died in his inner part and he became a stone. ³⁸And it was about ten days then Yahweh struck Nabal and he died.

³⁹And David heard that Nabal had died, and he said, "Blessed be Yahweh, who has argued the case of my reproach from the hand of Nabal and has withheld his servant from evil. And Yahweh has returned the evil of Nabal on his head." And David sent and spoke with Abigail, to take her for himself for a wife. ⁴⁰And the servants of David came to Abigail at the Carmel. And they spoke to her, saying, "David has sent us to you to take you for him for a wife."

⁴¹And she rose and bowed down, nostrils to the earth, and she said, "Behold, your female servant is as a slave woman for washing the feet of the servants of my master." ⁴²And Abigail hurried and rose and rode on the donkey, and five of her servant girls were going to her feet. And she went behind the messengers of David and became a wife for him. ⁴³And David took Ahinoam from Jezreel. And the two of them both became wives for him.

⁴⁴Now Saul had given Michal his daughter, the wife of David, to Paltiel the son of Laish, who was from Gallim.

Chapter 26

¹And the Ziphites came to Saul at the Gibeah, saying, "Is not David hiding himself in the hill of the Hakilah, on the face of the Jeshimon?" ²And Saul rose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, and with him were 3,000 men,

chosen ones of Israel, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. ³And Saul camped in the hill of the Hakilah, which is on the face of the Jeshimon, by the road. But David was staying in the wilderness and he saw that Saul was coming after him to the wilderness. ⁴And David sent spies and he knew that Saul had certainly come. ⁵And David rose and came to the place there where Saul had camped. And David saw the place there where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the commander of his army. And Saul lay in the entrenchment, and the people were camped around him.

⁶And David answered and said to Ahimelech the Hittite and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, the brother of Joab, saying, "Who will go down with me to Saul, to the camp?" And Abishai said, "I! I will go down with you." ⁷And David and Abishai came to the people at night. And behold, Saul lie asleep in the entrenchment, and his spear was pressed into the ground at the place of his head. And Abner and the people were lying around him. ⁸And Abishai said to David, "Today God has delivered your enemy into your hand. And now please let me strike him with the spear even into the earth one time. And I will not do it again to him." ⁹And David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him. For who has stretched out his hand against the anointed one of Yahweh and been innocent?" ¹⁰And David said, "As Yahweh is alive, surely Yahweh will strike him, or his day will come and he will die, or he will go down into the battle and be swept away. ¹¹Far be it for me from Yahweh to stretch out my hand against the anointed one of Yahweh. And now, please take the spear that is at the place of his head and the jug of water, and let us go for ourselves." ¹²And David took the spear and the jug of water from the place of the head of Saul, and they went for themselves. And there was no one who saw, and there was no one who knew, and there was no one who awoke, for all of them were sleeping, because a deep sleep of Yahweh had fallen on them.

¹³And David passed over to the other side and stood on the head of the mountain from a distance. Great was the distance between them. ¹⁴And David called out to the people and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, "Will you not answer, Abner?" And Abner answered and said, "Who are you who calls out to the king?" ¹⁵And David said to Abner, "Are you not a man? And who is like you in Israel? But why did you not watch over your master the king? For one of the people came to destroy the king your master. ¹⁶This thing that you have done is not good. As Yahweh is alive, surely sons of death are you who did not watch over your master, over the anointed one of Yahweh. And now see, where is the spear of the king and the jar of water that was at the place of his head?"

¹⁷And Saul recognized the voice of David and said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" And David said, "It is my voice, my master the king." ¹⁸And he said, "Why is my master pursuing after his servant? For what have I done? And what evil is in my hand? ¹⁹And now, please hear, my master the king, the words of his servant. If Yahweh has incited you against me, may he smell an offering; but if the sons of the man, cursed be them before the face of Yahweh. For they have today driven me out from joining oneself with the inheritance of Yahweh, saying, 'Go serve other gods.' ²⁰And now, do not let my blood fall to the earth from in front of the face of Yahweh. For the king of Israel has come out to seek one flea just as one pursues the partridge in the mountains."

²¹And Saul said, "I have sinned! Return, my son David! For I will not do evil to you again, because my life was precious in your eyes this day. Behold, I have acted foolishly and have gone very much astray!" ²²And David answered and said, "Behold, the spear of the king! And let one of the young men pass over and take it. ²³And may Yahweh return to the man his righteousness and his faithfulness; because Yahweh gave you into a hand today, but I was not willing to stretch out my hand against the anointed one of Yahweh. ²⁴And behold, just as your life was great in my eyes this day, so may my life be great in the eyes of Yahweh, and may he rescue me from all distress." ²⁵And Saul said to David, "Blessed be you, my son David! You will certainly both do and also you will certainly be able." And David went to his way, and Saul returned to his place.

Chapter 27

¹And David said to his heart, "Now I will be swept away one day by the hand of Saul. There is no good thing for me, but I will certainly slip away to the land of the Philistines. And Saul will despair of me, of seeking me again in all the territory of Israel, and I will slip away from his hand." ²And David rose and passed over, he and 600 men who were with him, to Achish the son of Maok, the king of Gath. ³And David dwelled with Achish in Gath, he and his men, a

man and his house, David and the two of his wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite woman and Abigail the Carmelite woman, the wife of Nabal. ⁴And it was told to Saul that David had fled to Gath. And he did not again seek him more.

⁵And David said to Achish, "If I have found favor in your eyes, let them give to me a place in one of the cities of the field, and I may dwell there. And why should your servant dwell in the city of the kingship with you?" ⁶And on that day Achish gave to him Ziklag. Therefore Ziklag belongs to the kings of Judah until this day.

⁷And the number of the days that David dwelled in the field of the Philistines was days and four months. ⁸And David and his men went up and raided against the Geshurites and the Girzites and the Amalekites. For they were dwelling in the land, which is from ancient times, as you go to Shur, and as far as the land of Egypt. ^[1] ⁹And David struck the land and did not let a man or a woman live. And he took sheep and cattle and donkeys and camels and garments. And he returned and came to Achish. ¹⁰And Achish said, "Against whom did you raid today?" And David said, "Against the south of Judah and against the south of the Jerahmeelite and against the south of the Kenite."

¹¹Now David did not let a man or a woman live to bring to Gath, saying, "Lest they tell about us, saying, 'Thus did David.'" And thus was his custom all the days that he dwelled in the field of the Philistines. ¹²And Achish trusted in David, saying, "He certainly stinks among his people in Israel, and he will become an eternal servant for me."

27:8 ^[1] which is found in some ancient Hebrew manuscripts, some modern versions have which is found in the margin of some Hebrew manuscripts.

Chapter 28

¹And it happened in those days that the Philistines gathered their camps for the war to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, "You certainly know that you will go out with me in the camp, you and your men." ²And David said to Achish, "Therefore, you yourself will know what your servant can do." And Achish said to David, "Therefore, I will appoint you the keeper of my head all the days."

³Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and had buried him in the Ramah, even in his city. And Saul had removed the necromancers and the ones with familiar spirits from the land. ⁴And the Philistines gathered and came and camped at Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel, and they camped at the Gilboa. ⁵And Saul saw the camp of the Philistines. And he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ⁶And Saul inquired of Yahweh, but Yahweh did not answer him—neither by the dreams, nor by the Urim, nor by the prophets. ⁷And Saul said to his servants, "Seek for me a woman of a mistress of necromancy, so I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "Behold, a woman of a mistress of necromancy is in Endor."

⁸And Saul disguised himself, and put on other clothes, and went, he and two of the men with him. And they came to the woman at night. And he said, "Please practice divination for me with a spirit of the dead, and bring up for me whom I say to you." ⁹And the woman said to him, "Behold, you yourself know what Saul has done, that he has cut off the necromancers and the ones with a familiar spirit from the land. And why are you setting a trap against my life, to put me to death?" ¹⁰And Saul swore to her by Yahweh, saying, "As Yahweh is alive, no punishment will meet you by this matter." ¹¹And the woman said, "Whom will I bring up for you?" And he said, "Bring up Samuel for me." ¹²And the woman saw Samuel and cried out with a loud voice. And the woman said to Saul, saying, "Why did you deceive me? And you are Saul!" ¹³And the king said to her, "Do not be afraid, but what did you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I saw gods going up from the earth." ¹⁴And he said to her, "What is his appearance?" And she said, "An old man is coming up and he is wrapped in a robe." And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed, nostrils to the ground, and he bowed down.

¹⁵And Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" And Saul said, "It is very narrow for me, and the Philistines are about to fight against me. And God has turned aside from on me and does not answer me anymore, neither by the hand of the prophets, nor by the dreams, so I have called to you, to cause me to know what I will do."

¹⁶And Samuel said, "And why do you ask me while Yahweh has turned aside from on you and has become your enemy? ¹⁷And Yahweh has done for himself just as he spoke by my hand. And Yahweh has torn the kingdom from your hand and has given it to your companion, to David. ¹⁸Because you did not listen to the voice of Yahweh and did not perform the burning of his nose against Amalek, therefore Yahweh has done this thing to you this day. ¹⁹And Yahweh will also give Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. Yahweh will also give the camp of Israel into the hand of the Philistines."

²⁰And Saul immediately fell with the fullness of his height to the ground and was very afraid from the words of Samuel. Also strength was not in him, for he had not eaten bread all the day and all the night. ²¹And the woman came to Saul and saw that he was very terrified, And she said to him, "Behold, your female servant has listened to your voice and I have put my life in my palm and have heard the words that you have spoken to me. ²²And now, please listen, even you, to the voice of your female servant, and let me set a bit of bread before your face and eat. And strength will be in you when you go in the way." ²³And he refused and said, "I will not eat." But his servants and also the woman, urged him, and he listened to their voice. And he rose from the ground and sat on the bed. ²⁴Now a calf of the stall belonged to the woman in the house, and she hurried and sacrificed it. And she took flour and kneaded and baked it to unleavened bread. ²⁵And she brought it near before the face of Saul and before the face of his servants, and they ate. And they rose and went in that night.

Chapter 29

¹And the Philistines gathered all their camp at Aphek. And Israel was camping at the spring that is in Jezreel. ²And the rulers of the Philistines were passing over by hundreds and by thousands. And David and his men were passing over in the rear with Achish. ³And the commanders of the Philistines said, "What are these Hebrews?" And Achish said to the commanders of the Philistines, "Is this not David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, who has been with me these days or these years, and I have not found anything in him from the day of his falling until this day?"

⁴And the commanders of the Philistines were furious against him. And the commanders of the Philistines said to him, "Make the man return, that he may return to his place there where you assigned him. And he will not go down with us in the battle, and he will not become an adversary for us in the battle. And by what could this one make himself acceptable to his master? Is it not by the heads of these men? ⁵Is this not David of whom they sang in the dances, saying,

'Saul has struck down his thousands,
and David his ten thousands?'"

⁶And Achish called to David and said to him, "As Yahweh is alive, surely you are upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the camp is good in my eyes, for I have not found evil in you from the day of your coming to me until this day. But in the eyes of the rulers you are not good. ⁷And now return and go in peace, so you do not do evil in the eyes of the rulers of the Philistines."

⁸And David said to Achish, "But what have I done? And what have you found in your servant from the day when I was before your face until this day, that I may not come and fight against the enemies of my master the king?" ⁹And Achish answered and said to David, "I know that you are good in my eyes like a messenger of God. Nevertheless, the commanders of the Philistines have said, 'He must not go up with us in the battle.' ¹⁰And now rise early in the morning with the servants of your master who came with you. And you shall rise early in the morning with light for you and go." ¹¹And David rose early, he and his men, to go in the morning, to return to the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

Chapter 30

¹And it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had raided against the Negev and against Ziklag. And they had struck Ziklag and had burned it with fire. ²And they had taken captive the women who were in it, from small and as far as great. They had not put a man to death, but had led them away and went to their way. ³And 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. ⁴And David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept until there was no strength in them to weep. ⁵And the two of the wives of David had been taken captive, Ahinoam the Jezreelite woman and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. ⁶And it was very narrow for David, for the people said to stone him, for the spirit of all the people was bitter, a man for his sons and for his daughters. And David strengthened himself in Yahweh, his God.

⁷And David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech, "Please bring near to me the ephod." And Abiathar brought near to David the ephod. ⁸And David inquired of Yahweh, saying, "If I pursue after this troop, will I overtake it?" And he said to him, "Pursue, for you will certainly overtake and you will certainly rescue." ⁹And David went, he and the 600 men who were with him, and they came as far as the wadi of the Besor. And the ones who were left behind stayed. ¹⁰And David pursued, he and 400 men. And 200 men stayed, who were too exhausted to pass over the wadi of the Besor.

¹¹And they found an Egyptian man in the field and took him to David. And they gave to him bread, and he ate. And they caused him to drink water. ¹²And they gave to him a slice of a fig cake and two raisin clusters, and he ate and his spirit returned to him. For he had not eaten bread and had not drunk water three days and three nights.

¹³And David said to him, "To whom do you belong? And where are you from?" And he said, "I am an Egyptian young man, a slave of a man of the Amalekite. And my master left me because three days ago I became sick. ¹⁴We raided the Negev of the Kerethites, and against what belongs to Judah, and against the Negev of Caleb. And we burned Ziklag with fire." ¹⁵And David said to him, "Will you bring me down to this troop?" And he said, "Swear to me by God that you will not put me to death and not deliver me into the hand of my master, and I will bring you down to this troop."

¹⁶And he brought him down, and behold, they were spread out over the face of all the land, eating and drinking and celebrating because of all the great spoil that they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah. ¹⁷And David struck them down from the twilight and until the evening of their next day. And a man did not slip away from them except for 400 men, young men who rode on the camels and fled. ¹⁸And David rescued all that Amalek had taken. And David rescued the two of his wives. ¹⁹And it was not missing for them from small and as far as great and as far as sons and daughters and from spoil and as far as all that they had taken for themselves. David brought back everything. ²⁰And David took all the sheep and the cattle. They drove before the face of that livestock, and said, "This is the spoil of David."

²¹And David came to the 200 men who had been too exhausted to go behind David, and they had caused them to stay at the wadi of the Besor. And they went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. And David came near the people and asked them with respect to well-being. ²²And all the evil and worthless men from the men who had gone with David answered and said, "Because they did not go with us, we will not give to them from the spoil that we have rescued, except a man his wife and his sons, that they may lead away and go." ²³And David said, "You shall not do so, my brothers, with what Yahweh has given to us. And he has kept us and given into our hand the troop who came against us. ²⁴And who will listen to you with respect to this matter? For as is the portion of the one who went down in the battle, so shall be the portion of the one who stayed with the things. They shall be apportioned together." ²⁵And it happened from that day and beyond, that he set it for a statute and for a custom for Israel, until this day.

²⁶And David came to Ziklag and sent some of the spoil to the elders of Judah, to his companions, saying, "Behold, a blessing for you: some of the spoil of the enemies of Yahweh." ²⁷It was for he who was in Bethel and for he who

was in Ramoth of the South and for he who was in Jattir ²⁸and for he who was in Aroer and for he who was in Siphmoth and for he who was in Eshtemoa ²⁹and for he who was in Rakal and for he who was in the cities of the Jerahmeelite and for he who was in the cities of the Kenite ³⁰and for he who was in Hormah and for he who was in Bor Ashan and for he who was in Athak ³¹and for he who was in Hebron and for all the places there where David walked about, he and his men.

Chapter 31

¹Now the Philistines were fighting against Israel. And the men of Israel fled from before the face of the Philistines and they fell pierced on Mount Gilboa. ²And the Philistines stuck close to Saul and his sons. And the Philistines struck down Jonathan and Abinadab and Malki-Shua, the sons of Saul. ³And the battle was heavy against Saul and the archers, the men with the bow, found him. And he writhed in pain greatly because of the archers. ⁴And Saul said to the one who carried his equipment, "Draw out your sword and pierce me through with it, lest these uncircumcised ones come and pierce me through and deal severely with me." But the one who carried his equipment was not willing, for he was very afraid. And Saul took the sword and fell on it. ⁵And the one who carried his equipment saw that Saul had died. And he fell, he also, on his sword and died with him. ⁶And Saul died and the three of his sons and the one who carried his equipment, even all his men together on that day. ⁷And the men of Israel who were on the other side of the valley and who were on the other side of the Jordan saw that the men of Israel had fled, and that Saul and his sons had died. And they left their cities and fled. And the Philistines came and dwelled in them.

⁸And it happened from the next day, that the Philistines came to strip the pierced ones. And they found Saul and the three of his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. ⁹And they cut off his head and stripped off his equipment. And they sent into the land of the Philistines all around to bring news to the house of their idols and to the people. ¹⁰And they put his equipment in the house of the Ashtoreths. And they thrust his corpse on the wall of Beth Shan. ¹¹And those who dwelled in Jabesh Gilead heard about it, what the Philistines had done to Saul. ¹²And all the men of strength rose and went all the night and took the corpse of Saul and the corpses of his sons from the wall of Beth Shan. And they went to Jabesh and burned them there. ¹³And they took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree in Jabesh. And they fasted seven days.

2 Samuel

Chapter 1

¹And it happened after the death of Saul, and David returned from attacking the Amalekites, that David remained in Ziklag two days. ²And it happened on the third day, that behold, a man came from the camp, from with Saul, and his clothes were torn and dirt was on his head. And it happened when he came to David that he fell to the ground and prostrated himself. ³And David said to him, "Where are you coming from?" And he said to him, "I escaped from the camp of Israel." ⁴And David said to him, "What is the matter? Tell to me please." And He said that, "The people have fled from the battle, and also many from the people have fallen and died, and Saul and Jonathan his son are also dead." ⁵And David said to the young man, the one who was reporting to him, "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?" ⁶And the young man, the one who was reporting to him, said, "Certainly I happened to be in the mountain of Gilboa, and behold, Saul was leaning on his spear, and behold, the chariots and the masters of the horses clung to him. ⁷And Saul turned behind him and saw me. And he called out to me, and I said, 'Here I am.' ⁸And he said to me, 'Who are you?' And I said to him, 'I am an Amalekite.' ⁹And he said to me, 'Now stand over me and kill me, for agony has grasped me, because my life is still wholly in me.' ¹⁰So I stood over him and killed him, because I knew that he would not live after his fall. And I took the crown that was on his head and the band that was on his arm, and I brought them here to my lord."

¹¹And David seized his clothes and tore them, and also all the men who were with him. ¹²And they mourned and wept and fasted until the evening for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the army of Yahweh, and for the house of Israel because they had fallen by the sword. ¹³And David said to the young man, the one who was reporting to him, "Where are you from?" And he said, "I am a son of a man, a foreigner, an Amalekite." ¹⁴And David said to him, "How were you not afraid to stretch out your hand to destroy the anointed one of Yahweh?" ¹⁵And David called out to one of the young men and said, "Come near, fall upon him." And he struck him, and he died. ¹⁶And David said to him, "Your blood is on your head because your mouth has testified against you saying, 'I myself killed the anointed one of Yahweh.'"

¹⁷Then David sang this funeral song for Saul and for Jonathan his son. ¹⁸And he said to teach the sons of Judah the bow, behold, which has been written in the Book of the Upright.^[1]

¹⁹"The beauty of Israel

is slain on your high places!

How the mighty have fallen!

²⁰Do not tell it in Gath, do not announce it in the streets of Ashkelon,

lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised exult.

²¹Mountains in Gilboa,

let there not be dew and let there not be rain on you,

nor fields that give contributions,

for there the shield of the mighty was defiled.

The shield of Saul is not anointed with oil.

²²From 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.

²³Saul and Jonathan, the ones who were loved and the delightful ones in their life,
 and in their death they were not separated.

They were swifter than eagles,
 they were mightier than lions.

²⁴Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul,
 the one who clothed you in scarlet, with luxuries,
 the one who put ornaments of gold on your clothing.

²⁵How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle!
 Jonathan is slain on your high places.

²⁶It is distressing to me concerning you, my brother Jonathan.
 You were very pleasant to me.
 Your love for me was wonderful,
 more than the love of women.

²⁷How the mighty have fallen,
 and the weapons of war perished!"

1:18 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹And it happened after this that David asked of Yahweh saying, "Should I go up into one of the cities of Judah?" And Yahweh said to him, "Go up." Then David said, "Where should I go?" And he said, "To Hebron." ²So David went up there and with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. ³And David brought up his men who were with him, each man with his household, and they lived in the cities of Hebron,. ⁴And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David as king over the house of Judah.

And they told to David saying, "The men of Jabesh Gilead, who buried Saul." ⁵So David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh Gilead and said to them, "Blessed are you by Yahweh, because you did this kindness with your master, with Saul, and have buried him. ⁶And now may Yahweh do to you kindness and faithfulness. And also I will do for you this good because you have done this thing. ⁷So now, let your hands be strong; and be as sons of might for Saul your master is dead, and also the house of Judah has anointed me for king over them."

⁸And Abner son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, took Ishbosheth son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim. ⁹And he made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel. ¹⁰Ishbosheth son of Saul, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah was behind David. ¹¹And the number of the days that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

¹²And Abner son of Ner, and the servants of Ishbosheth son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon. ¹³And Joab the son of Zeruiah, and the servants of David, went out and met them by the pool of Gibeon; and they sat down together, these by the pool on this side, and these by the pool on this side. ¹⁴And Abner said to Joab, "Now let the young men arise and compete before us." And Joab said, "Let them arise." ¹⁵Then they arose and passed by, by number, twelve for Benjamin and Ishbosheth son of Saul, and twelve from the servants of David. ¹⁶And each man grasped his opponent by the head and his sword into the side of his opponent, and they fell down together. Therefore that place was called "Helkath Hazzurim," or "Field of Swords," which is in Gibeon. ¹⁷And the battle was very severe that day and Abner and the men of Israel were defeated before the servants of David.

¹⁸The three sons of Zeruiah were there: Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel. Asahel was swift on his feet like one of the gazelles which are in the field. ¹⁹And Asahel pursued after Abner, and he turned not aside by going to the right or to the left from after Abner. ²⁰Then Abner looked behind him and said, "Is that you Asahel?" And he answered, "It is I." ²¹And Abner said to him, "Turn aside to your right or to your left, and seize for you from one of the young men, and take for you his belongings." But Asahel was not willing to turn aside from behind him. ²²And Abner said again to Asahel, "You turn aside from behind me. Why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I lift up my face towards Joab, your brother?" ²³But he refused to turn aside, and so Abner struck him in the stomach with the back of the spear, so that the spear came out from his back. And he fell there, and died on the spot. And it happened that all the ones coming to the place where Asahel fell there and died, they stood.

²⁴But Joab and Abishai pursued after Abner. And when the sun was going down, they came to the hill of Ammah, which is on the front of Giah by the road to the wilderness of Gibeon. ²⁵And the sons of Benjamin gathered themselves behind Abner, and they were as one band, and they stood on the top of the hill as one. ²⁶Then Abner called to Joab and said, "Must the sword devour forever? Do you not know that it will be bitter in the end? And until when will it be that you not tell to the people to turn from after their brothers?" ²⁷And Joab said, "As God lives, if you had not spoken, surely then the people would have pulled back, a man from after his brother, until the morning!" ²⁸So Joab blew on the trumpet, and all the people stood and did not pursue after Israel anymore, and they did not continue to fight anymore. ²⁹And Abner and his men went all that night through the Arabah. And they crossed the Jordan and they walked all the morning, and they came to Mahanaim.

³⁰And Joab returned from after Abner, and he assembled all the people, and were missing Asahel and nineteen men from the servants of David. ³¹But the servants of David struck down from Benjamin, from the men of Abner, 360 men they killed. ³²And they took up Asahel and buried him in the tomb of his father, which was in Bethlehem. Joab and his men walked all of the night, and it became light on them at Hebron.

Chapter 3

¹And the war was long between the house of Saul and between the house of David. And David was progressing stronger and stronger, but the house of Saul was progressing weaker and weaker.

²And sons were born to David in Hebron. And his firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess. ³And his second, Kileab, by Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. And the third, Absalom, was son of Maacah, daughter of Talmi, king of Geshur. ⁴And the fourth was Adonijah, son of Haggith. And the fifth was Shephatiah, son of Abital. ⁵And the sixth Ithream, by Eglah, David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

⁶And it happened during the war between the house of Saul and between the house of David that Abner was strengthening himself in the house of Saul. ⁷And Saul had a concubine, and her name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. And he said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?" ⁸And Abner was very angry at the words of Ishbosheth and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I do covenant faithfulness with the house of Saul, your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, by not delivering you into the hand of David. And today you call me to account concerning a fault with this woman? ⁹So may God do to Abner, and so more also to him, if as has sworn Yahweh to David, that so I do for him, ¹⁰to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and to

set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba." ¹¹And he was not able to answer Abner another word, because of his fear of him.

¹²And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf saying, "Whose land is this? Cut your covenant with me, and behold my hand is with you, to bring over all of Israel to you." ¹³And he said, "Good, I will cut a covenant with you. Only one thing I require from you, that is, that you will not see my face unless to my face you bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face." ¹⁴Then David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Give me my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself with one hundred Philistine foreskins." ¹⁵And Ishbosheth sent and took her from with her husband, from with Paltiel, son of Laish. ¹⁶And her husband walked with her, walking and weeping behind her to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, "walk back" and he returned back.

¹⁷And Abner had communication with the elders of Israel saying, "Yesterday and the day before, you were seeking to secure David for a king over you. ¹⁸And now do it, for Yahweh said concerning David saying, 'By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from the hand of all their enemies.'" ¹⁹And Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin. And Abner also went to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that was good in the eyes of Israel and in the eyes of all of the house of Benjamin. ²⁰And Abner came to David in Hebron, and with him twenty men; and David had made a feast for Abner and for the men who were with him. ²¹And Abner said to David, "Let me arise, and let me go, and let me gather to my lord the king, all of Israel that they may cut a covenant with you, and you will reign over all that your soul desires." And David sent Abner away, and he left in peace.

²²And behold, the servants of David and Joab came from a raid and brought with them much plunder, but Abner was not with David in Hebron because he had sent him away and he had gone in peace. ²³And Joab and all the army which was with him arrived, and they told to Joab saying, "Abner son of Ner came to the king, and he let him go, and he went in peace." ²⁴And Joab came to the king and said, "What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you! Why is this you have let him go, and he went and is surely gone? ²⁵You know that Abner son of Ner came to deceive you and to know your going out and your coming in and to know all which you are doing?" ²⁶And Joab went out from with David and he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the cistern of Sirah, but David did not know.

²⁷And Abner returned to Hebron, and Joab took him aside into the middle of the gate to speak with him in the quietness. There Joab stabbed him in the stomach, and he died for the blood of Asahel, his brother. ²⁸And afterward, David heard this, and he said, "I and my kingdom are forever innocent before Yahweh of the blood of Abner son of Ner. ²⁹Let the guilt of Abner's death fall on the head of Joab and on all his father's house. May there never fail to be in the family of Joab someone who has a flowing sore or skin disease or who is lame and must walk with a staff or who is killed by the sword or who goes without food." ³⁰So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in battle.

³¹David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, "Tear your clothes, put on sackcloth, and mourn before Abner's body." Now King David walked behind the body in the funeral procession. ³²They buried Abner in Hebron. The king wept and cried loudly at the tomb of Abner, and all the people also wept. ³³The king lamented for Abner and sang,

"Should Abner die as a fool dies?

³⁴Your hands were not bound.

Your feet were not shackled.

As a man falls before the sons of injustice, so you have fallen."

Once more all the people wept over him. ³⁵All the people came to make David eat while it was still day, but David swore, "May God do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything else before the sun goes down." ³⁶All the people took notice of David's grief, and it pleased them, as whatever the king did pleased them. ³⁷So all the people

and all Israel understood that day that it was not the king's desire to kill Abner son of Ner. ³⁸The king said to his servants, "Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel? ³⁹Now I am weak today, though I am an anointed king. These men, the sons of Zeruiah, are too brutal for me. May Yahweh repay the evildoer by punishing him for his wickedness, as he deserves."

Chapter 4

¹When Ishbosheth, Saul's son, heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands became weak, and all Israel was troubled. ²Now Saul's son had two men who were captains of groups of soldiers. The name of one was Baanah and the other Recab, sons of Rimmon the Beerothite of the people of Benjamin (for Beeroth is also considered part of Benjamin, ³and the Beerothites fled to Gittaim and have been living there until this very time).

⁴Now Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse picked him up to flee. But as she was running, Jonathan's son fell and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth.

⁵So the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Recab and Baanah, traveled during the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, as he was resting at noon. ⁶Behold, the woman guarding the door had fallen asleep while sifting wheat, and Recab and Baanah, his brother, walked in quietly, stabbed Ishbosheth in the stomach, and then escaped. ⁷So after they entered the house, they attacked him and killed him as he was lying on his bed in his room. Then they cut off his head and carried it away, traveling on the road all night to the Arabah. ⁸They brought the head of Ishbosheth to David at Hebron, and they said to the king, "Look, this is the head of Ishbosheth son of Saul, your enemy, who sought your life. Today Yahweh has avenged our master the king against Saul and his descendants." ⁹David answered Recab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite; he said to them, "As Yahweh lives, who delivered my life from every trouble, ¹⁰when someone told me, 'Look, Saul is dead,' thinking he was bringing good news, I seized him and killed him at Ziklag. That was the reward I gave him for his news. ¹¹How much more, when wicked men have killed an innocent person in his own house on his bed, should I not now require his blood from your hand, and remove you from the earth?" ¹²Then David gave orders to the young men, and they killed them and cut off their hands and feet and hung them up beside the pool at Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth and buried it in the grave of Abner in Hebron.

Chapter 5

¹Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "Look, we are your flesh and bone. ²In the recent past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led the Israelite army. Yahweh said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become ruler over Israel.'" ³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them before Yahweh. They anointed David king over Israel. ⁴David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. ⁵In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

⁶The king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land. They said to David, "You will not come here except to be turned away by the blind and the lame. David cannot come here." ⁷Nevertheless, David captured the stronghold of Zion, which now is the city of David. ⁸At that time David said, "Those who attack the Jebusites will have to go through the water shaft to reach the 'lame and the blind' who are David's enemies." That is why people say, "The 'blind and the lame' must not enter the palace." ⁹So David lived in the stronghold and called it the city of David. He fortified around it, from the terrace toward the inside. ¹⁰David became very powerful because Yahweh, the God of hosts, was with him.

¹¹Then Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, carpenters, and masons. They built a house for David. ¹²David knew that Yahweh had established him as king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

¹³David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem after he left Hebron, and more sons and daughters were born to him. ¹⁴These were the names of the children who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, ¹⁵Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, ¹⁶Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

¹⁷Now when the Philistines heard that David had been anointed as king over Israel, they all went out looking for him. But David heard about it and went down to the stronghold. ¹⁸Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁹Then David asked for help from Yahweh. He said, "Should I attack the Philistines? Will you give victory over them?" Yahweh said to David, "Attack, for I will certainly give you victory over the Philistines." ²⁰So David attacked at Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He commented, "Yahweh has burst through my enemies before me like a bursting flood of water." So the name of that place became Baal Perazim. ²¹The Philistines left their idols there, and David and his men carried them away.

²²Then the Philistines came up again and spread out once more in the Valley of Rephaim. ²³So David asked help from Yahweh again, and Yahweh said to him, "You must not attack their front, but rather circle around behind them and come on them through the balsam woods. ²⁴When you hear the sound of marching in the wind blowing through the balsam treetops, then attack with force. Do this because Yahweh will have gone out before you to attack the army of the Philistines." ²⁵So David did as Yahweh had commanded him. He killed Philistines from Geba all the way to Gezer.

Chapter 6

¹Now David again gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. ²David arose and went with all his men who were with him from Baalah in Judah to bring up from there the Box of the Covenant of God, which is called by the name of Yahweh of hosts, who sits enthroned over the cherubim. ³They set the Box of the Covenant of God on a new cart. They brought it out of Abinadab's house, which was on a hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart. ⁴They brought the cart out of Abinadab's house on the hill with the Box of the Covenant of God on it. Ahio was walking in front of the ark. ⁵Then David and all the house of Israel began to play before Yahweh, celebrating with wooden instruments, harps, lyres, tambourines, rattles, and cymbals.

⁶When they came to the threshing floor of Nakon, the oxen stumbled, and Uzzah reached out with his hand to grab the Box of the Covenant of God, and he took hold of it. ⁷Then the anger of Yahweh burned against Uzzah. God attacked him there for his error. Uzzah died there by the Box of the Covenant of God. ⁸David was angry because Yahweh had attacked Uzzah, and he called the name of that place Perez Uzzah. That place is called Perez Uzzah to this day. ⁹David was afraid of Yahweh that day. He said, "How can the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh come to me?" ¹⁰So David was not willing to take the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh with him into the city of David. Instead, he put it aside in the house of Obed Edom the Gittite. ¹¹The Box of the Covenant of Yahweh remained in the house of Obed Edom the Gittite for three months. So Yahweh blessed him and all his household.

¹²Now King David was told, "Yahweh has blessed Obed Edom's house and everything that belongs to him because of the Box of the Covenant of God." So David went and brought up the Box of the Covenant of God from Obed Edom's house to the city of David with joy. ¹³When those who were carrying the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh had gone six steps, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened calf. ¹⁴David danced before Yahweh with all his might; he was wearing only a linen ephod. ¹⁵So David and all the house of Israel brought up the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh with shouting and the sound of trumpets.

¹⁶Now as the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh came into the city of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked out the window. She saw King David leaping and dancing before Yahweh. Then she despised him in her heart. ¹⁷They

brought in the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh and put it in its place, in the middle of the tent that David had set up for it. Then David offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before Yahweh. ¹⁸When David had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and the fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of Yahweh of hosts. ¹⁹Then he distributed among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both to men and women, a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people left; each one returned to his own house.

²⁰Then David returned to bless his family. Michal, the daughter of Saul, came out to meet David and said, "How honored the king of Israel was today, who undressed himself today before the eyes of the slave girls among his servants, like one of the crude fellows who shamelessly undresses himself!" ²¹David responded to Michal, "I did that before Yahweh, who chose me above your father and above all his family, who appointed me leader over the people of Yahweh, over Israel. Before Yahweh I will be joyful! ²²I will be even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you have spoken about, I will be honored." ²³So Michal, the daughter of Saul, had no children to the day of her death.

Chapter 7

¹It happened that after the king had settled in his house, and after Yahweh had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "Look, I am living in a house of cedar, but the Box of the Covenant of God is staying in the middle of a tent." ³Then Nathan said to the king, "Go, do what is in your heart, for Yahweh is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of Yahweh came to Nathan, saying: ⁵"Go and tell David my servant, 'This is what Yahweh says: Will you build me a house in which to live? ⁶For I have not lived in a house from the day that I brought up the people of Israel out of Egypt until this present day; instead, I have been moving about in a tent, a tabernacle. ⁷In all places where I have moved among all the people of Israel, did I ever say anything to any of Israel's leaders whom I appointed to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'" ⁸Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what Yahweh of hosts says: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, so that you would be ruler over my people Israel. ⁹I have been with you wherever you went. I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them there, so that they may live in their own place and be troubled no more. No longer will wicked people oppress them, as they did before, ¹¹as they were doing from the days that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Now I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, I, Yahweh declare to you that I will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up a descendant after you, one who will come out from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be a father to him, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will discipline him with the rod of men and with the whipping of the sons of men. ¹⁵But my covenant faithfulness will not leave him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶Your house and kingdom will be confirmed forever before you. Your throne will be established forever.'" ¹⁷Nathan spoke to David and reported to him all these words and the entire vision.

¹⁸Then David the king went in and sat before Yahweh and said, "Who am I, Lord Yahweh, and what is my family that you have brought me to this point? ¹⁹Now this was a small thing in your sight, Lord Yahweh. You have even spoken about your servant's family for a great while to come, and have shown me future generations, Lord Yahweh! ²⁰What more can I, David, say to you? You have known your servant, Lord Yahweh. ²¹For your word's sake, and to fulfill your own purpose, you have done this great thing and revealed it to your servant. ²²Therefore you are great, Lord Yahweh, for there is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, as we have heard with our own ears. ²³What nation is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom you, God, went and rescued for yourself? You did this so that they would become a people for yourself, to make a name for yourself, and to do great and fearful deeds for your land. You drove out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you rescued from Egypt. ²⁴You established Israel as your own people forever, and you, Yahweh, became their God. ²⁵So now, Yahweh God, may the promise that you made concerning your servant and his family be established forever.

Do as you have spoken. ²⁶May your name be forever great, so the people will say, 'Yahweh of hosts is the God of Israel,' while the house of me, David, your servant is established before you. ²⁷For you, Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, have revealed to your servant that you will build him a house. That is why I, your servant, have found courage to pray to you. ²⁸Now, Lord Yahweh, you are God, and your words are trustworthy, and you have made this good promise to your servant. ²⁹Now then, let it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you. For you, Lord Yahweh, have said these things, and with your blessing your servant's house will be blessed forever."

Chapter 8

¹After this it came about that David attacked the Philistines and defeated them. So David took Metheg Ammah from the control of the Philistines.

²Then he defeated Moab and measured their men with a line by making them lie down on the ground. He measured off two lines to put to death, and one full line to keep alive. So the Moabites became servants to David and began to pay him tribute.

³David then defeated Hadadezer son of Rehob, the king of Zobah, as Hadadezer was traveling to recover his rule by the Euphrates River. ⁴David captured from him 1700 chariots and 20000 footmen. David hamstringed all the chariot horses, but reserved enough of them for 100 chariots. ⁵When the Arameans of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David killed 22000 Aramean men. ⁶Then David put garrisons in Aram of Damascus, and the Arameans became servants to him and brought him tribute. Yahweh gave victory to David wherever he went. ⁷David took the golden shields that were on Hadadezer's servants and brought them to Jerusalem. ⁸From Tebah and Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, King David took very much bronze.

⁹When Tou, king of Hamath, heard that David had defeated all the army of Hadadezer, ¹⁰Tou sent Hadoram his son to King David to greet him and to bless him, because David had fought against Hadadezer and defeated him, and because Hadadezer had waged war against Tou. Hadoram brought with himself objects of silver, gold, and bronze.

¹¹King David set aside these objects to Yahweh, together with the silver and gold from all the nations that he conquered— ¹²from Aram, Moab, the people of Ammon, the Philistines, and Amalek, along with all of the plundered goods of Hadadezer son of Rehob, the king of Zobah.

¹³David's name was well known when he returned from conquering the Arameans in the Valley of Salt, with their 18000 men. ¹⁴He placed garrisons throughout all of Edom, and all the Edomites became servants to him. Yahweh gave victory to David wherever he went.

¹⁵David reigned over all Israel, and he administered justice and righteousness to all his people. ¹⁶Joab son of Zeruah was the commander of the army, and Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder. ¹⁷Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests, and Seraiah was scribe. ¹⁸Benaiah son of Jehoiada was in charge of the Kerethites and Pelethites, and David's sons were the chief officials at the king's hand.^[1]

8:18 ^[1]; but the MT has, .

Chapter 9

¹David said, "Is there anyone left in Saul's family to whom I may show kindness for Jonathan's sake?" ²There was in Saul's family a servant whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. The king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" He replied, "Yes. I am your servant." ³So the king said, "Is there anyone left of Saul's family to whom I may show the kindness of God?" Ziba replied to the king, "Jonathan still has a son, who is lame in his feet." ⁴The king said to him, "Where is he?" Ziba replied to the king, "Look, he is in the house of Machir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar." ⁵Then King David sent and had him brought out of the house of Machir son of Ammiel from Lo Debar. ⁶So Mephibosheth son

of Jonathan son of Saul, came to David and bowed down his face to the floor in honor of David. David said, "Mephibosheth." He answered, "See, I am your servant!" ⁷David said to him, "Do not be afraid, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather, and you will always eat bread at my table." ⁸Mephibosheth bowed and said, "What is your servant, that you should look on such a dead dog as I am?"

⁹Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and his family I have given to your master's grandson. ¹⁰You, your sons, and your servants must till the land for him and you must harvest the crops so that your master's grandson will have food to eat. For Mephibosheth, your master's grandson, must always eat at my table." Now Ziba had 15 sons and 20 servants. ¹¹Then Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do all that my master the king commands his servant." The king added, "As for Mephibosheth he will eat at my table, as one of the king's sons." ¹²Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Mika. All who lived in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth. ¹³So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, and he always ate at the king's table, though he was lame in both his feet.

Chapter 10

¹It came about later that the king of the people of Ammon died, and that Hanun his son became king in his place.

²David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness to me." So David sent his servants to comfort Hanun concerning his father. His servants entered the land of the people of Ammon. ³But the leaders of the people of Ammon said to Hanun their master, "Do you really think that David is honoring your father because he has sent men to comfort you? Has not David sent his servants to you to look at the city, to spy it out, in order to overthrow it?" ⁴So Hanun took David's servants, shaved off half their beards, cut off their garments up to their buttocks, and sent them away. ⁵When they explained this to David, he sent to meet with them, for the men were deeply ashamed. The king said, "Stay at Jericho until your beards have grown back, and then return."

⁶When the people of Ammon saw that they had become a stench to David, the people of Ammon sent messengers and hired the Arameans of Beth Rehob and Zobah, 20000 foot soldiers, and the king of Maacah with 1000 men, and the men of Tob with 12000 men. ⁷When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of soldiers. ⁸The Ammonites came out and formed a line of battle at the entrance to their city gate, while the Arameans of Zobah and of Rehob, and the men of Tob and Maacah, stood by themselves in the open fields.

⁹When Joab saw the battle lines facing him both in front and behind, he chose some of Israel's best fighters and arranged them against the Arameans. ¹⁰The rest of his people he put into the hand of Abishai his brother, and he arranged them against the sons of Ammon. ¹¹Joab said, "If the Arameans are too strong for me, then you, Abishai, must rescue me. But if the sons of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come and rescue you. ¹²Be strong, and let us show ourselves to be strong for our people and for the cities of our God, for Yahweh will do what is good for his purpose." ¹³So Joab and the soldiers of his army advanced to the battle against the Arameans, who were forced to flee before the army of Israel. ¹⁴When the sons of Ammon saw that the Arameans had fled, they also fled from Abishai and went back into the city. Then Joab returned from the people of Ammon and went back to Jerusalem.

¹⁵When the Arameans saw that they were being defeated by Israel, they gathered themselves together again.

¹⁶Then Hadarezer sent for Aramean troops from beyond the Euphrates River. They came to Helam, and Shobak, the commander of Hadarezer's army, went before them. ¹⁷When David was told this, he gathered all Israel together, crossed the Jordan, and arrived at Helam. The Arameans arranged themselves in battle lines against David and fought him. ¹⁸The Arameans fled from Israel, and David killed 700 of their men in chariots and 40000 horsemen. Shobak the commander of their army was wounded and died there. ¹⁹When all the kings who were servants of Hadarezer saw that they were defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and became their subjects. So the Arameans were afraid to help the people of Ammon anymore.

Chapter 11

¹It came about in the springtime, at the time when kings normally go to war, that David sent out Joab, his servants, and all the army of Israel. They destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed in Jerusalem.

²So it came about one evening that David got up from his bed and walked on the roof of his palace. From there he saw a woman who was bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to look at. ³So David sent and he inquired about the woman. Someone said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, and is she not the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" ⁴David sent messengers and took her; she came in to him, and he lay with her (for she had just purified herself from menstruation). Then she returned to her house. ⁵The woman conceived, and she sent and told David; she said, "I am pregnant."

⁶Then David sent to Joab saying, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷When Uriah arrived, David asked him how Joab was, how the army was doing, and how the war was going. ⁸David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the king's palace, and the king sent a gift for Uriah after he left. ⁹But Uriah slept at the door of the king's palace with all the servants of his master, and he did not go down to his house. ¹⁰When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" ¹¹Uriah answered David, "The Box, and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my master's servants are camped in an open field. How then can I go into my house to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? As sure as you are alive, I will not do this." ¹²So David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you leave." So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next day. ¹³When David called him, he ate and drank before him, and David made him drunk. At evening Uriah went out to sleep on his bed with the servants of his master; he did not go down to his house.

¹⁴So in the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵David wrote in the letter saying, "Set Uriah at the very front of the most intense battle, and then withdraw from him, that he may be hit and killed." ¹⁶So as Joab watched the siege upon the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew the strongest enemy soldiers would be fighting. ¹⁷When the men of the city went out and fought against Joab's army, some of the soldiers of David fell, and Uriah the Hittite was also killed there. ¹⁸When Joab sent word to David about everything concerning the war, ¹⁹he commanded the messenger, saying, "When you have finished telling all the things concerning the war to the king, ²⁰it may happen that the king will become angry, and he will say to you, 'Why did you go so near to the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall? ²¹Who killed Abimelech son of Jerub-Besheth? Did not a woman cast an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died at Thebez? Why did you go so near the wall?' Then you must answer, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.'"

²²So the messenger left and went to David and told him everything that Joab had sent him to say. ²³Then the messenger said to David, "The enemy were stronger than we were at first; they came out to us into the field, but we drove them back to the entrance of the gate. ²⁴Then their shooters shot at your soldiers from off the wall, and some of the king's servants were killed, and your servant Uriah the Hittite was killed, too." ²⁵Then David said to the messenger, "Say this to Joab, 'Do not let this displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Make your battle even stronger against the city, and overthrow it,' and encourage him."

²⁶So when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented deeply for her husband.

²⁷When her sorrow passed, David sent and took her home to his palace, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But what David had done displeased Yahweh.

Chapter 12

¹Then Yahweh sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said, "There were once two men in a city. One man was rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had huge numbers of flocks and herds, ³but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and fed and raised. It grew up together with him and with his

children. The lamb even ate with him and drank from his own cup, and it slept in his arms and was like a daughter to him. ⁴One day a visitor came to the rich man, but the rich man was unwilling to take an animal from his own flocks and herds to provide food for the traveler. Instead he took the poor man's ewe lamb and cooked it for his visitor." ⁵David was hot with anger against the rich man, and he raged to Nathan, "As Yahweh lives, the man who has done this deserves to be put to death. ⁶He must pay back the lamb four times over because he did such a thing, and because he had no pity."

⁷Then Nathan said to David, "You are that man! Yahweh, the God of Israel, says, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you out of the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your arms. I also gave you the house of Israel and Judah. But if that had been too little, I would have given you many other things in addition. ⁹So why have you despised the commands of Yahweh, so as to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your own wife. You killed him with the sword of the army of Ammon. ¹⁰So now the sword will never leave your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite as your wife.' ¹¹Yahweh says, 'Look, I will raise up disaster against you out of your own house. Before your own eyes, I will take your wives and give them to your neighbor, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. ¹²For you committed your sin secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, in the sunlight.'" ¹³Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against Yahweh." Nathan replied to David, "Yahweh also has passed over your sin. You will not be killed. ¹⁴However, because by this act you have despised Yahweh, the child who is born to you will surely die." ¹⁵Then Nathan left and went home.

Yahweh attacked the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he was very sick. ¹⁶David then implored God for the boy. David fasted and went inside and lay all night on the floor. ¹⁷The elders of his house arose and stood beside him, to raise him up from the floor, but he would not get up, and he would not eat with them. ¹⁸It came about on the seventh day that the child died. David's servants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, "Look, while the child was still alive we spoke to him, and he did not listen to our voice. What might he do to himself if we tell him that the boy is dead?!" ¹⁹But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David perceived that the child was dead. He said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" They answered, "He is dead." ²⁰Then David arose from the floor and washed himself, anointed himself, and changed his clothes. He went to the tabernacle of Yahweh and worshiped there, and then he came back to his own palace. When he asked for it, they set food before him, and he ate. ²¹Then his servants said to him, "Why have you done this? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you got up and ate." ²²David answered, "While the child was still alive I fasted and wept. I said, 'Who knows whether or not Yahweh will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' ²³But now he is dead, so why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

²⁴David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. Later she gave birth to a son, and the child was named Solomon. Yahweh loved him ²⁵and he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah, because Yahweh loved him.

²⁶Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites, and he captured the royal city. ²⁷So Joab sent messengers to David and said, "I have fought against Rabbah, and I have taken the city's water supply. ²⁸Now therefore gather the rest of the army together and camp against the city and take it, because if I take the city, it will be named after me." ²⁹So David gathered all the army together and went to Rabbah; he fought against the city and captured it. ³⁰David took the crown from their king's head—it weighed a talent of gold, and there was a precious stone in it. The crown was placed on David's own head. Then he brought out the plunder of the city in large quantities. ³¹He brought out the people who were in the city and forced them to work with saws, iron picks, and axes; he also made them work at brick kilns. David required all the cities of the people of Ammon to do this labor. Then David and all the army returned to Jerusalem.

Chapter 13

¹It came about after this that Amnon son of David was very attracted to his beautiful half-sister Tamar, who was a full sister of Absalom, another of David's sons. ²Amnon was so frustrated that he became sick because of his sister Tamar. She was a virgin, and it seemed impossible to Amnon to do anything to her. ³But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother. Jonadab was a very shrewd man. ⁴Jonadab said to Amnon, "Why, son of the king, are you depressed every morning? Will you not tell me?" So Amnon answered him, "I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister." ⁵Then Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be sick. When your father comes to see you, ask him, 'Would you please send my sister Tamar to give me something to eat and cook it before me, so that I may see it and eat it from her hand?'" ⁶So Amnon lay down and pretended to be sick. When the king came to see him, Amnon said to the king, "Please send my sister Tamar to make some food for my sickness in front of me so that I may eat from her hand."

⁷Then David sent word to Tamar at his palace, saying, "Go now to your brother Amnon's house and prepare food for him." ⁸So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house where he was lying down. She took dough and kneaded it and formed bread in his sight, and then she baked it. ⁹She took the pan and gave the bread to him, but he refused to eat. Then Amnon said to the others present, "Send everyone out, away from me." So everyone went out from him. ¹⁰So Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food into my room that I may eat from your hand." So Tamar took the bread that she had made, and brought it into the room of Amnon her brother. ¹¹When she had brought the food to him, he took hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie with me, my sister." ¹²She answered him, "No, my brother, do not force me, for nothing like this should be done in Israel. Do not do this appalling thing! ¹³How could I be rid of my shame? What about you? You would be like one of the fools in Israel! Now, please speak to the king, for he would not keep me from you." ¹⁴However Amnon would not listen to her, and he was stronger than she was, and he overpowered her, and he lay with her.

¹⁵Then Amnon hated Tamar with extreme hatred. He hated her even more than he had desired her. Amnon said to her, "Get up and go." ¹⁶But she responded to him, "No! Because this great evil of making me leave is even worse than what you did to me!" But Amnon did not listen to her. ¹⁷Instead, he called his personal servant and said, "Take this woman away from me, and bolt the door after her." ¹⁸Then his servant brought her out and bolted the door after her. Tamar was wearing a very decorated robe because the king's daughters who were virgins dressed that way. ¹⁹Tamar put ashes on her head and tore her robe. She put her hands on her head and walked away, crying aloud as she went.

²⁰Absalom her brother said to her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? But now keep quiet, my sister. He is your brother. Do not take this thing to heart." So Tamar remained alone in her brother Absalom's house. ²¹But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry. ²²Absalom spoke neither evil nor good to Amnon, for Absalom hated him for what he had done to her and how he had disgraced his sister Tamar.

²³It came about after two full years that Absalom had sheep shearers working at Baal Hazor, which is near Ephraim, and Absalom invited all the king's sons to visit there. ²⁴Absalom went to the king and said, "Look now, your servant has sheep shearers. Please, may the king and his servants go with me, your servant." ²⁵The king answered Absalom, "No, my son, all of us should not go because we would be a burden to you." Absalom begged the king, but he would not go, but he gave him his blessing. ²⁶Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us." So the king said to him, "Why should Amnon go with you?" ²⁷Absalom pressed David, and so he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him. ²⁸Absalom commanded his servants saying, "Pay attention. When Amnon begins to be affected by the wine, and when I say to you, 'Attack Amnon,' then kill him. Do not be afraid. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and brave." ²⁹So Absalom's servants did to Amnon as he had commanded them. Then all the king's sons arose, and every man mounted his mule and fled.

³⁰So it came about, while they were on the road, that the news came to David saying, "Absalom has killed all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left." ³¹Then the king arose and tore his clothes, and lay on the floor; all

his servants stood by with their clothes torn. ³²Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered and said, "Let not my master believe that they have killed all the young men who are the king's sons, for Amnon only is dead. Absalom has planned this from the day that Amnon violated his sister Tamar. ³³So therefore let not my master the king take this report to heart, so as to believe that all the king's sons are dead, for Amnon only is dead."

³⁴Absalom fled away. A servant keeping watch raised his eyes and saw many people coming on the road on the hillside west of him. ³⁵Then Jonadab said to the king, "Look, the king's sons are coming. It is just as your servant said." ³⁶So it came about when he finished speaking, the king's sons arrived and raised their voices and wept. The king and all his servants also wept bitterly.

³⁷But Absalom fled and went to Talmai son of Ammihud, the king of Geshur. David mourned for his son every day. ³⁸So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, where he was for three years. ³⁹The mind of King David longed to go out to see Absalom, for he was comforted concerning Amnon and his death.

Chapter 14

¹Now Joab son of Zeruah perceived that the king's heart desired to see Absalom. ²So Joab sent word to Tekoa and had from there a wise woman brought to him. He said to her, "Please pretend you are a mourner and put on mourning clothes. Please do not anoint yourself with oil, but be like a woman who has mourned a long time for the dead. ³Then go to the king and speak to him about what I will describe." So Joab told her the words she was to say.

⁴When the woman from Tekoa spoke to the king, she lay facedown on the ground and said, "Help me, king." ⁵The king said to her, "What is wrong?" She answered, "The truth is that I am a widow, and my husband is dead. ⁶I, your servant, had two sons, and they fought together in the field, and there was no one to separate them. One struck the other and killed him. ⁷Now the whole clan has risen against your servant, and they say, 'Give into our hand the man who struck his brother, so that we may put him to death, to pay for the life of his brother whom he killed.' So they would also destroy the heir. Thus they will put out the burning coal that I have left, and they will leave for my husband neither name nor descendant on the surface of the earth."

⁸So the king said to the woman, "Go to your house, and I will command something to be done for you." ⁹The woman of Tekoa replied to the king, "My master, king, may the guilt be on me and on my father's family. The king and his throne are guiltless." ¹⁰The king replied, "Whoever says anything to you, bring him to me, and he will not touch you anymore." ¹¹Then she said, "Please, may the king remember Yahweh your God, so that the avenger of blood will not destroy anyone further, so that they will not destroy my son." The king replied, "As Yahweh lives, not one hair of your son will fall to the ground."

¹²Then the woman said, "Please let your servant speak a further word to my master the king." He said, "Speak on." ¹³So the woman said, "Why then have you devised such a thing against the people of God? For in saying this thing, the king is like someone who is guilty, because the king has not brought back home again his banished son. ¹⁴For we all must die, and we are like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. But God will not take away life; instead, he finds a way for those who were driven away to be restored. ¹⁵Now then, seeing that I have come to speak this thing to my master the king, it is because the people have made me afraid. So your servant said to herself, 'I will now speak to the king. It may be that the king will perform the request of his servant. ¹⁶Perhaps the king will listen to me and deliver his servant from the hand of the man who would destroy me and my son together, out of the inheritance God gave us.' ¹⁷Then your servant prayed, 'Please, may the word of my master the king give me relief, for as an angel of God, so is my master the king in telling good from evil.' May Yahweh your God be with you."

¹⁸Then the king answered and said to the woman, "Please do not hide from me anything that I will ask you." The woman replied, "Let my master the king now speak." ¹⁹The king said, "Is not the hand of Joab with you in all this?" The woman answered and said, "As you live, my master the king, no one can escape to the right hand or to the left from anything that my master the king has spoken. It was your servant Joab who commanded me and told me to

say these things that your servant has spoken. ²⁰Your servant Joab has done this to change the course of what is happening. My master is wise, like the wisdom of an angel of God, and he knows everything that is happening in the land."

²¹So the king said to Joab, "Look now, I will do this thing. Go then, and bring the young man Absalom back." ²²So Joab lay facedown on the ground in honor and gratitude to the king. Joab said, "Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your eyes, my master, king, in that the king has performed the request of his servant." ²³So Joab arose, went to Geshur, and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem. ²⁴The king said, "He may return to his own house, but he may not see my face." So Absalom returned to his own house, but did not see the king's face.

²⁵Now in all Israel there was no one praised for his handsomeness more than Absalom. From the sole of his foot to the top of his head there was no blemish in him. ²⁶When he cut the hair of his head at the end of every year, because it was heavy on him, he weighed his hair; it would weigh about 200 shekels, which is measured by the weight of the king's standard. ²⁷To Absalom were born three sons and one daughter, whose name was Tamar. She was a beautiful woman.

²⁸Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, without seeing the king's face. ²⁹Then Absalom sent word for Joab to send him to the king, but Joab would not come to him. So Absalom sent word a second time, but Joab still did not come. ³⁰So Absalom said to his servants, "See, Joab's field is near mine, and he has barley there. Go and set it on fire." So Absalom's servants set the field on fire. ³¹Then Joab arose and came to Absalom at his house, and said to him, "Why have your servants set my field on fire?" ³²Absalom answered Joab, "Look, I sent word to you saying, 'Come here so I may send you to the king to say, "Why did I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to still be there. Now therefore let me see the king's face, and if I am guilty, let him kill me.'" ³³So Joab went to the king and told him. When the king called for Absalom, he came to the king and bowed low to the ground before the king, and the king kissed Absalom.

Chapter 15

¹It came about after this that Absalom prepared a chariot and horses for himself, with 50 men to run before him.

²Absalom would get up early and stand beside the road leading to the city gate. When any man had a dispute to come to the king for judgment, Absalom called to him and said, "From what city have you come?" Then the man would answer, "Your servant is from one of the tribes of Israel." ³So Absalom would say to him, "Look, your case is good and right, but there is no one empowered by the king to hear your case." ⁴Absalom added, "I wish that I were made judge in the land, so that every man who had any dispute or cause might come to me, and I would bring him justice!" ⁵So it came about that when any man came to Absalom to honor him, Absalom would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. ⁶Absalom acted in this way to all Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

⁷It came about at the end of four years that Absalom said to the king, "Please let me go and pay a vow that I have made to Yahweh in Hebron. ⁸For your servant made a vow while I was living at Geshur in Aram, saying, 'If Yahweh will indeed bring me again to Jerusalem, then I will worship Yahweh.'" ⁹So the king said to him, "Go in peace." So Absalom arose and went to Hebron. ¹⁰But then Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you must say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'" ¹¹With Absalom went 200 men from Jerusalem, who were invited. They went in their innocence, not knowing anything that Absalom had planned. ¹²While Absalom offered sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilohite from his hometown of Giloh. He was David's counselor. Absalom's conspiracy was strong, for the people following Absalom were constantly increasing.

¹³A messenger came to David saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel are following after Absalom." ¹⁴So David said to all his servants who were with him in Jerusalem, "Arise and let us flee, or none of us will escape from Absalom. Prepare to leave immediately, or he will quickly overtake us, and he will bring down disaster on us and attack the city with the edge of the sword." ¹⁵The king's servants said to the king, "Look, your servants are ready to do

whatever our master the king decides.” ¹⁶The king left and all his family after him, but the king left ten women, who were his slave wives, to keep the palace. ¹⁷After the king went out and all the people after him, they stopped at the last house. ¹⁸All his army marched with him, and before him went all the Kerethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites—600 men who had followed him from Gath.

¹⁹Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite, “Why will you come with us? Return and stay with the king, for you are a foreigner and an exile. Return to your own place. ²⁰Since you just left yesterday, why should I make you wander all over with us? I do not even know where I am going. So return and take your fellow countrymen back. May loyalty and faithfulness go with you.” ²¹But Ittai answered the king and said, “As Yahweh lives, and as my master the king lives, surely in whatever place where my master the king goes, there also will your servant go, whether that means living or dying.” ²²So David said to Ittai, “Go ahead and continue with us.” So Ittai the Gittite marched with the king, along with all his men and all the families who were with him. ²³All the country wept with a loud voice as all the people passed by over the Kidron Valley, and as the king also himself crossed over. All the people traveled on the road toward the wilderness.

²⁴Even Zadok was present, along with all the Levites carrying the Box of the Covenant of God. They set the Box of God down, and then Abiathar joined them. They waited until all the people had passed by out of the city. ²⁵The king said to Zadok, “Carry the Box of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of Yahweh, he will bring me back here and show me again the Box and the place where he lives. ²⁶But if he says, ‘I am not pleased with you,’ look, here am I, let him do to me whatever seems good to him.” ²⁷The king also said to Zadok the priest, “Are you not a seer? Return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz your son, and Jonathan son of Abiathar. ²⁸See, I will wait at the fords of the Arabah until word comes from you to inform me.” ²⁹So Zadok and Abiathar carried the Box of God back into Jerusalem, and they stayed there.

³⁰But David ascended barefoot and weeping up the Mount of Olives, and he had his head covered. Every man of the people who were with him covered his head, and they went up weeping as they walked. ³¹Someone told David saying, “Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.” So David prayed, “O Yahweh, please turn Ahithophel’s advice into foolishness.” ³²It came about that when David arrived at the top of the road, where God used to be worshiped, Hushai the Arkite came to meet him with his coat torn and earth on his head. ³³David said to him, “If you travel with me, then you will be a burden to me. ³⁴But if you return to the city and say to Absalom, ‘I will be your servant, king, as I have been your father’s servant in time past, so will I now be your servant,’ then you will confuse Ahithophel’s advice for me. ³⁵Will you not have the priests Zadok and Abiathar with you? So whatever you hear in the king’s palace, you must tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests. ³⁶See that they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz, Zadok’s son, and Jonathan, Abiathar’s son. You must send to me by their hand everything that you hear.” ³⁷So Hushai, David’s friend, came into the city as Absalom arrived and entered into Jerusalem.

Chapter 16

¹When David had gone a short distance over the summit of the hill, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him with a couple of saddled donkeys; on them were 200 loaves of bread, 100 clusters of raisins, and 100 bunches of figs, and a skin of wine. ²The king said to Ziba, “Why did you bring these things?” Ziba replied, “The donkeys are for the king’s household to ride on, the bread and figs are for your men to eat, and the wine is for anyone who is faint in the wilderness to drink.” ³The king said, “Then where is your master’s grandson?” Ziba replied to the king, “Look, he has stayed behind in Jerusalem, for he said, ‘Today the house of Israel will restore my father’s kingdom to me.’” ⁴Then the king said to Ziba, “Look, all that belonged to Mephibosheth now belongs to you.” Ziba answered, “I bow in humility to you, my master, king. Let me find favor in your eyes.”

⁵When King David approached Bahurim, there came out from there a man from the clan of Saul, whose name was Shimei son of Gera. He came out cursing as he walked. ⁶He threw stones at David and at all of the king’s officials, in spite of the army and bodyguards who were on the king’s right and left. ⁷Shimei called out in cursing, “Go away,

get out of here, you villain, you man of blood! ⁸Yahweh has repaid all of you for the blood you shed within the family of Saul, in whose place you have reigned. Yahweh has given the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. You have come to ruin because you are a man of blood."

⁹Then Abishai son of Zeruiah, said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my master the king? Please let me go over and take off his head." ¹⁰But the king said, "What have I to do with you, sons of Zeruiah? Perhaps he is cursing me because Yahweh has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then could say to him, 'Why are you cursing the king?'" ¹¹So David said to Abishai and to all his servants, "Look, my son, who was born from my body, wants to take my life. How much more may this Benjamite now desire my ruin? Leave him alone and let him curse, for Yahweh has commanded him to do it. ¹²Perhaps Yahweh will look at the misery unleashed on me, and repay me with good for his cursing me today." ¹³So David and his men traveled on the road, while Shimei went beside him up on the hillside, cursing and throwing dust and stones at him as he went. ¹⁴Then the king and all the people who were with him became weary, and he rested when they stopped for the night.

¹⁵As for Absalom and all the men of Israel who were with him, they came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel was with him. ¹⁶It came about when Hushai the Arkite, David's friend, had come to Absalom, that Hushai said to Absalom, "Long live the king! Long live the king!" ¹⁷Absalom said to Hushai, "Is this your loyalty to your friend? Why did you not go with him?" ¹⁸Hushai said to Absalom, "No! Instead, the one whom Yahweh and this people and all the men of Israel have chosen, that is the man to whom I will belong, and I will stay with him. ¹⁹Also, what man should I serve? Should I not serve in the presence of his son? As I have served in your father's presence, I will serve in your presence."

²⁰Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your advice about what we should do." ²¹Ahithophel answered Absalom, "Go into your father's slave wives whom he has left to keep the palace, and all Israel will hear that you have become a stench to your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be strong." ²²So they spread for Absalom a tent on the top of the palace, and Absalom went in to his father's slave wives in the sight of all Israel. ²³Now the advice of Ahithophel that he gave in those days was as if a man heard from the mouth of God himself. That was how all of Ahithophel's advice was viewed by both David and Absalom.

Chapter 17

¹Then Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Now let me choose 12000 men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. ²I will come on him while he is weary and weak and will surprise him with fear. The people who are with him will flee, and I will attack only the king. ³I will bring back all the people to you, like a bride coming to her husband, and all the people will be at peace under you." ⁴What Ahithophel said pleased Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

⁵Then Absalom said, "Now call Hushai the Arkite, too, and let us hear what he says." ⁶When Hushai had come to Absalom, Absalom explained to him what Ahithophel had said and then asked Hushai, "Should we do what Ahithophel has said? If not, tell us what you advise." ⁷So Hushai said to Absalom, "The advice that Ahithophel has given this time is not good." ⁸Hushai added, "You know your father and his men are strong warriors, and that they are bitter, and they are like a bear robbed of her cubs in a field. Your father is a man of war; he will not sleep with the army tonight. ⁹Look, right now he is probably hidden in some pit or in some other place. It will happen that when some of your men have been killed at the beginning of an attack, that whoever hears it will say, 'A slaughter has taken place among the soldiers who follow Absalom.'" ¹⁰Then even the bravest soldiers, whose hearts are like the heart of a lion, will be afraid because all Israel knows that your father is a mighty man, and that the men who are with him are very strong. ¹¹So I advise you that all Israel should be gathered together to you, from Dan to Beersheba, as numerous as the sands that are by the sea, and that you go to battle in person. ¹²Then we will come on him wherever he may be found, and we will cover him as the dew falls on the ground. We will not leave even one of his men, or him himself, alive. ¹³If he retreats into a city, then all Israel will bring ropes to that city and we will drag it into the river, until there is no longer even a small stone found there." ¹⁴Then Absalom and the men of

Israel said, "Hushai the Arkite's advice is better than Ahithophel's." Yahweh had ordained the rejection of Ahithophel's good advice in order to bring destruction on Absalom.

¹⁵Then Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, "Ahithophel advised Absalom and the elders of Israel in such and such a way, but I have advised something else. ¹⁶Now then, go quickly and report to David; say to him, 'Do not camp tonight at the fords of the Arabah, but by all means cross over, or the king will be swallowed up along with all the people who are with him.'" ¹⁷Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz were staying at the spring of Rogel. A female servant used to go and inform them what they needed to know, for they could not risk being seen going into the city. When the message came, then they were to go and tell King David. ¹⁸But a young man saw them this time and told Absalom. So Jonathan and Ahimaaz went away quickly and came to the house of a man in Bahurim, who had a well in his courtyard, into which they descended. ¹⁹The man's wife took the covering for the well and spread it over the well's opening, and tossed grain over it, so no one knew Jonathan and Ahimaaz were in the well. ²⁰Absalom's men came to the woman of the house and said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" The woman told them, "They have crossed over the river." So after they had looked around and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.

²¹It came about after they had left that Jonathan and Ahimaaz came up out of the well. They went to report to King David; they said to him, "Get up and cross quickly over the water because Ahithophel has given such and such advice about you." ²²Then David arose and all the people who were with him, and they crossed over the Jordan. By morning daylight not one of them had failed to cross over the Jordan. ²³When Ahithophel saw that his advice had not been followed, he saddled his donkey and left. He went home to his own city, set his affairs in order, and hanged himself. In this way he died and was buried in the tomb of his father.

²⁴Then David came to Mahanaim. As for Absalom, he crossed over the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him. ²⁵Absalom had set Amasa over the army instead of Joab. Amasa was the son of a man called Jether the Ishmaelite^[1], who went in to Abigail, who was the daughter of Nahash and sister of Zeruiah, the mother of Joab. ²⁶Then Israel and Absalom camped in the land of Gilead.

²⁷It came about when David had come to Mahanaim, that Shobi son of Nahash from Rabbah of the Ammonites, and Machir son of Ammiel from Lo Debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite from Rogelim, ²⁸brought sleeping mats and blankets, bowls and pots, and wheat, barley flour, roasted grain, beans, lentils, ²⁹honey, butter, sheep, and milk curds, so that David and the people with him could eat. These men had said, "The people are hungry, weary, and thirsty in the wilderness."

17:25 ^[1]

Chapter 18

¹David counted the soldiers who were with him and appointed captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them. ²Then David sent out the army, one-third under the command of Joab, another third under the command of Abishai son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and still another third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. The king said to the army, "I will certainly go out with you myself, too." ³But the men said, "You must not go to battle, for if we flee away they will not care about us, or if half of us die they will not care. But you are worth 10000 of us! Therefore it is better that you be ready to help us from the city." ⁴So the king answered them, "I will do whatever seems best to you." The king stood by the city gate while all the army went out by hundreds and by thousands. ⁵The king commanded Joab, Abishai, and Ittai saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man, with Absalom." All the people heard that the king had given the captains this command about Absalom.

⁶So the army went out into the countryside against Israel; the battle spread into the forest of Ephraim. ⁷The army of Israel was defeated there before the soldiers of David; there was a great slaughter there that day of 20000 men.

⁸The battle spread throughout the whole countryside, and more men were consumed by the forest than by the sword that day.

⁹Absalom happened to meet some of David's soldiers. Absalom was riding his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a large oak tree, and his head was caught up in the tree branches. He was left dangling between the ground and the sky while the mule he was riding kept going. ¹⁰Someone saw this and told Joab, "Look, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak tree!" ¹¹Joab said to the man who told him about Absalom, "Look! You saw him! Why did you not strike him down to the ground? I would have given you ten silver shekels and a belt." ¹²The man replied to Joab, "Even if I received 1000 silver shekels, still I would not have reached out my hand against the king's son, because we all heard the king command you, Abishai, and Ittai, saying, 'No one must touch the young man Absalom.' ¹³If I had risked my life by a falsehood (and there is nothing hidden from the king), you would have abandoned me." ¹⁴Then Joab said, "I will not wait for you." So Joab took three javelins in his hand and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was still alive and hanging from the oak. ¹⁵Then ten young men who carried Joab's armor surrounded Absalom, attacked him, and killed him.

¹⁶Then Joab blew the trumpet, and the army returned from pursuing Israel, for Joab held back the army. ¹⁷They took Absalom and threw him into a large pit in the forest; they buried his body under a very large pile of stones, while all Israel fled, every man to his own home. ¹⁸Now Absalom, while still alive, had built for himself a large stone pillar in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to carry along the memory of my name." He named the pillar after his own name, so it is called Absalom's Monument to this very day.

¹⁹Then Ahimaaz son of Zadok said, "Let me now run to the king with the good news, how Yahweh has rescued him from the hand of his enemies." ²⁰Joab answered him, "You will not be the bearer of news today; you must do it another day. Today you will bear no news because the king's son is dead." ²¹Then Joab said to a Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." The Cushite bowed down to Joab, and ran. ²²Then Ahimaaz son of Zadok said again to Joab, "Regardless of what may happen, please let me also run and follow the Cushite." Joab replied, "Why do you want to run, my son, seeing that you will have no reward for the news?" ²³"Whatever happens," said Ahimaaz, "I will run." So Joab answered him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and outran the Cushite.

²⁴Now David was sitting between the inner and outer gates. The watchman had gone up to the roof of the gate to the wall and raised his eyes. As he looked, he saw a man approaching, running alone. ²⁵The watchman shouted out and told the king. Then the king said, "If he is alone, there is news in his mouth." The runner came closer and neared the city. ²⁶Then the watchman noticed another man running, and the watchman called to the gatekeeper; he said, "Look, there is another man running alone." The king said, "He is also bringing news." ²⁷So the watchman said, "I think the running of the man in front is like the running of Ahimaaz son of Zadok." The king said, "He is a good man and is coming with good news."

²⁸Then Ahimaaz called out and said to the king, "All is well." He bowed himself before the king with his face to the ground and said, "Blessed be Yahweh your God! He has delivered the men who lifted up their hand against my master the king." ²⁹So the king replied, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent me, the king's servant, to you, king, I saw a great disturbance, but I did not know what it was." ³⁰Then the king said, "Turn aside and stand here." So Ahimaaz turned aside, and stood still.

³¹Immediately then the Cushite arrived and said, "There is good news for my master the king, for Yahweh has avenged you today from all who rose up against you." ³²Then the king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "The enemies of my master the king, and all who rise up against you to do harm to you, should be as that young man is." ³³Then the king was deeply unnerved, and he went up to the room over the gate and wept. As he went he grieved, "My son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! I wish I had died instead of you, Absalom, my son, my son!"

Chapter 19

¹Joab was told, "Look, the king is weeping and mourning for Absalom." ²So the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the army, for the army heard it said that day, "The king is mourning for his son." ³The soldiers had

to sneak quietly into the city that day, like people who are ashamed sneak away when they run from battle. ⁴The king covered his face and cried in a loud voice, "My son Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son!" ⁵Then Joab entered into the house to the king and said to him, "You have shamed the faces of all your soldiers today, who have saved your life today, and the lives of your sons and of your daughters, and the lives of your wives, and the lives of your concubines, ⁶because you love those who hate you, and you hate those who love you. For today you have shown that commanders and soldiers are nothing to you. Today I believe that if Absalom had lived, and we all had died, then that would have pleased you. ⁷Now therefore get up and go out and speak kindly to your soldiers, for I swear by Yahweh, if you do not go, not one man will remain with you tonight. That would be worse for you than all the disasters that have ever happened to you from your youth until now." ⁸So the king got up and sat in the city gate, and all the people were told, "Look, the king is sitting in the gate," and all the people came before the king.

So Israel fled, every man to his home. ⁹It happened that all the people were arguing with each other throughout all the tribes of Israel saying, "The king rescued us out of the hand of our enemies, and he saved us out of the hand of the Philistines, but now he has run out of the land because of Absalom. ¹⁰Absalom, whom we anointed over us, has died in battle. So why do you say nothing about bringing the king back?"

¹¹King 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 palace, since the talk of all Israel favors the king, to bring him back to his palace? ¹²You are my brothers, my flesh and bone. Why then are you the last to bring back the king?' ¹³Then say to Amasa, 'Are you not my flesh and my bone? God do so to me, and more also, if you are not captain of my army from now on in the place of Joab.'" ¹⁴So he won the hearts of all the men of Judah as one man. They sent to the king saying, "Return, you and all your men." ¹⁵So the king returned and came to the Jordan. Now the men of Judah came to Gilgal to go to meet the king and then to bring the king across the Jordan.

¹⁶Shimei son of Gera, the Benjamite, who was from Bahurim, hurried down with the men of Judah to meet King David. ¹⁷There were 1000 men from Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of Saul, and his 15 sons and 20 servants with him. They crossed through the Jordan in the presence of the king. ¹⁸They crossed to bring over the king's family and to do whatever he thought good. Shimei son of Gera bowed down before the king just before he began to cross the Jordan. ¹⁹Shimei said to the king, "Do not, my master, find me guilty or remember the wrong your servant did the day my master the king left Jerusalem. Please, may the king not take it to heart. ²⁰For your servant knows that I have sinned. See, that is why I have come today as the first from all the family of Joseph to come down to meet my master the king."

²¹But Abishai son of Zeruah answered and said, "Should not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed Yahweh's anointed?" ²²Then David said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruah, that you should today be adversaries to me? Will any man be put to death today in Israel? For do I not know that today I am king over Israel?" ²³So the king said to Shimei, "You will not die." So the king promised him with an oath.

²⁴Then Mephibosheth son of Saul came down to meet the king. He had not dressed his feet, or trimmed his beard, or washed his clothes from the day the king left until the day he came home in peace. ²⁵So when he came from Jerusalem to meet the king, the king said to him, "Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?" ²⁶He answered, "My master the king, my servant deceived me, for I said, 'I will saddle a donkey so I may ride on it and go with the king.' For your servant is lame. ²⁷My servant Ziba has slandered me, your servant, to my master the king. But my master the king is like an angel of God. Therefore, do what is good in your eyes. ²⁸For all my father's house were dead men before my master the king, but you set your servant among those who ate at your own table. What right therefore have I that I should still cry any more to the king?" ²⁹Then the king said to him, "Why explain anything further? I have decided that you and Ziba will divide the fields." ³⁰So Mephibosheth replied to the king, "Yes, let him take it all, since my master the king has come safely to his own home."

³¹Then Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim to cross over the Jordan with the king, and he accompanied the king over the Jordan. ³²Now Barzillai was a very old man, 80 years old. He had provided the king with provisions while he stayed at Mahanaim, for he was a very wealthy man. ³³The king said to Barzillai, "Come over with me, and

I will provide for you to stay with me in Jerusalem.” ³⁴Barzillai replied to the king, “How many days are left in the years of my life, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem? ³⁵I am eighty years old. Can I distinguish between good and bad? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? Why then should your servant be a burden to my master the king? ³⁶Your servant would like to just go over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king repay me with such a reward? ³⁷Please let your servant return back home, so I may die in my own city by the grave of my father and my mother. But see, here is your servant Kimham. Let him cross over with my master the king, and do for him what seems good to you.” ³⁸The king answered, “Kimham will go over with me, and I will do for him what seems good to you, and whatever you desire from me, I will do that for you.” ³⁹Then all the people crossed the Jordan, and the king crossed over, and the king kissed Barzillai and blessed him. Then Barzillai returned to his own home.

⁴⁰So the king crossed over to Gilgal, and Kimham crossed over with him. All the army of Judah brought the king over, and also half the army of Israel. ⁴¹Soon all the men of Israel began to come to the king and say to the king, “Why have our brothers, the men of Judah, stolen you away and brought the king and his family over the Jordan, and all David’s men with him?” ⁴²So the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, “It is because the king is more closely related to us. Why then are you angry about this? Have we eaten anything that the king had to pay for? Has he given us any gifts?” ⁴³The men of Israel answered the men of Judah, “We have ten tribes related to the king, so we have even more right to David than you. Why then did you despise us? Was not our proposal to bring back our king the first to be heard?” But the words of the men of Judah were even more harsh than the words of the men of Israel.

Chapter 20

¹There also happened to be at the same place a troublemaker whose name was Sheba son of Bikri, a Benjamite. He blew the trumpet and said, “We have no part in David, neither have we any inheritance in the son of Jesse. Let every man go back to his home, Israel.” ²So all the men of Israel deserted David and followed Sheba son of Bikri. But the men of Judah followed closely their king, from the Jordan all the way to Jerusalem.

³When David came to his palace in Jerusalem, he took the ten concubines whom he had left to keep the palace, and he put them in a house under guard. He provided for their needs, but he did not lie with them any longer. So they were shut up to the day of their death, living as if they were widows.

⁴Then the king said to Amasa, “Call the men of Judah together within three days; you must be here, too.” ⁵So Amasa went to call Judah, but he was delayed beyond the time that the king had allotted for him. ⁶So David said to Abishai, “Now Sheba son of Bikri will do us more harm than Absalom did. Take your master’s servants, my soldiers, and pursue after him, or he will find fortified cities and escape out of our sight.” ⁷Then Joab’s men went out after him, along with the Kerethites and the Pelethites and all the mighty warriors. They left Jerusalem to pursue Sheba son of Bikri. ⁸When they were at the great stone which is at Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them. Joab was wearing the battle armor that he had put on, which included a belt around his waist with a sheathed sword fastened to it. As he walked forward, the sword fell out. ⁹So Joab said to Amasa, “Is it well with you, my cousin?” Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him. ¹⁰Amasa did not notice the dagger that was in Joab’s left hand. Joab stabbed Amasa in the stomach and his bowels spilled out to the ground. Joab did not strike him again, and Amasa died.

So Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba son of Bikri. ¹¹Then one of Joab’s men stood by Amasa, and the man said, “He who favors Joab, and he who is for David, let him follow Joab.” ¹²Amasa lay wallowing in his blood in the middle of the road. When the man saw that all the people stood still, he carried Amasa off of the road and into a field. He threw a garment over him because he saw that everyone who came by him stood still. ¹³After Amasa was taken off the road, all the men followed on after Joab in pursuit of Sheba son of Bikri.

¹⁴Sheba passed through all the tribes of Israel to Abel Beth Maacah, and through all the land of the Bikrites, who gathered together and also pursued Sheba. ¹⁵They caught up with him and besieged him in Abel Beth Maacah.

They built up a siege ramp against the city against the wall. All the army who were with Joab battered the wall to knock it down. ¹⁶Then a wise woman cried out of the city, "Listen, please listen, Joab! Come near me so I may speak with you." ¹⁷So Joab came near to her, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" He answered, "I am." Then she said to him, "Listen to the words of your servant." He answered, "I am listening." ¹⁸Then she spoke, "They used to say in old times, 'Surely seek advice at Abel,' and that advice would end the matter. ¹⁹We are a city that is one of the most peaceful and faithful in Israel. You are trying to destroy a city that is a mother in Israel. Why do you want to swallow up the inheritance of Yahweh?" ²⁰So Joab answered and said, "Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy. ²¹That is not true. But a man from the hill country of Ephraim, named Sheba son of Bikri, has lifted up his hand against the king, against David. Give up him alone, and I will withdraw from the city." The woman said to Joab, "His head will be thrown to you over the wall." ²²Then the woman went to all the people in her wisdom. They cut off the head of Sheba son of Bikri, and threw it out to Joab. Then he blew the trumpet and Joab's men left the city, every man to his home. Then Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.

²³Now Joab was over all the army of Israel, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites and over the Pelethites. ²⁴Adoniram was over the men who did forced labor, and Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was the recorder. ²⁵Sheva was scribe and Zadok and Abiathar were priests. ²⁶Ira the Jairite was chief minister to David.

Chapter 21

¹There was a famine in David's time for three years in a row, and David sought the face of Yahweh. So Yahweh said, "This famine is on you because of Saul and his murderous family, because he put the Gibeonites to death." ²So the king called together the Gibeonites and spoke to them. Now the Gibeonites were not from the people of Israel; they were from what remained of the Amorites. The people of Israel had sworn not to kill them, but Saul tried to kill them all anyway in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah. ³So David said to the Gibeonites, "What should I do for you? How can I make atonement, so that you may bless the people of Yahweh, who are his inheritance?" ⁴The Gibeonites responded to him, "It is not a matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his family. In the same way it is not for us to put to death any man in Israel." David replied, "What are you saying that I should do for you?" ⁵They answered the king, "The man who tried to kill us all, who schemed against us, so that we are now destroyed and have no place within the borders of Israel— ⁶let seven men from his descendants be handed over to us, and we will hang them before Yahweh in Gibeah of Saul, the one chosen by Yahweh." So the king said, "I will give them to you."

⁷But the king spared Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul, because of Yahweh's oath between them, between David and Jonathan son of Saul. ⁸But the king took the two sons of Rizpah daughter of Aiah, sons whom she bore to Saul—the two sons were named Armoni and Mephibosheth; and David also took the five sons of Merab^[1] daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel son of Barzillai the Meholathite. ⁹He handed them over into the hands of the Gibeonites. They hanged them on the mountain before Yahweh, and they died all seven together. They were put to death during the time of harvest, during the first days at the beginning of barley harvest.

¹⁰Then Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the mountain beside the dead bodies, from the beginning of harvest until the rain poured down on them from the sky. She did not allow the birds of the sky to disturb the bodies by day or the wild animals by night. ¹¹It was told to David what Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.

¹²So 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 public square of Beth Shan, where the Philistines had hanged them, after the Philistines had killed Saul in Gilboa. ¹³David took away from there the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son, and they gathered the bones of the seven men who had been hanged, as well. ¹⁴They buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of Kish his father. They performed all that the king commanded. After that God answered their prayers for the land.

¹⁵Then the Philistines went to war again with Israel. So David went down with his army and fought against the Philistines. David was overcome with battle fatigue. ¹⁶Ishbi-Benob, a descendant of the giants, whose bronze spear weighed 300 shekels, and who was armed with a new sword, intended to kill David. ¹⁷But Abishai son of Zeruiah rescued David, attacked the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, "You must not go to battle anymore with us, so that you do not put out the lamp of Israel."

¹⁸It came about after this that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob, when Sibbekai the Hushathite killed Saph, who was one of the descendants of the Rephaim.^[2] ¹⁹It came about again in a battle with the Philistines at Gob, that Elhanan son of Jair the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. ²⁰It came about in another battle at Gath that there was a man of great height who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, 24 in number. He also was descended from the Rephaim. ²¹When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son of Shimeah, David's brother, killed him. ²²These four were descendants of the Rephaim of Gath, and they were killed by the hand of David and by the hand of his soldiers.

21:8 ^[1] but 2SA 6:23 says she had no children; or Michal may have been another name for Merab.

21:18 ^[2] in the Hebrew text, some versions have or .

Chapter 22

¹David sang to Yahweh the words of this song on the day that Yahweh rescued him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul. ²He said,

"Yahweh is my rock, my fortress, the one who rescues me.

³God is my rock. I take refuge in him.

He is my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold, and my refuge,
the one who saves me from violence.

⁴I will call on Yahweh, who is worthy to be praised,
and I will be saved from my enemies.

⁵For the waves of death surrounded me,
the rushing waters of destruction overwhelmed me.

⁶The cords of Sheol surrounded me;
the snares of death trapped me.

⁷In my distress I called to Yahweh;
I called to my God;
he heard my voice from his temple,
and my call for help went into his ears.

⁸Then the earth shook and trembled.
The foundations of the heavens were shaken
and trembled, because God was angry.

⁹Smoke went up from out of his nostrils,

and blazing fire came out of his mouth.

Coals were ignited by it.

10He opened the heavens and came down,

and thick darkness was under his feet.

11He rode on a cherub and flew.

He was seen on the wings of the wind.^[1]

12He made darkness a tent around him,

gathering heavy rain clouds in the skies.

13From the lightning before him

coals of fire fell.

14Yahweh thundered from the heavens.

The Most High shouted.

15He shot arrows and scattered them—

lightning bolts and dispersed them.

16Then the channels of the sea were seen;

the foundations of the world were laid bare

at the rebuke of Yahweh,

at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.

17He reached down from above; he took hold of me!

He pulled me out of the surging water.

18He rescued me from my strong enemy,

from those who hated me, for they were too strong for me.

19They came against me on the day of my distress,

but Yahweh was my support.

20He also brought me out to a wide open place.

He saved me because he was pleased with me.

21Yahweh has rewarded me according to my righteousness;

he has restored me according to the cleanness of my hands.

22For I have kept the ways of Yahweh

and have not acted wickedly by turning from my God.

23For all his righteous decrees have been before me;

as for his statutes, I have not turned away from them.

²⁴I have also been innocent before him,
and I have kept myself from sin.

²⁵Therefore Yahweh has restored me according to my righteousness,
according to my cleanness in his sight.

²⁶To the faithful one, you show yourself to be faithful;
to a man who is blameless, you show yourself to be blameless.

²⁷With the pure you show yourself pure,
but you are perverse to the twisted.

²⁸You save afflicted people,
but your eyes are against the proud, and you bring them down.

²⁹For you are my lamp, Yahweh.
Yahweh lights up my darkness.

³⁰For by you I can run over a troop of men;
by my God I can leap over a wall.

³¹As for God, his way is perfect.
The word of Yahweh is pure.
He is a shield to everyone who takes refuge in him.

³²For who is God except Yahweh,
and who is a rock except our God?

³³God is my refuge,
and he leads the blameless person on his path.

³⁴He makes my feet swift like a deer
and places me on the high hills.

³⁵He trains my hands for war,
and my arms to bend a bow of bronze.

³⁶You have given me the shield of your salvation,
and your favor has made me great.

³⁷You have made a wide place for my feet beneath me,
so my feet have not slipped.

³⁸I pursued my enemies and destroyed them.

I did not turn back until they were destroyed.

³⁹I devoured them and smashed them; they cannot rise.

They have fallen under my feet.

⁴⁰You put strength on me like a belt for battle;

you put under me those who rise up against me.

⁴¹You gave me the back of my enemies' necks;

I annihilated those who hated me.

⁴²They cried for help, but no one saved them;

they cried out to Yahweh, but he did not answer them.

⁴³I beat them into fine pieces like dust on the ground,

I pulverized them and stamped on them like mud in the streets.

⁴⁴You also have rescued me from the disputes of my own people.

You have kept me as the head of nations.

A people that I have not known serves me.

⁴⁵Sons of foreigners were forced to bow to me.

As soon as they heard of me, they obeyed me.

⁴⁶The sons of foreigners faded away; they came trembling out of their strongholds.

⁴⁷Yahweh lives! May my rock be praised.

May God be exalted, the rock of my salvation.

⁴⁸This is the God who executes vengeance for me,

the one who brings down peoples under me.

⁴⁹He sets me free from my enemies.

Indeed, you lifted me up above those who rose up against me.

You rescue me from violent men.

⁵⁰Therefore I will worship you, Yahweh, among the nations;

I will sing praises to your name.

⁵¹God gives great victory to his king,

and he shows his covenant faithfulness to his anointed one,

to David and to his descendants forever."

22:11 ^[1] .

Chapter 23

¹Now these are the last words of David, a declaration by David son of Jesse, a declaration by the man who was highly honored, the one anointed by the God of Jacob, the sweet psalmist of Israel.

²"The Spirit of Yahweh spoke by me, and his word was on my tongue.

³The God of Israel spoke, the Rock of Israel said to me, 'The one who rules righteously over men, who rules in the fear of God.

⁴He will be like the morning light when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, when the tender grass springs up from the earth through bright sunshine after rain.

⁵Indeed, is my family not like this before God? Has he not made an everlasting covenant with me, ordered and sure in every way? Does he not increase my salvation and fulfill my every desire?

⁶But the worthless will all be like thorns to be thrown away, because they cannot be gathered by one's hands.

⁷The man who touches them must use an iron tool or the shaft of a spear. They must be burned up where they lie."

⁸These are the names of David's mighty men: Jeshbaal the Hachmonite was the leader of the mighty men. He wielded his spear and killed 800 men on one occasion.^[1]

⁹After him was Eleazar son of Dodai the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men. He was with David when they taunted the Philistines who had gathered together to do battle, and when the men of Israel had retreated.

¹⁰Eleazar stood and fought the Philistines until his hand became weary and his hand stiffened to the grip of his sword. Yahweh brought about a great victory that day. The army returned after Eleazar, only to strip the bodies.

¹¹After him was Shammah son of Agee, a Hararite. The Philistines gathered together where there was an area of a field full of lentils, and the army fled from them. ¹²But Shammah stood in the middle of the field and defended it. He killed the Philistines, and Yahweh brought about a great victory.

¹³Three of the thirty soldiers went down to David at harvest time, to the cave of Adullam. The army of the Philistines was camped in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁴At that time David was in his stronghold, while the Philistines had established a garrison at Bethlehem. ¹⁵David was longing for water and said, "If only someone would give me water to drink from the well at Bethlehem, the well that is by the gate!" ¹⁶So these three mighty men broke through the army of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, the well at the gate. They took the water and brought it to David, but he refused to drink it. Instead, he poured it out to Yahweh. ¹⁷Then he said, "Yahweh, far be it from me, that I should do this. Should I drink the blood of men who have risked their lives?" So he refused to drink it.

These things were done by the three mighty men.

¹⁸Abishai, brother of Joab and son of Zeruah, was captain over the three. He once fought with his spear against 300 men and killed them. He was often mentioned along with the three. ¹⁹Was he not even more famous than the three? He was made their captain. However, his fame did not equal the fame of the three most famous soldiers.

²⁰Benaiah from Kabzeel was the son of Jehoiada; he was a strong man who did mighty feats. He killed the two sons of Ariel of Moab. He also went down into a pit and killed a lion while it was snowing. ²¹Then he killed a very large Egyptian man. The Egyptian had a spear in his hand, but Benaiah fought against him with only a staff. He seized the spear out of the Egyptian's hand and then killed him with his own spear. ²²Benaiah son of Jehoiada did these feats, and he was named alongside the three mighty men. ²³He was more highly regarded than the thirty soldiers in general, but he was not regarded quite as highly as the three mighty men. Yet David put him in charge of his bodyguard.

²⁴The thirty included the following men: Asahel brother of Joab, Elhanan son of Dodo from Bethlehem, ²⁵Shammah the Harodite, Elikah the Harodite, ²⁶Helez the Paltite, Ira son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, ²⁷Abiezer the Anathothite, Sibbekai^[2] the Hushathite, ²⁸Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite; ²⁹Heleb son of Baanah, the Netophathite, Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeah of the Benjamites, ³⁰Benaiah the Pirathonite, Hiddai of the valleys of Gaash. ³¹Abi-Albon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite, ³²Eliabha the Shaalbonite, the sons of Jashen, Jonathan, ³³Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam son of Sharar the Hararite, ³⁴Eliphelet son of Ahasbai the Maakathite, Eliam son of Ahithophel the Gilonite, ³⁵Hezro the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite, ³⁶Igal son of Nathan from Zobah, Bani from the tribe of Gad, ³⁷Zekek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, armor bearer to Joab son of Zeruah, ³⁸Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, ³⁹Uriah the Hittite—37 in all.

23:8 ^[1], some versions have , , , or . These all are probably forms of the same name.

23:27 ^[2]. See also 2 Samuel 21:18 and 1 Chronicles 11:29. The Hebrew text has, .

Chapter 24

¹Again the anger of Yahweh was ignited against Israel, and he moved David against them saying, "Go, count Israel and Judah." ²The king said to Joab the commander of the army, who was with him, "Go, now, throughout all the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beersheba, and count all the people, so that I may know the total number of men fit for battle." ³Joab said to the king, "May Yahweh your God multiply the number of people a hundred times, and may the eyes of my master the king see it take place. But why does my master the king want this?" ⁴Nevertheless, the king's word was final against Joab and against the commanders of the army. So Joab and the commanders went out from the king's presence to count the people of Israel. ⁵They crossed over the Jordan and encamped near Aroer, south of the city in the valley. Then they traveled on through Gad to Jazer. ⁶They came to Gilead and to the land of Tahtim Hodshi, then on to Dan Jaan and around toward Sidon. ⁷They reached the stronghold of Tyre and all

the cities of the Hivites and the Canaanites. Then they went out to the Negev in Judah at Beersheba. ⁸When they had gone throughout all the land, they came back to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and 20 days. ⁹Then Joab reported the total of the count of the fighting men to the king. There were in Israel 800000 brave men who drew the sword, and the men of Judah were 500000 men.

¹⁰Then David's heart afflicted him after he had counted the men. So he said to Yahweh, "I have greatly sinned by doing this. Now, please, Yahweh, take away your servant's guilt, for I have acted very foolishly." ¹¹When David rose up in the morning, the word of Yahweh came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, ¹²"Go say to David: 'This is what Yahweh says: "I am giving you three choices. Choose one of them for me to do to you.'"" ¹³So Gad went to David and said to him, "Will three years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months from your enemies while they pursue you? Or will there be three days of plague in your land? Now decide what answer I should return to him who sent me this message." ¹⁴Then David said to Gad, "I am in deep trouble. Let us fall into Yahweh's hands rather than into the hand of man, for his merciful actions are very great."

¹⁵So Yahweh sent a plague on Israel from the morning to a fixed time, and 70000 people died from Dan to Beersheba. ¹⁶When the angel reached out with his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, Yahweh changed his mind because of the harm it would cause, and he said to the angel who was destroying people, "Enough! Now draw back your hand." At that time the angel of Yahweh was standing at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. ¹⁷Then David spoke to Yahweh when he saw the angel who had attacked the people, and said, "Behold, I have sinned, and I have acted perversely. But these sheep, what have they done? Please let your hand punish me and my father's family!"

¹⁸Then Gad came that day to David and said to him, "Go up and build an altar for Yahweh at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." ¹⁹So David went up as Gad instructed him to do, as Yahweh had commanded. ²⁰Araunah looked out and saw the king and his servants approaching. So Araunah went out and bowed to the king with his face to the ground. ²¹Then Araunah said, "Why has my master the king come to me, his servant?" David replied, "To buy your threshing floor, so I can build an altar for Yahweh, so that the plague may be removed from the people." ²²Araunah said to David, "Take it and offer it, my master the king. Do with it what is good in your sight. Look, here are oxen for the burnt offering and threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. ²³All this, my king, I, Araunah, will give to you." Then he said to the king, "May Yahweh your God accept you." ²⁴The king said to Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it at a price. I will not offer as a burnt offering to Yahweh, my God, anything that costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. ²⁵David built an altar for Yahweh there and offered on it burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. So Yahweh answered the prayer on behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was confined.

1 Kings

Chapter 1

¹Now the king David was old, coming in the days, and they covered him with the garments, but it was not warm for him. ²And his servants said to him, "They are seeking for my lord the king a young woman, a virgin, and she will stand before the face of the king. And she may be one who is useful for him, and she will lie in your bosom and it will be warm for my master the king." ³And they sought a beautiful young woman in all the territory of Israel. And they found Abishag the Shunammite and they brought her to the king. ⁴(Now the girl was beautiful as far as abundance. And she became one who is useful for the king and she attended to him, but the king did not know her.)

⁵And Adonijah the son of Haggith lifted himself up, saying, "I, myself, will reign." And he made for himself a chariot and horsemen and 50 men who ran before his face. ⁶And his father did not pain him from his days, saying, "Why have you done so?" And also, he was very good of form and she had borne him after Absalom. ⁷And his words were with Joab the son of Zeruah and with Abiathar the priest. And they helped behind Adonijah. ⁸But Zadok the priest and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and Nathan the prophet and Shimei and Rei and the mighty men who were for David were not with Adonijah. ⁹And Adonijah sacrificed sheep and cattle and fatling near the stone of Zohelath, which is beside En Rogel. And he called all of his brothers, the sons of the king, and to all the men of Judah, the servants of the king. ¹⁰But he did not call Nathan the prophet and Benaiah and the mighty men and his brother Solomon.

¹¹And Nathan said to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, "Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith reigns, and our master David does not know? ¹²And now, come, please let me advise you with advice, and slip away with your life and with the life of your son Solomon. ¹³Go and come to the king David, and you shall say to him, 'Have you not, my master the king, sworn to your female servant, saying, "Surely Solomon your son will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne?" And why does Adonijah reign?' ¹⁴Behold, while you are still speaking there with the king, then I myself will come in behind you and will fill your words."

¹⁵And Bathsheba came to the king at the room. (Now the king was very old and Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king.) ¹⁶And Bathsheba bowed and prostrated herself to the king. And the king said, "What is for you?" ¹⁷And she said to him, "My master, you yourself have sworn to your female servant by Yahweh your God, 'Surely Solomon your son will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne.' ¹⁸And now, behold, Adonijah reigns, and now, my master the king, you do not know. ¹⁹And he has sacrificed ox and fatling and sheep to abundance, and he has called to all the sons of the king and to Abiathar the priest and to Joab the commander of the army, but he has not called to Solomon your servant. ²⁰And you, my master the king, the eyes of all Israel are on you, to tell them who will sit on the throne of my master the king after him. ²¹And it will happen, as soon as my master the king lies down with his fathers, that I myself and my son Solomon will be sinners."

²²And behold, while she was still speaking with the king, then Nathan the prophet came. ²³And they told the king, saying, "Behold, Nathan the prophet." And he came before the face of the king, and he prostrated himself to the king with his nostrils to the ground. ²⁴And Nathan said, "My master the king, have you yourself said, 'Adonijah will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne?' ²⁵For he has gone down today and sacrificed ox and fatling and sheep to abundance, and he has called to all of the sons of the king and to the commanders of the army and to Abiathar the priest. And behold, they are eating and drinking before his face. And they say, 'Let the king Adonijah live!' ²⁶But as for me, I am your servant, and he has not called to Zadok the priest and to Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and to Solomon your servant. ²⁷Has this matter happened from with my master the king and you have not caused your servants to know who will sit on the throne of my master the king after him?"

²⁸And the king David answered and said, "Call to Bathsheba for me." And she came before the face of the king and she stood before the face of the king. ²⁹And the king swore and said, "As Yahweh is alive, who has ransomed my life from every distress. ³⁰For just as I have sworn to you by Yahweh the God of Israel, saying, 'Surely Solomon your son will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne in my place,' surely thus I will do this day." ³¹And Bathsheba bowed with nostrils to the ground and she prostrated herself before the king and she said, "May my master the king David live to eternity!"

³²And the king David said, "Call for me to Zadok the priest and to Nathan the prophet and to Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." And they came before the face of the king. ³³And the king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your master, and you shall cause Solomon my son to mount on the female mule that is for me and bring him down to Gihon. ³⁴And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet shall anoint him there as king over Israel. And you shall blow with the horn and you shall say, 'Let the king Solomon live!' ³⁵And you shall go up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne; and he will reign in my place. And I have commanded him to be leader over Israel and over Judah." ³⁶And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king and said, "Truly! So has Yahweh the God of my master the king spoken. ³⁷Just as Yahweh has been with my master the king, so may he be with Solomon. And may he make his throne greater than the throne of my master the king David."

³⁸And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and the Kerethite and the Pelethite went down and they caused Solomon to mount on the female mule of the king David. And they brought him to Gihon. ³⁹And Zadok the priest took the horn of the oil from the tent and he anointed Solomon. And they blew with the horn, and all the people said, "Let the king Solomon live!" ⁴⁰And all the people went up after him. And the people were playing with the flutes and were rejoicing with great joy. And the earth was split by their sound.

⁴¹And Adonijah and all the called ones who were with him heard and they had finished eating. And Joab heard the sound of the horn, and he said, "Why is the sound of the city noisy?" ⁴²He was still speaking, and behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came. And Adonijah said, "Come, for you are a man of strength and you will bring good news." ⁴³And Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, "No, but our master the king David has caused Solomon to reign. ⁴⁴And the king has sent with him Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and the Kerethite and the Pelethite. And they caused him to mount on the female mule of the king. ⁴⁵And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him as king at Gihon, and they have come up from there rejoicing, and the city is in an uproar. This is the sound that you have heard. ⁴⁶And also, Solomon sits on the throne of the kingship. ⁴⁷And also, the servants of the king came to bless our master the king David, saying, 'May God make the name of Solomon better than your name, and may he make his throne greater than your throne.' And the king bowed down on the bed. ⁴⁸And also, thus said the king, 'Blessed be Yahweh the God of Israel, who has given one who sits on my throne today, and my eyes are seeing.'"

⁴⁹And all the called ones who were for Adonijah trembled and rose. And they went, a man to his way. ⁵⁰And Adonijah was afraid of the face of Solomon. And he rose and went and grasped the horns of the altar. ⁵¹And it was told to Solomon, saying, "Behold, Adonijah fears Solomon the king. And behold, he has grasped the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let Solomon the king swear to me as soon as today that he will not put to death his servant with the sword.'" ⁵²And Solomon said, "If he will be a son of strength, some of his hair will not fall to the ground. But if evil is found in him, then he will die." ⁵³And Solomon the king sent, and they brought him down from beside the altar. And he came and bowed down to Solomon the king. And Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."

Chapter 2

¹And the days of David to die came near, and he commanded Solomon his son, saying, ²"I am about to go in the way of all the earth. And you shall be strong, and you shall become a man. ³And you shall keep the keeping of Yahweh your God to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, according to what is written in the law of Moses, so that you may do wisely all that you do and everywhere that you would turn there, ⁴so that Yahweh may cause his word to stand, which he spoke concerning

me, saying, 'If your sons will keep their way, to walk before my face in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' saying, 'a man for you will not be cut off from on the throne of Israel.' ⁵And also you yourself know what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, what he did to two of the commanders of the armies of Israel, to Abner the son of Ner and to Amasa the son of Jether: and he slew them. And he put the bloodshed of war in peace and he gave the bloodshed of war on his belt, which was on his loins, and on his sandal, which was on his feet. ⁶And you shall act according to your wisdom, and you shall not let his gray hair go down in peace to Sheol. ⁷And to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite do covenant faithfulness, and let them be among those who eat at your table. For so they came near to me when I fled from the face of Absalom your brother. ⁸And behold, with you is Shimei the son of Gera the Benjamite from Bahurim. And he himself cursed me with a grievous curse on the day of my going to Mahanaim. And he himself went down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by Yahweh, saying, 'I will not put you to death by the sword.' ⁹And now, do not leave him unpunished. For you are a wise man, and you know what you shall do to him. And you shall cause his gray hair to go down with blood to Sheol."

¹⁰And David lay down with his fathers and he was buried in the city of David. ¹¹And the days that David reigned over Israel were 40 years. In Hebron he reigned seven years and in Jerusalem he reigned 33 years. ¹²And Solomon sat on the throne of David his father. And his kingdom was firmly established.

¹³And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, "Is your coming peaceful?" And he said, "It is peaceful." ¹⁴And he said, "A word is for me to you." And she said, "Speak." ¹⁵And he said, "You yourself know that the kingship was for me, and all Israel had set their faces on me to reign. But the kingship turned around and became for my brother, for from Yahweh it was for him. ¹⁶And now, I am requesting one request from with you, do not turn back my face." And she said to him, "Speak." ¹⁷And he said, "Please speak to Solomon the king, for he will not turn back your face, that he may give to me Abishag the Shunammite for a wife." ¹⁸And Bathsheba said, "Good, I myself will speak concerning you to the king."

¹⁹And Bathsheba came to the king Solomon to speak to him concerning Adonijah. And the king rose to meet her and he bowed down to her and he sat on his throne. And he set a throne for the mother of the king, and she sat by his right hand. ²⁰And she said, "One small request I am requesting from with you, do not turn back my face." And the king said to her, "Request, my mother, for I will not turn back your face." ²¹And she said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah your brother for a wife." ²²And the king Solomon answered and said to his mother, "And why are you requesting Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Then request for him the kingship, for he is my brother, older than I, and for him and for Abiathar the priest and for Joab the son of Zeruiah!" ²³And the king Solomon swore by Yahweh, saying, "Thus may God do to me, and thus may he add, unless by his life Adonijah has spoken this word. ²⁴And now, as Yahweh is alive, who has established me and caused me to sit on the throne of David my father, and who has made for me a house just as he said, surely today Adonijah shall be put to death." ²⁵And the king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And he attacked him and he died.

²⁶And with respect to Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth, to your fields. For you are a man of death, but I will not put you to death on this day, because you lifted the box of my Lord Yahweh before the face of David my father and because you were afflicted with all that my father was afflicted." ²⁷And Solomon drove Abiathar out from being a priest to Yahweh, to fulfill the word of Yahweh, which he had spoken concerning the house of Eli at Shiloh.

²⁸And the report came as far as Joab, for Joab had turned aside after Adonijah, but he had not turned aside after Absalom. And Joab fled to the tent of Yahweh and he took hold of the horns of the altar. ²⁹And it was told to the king Solomon that Joab had fled to the tent of Yahweh, and behold, he was beside the altar. And Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, attack him." ³⁰And Benaiah entered into the tent of Yahweh and he said to him, "Thus says the king, 'Come out!'" And he said, "No, for here I will die." And Benaiah brought back word to the king, saying, "Thus has spoken Joab and thus he answered me." ³¹And the king said to him, "Do just as he has spoken and attack him and bury him. And you will remove from on me and from on the house of my father the bloodshed without cause that Joab poured out. ³²And Yahweh will return his blood on his head, because he attacked two men more righteous and better than himself and he slew them with the sword, and my father David did not know: Abner the son of Ner, the commander of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, the

commander of the army of Judah. ³³And their shed blood will return on the head of Joab and on the head of his seed to eternity. But for David and for his seed and for his house and for his throne will be peace until eternity from with Yahweh." ³⁴And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up and attacked him and put him to death. And he was buried in his house in the wilderness. ³⁵And the king gave Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his place over the army. And Zadok the priest the king gave in place of Abiathar.

³⁶And the king sent and called for Shimei, and he said to him, "Build a house for yourself in Jerusalem and dwell there. And do not go out from there here or there. ³⁷And it will happen on the day when you go out and you pass over the wadi of Kidron, know surely that you will surely die. Your blood will be on your head." ³⁸And Shimei said to the king, "The word is good. Just as my master the king has spoken, thus your servant will do." And Shimei dwelled in Jerusalem many days.

³⁹And it happened from the end of three years that two of the slaves of Shimei fled to Achish the son of Maacah, the king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, "Behold, your slaves are in Gath." ⁴⁰And Shimei rose and saddled his donkey and went to Gath, to Achish, to seek his slaves. And Shimei went and brought back his slaves from Gath. ⁴¹And it was told to Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath and had returned. ⁴²And the king sent and called for Shimei and said to him, "Did I not cause you to swear by Yahweh and testify against you, saying, 'On the day when you go out and go here or there, surely know that you will surely die? And you said to me, 'The word I have heard is good.' ⁴³And why did you not keep the oath of Yahweh and the command that I commanded concerning you?" ⁴⁴And the king said to Shimei, "You yourself know all the evil that your heart knows, that you did to David my father. And Yahweh will return your evil on your head. ⁴⁵But the king Solomon will be blessed, and the throne of David will be established before the face of Yahweh until eternity." ⁴⁶And the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and he went out and attacked him, and he died.

And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

Chapter 3

¹And Solomon made himself the son-in-law of Pharaoh the king of Egypt. And he took the daughter of Pharaoh and he brought her into the city of David until his completing to build his house and the house of Yahweh and the wall of Jerusalem round about. ²Only the people were sacrificing at the high places because a house had not been built for the name of Yahweh until those days. ³And Solomon loved Yahweh by walking in the statutes of David his father, but at the high places he was sacrificing and burning incense.

⁴And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for it was the great high place. Solomon offered up a thousand burnt up offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon Yahweh appeared to Solomon in a dream that night. And God said, "Request! What should I give to you?" ⁶And Solomon said, "You yourself have did great covenant faithfulness with your servant David, my father, because he walked before your face in faithfulness and in righteousness and in uprightness of heart with you. And you have kept for him this great covenant faithfulness and you have given to him a son sitting on his throne as it is this day. ⁷And now, Yahweh my God, you yourself have caused your servant to reign in place of David my father, but I am a young youth. I do not know going out or coming in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people, whom you have chosen, a numerous people who can not be numbered and can not be counted because of abundance. ⁹And may you give to your servant a heart that hears to judge your people, to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge your people, this heavy one?"

¹⁰And the thing was good in the eyes of the Lord, that Solomon had requested this thing. ¹¹And God said to him, "Because you have requested this thing and you have not requested for yourself many days, and you have not requested riches for yourself, and you have not requested the life of your enemies, but you requested for yourself discerning to hear justice, ¹²behold, I have done according to your word. Behold, I have given to you a wise and discerning heart, so that one has not been like you before your face, and after you will not rise one like you. ¹³And also what you have not requested I have given to you, both riches and honor, so that there will not be a man like you among the kings all of your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways to keep my statutes and my

commandments, just as David your father walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream! And he entered Jerusalem and he stood before the face of the box of the covenant of the Lord. And he offered up burnt offerings and he made peace offerings. And he made a feast for all his servants.

¹⁶At that time two women, prostitutes, came to the king and they stood before his face. ¹⁷And the one woman said, “Please, my master, I and this woman dwell in one house, and I gave birth with her in the house. ¹⁸And it happened on the third day of my giving birth that this woman also gave birth. And we were together, there was no stranger with us in the house, only we two were in the house. ¹⁹And the son of this woman died at night, because she lay on him. ²⁰And she arose in the middle of the night and she took my son from my side, and your female servant was asleep. And she laid him in her bosom. And her son, the one who died, she laid in my bosom. ²¹And I rose in the morning to nurse my son, and behold, he was dead! And I considered diligently with respect to him in the morning, and behold, he was not my son, whom I had borne!” ²²And the other woman said, “No, but my son is the living one, and your son is the dead one.” And this one was saying, “No, but your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.” And they spoke before the face of the king.

²³And the king said, “This one says, ‘This is my son, the living one, and your son is the dead one,’ but this one says, ‘No, but your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.’” ²⁴And the king said, “Take a sword for me.” And they brought the sword before the face of the king. ²⁵And the king said, “Divide the living child into two pieces, and give the half to one and the half to the other.” ²⁶And the woman whose son was the living one said to the king, for her compassionate feelings for her son became warm. And she said, “Please, my master, give to her the living child, and you must certainly not put him to death!” But this one was saying, “Either for me or for you he will not be. Divide!” ²⁷And the king answered and said, “Give to her the living child, and you must certainly not put him to death. She is his mother.” ²⁸And all Israel heard the judgment that the king had judged, and they were afraid from the face of the king, because they saw that the wisdom of God was within him to do justice.

Chapter 4

¹And King Solomon was king over all Israel. ²And these were the officials which were for him: Azariah the son of Zadok was the priest. ³Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, were scribes. Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder. ⁴And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the army. And Zadok and Abiathar were priests. ⁵And Azariah the son of Nathan was over the stationed ones. And Zabud the son of Nathan was a priest, the friend of the king. ⁶And Ahishar was over the house. And Adoniram the son of Abda was over the forced labor.

⁷And for Solomon were 12 stationed ones over all Israel, and they sustained the king and his house. A month in the year it would be on one to sustain. ⁸And these were their names: Ben Hur in the hill country of Ephraim, ⁹Ben Deker in Makaz and in Shaalbim and Beth Shemesh and Elon Beth Hanan, ¹⁰Ben Hesus in the Arubboth (for him was Sokoh and all the land of Hephher), ¹¹Ben Abinadab was for all Naphoth Dor (Taphath, the daughter of Solomon, was for him for a wife), ¹²Baana the son of Ahilud in Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth Shan that is beside Zarethan from below Jezreel, from Beth Shan as far as Abel Meholah, as far as from the other side of Jokmeam, ¹³Ben Geber in Ramoth Gilead, for him were the villages of Jair the son of Manasseh that were in Gilead, for him was the region of Argob, which was in the Bashan—60 great cities with a wall and a gate bar of bronze; ¹⁴Ahinadab the son of Iddo in Mahanaim, ¹⁵Ahimaaz in Naphtali (he also took Basemath the daughter of Solomon for a wife), ¹⁶Baana the son of Hushai in Asher and Bealoth, ¹⁷Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah in Issachar, ¹⁸Shimei the son of Ela in Benjamin, ¹⁹Geber the son of Uri in the land of Gilead, the land of Sihon, the king of the Amorite and Og, the king of the Bashan, and he was the one stationed one who was in the land.

²⁰Judah and Israel were numerous as the sand that is on the sea according to abundance. They were eating and drinking and rejoicing. ²¹And Solomon was ruling over all the kingdoms from the river to the land of the Philistines and as far as the border of Egypt, bringing tribute near and serving Solomon all the days of his life. ²²And the bread of Solomon for one day was 30 cors of fine flour and 60 cors of flour, ²³ten fat cattle and 20 pasture cattle and 100 sheep, apart from deer and gazelle and roebuck and fattened fowl. ²⁴For he had dominion over all beyond

the river, from Tiphseh and as far as Gaza, over all the kings of beyond the river. And peace was for him from all his sides, from all around. ²⁵And Judah and Israel dwelled in safety, a man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan and as far as Beersheba, all the days of Solomon. ²⁶And there was for Solomon 40,000 stalls of horses for his chariotry and 12,000 horsemen. ²⁷And those stationed ones sustained the king Solomon and all the ones who came near to the table of the king Solomon, a man his month. They would not let anything be lacking. ²⁸And they brought the barley and the straw for the horses and for the steed to the place there where it should be, a man according to his regulation.

²⁹And God gave wisdom to Solomon and very much understanding and width of heart like the sand that is on the lip of the sea. ³⁰And the wisdom of Solomon was greater than the wisdom of all the sons of the east and than all the wisdom of Egypt. ³¹And he was wiser than every man, than Ethan the Ezrahite and Heman and Kalkol and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his name was in all the surrounding nations. ³²And he spoke 3,000 proverbs and his songs were 1,005. ³³And he spoke concerning the trees, from the cedar that is in the Lebanon and as far as the hyssop that comes out on the wall. And he spoke concerning the beast and concerning the bird and concerning the creeping thing and concerning the fish. ³⁴And they came from all the peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from with all the kings of the earth who had heard his wisdom.

Chapter 5

¹And Hiram the king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon when he heard that they had anointed him as king in place of his father, for Hiram was a one loved by David all the days. ²And Solomon sent to Hiram, saying, ³“You yourself knew David my father, that he was not able to build a house for the name of Yahweh his God because of the face of the warfare that surrounded him, until Yahweh was giving them under the soles of his feet. ⁴But now, Yahweh my God has given rest to me from all around. There is no adversary and there is no evil occurrence. ⁵And behold I am saying to build a house for the name of Yahweh my God, just as Yahweh spoke to David my father, saying, ‘Your son, whom I will give in your place on your throne, he will build the house for my name.’ ⁶And now, command and let them cut for me cedars from the Lebanon and let my servants be with your servants and I will give to you the wage of your servants according to all that you say. For you yourself know that there is no man among us knowing how to cut trees like the Sidonians.”

⁷And it happened as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon that he rejoiced exceedingly. And he said, “Blessed be Yahweh today, who has given to David a wise son over this great people.” ⁸And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, “I have heard what you sent to me. I myself will do all your desire with the trees of cedar and with the trees of cypress. ⁹And my servants will bring down from the Lebanon to the sea, and I myself will set rafts on the sea as far as the place where you send for me. And I will break them up there and you yourself will lift. And you yourself will do my desire by giving the bread of my house.” ¹⁰And Hiram was giving to Solomon trees of cedar and trees of cypress, all of his desire. ¹¹And Solomon gave to Hiram 20,000 kors of wheat as food for his house and 20 kors of beaten oil. Thus Solomon would give to Hiram year by year. ¹²And Yahweh gave wisdom to Solomon, just as he spoke to him. And there was peace between Hiram and Solomon and the two of them cut a covenant.

¹³And the king Solomon brought up forced labor from all Israel. And the forced labor was 30,000 men. ¹⁴And he sent them to Lebanon, 10,000 by the month in shifts. They were a month in the Lebanon, two months in his house. And Adoniram was over the forced labor. ¹⁵And there was for Solomon 70,000 who lift a burden and 80,000 who hew in the hill country, ¹⁶apart from the officials of the stationed ones of Solomon who were over the work, 3,300 were the ones having dominion over the people, the ones who were doing the work. ¹⁷And the king commanded and they removed large stones, precious stones to found the house, stones of hewing. ¹⁸And the builders of Solomon and the builders of Hiram and the Gebalites hewed and they prepared the trees and the stones to build the house.

Chapter 6

¹And it happened in year 480 of the going out of the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of the reigning of Solomon over Israel, in the month of Ziv (that is the second month), that he began to build the house of Yahweh. ²As for the house that the king Solomon built for Yahweh, 60 cubits was its length, and 20 its width, and 30 cubits its height. ³As for the porch on the face of the temple of the house, 20 cubits was its length, in accordance with the face of the width of the house; ten by the cubit was its width in accordance with the face of the house. ⁴And he made for the house windows with narrowed frames. ⁵And he built against the wall of the house a spread out place all around, the walls of the house all around, for the temple and for the inner room. And he made side rooms all around. ⁶The spread out place of the lowest level, five by the cubit was its width, and the middle level, six by the cubit was its width, and the third level, seven by the cubit was its width. For he gave ledges for the house all around the outside, so not to hold on to the walls of the house. ⁷As for the house while it was being built, it was built of finished stone of a quarry. And a hammer or the ax, any implement of iron, was not heard in the house while it was being built. ⁸The opening of the middle side room was to the shoulder of the house at the south, and by stairs they went up on the middle level, and from the middle level to the third level. ⁹And he built the house and he finished it. And he covered the house with beams and rows with the cedars. ¹⁰And he built the spread out place against all the house, five cubits was its height, and it held on to the house with the wood of cedar.

¹¹And the word of Yahweh was to Solomon, saying, ¹²“This house that you are building, if you walk in my statutes and you do my judgments, and you keep all my commandments by walking in them, then I will cause my word to stand with you that I spoke to David your father. ¹³And I will dwell in the midst of the sons of Israel and I will not forsake my people Israel.”

¹⁴And Solomon built the house and he finished it. ¹⁵And he built the walls of the house on the inside with sides of cedar. From the floor of the house up to the walls of the ceiling, he overlaid wood on the inside, and he overlaid the floor of the house with sides of cypress. ¹⁶And he built 20 cubits from the rear of the house with sides of cedar from the floor up to the walls. And he built for it on the inside as an inner room, as the holiest holy place. ¹⁷And 40 by the cubit was the house (that is the temple) before the face of it. ¹⁸And cedar was into inside the house, carving of gourds and opened ones of flowers. The whole was cedar, there was no stone seen. ¹⁹And he set up the inner room in the midst of the house on the inside for giving there the box of the covenant of Yahweh. ²⁰And before the face of the inner room, it was 20 cubits in length, and 20 cubits in width, and 20 cubits its height. And he overlaid it with pure gold and he overlaid an altar with cedar. ²¹And Solomon overlaid the house on the inside with pure gold. And he crossed chains of gold over the face of the inner room, and he overlaid it with gold. ²²And he overlaid all the house with gold until finishing all the house. And the whole of the altar that was for the inner room he overlaid with gold.

²³And he made in the inner room two cherubs of wood of oil; ten cubits was its height. ²⁴And five cubits was the wing of the one cherub and five cubits was the wing of the second cherub. It was ten cubits from the ends of its wings and as far as the ends of its wings. ²⁵And ten by the cubit was the second cherub, one size and one shape were for the two cherubs. ²⁶The height of the one cherub was ten by the cubit and so was the second cherub. ²⁷And he gave the cherubs in the midst of the inner house. And they spread out the wings of the cherubs and the wing of the one touched against the wall and the wing of the second cherub was touching against the second wall. And their wings were toward the middle of the house, touching wing to wing. ²⁸And he overlaid the cherubs with gold.

²⁹And he carved all the walls of the house round about with engravings of carvings of cherubs and palm trees and opened ones of flowers, from inside and to the outside. ³⁰And he overlaid the floor of the house with gold, for inside and for the outside. ³¹Also he made the opening of the inner room with doors of wood of oil; the pillar, doorposts, were a fifth part. ³²And the two of the doors were wood of oil, and he carved on them carvings of cherubs and palm trees and opened ones of flowers, and he overlaid them with gold. And he beat out the gold on the cherubs and on the palm trees. ³³And so he made for the opening of the temple doorposts of wood of oil from

a fourth part. ³⁴And the two of the doors were wood of cypress, the two of the one door leaves were folding and the two of the second door curtains were folding. ³⁵And he carved cherubs and palm trees and opened ones of flowers. And he overlaid with gold made smooth on the engraving. ³⁶And he built the inner courtyard with three rows of hewn stone and a row of cut beams of cedar.

³⁷In the fourth year the house of Yahweh was founded, in the month of Ziv. ³⁸And in the year 11, in the month of Bul (it is the eighth month), the house was finished according to all his words and according to all his requirements. And he built it seven years.

Chapter 7

¹And Solomon built his house 13 years. And he finished all of his house. ²And he built the house of the forest of the Lebanon: 100 cubits was its length and 50 cubits was its width and 30 cubits was its height, with four rows of pillars of cedar and cut beams of cedar on the pillars. ³And it was covered with cedar from above over the sides that were on the 45 pillars, 15 was the row. ⁴And the window frames were three rows, and opening to opening were three occurrences. ⁵And all the openings and the doorposts were squared framework. And the front of an opening to an opening were three occurrences. ⁶And he made the porch of the pillars, 50 cubits was its length and 30 cubits was its width. And a porch was on their face and pillars and a roof were on their face. ⁷And he made the porch of the throne there where he would judge, the porch of judgment. And it was covered with cedar from the floor up to the floor. ⁸And his house there where he would dwell, the other courtyard, was from the house of the porch; it was like this work. And he would make a house for the daughter of Pharaoh, whom Solomon had taken, like this porch.

⁹All of these were precious stones according to the measurement of hewn stones, sawn with the saw from inside and from outside and from the foundation up to the eaves and from outside up to the great courtyard. ¹⁰And it was founded with precious stones, large stones, stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits. ¹¹And from above were precious stones, according to the measurement of hewn stone, and cedar. ¹²And a great courtyard was all around, three hewn stone rows and a row of cut beams of cedar, and for the inner courtyard of the house of Yahweh and for the porch of the house.

¹³And the king Solomon sent and took Hiram from Tyre. ¹⁴He was a son of a woman, a widow, from the tribe of Naphtali and his father was a man of Tyre, one who engraves bronze. And he was filled with the wisdom and the understanding and the knowledge in order to do all the work with bronze. And he came to the king Solomon and he did all his work. ¹⁵And he formed the two of the pillars bronze, 18 cubits was the height of the one pillar and a cord of 12 cubits surrounded the second pillar. ¹⁶And he made the two of the capitals to give on the heads of the pillars, casting of bronze. Five cubits was the height of the one capital and five cubits was the height of the second capital. ¹⁷Lattices, a work of lattice, twisted threads, a work of chains, were for the capitals which were on the head of the pillars. Seven were for the one capital and seven were for the second capital. ¹⁸And he made the pillars, and two rows all around on the one lattice to cover the capitals, which were on the head of the pomegranates, and he did so for the second capital. ¹⁹And the capitals, which were on the head of the pillars, were the work of a lily on the porch, four cubits. ²⁰And capitals were on the two pillars, also from above. from near the belly, which was to the opposite of the lattice. And the pomegranates were 200, rows all around on the second capital. ²¹And he raised up the pillars for the porch of the temple. And he raised up the right pillar and he called its name Jakin. And he raised up the left pillar and he called its name Boaz. ²²And on the head of the pillars was the work of a lily. And the work of the pillars was finished.

²³And he made the sea that was cast. It was ten by the cubit from its lip up to its lip, circular all around. And five by the cubit was its height and a cord of 30 cubits surrounded it all around. ²⁴And gourds were from underneath to its lip, surrounding it all around, ten by the cubit, encircling the sea all around. The gourds were two rows that were cast when it was cast. ²⁵It was standing over 12 cattle, three faces toward the north and three faces toward the west and three faces toward the south and three faces toward the east, and the sea was over them from above.

And all their hindquarters were toward the inside. ²⁶And its thickness was a handbreadth and its lip was like the work of the lip of a cup, the blossom of a lily. It contained 2,000 baths.

²⁷And he made the ten bronze stands. Four by the cubit was the length of the one stand and four by the cubit was its width and three by the cubit was its height. ²⁸And this was the work of the stand: rims were for them, and rims were between the joints. ²⁹And on the rims, which were between the joints, were lions, oxen, and cherubs. And on the joints was a pedestal from above and from below to the lions and the cattle were wreaths, work of descent.

³⁰And four wheels of bronze were for the one stand and axles of bronze and its four feet were shoulders for them, from the under part of the basin; the shoulders were cast from each side with wreaths. ³¹And its mouth on the inside of the capital and upward was by the cubit, and its mouth was round, the work of a pedestal, a cubit and a half of the cubit. And also on its mouth were carvings and their rims were squared, not circular. ³²And the four of the wheels were for the under part of the rims, and the hands of the wheels were with the stand. And the height of the one wheel was a cubit and a half of the cubit. ³³And the work of the wheels was like the work of the wheel of the chariot. Their hands and their rims and their spokes and their hubs, the whole thing was cast. ³⁴And four shoulders were to the four corners of the one stand, its shoulders were part of the stand. ³⁵And at the top of the stand, a half of the cubit was the height, circular all around. And on the head of the stand was its hands and its rims were part of it. ³⁶And he engraved on the planks of its hands and on its rims cherubs, lions, and palm trees according to the bare space of each, and wreaths were all around. ³⁷Like this he made the ten stands, one casting, one size, one shape was for all of them.

³⁸And he made ten bronze basins. The one basin contained 40 baths. The one basin was four by the cubit, one basin was on the one base for the ten stands. ³⁹And he gave the stands, five on the shoulder of the house from the right and five on the shoulder of the house from its left. And he gave the sea from the south shoulder of the house eastward, from in front of the south.

⁴⁰And Hiram made the basins and the shovels and the sprinkling bowls. And Hiram finished doing all the work that he did for the king Solomon for the house of Yahweh: ⁴¹two pillars, and the bowls of the capitals that were on the head of the two pillars, and the two latticeworks for covering the two bowls of the capitals that were on the head of the pillars, ⁴²and the 400 pomegranates for the two latticeworks, two rows of pomegranates for the one latticework to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the faces of the pillars, ⁴³and the ten stands, and the ten basins on the stands, ⁴⁴and the one sea and the 12 cattle under the sea, ⁴⁵and the pots and the shovels and the sprinkling bowls and all these vessels that Hiram made for the king Solomon, for the house of Yahweh, were polished bronze. ⁴⁶In the circular plain of the Jordan the king cast them in the compactness of the ground between Succoth and between Zarethan. ⁴⁷And Solomon caused all the vessels to rest because of very much abundance, the weight of the bronze had not been ascertained.

⁴⁸And Solomon made all the vessels that were in the house of Yahweh: the altar of gold and the table, which would have the bread of the face on it, was gold. ⁴⁹And the five lampstands from the south and five from the north, before the face of the inner room, were pure gold. And the blossom and the lamps and the snuffers were gold.

⁵⁰And the cups and the trimmers and the sprinkling bowls and the palms and the firepans were pure gold. And the sockets of the doors of the inner house, for the holiest holy place, for the doors of the house, for the temple, were gold.

⁵¹And all the work that the king Solomon did for the house of Yahweh was complete. And Solomon brought in the holy things of David, his father, the silver and the gold and the vessels he gave into the storerooms of the house of Yahweh.

Chapter 8

¹Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes, the lifted ones of the fathers of the sons of Israel, to the king Solomon at Jerusalem, to bring up the box of the covenant of Yahweh from the city of David (it

is Zion). ²And all the men of Israel assembled to the king Solomon in the month of Ethanim at the feast (it is the seventh month). ³And all the elders of Israel came and the priests lifted the box. ⁴And they brought up the box of Yahweh and the tent of meeting and all the vessels of holiness that were in the tent. And the priests and the Levites brought them up. ⁵And the king Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, the ones who congregated to him, were with him before the face of the box, sacrificing sheep and cattle that could not be counted and could not be numbered because of abundance. ⁶And the priests brought the box of the covenant of Yahweh into its place, into the inner room of the house, into the holiest holy place, to beneath the wings of the cherubs. ⁷For the cherubs were spreading out wings toward the place of the box. And the cherubs covered over the box and over its poles from above. ⁸And the poles were made long and the heads of the poles were seen from the holy place on the face of the inner room, and they were not seen on the outside. And they are there until this day. ⁹There was nothing in the box except the two tablets of stone, which Moses caused to rest there at Horeb, where Yahweh cut with the sons of Israel when they went out from the land of Egypt. ¹⁰And it happened when the priests went out from the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of Yahweh. ¹¹And the priests were not able to stand to minister because of the face of the cloud, for the glory of Yahweh filled the house of Yahweh.

¹²Then Solomon said,

“Yahweh has said

he would dwell in the dark cloud.

¹³Surely I have built a house of elevation for you, a place for your dwelling forever.” ¹⁴And the king turned his face around and he blessed all the assembly of Israel, and all the assembly of Israel was standing. ¹⁵And he said, “Blessed is Yahweh, the God of Israel, who spoke by his mouth with David my father, and fulfilled by his hand, saying, ¹⁶‘From the day when I brought out my people Israel from Egypt, I did not choose a city from all the tribes of Israel to build a house, so that my name would be there. But I chose David to be over my people Israel.’ ¹⁷And it was with the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel. ¹⁸But Yahweh said to David my father, ‘Because it was with your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart. ¹⁹However, you will not build the house, but rather your son, the one who comes out from your loins, he himself will build the house for my name.’ ²⁰And Yahweh has raised up his word that he had spoken. And I have risen up in the place of David my father, and I sit on the throne of Israel, just as Yahweh spoke. And I have built the house for the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel. ²¹And I have set a place there for the box, where there is the covenant of Yahweh, which he cut with our fathers when he brought them out from the land of Egypt.”

²²And Solomon stood before the face of the altar of Yahweh, in front of all the assembly of Israel. And he spread out his palms to the heavens. ²³And he said, “Yahweh, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in the heavens from above or on the earth from below, keeping the covenant and the covenant faithfulness to your servants, the ones who walk before your face with all their heart; ²⁴which you have kept for your servant David my father, what you spoke to him. And you spoke with your mouth and with your hand you fulfilled, as this day. ²⁵And now, Yahweh, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father, what you spoke to him, saying, ‘A man will not be cut off for you from before my face, sitting on the throne of Israel, if only your sons will keep their way, to walk before my face, just as you have walked before my face.’ ²⁶And now, the God of Israel, please let your word be proven faithful, which you spoke to your servant David my father.

²⁷Indeed, would God really dwell on the earth? Behold, the heavens and the heavens of the heavens can not contain you, how much less this house that I have built! ²⁸Yet you will turn to the prayer of your servant and to his plea for favor, Yahweh my God, to listen to the cry and to the prayer that your servant is praying before your face today: ²⁹that your eyes be opened to this house night and day, to the place where you have said, ‘My name will be there,’ to listen to the prayer that your servant will pray to this place. ³⁰And you will listen to the plea for favor of your servant and your people Israel that they will pray toward this place. And you, you will listen toward the place of your dwelling to the heavens. And you will hear and forgive

³¹a man who sins against his neighbor and lifts up against him a curse to curse him and a curse comes before the face of your altar in this house. ³²And you, you will hear in the heavens and act and judge your servants, by declaring as wicked a wicked one, to give his way on his head, and by declaring as righteous a righteous one, to give to him according to his righteousness.

³³When your people Israel are struck down before the face of an enemy because they have sinned against you, and they turn back to you and they confess your name and they pray and they plead for favor toward you in this house, ³⁴then you, you will hear in the heavens and you will forgive for the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the ground that you gave to their fathers.

³⁵When the heavens are restrained and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, and they pray toward this place and they confess your name and they turn back from their sin when you have afflicted them, ³⁶then you, you will hear in the heavens and forgive for the sin of your servants and your people Israel, for you direct the good way in which they will walk. And you will give rain on your land, which you have given to your people for an inheritance.

³⁷If famine would be in the land, if there would be pestilence, if there would be blight, mildew, locust, grasshopper, if his enemy would make it narrow for him in the land of his gates, any plague, any sickness, ³⁸any prayer, any plea for favor that would be for any man, for any of your people Israel, who know, a man the plague of his heart, and he would spread out his palms toward this house, ³⁹then you, you will hear in the heavens, the place of your dwelling, and you will forgive and act and give to a man according to all his ways, because you know his heart. For you, you know, you alone, the heart of all the sons of mankind, ⁴⁰so that they may fear you all the days that they are alive on the face of the ground that you gave to our fathers.

⁴¹And also, to the foreigner, he who is not from among your people Israel, and he comes from a distant land on account of your name, ⁴²for they will hear of your great name and your strong hand and your extended arm, and he will come and pray toward this house, ⁴³you, you will hear in the heavens, the place of your dwelling, and you will act according to all that the foreigner has cried out to you, so that all the peoples of the earth will know your name to fear you, like your people Israel, and to know that your name has been called over this house that I have built.

⁴⁴If your people go out to battle against his enemy, by the way that you send them, and they pray to Yahweh, in the way of the city, it which you have chosen, and the house that I have built for your name, ⁴⁵then you will hear in the heavens their prayer and their plea for favor and you will do their justice.

⁴⁶If they sin against you (for there is no man who does not sin) and you are angry with them and you give them over before the face of an enemy and they took them captive as their captives to the land of the enemy, distant or near, ⁴⁷and they bring back to their heart in the land there where they have been taken captive, and they turn back and plead for favor to you in the land of those who took them captive, saying, 'We have sinned and we have done iniquity, we have acted wickedly,' ⁴⁸and they return to you with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies where they took them captive and they pray to you toward the way of their land, which you gave to their fathers, the city that you chose and the house that I have built for your name, ⁴⁹then you will hear their prayer in the heavens, the place of your dwelling, and their plea for favor, and you will do their justice. ⁵⁰And you will forgive your people who have sinned against you and all their transgressions that they have transgressed against you. And you will give them compassion before the face of those who took them captive and they will have compassion on them. ⁵¹For they are your people and your inheritance, whom you brought out from Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron, ⁵²for your eyes to be opened to the plea for favor of your servant and to the plea for favor of your people Israel, to listen to them in all their crying out to you. ⁵³For you yourself separated them for yourself as an inheritance from all the peoples of the earth, just as you spoke by the hand of Moses your servant when you brought out our fathers from Egypt, my Lord Yahweh."

⁵⁴And it happened that as soon as Solomon finishing to pray to Yahweh all this prayer and plea for favor, he rose from before the face of the altar of Yahweh, from bowing on his knees with his palms spread out toward the

heavens. ⁵⁵And he stood and he blessed all the assembly of Israel with a great voice, saying, ⁵⁶"Blessed be Yahweh, who has given rest for his people Israel, according to all that he had spoken. One word did not fall from all his good word that he had spoken by the hand of Moses his servant. ⁵⁷May Yahweh our God be with us, just as he was with our fathers. May he not leave us and may he not forsake us, ⁵⁸inclining our heart to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers. ⁵⁹And may these words of mine, which I have pleaded for favor before the face of Yahweh, be near to Yahweh our God by day and night, to do the justice of his servant and the justice of his people Israel, the word of day by its day, ⁶⁰so that all the peoples of the earth may know that Yahweh, he is the God, there is none besides! ⁶¹And may your heart be completely with Yahweh our God, by walking in his statutes and by keeping his commandments, as this day."

⁶²And the king and all Israel with him were sacrificing sacrifices before the face of Yahweh. ⁶³And Solomon sacrificed a sacrifice of peace offerings which he sacrificed to Yahweh: 22,000 cattle and 120,000 sheep. And the king and all the sons of Israel dedicated the house of Yahweh. ⁶⁴On that day the king set apart the middle of the courtyard that was before the face of the house of Yahweh, for he made there the burnt up offering and the grain offering and the fat pieces of the peace offerings because the altar of bronze that was before the face of Yahweh was too small to contain the burnt up offering and the grain offering and the fat pieces of the peace offerings. ⁶⁵And Solomon performed the feast at that time, and all Israel with him, a great assembly, from Lebo Hamath as far as the wadi of Egypt, before the face of Yahweh our God seven days and seven days, 14 days. ⁶⁶On the eighth day he sent the people away, and they blessed the king and they went to their tents rejoicing and good of heart on account of all the goodness that Yahweh had done for David, his servant, and for Israel, his people.

Chapter 9

¹And it happened as soon as Solomon finished building the house of Yahweh and the house of the king, and every desire of Solomon that he delighted to do, ²that Yahweh appeared to Solomon a second time, just as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. ³And Yahweh said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea for favor that you plead for favor before my face. I have set apart this house that you built, by setting my name there until eternity. And my eyes and my heart will be there all the days. ⁴And as for you, if you will walk before my face just as David your father walked with completeness of heart and with uprightness, by doing according to all that I have commanded you, if you keep my statutes and my judgments, ⁵then I will raise up the throne of your kingdom over Israel for eternity, just as I spoke to David your father, saying, 'A man for you will not be cut off from on the throne of Israel.' ⁶If you ever turn back, you or your sons, from after me and you do not keep my commandments, my statutes that I have given before your face, and you go and serve other gods and you bow down to them, ⁷then I will cut off Israel from on the face of the ground that I have given to them, and the house that I have set apart for my name, I will send away from on my face, and Israel will be for a proverb and for a taunt among all the peoples. ⁸And this house will be elevated, every one who passes by near it will be appalled and will hiss. And they will say, 'On what account did Yahweh do thus to this land and to this house?' ⁹And they will say, 'Because they forsook Yahweh their God, who brought their fathers out from the land of Egypt, and they held on to other gods and bowed down to them and served them. Therefore Yahweh brought on them all this evil.'" ¹⁰And it happened from the end of 20 years that Solomon had built the two houses, the house of Yahweh and the house of the king. ¹¹Hiram, the king of Tyre, had lifted Solomon with trees of cedar and with trees of cypress and with gold, according to all his delight. Then the king Solomon gave to Hiram 20 cities in the land of the Galilee. ¹²And Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities that Solomon had given to him, but they were not right in his eyes. ¹³And he said, "What are these cities that you have given to me, my brother?" And he called them the land of Kabul until this day. ¹⁴And Hiram sent to the king 120 kikkars of gold.

¹⁵Now this is the matter of the forced labor that the king Solomon brought up to build the house of Yahweh and his house and the Millo and the wall of Jerusalem and Hazor and Megiddo and Gezer. ¹⁶Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had gone up and seized Gezer and he burned it with fire and he slew the Canaanite, the one who dwelled in the city. And he gave it as sending gifts to his daughter, the wife of Solomon. ¹⁷And Solomon built Gezer and lower Beth Horon ¹⁸and Baalath and Tadmor in the wilderness ¹⁹and all the cities of the storehouses that

were for Solomon and the cities of the chariotry and the cities of the horsemen and the desire of Solomon, whatever he desired to build in Jerusalem and in the Lebanon and in all the land of his dominion. ²⁰All the people, the ones who were left over from the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, they who were not of the sons of Israel, ²¹their sons who were left over after them in the land, them whom the sons of Israel were not able to utterly destroy, Solomon brought them up for the forced labor of serving until this day. ²²But from the sons of Israel Solomon did not give a servant, for they were the men of warfare and his servants and his commanders and his third men and the commanders of his chariotry and his horsemen.

²³These were the commanders of the stationed ones who were over the work for Solomon, 550, the ones having dominion over the people, the ones doing the work.

²⁴As soon as the daughter of Pharaoh went up from the city of David to her house that he had built for her, then he built the Millo.

²⁵And Solomon offered up three times in the year burnt up offerings and peace offerings on the altar that he built for Yahweh, and he burned incense with it, which was before the face of Yahweh. And he completed the house.

²⁶And the king Solomon made a fleet in Ezion Geber, which is near Elath on the lip of the sea of reeds in the land of Edom. ²⁷And Hiram sent in the fleet his servants, men of ships who knew the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

²⁸And they came to Ophir and took from there gold, 420 kikkars. And they brought it to the king Solomon.

9:18 ^[1]

Chapter 10

¹Now the queen of Sheba heard the report of Solomon with respect to the name of Yahweh. And she came to test him with difficult questions. ²And she came to Jerusalem with very heavy strength, camels lifting spices and very much gold and precious stone. And she came to Solomon and spoke to him all that was with her heart. ³And Solomon told her all her matters. There was not a matter hidden from the king that he did not tell her. ⁴And the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the house that he had built ⁵and the food of his table and the seating of his servants and the service of his attendants and their apparel and his cupbearers and his burnt up offerings that he offered up at the house of Yahweh. And there was no more breath in her. ⁶And she said to the king, "True is the word that I heard in my land concerning your words and concerning your wisdom. ⁷And I did not believe the words until when I came and my eyes saw, and behold, the half was not told to me! You added wisdom and goodness to the report that I had heard. ⁸Happy are your men! Happy are these servants of yours, the ones who stand continually before your face, the ones who hear your wisdom!^[1] ⁹May Yahweh your God be blessed, who has delighted in you, to give you on the throne of Israel. Because Yahweh loves Israel for eternity, he set you as king to do justice and righteousness!" ¹⁰And she gave to the king 120 kikkars of gold and very many spices and precious stone. There has not come again like that spice with respect to abundance that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

¹¹And also the fleet of Hiram, which lifted gold from Ophir, brought from Ophir very many trees of almug and precious stone. ¹²And the king made the trees of almug a support for the house of Yahweh and for the house of the king, and lyres and harps for the ones who sing. Such trees of almug had not come in and had not been seen until this day.

¹³And the king Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatever she requested apart from what he gave to her according to the hand of the king Solomon. And she turned and went to her land, she and her servants.

¹⁴And the weight of the gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 kikkars of gold, ¹⁵apart from the men of the ones who explore and from the merchandise of the ones who go about, and all the kings of the Arab and the governors of the land. ¹⁶And the king Solomon made 200 large beaten gold shields, 600 gold went up on one large shield, ¹⁷and 300 beaten gold shields, three gold minas went up on one shield. And the king gave them to the

house of the forest of the Lebanon. ¹⁸And the king made a great ivory throne and he overlaid it with refined gold. ¹⁹There were six steps to the throne and a round head for the throne from behind it. And hands were from this side and from that side toward the place of the seat. And two lions were standing beside the hands. ²⁰And 12 lions were standing there on the six steps, from this side and from that side. It was not made so for any kingdoms. ²¹And all the vessels of the drink of the king Solomon were gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of the Lebanon were beaten gold. There was no silver, it was not thought to be anything in the days of Solomon. ²²For the fleet of Tarshish was for the king on the sea with the fleet of Hiram. One of three years the fleet of Tarshish would come lifting gold and silver, ivory pieces and apes and peacocks.

²³And the king Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth with respect to riches and with respect to wisdom. ²⁴And all the earth was seeking the face of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had given in his heart. ²⁵And they were bringing, a man his gift, vessels of silver and vessels of gold and garments and weapons and spices, horses and mules, a matter of year by year.

²⁶And Solomon gathered chariotry and horsemen. And there were for him 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen. And he lead them into the cities of the chariotry and with the king in Jerusalem. ²⁷And the king gave the silver in Jerusalem like the stones, and the cedars he gave like the sycamores that are in the lowlands with respect to abundance. ²⁸And the going out of the horses that were for Solomon was from Egypt and from Kue; the ones who go about for the king would take from Kue for a price. ²⁹And a chariot went up and went out from Egypt for 600 silver, and a horse for 150, and thus by their hand they brought out to all the kings of the Hittites and to the kings of Aram.

10:8 ^[1]. Many think that was misread as , because the Hebrew words are very similar.

Chapter 11

¹Now the king Solomon loved many foreign women, with the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabite women, Ammonite women, Edomite women, Sidonian women, Hittite women, ²from the nations that Yahweh had said to the sons of Israel, "You must not enter into them, and they must not enter into you. They will surely turn your heart after their gods." Solomon clung to them for love. ³And there were wives for him, 700 princesses, and 300 concubines. And his wives turned his heart. ⁴And it happened that by the time of the old age of Solomon his wives turned his heart after other gods. And his heart was not completely with Yahweh his God like the heart of David his father. ⁵And Solomon went after Ashtoreth, the god of the Sidonians, and after Milcom, the abomination of the Ammonites. ⁶And Solomon did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh and he did not remain fully after Yahweh like David his father. ⁷Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is on the face of Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the sons of Ammon. ⁸And thus he did for all his foreign wives, who were burning incense and sacrificing to their gods.

⁹And Yahweh became angry with Solomon, for his heart had turned from with Yahweh, the God of Israel, the one who had appeared to him two times. ¹⁰And had commanded to him concerning this thing, to not go after other gods. But he did not keep what Yahweh had commanded. ¹¹And Yahweh said to Solomon, "Because this is against you, that you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded concerning you. Surely I will tear away the kingdom from with you and I will give it to your servant. ¹²However, in your days I will not do it for the sake of David, your father. From the hand of your son I will surely tear it away. ¹³Only I will not tear away all the kingdom. I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of David my servant, and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen."

¹⁴And Yahweh raised up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite. He was from the seed of the king in Edom. ¹⁵And it had happened when David was with Edom, when Joab the commander of the army went up to bury the pierced ones, that he had struck down every male in Edom. ¹⁶For Joab and all Israel dwelled there six months until he had cut off every male in Edom. ¹⁷But Adad fled, he and Edomite men from the servants of his father with

him, to enter Egypt. And Hadad was a little boy. ¹⁸And they rose up from Midian and entered Paran. And they took men with them from Paran and entered Egypt, to Pharaoh the king of Egypt. And he gave to him a house and he ordered bread for him and he gave land to him. ¹⁹And Hadad found much favor in the eyes of Pharaoh. And he gave to him a wife, the sister of his wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen. ²⁰And the sister of Tahpenes bore for him Genubath, his son, and Tahpenes weaned him in the midst of the house of Pharaoh. And Genubath was in the house of Pharaoh in the midst of the sons of Pharaoh. ²¹And Hadad heard in Egypt that David had laid down with his fathers and that Joab, the commander of the army, had died. And Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Send me away, and I will go to my land." ²²And Pharaoh said to him, "But what are you lacking with me that, behold, you are seeking to go to your land?" And he said, "Nothing, but surely you must send me away."

²³And God raised up an adversary against him, Rezon the son of Eliada, who had fled from with Hadadezer, the king of Zobah, his master. ²⁴And he gathered men for himself and he became a commander of a raiding band when David slew them. And they went to Damascus and they dwelled in it and they reigned in Damascus. ²⁵And he was an adversary against Israel all the days of Solomon, and the evil that Hadad did. And he felt disgust against Israel and he reigned over Aram.

²⁶And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite from the Zeredah, and the name of his mother was Zeruah, a widow woman, was a servant of Solomon. And he raised a hand against the king. ²⁷Now this is the matter that he raised a hand against the king: Solomon had built the Millo, he had closed up the breach of the city of David his father. ²⁸And the man Jeroboam was mighty of strength. And Solomon saw the young man, that he was one who does work, and he appointed him for all the forced labor of the house of Joseph. ²⁹And it happened at that time that Jeroboam went out from Jerusalem, and the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the road. Now he was covering himself with a new cloak and the two of them were by themselves in the field. ³⁰And Ahijah seized the new cloak that was over him and he tore it into 12 pieces. ³¹And he said to Jeroboam, "Take for yourself ten pieces. For thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am about to tear away the kingdom from the hand of Solomon and I will give the ten tribes to you. ³²And one tribe will be for him, for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem (the city, it which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel), ³³because they have forsaken me and they have bowed down to Ashtoreth, the god of the Sidonians, to Chemosh, the god of Moab, and to Milcom, the god of the sons of Ammon. And they do not walk in my ways, to do the upright thing in my eyes, or my statutes or my judgments, like David his father. ³⁴But I will not take all of the kingdom from his hand. Rather, I will put him as a leader all the days of his life, for the sake of David my servant, he whom I have chosen, who kept my commandments and my statutes. ³⁵But I will take the kingship from the hand of his son and I will give it to you, ten of the tribes. ³⁶But to his son I will give one tribe so that there may be a lamp for David my servant all the days before my face in Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen for myself, to set my name there. ³⁷And I will take you, and you shall reign over all that your soul desires. And you shall be king over Israel. ³⁸And it shall be that if you hear all that I command you and you walk in my ways and you do the upright thing in my eyes, to keep my statutes and my commandments, just as David my servant did, then I will be with you and I will build for you an established house, just as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you. ³⁹And I will afflict the seed of David on account of this, only not all the days.'" ⁴⁰And Solomon sought to put Jeroboam to death. And Jeroboam rose up and he fled to Egypt, to Shishak, the king of Egypt. And he was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

⁴¹And the remainder of the words of Solomon and all that he did and his wisdom are they not written on the book of the words of Solomon? ⁴²And the days that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel were 40 years. ⁴³And Solomon lay down with his fathers and he was buried in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 12

¹And Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to cause him to reign. ²And it happened as soon as Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard (now he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from the face of the king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelled in Egypt),^[1] ³that they sent and they called for him. And Jeroboam and all the

assembly of Israel came and they spoke to Rehoboam, saying, ⁴"Your father caused our yoke to be heavy. But you now, cause it to be lighter than the hard work of your father and than his heavy yoke that he gave on us, and we will serve you." ⁵And he said to them, "Go until three days, and return to me." And the people went.

⁶And the king Rehoboam consulted with the elders, who had been standing ones with the face of Solomon his father while he was alive, saying, "How are you advising to return this people a word?" ⁷And they spoke to him, saying, "If today you will be a servant to this people and you will serve them, and you will answer them and will speak good words to them, then they will be servants for you all the days." ⁸But he forsook the advice of the elders that they had advised him. And he consulted with the young men who had grown up with him, who were the ones standing before his face. ⁹And he said to them, "What word are you advising that we should return this people who spoke to me saying, 'Cause it to be lighter than the yoke that your father gave on us?'" ¹⁰And the young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, "Thus you shall say to this people who spoke to you saying, 'Your father caused our yoke to be heavy but you must cause it to be lighter than what is on us.' Thus you shall speak to them, 'My little one is thicker than the loins of my father. ¹¹And now, my father loaded on you a heavy yoke, but as for me, I will add onto your yoke. My father punished you with the whips, but as for me, I will punish you with the scorpions.'"

¹²And Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, just as the king had spoken, saying, "Return to me on the third day." ¹³And the king answered the people harshly. And he forsook the advice of the elders who had advised him. ¹⁴And he spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, saying, "My father caused your yoke to be heavy, but as for me, I will add onto your yoke. My father punished you with the whips, but as for me, I will punish you with the scorpions." ¹⁵And the king did not listen to the people, for the turn was from with Yahweh, so that he raised up his word, which Yahweh had spoken by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

¹⁶And all Israel saw that the king had not listened to them, and the people returned the king a word, saying, "What portion is for us with David?

And there is not an inheritance with the son of Jesse!

To your tents, Israel!

Now see your house, David."

And Israel went to its tents. ¹⁷But as for the sons of Israel, the ones who dwelled in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them. ¹⁸And the king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the forced labor, and all Israel stoned him with stone and he died. And the king Rehoboam strengthened himself to go up in the chariot to flee to Jerusalem. ¹⁹And Israel has rebelled against the house of David to this day. ²⁰And it happened as soon as all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, that they sent and called him to the congregation and they caused him to reign over all Israel. One was not after the house of David, except the tribe of Judah by itself.

²¹And Rehoboam entered Jerusalem and he assembled all the house of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin, 180,000 were chosen who make war, to fight against the house of Israel to return the kingship to Rehoboam the son of Solomon. ²²And the word of God was to Shemaiah the man of God, saying, ²³"Say to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, the king of Judah, and to all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and the remainder of the people, saying, ²⁴Thus says Yahweh: You shall not go up and you shall not fight against your brothers, the sons of Israel. Return, a man to his house, for from with me this thing has been." And they heard the word of Yahweh and they turned back to go according to the word of Yahweh.

²⁵And Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and he dwelled in it. And he went out from there and he built Penuel. ²⁶And Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the kingdom will return to the house of David. ²⁷If this people goes up to make sacrifices in the house of Yahweh in Jerusalem, and the heart of this people will return to their master, to Rehoboam, the king of Judah. And they will slay me and will return to Rehoboam, the king of Judah." ²⁸And the king consulted and made two calves of gold. And he said to them, "Going up to Jerusalem is too

much for you. Behold your gods, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" ²⁹And he set the one in Bethel and the one he gave in Dan. ³⁰And this thing became a sin, and the people went before the face of the one as far as Dan. ³¹And he made the house of high places. And he made priests from the ends of the people, who were not from the sons of Levi. ³²And Jeroboam made a feast in the eighth month, on the 15th day of the month, like the feast that was in Judah, and he offered up on the altar. Thus he did at Bethel to sacrifice to the calves that he had made. And he caused to stand at Bethel the priests of the high places that he had made. ³³And he offered up on the altar that he had made at Bethel, on the 15th day in the eighth month, in the month that he had devised by him alone. And he made a feast for the sons of Israel and he offered up on the altar to burn incense.

12:2 ^[1].

Chapter 13

¹And behold, a man of God came from Judah with the word of Yahweh to Bethel. And Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn incense. ²And he cried out against the altar with the word of Yahweh and he said: "Altar! Altar! Thus says Yahweh, 'Behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah shall be his name. And he shall sacrifice on you the priests of the high places, the ones who are burning incense on you. And the bones of a human shall be burned on you.'" ³And he gave a sign on that day, saying, "This is the sign that Yahweh has spoken: 'Behold, the altar shall be torn into pieces, and the ash that is on it shall be poured out.'" ⁴And it happened as soon as the king heard the word of the man of God that he had cried out against the altar at Bethel, that Jeroboam sent forth his hand from over the altar, saying, "Seize him!" And his hand that he had sent forth against him dried up and he was not able to return it to himself. ⁵And the altar was torn into pieces and the ash was poured out from the altar, according to the sign that the man of God had given by the word of Yahweh. ⁶And the king answered and said to the man of God, "Appease, please, the face of Yahweh your God and pray for me, so my hand may return to me." And the man of God appeased the face of Yahweh, and the hand of the king returned to him, and it became like at the first. ⁷And the king spoke to the man of God, "Come with me to the house and sustain yourself, and I will give to you a gift." ⁸And the man of God said to the king, "If you would give to me half of your house, I would not go with you, and I would not eat bread and I would not drink water in this place. ⁹For thus he has commanded me by the word of Yahweh, saying, 'You shall not eat bread and you shall not drink water and you shall not return by the road that you went.'" ¹⁰And he went by another road and he did not return by the road by which he had come to Bethel.

¹¹Now one old prophet was dwelling in Bethel, and his son came and he recounted to him all the news that the man of God had done that day in Bethel, the words that he had spoken to the king, and they recounted them to their father. ¹²And their father spoke to them, "Where is this, the road he went?" And his sons had seen the road that the man of God had gone when he came from Judah. ¹³And he said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me." And they saddled the donkey for him and he mounted on it. ¹⁴And he went after the man of God and he found him sitting under the oak tree. And he said to him, "Are you the man of God, who came from Judah?" And he said, "I am." ¹⁵And he said to him, "Go with me to the house and eat bread." ¹⁶And he said, "I am not able to return with you or to come with you. And I will not eat bread and will not drink water with you in this place. ¹⁷For a word was to me by the word of Yahweh, 'You shall not eat bread and you shall not drink water there. You shall not return to go by the road in which you went.'" ¹⁸And he said to him, "I also am a prophet like you, and a messenger spoke to me with the word of Yahweh, saying, 'Bring him back with you to your house, so he may eat bread and he may drink water.'" (He lied to him.) ¹⁹And he returned with him and he ate bread in his house and he drank water.

²⁰And it happened that they were sitting at the table. And the word of Yahweh was to the prophet who had brought him back. ²¹And he cried out to the man of God who had come from Judah, saying, "Thus says Yahweh, 'Because you have been rebellious against the mouth of Yahweh and you have not kept the command that Yahweh your God had commanded you, ²²and you have returned and you have eaten bread and you have drunk water in the place where he spoke to you, 'You shall not eat bread and you shall not drink water,' your corpse shall not enter into the grave of your fathers.'" ²³And it happened after his eating bread and after his drinking, that he

saddled the donkey for him, for the prophet whom he had brought back. ²⁴And he went and a lion found him in the road and it put him to death. And his corpse was thrown in the road and the donkey was standing beside it and the lion was standing beside the corpse. ²⁵And behold, men were passing by and they saw the corpse thrown in the road, and the lion standing beside the corpse. And they came and spoke in the city in which the old prophet was dwelling.

²⁶And the prophet who had brought him back from the road heard and he said, "He is the man of God who was rebellious against the mouth of Yahweh. And Yahweh gave him to the lion, and it tore him into pieces and put him to death according to the word of Yahweh that he had spoken to him." ²⁷And he spoke to his sons, saying, "Saddle the donkey for me." And they saddled it. ²⁸And he went and found the corpse thrown in the road and the donkey and the lion standing beside the corpse. The lion had not eaten the corpse and had not torn the donkey into pieces. ²⁹And the prophet lifted up the corpse of the man of God and he rested it on the donkey and he brought it back. And he entered into the city of the old prophet to wail and to bury him. ³⁰And he rested his corpse in his grave. And they wailed over him, "Alas, my brother!" ³¹And it happened after his burying him that he said to his sons, saying, "When I die, then you shall bury me in the grave in which the man of God is buried. Beside his bones rest my bones. ³²For the word that he cried out by the word of Yahweh against the altar that is in Bethel and against all the houses of the high places that are in the cities of Samaria will certainly happen."

³³After this matter Jeroboam did not return from his evil way, but he returned and made from the ends of the people priests of the high places. The desiring one, he would fill his hand, and he would become one of the priests of the high places. ³⁴And by this thing it became the sin of the house of Jeroboam, both to efface and to annihilate from on the face of the ground.

Chapter 14

¹At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam became sick. ²And Jeroboam said to his wife, "Rise now and change yourself, so they will not know that you are the wife of Jeroboam. And you will go to Shiloh. Behold, Ahijah the prophet is there, he himself spoke concerning me as king over this people. ³And you will take in your hand ten bread loaves and cakes and a jar of honey and go to him. He himself will tell you what will happen to the boy." ⁴And the wife of Jeroboam did so. And she rose and went to Shiloh and she entered the house of Ahijah. (Now Ahijah was not able to see because his eyes stood because of his old age.) ⁵And Yahweh said to Ahijah, "Behold, the wife of Jeroboam is coming to seek a word from with you regarding her son, for he is sick. Like this and like that you shall speak to her. And it will happen as soon as she comes that she will be changing herself."

⁶And it happened as soon as Ahijah heard the sound of her feet entering in the opening that he said, "Enter, wife of Jeroboam. Why is this, you are changing yourself? Now I have been sent to you with a harsh thing. ⁷Go, say to Jeroboam, thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel, 'Because I raised you up from the midst of the people and I gave you as a leader over my people Israel, ⁸and I tore the kingdom away from the house of David and I gave it to you, but you are not like my servant David, who kept my commandments and who walked after me with all his heart, to do only the upright thing in my eyes. ⁹And you have done evil by doing more than all who were before your face. And you went and made for yourself other gods and cast images to provoke me to anger and you have thrown me behind your back. ¹⁰Therefore, behold, I am about to bring evil to the house of Jeroboam, and I will cut off with respect to Jeroboam one who urinates against a wall, one who is restrained and one who is let free in Israel. And I will burn after the house of Jeroboam just as the dung burns until it is finished. ¹¹The one who dies with respect to Jeroboam in the city the dogs will eat, and the one who dies in the country the birds of the heavens will eat, for Yahweh has spoken.' ¹²And you, rise, go to your house. When your feet enter the city, then the child will die. ¹³And all Israel will wail for him and they will bury him. For this one by himself with respect to Jeroboam will enter into a grave, because in him a good thing was found for Yahweh, the God of Israel, in the house of Jeroboam. ¹⁴And Yahweh will raise up for himself a king over Israel who will cut off the house of Jeroboam this day, and what it will be even now! ¹⁵And Yahweh will strike Israel just as the reed sways in the waters, and he will uproot Israel from on this good ground that he gave to their fathers. And he will scatter them from the other side of the river, because

they made their Asherahs, which provoked Yahweh to anger. ¹⁶And he will give Israel over on account of the sins of Jeroboam that he sinned and that he caused Israel to sin."

¹⁷And the wife of Jeroboam rose and went and came to Tirzah. She was entering at the threshold of the house and the boy died. ¹⁸And they buried him and all Israel wailed for him, according to the word of Yahweh that he spoke by the hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet.

¹⁹And the remainder of the matters of Jeroboam, that he fought and that he reigned, behold, they are written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel. ²⁰And the days that Jeroboam reigned were 22 years. And he layed down with his fathers and Nadab his son reigned in his place.

²¹Now Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was a son of 41 years when he reigned. And he reigned 17 years in Jerusalem, the city there where Yahweh chose to put his name from all the tribes of Israel. And the name of his mother was Naamah the Ammonite woman. ²²And Judah did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh. And they made him jealous more than all that their fathers did with their sins that they sinned. ²³And they, even they built for themselves high places and pillars and asherahs on every high hill and under every flourishing tree. ²⁴And also a cultic prostitute was in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations that Yahweh had dispossessed from before the face of the sons of Israel.

²⁵And it happened that in the fifth year of the king Rehoboam, Shishak the king of Egypt went up against Jerusalem. ²⁶And he took away the treasures of the house of Yahweh and the treasures of the house of the king and the entirety he took. And he took all the shields of gold that Solomon had made. ²⁷And the king Rehoboam made shields of bronze in their place. And he assigned them to the hand of the commanders of the ones who run, the ones who keep the opening of the house of the king. ²⁸And it happened that as often as the king entered the house of Yahweh, the ones who run lifted them up and they brought them back to the chamber of the ones who run.

²⁹And the remainder of the matters of Rehoboam and all that he did, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Judah? ³⁰And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days.

³¹And Rehoboam layed down with his fathers and he was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And the name of his mother was Naamah the Ammonite woman. And Abijam his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 15

¹Now in year 18 of King Jeroboam the son of Nebat, Abijam reigned over Judah. ²Three years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom. ³And he walked in all the sins of his father that he had done before his face. And his heart was not completely with Yahweh his God like the heart of David his father. ⁴But for the sake of David, Yahweh his God gave to him a lamp in Jerusalem by raising up his son after him, and by causing Jerusalem to stand, ⁵because David had done the upright thing in the eyes of Yahweh and he had not turned from all that he had commanded him all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite. ⁶And war was between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

⁷And the remainder of the matters of Abijam and all that he did, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Judah? And war was between Abijah and Jeroboam. ⁸Then Abijam laid down with his fathers and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place.

⁹And in year 20 of Jeroboam the king of Israel, Asa reigned as the king of Judah. ¹⁰And he reigned 41 years in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom. ¹¹And Asa did the upright thing in the eyes of Yahweh like David his father. ¹²And he caused the cultic prostitutes to pass over from the land. And he removed all the idols that his fathers had made. ¹³And also Maacah his mother he removed her from being queen-mother because she had made a horrid thing for the Asherah. And Asa cut down her horrid thing and he burned it in the wadi of Kidron. ¹⁴But they did not remove the high places. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was completely

with Yahweh all his days. ¹⁵And he brought the holy things of his father and his holy things for the house of Yahweh, silver and gold and vessels.

¹⁶And war was between Asa and Baasha the king of Israel, all their days. ¹⁷And Baasha the king of Israel went up against Judah and he built up the Ramah, so as not to give going out or coming in to Asa the king of Judah. ¹⁸And Asa took all the silver and the gold that was remaining in the storerooms of the house of Yahweh and the storerooms of the house of the king, and he gave them into the hand of his servants. And the king Asa sent them to Ben Hadad, the son of Tabrimmon, the son of Hezion, the king of Aram, the one who dwelled in Damascus, saying, ¹⁹“Let there be a covenant between me and you, between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent to you a present of silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha the king of Israel and he may go up from against me.” ²⁰And Ben Hadad listened to the king Asa and he sent the commanders of the strong ones who were for him against the cities of Israel. And he struck Ijon and Dan and Abel Beth Maacah and all Kinnereth, with all the land of Naphtali. ²¹And it happened as soon as Baasha heard, that he ceased from building up the Ramah and he dwelled in Tirzah. ²²And the king Asa caused all Judah to hear, There was no one free from obligation. And they lifted up the stones of the Ramah and its trees that Baasha had built. And with them the king Asa built Geba of Benjamin and the Mizpah.

²³And the remainder of all the matters of Asa and all his might and all that he did and the cities that he built, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Judah? Only at the time of his old age did he become sick in his feet. ²⁴And Asa laid down with his fathers and he was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father. And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.

²⁵And Nadab the son of Jeroboam reigned over Israel in year two of Asa the king of Judah. And he reigned over Israel two years. ²⁶And he did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh. And he walked in the way of his father and in his sin that he caused Israel to sin. ²⁷And Baasha the son of Ahijah of the house of Issachar conspired against him, and Baasha struck him down at Gibbethon, which is for the Philistines. And Nadab and all Israel were laying siege against Gibbethon. ²⁸And Baasha put him to death in year three of Asa the king of Judah. And he reigned in his place. ²⁹And it happened that as soon as he reigned, he struck down all the house of Jeroboam. He did not leave any breathing one of Jeroboam, until he had annihilated him according to the word of Yahweh, which he had spoken by the hand of his servant Ahijah the Shilonite, ³⁰on account of the sins of Jeroboam that he sinned and that he caused Israel to sin, by his anger that he provoked Yahweh, the God of Israel, to anger.

³¹And the remainder of the matters of Nadab and all that he did, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel? ³²And war was between Asa and Baasha the king of Israel all their days.

³³In year three of Asa the king of Judah, Baasha the son of Ahijah reigned over all Israel in Tirzah 24 years. ³⁴And he did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh. And he walked in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin that he caused Israel to sin.

Chapter 16

¹And the word of Yahweh was to Jehu the son of Hanani, against Baasha, saying, ²“Because I raised you up from the dust and I gave you as leader over my people Israel, and you walked in the way of Jeroboam and caused my people Israel to sin, by provoking me to anger by their sins, ³behold, I am about to burn after Baasha and after his house. And I shall make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. ⁴The one who dies of Baasha in the city the dogs shall eat. And the one who dies of him in the field the birds of the heavens shall eat.

⁵And the remainder of the matters of Baasha and what he did and his might, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel? ⁶And Baasha laid down with his fathers and he was buried in Tirzah. And Elah his son reigned in his place. ⁷And also by the hand of Jehu the son of Hanani the prophet, the word of Yahweh was to Baasha and to his house, and against all the evil that he had done in the eyes of Yahweh, by

provoking him to anger with the work of his hands, by being like the house of Jeroboam, and because he had struck him down.

⁸In the year of year 26 of Asa the king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha reigned over Israel in Tirzah, two years.

⁹And his servant Zimri, the commander of half of the chariotry, conspired against him. And he was in Tirzah drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, who was over the house in Tirzah. ¹⁰And Zimri entered and he struck him down and he put him to death in year 27 of Asa the king of Judah. And he reigned in his place. ¹¹And it happened that when he reigned, as soon as he sat on his throne, he struck down all the house of Baasha. He did not leave of him one who urinates on a wall or his kinsmen or his friend. ¹²And Zimri annihilated all the house of Baasha according to the word of Yahweh that he spoke against Baasha by the hand of Jehu the prophet, ¹³concerning all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son which they had sinned, and because they caused Israel to sin, by provoking Yahweh, the God of Israel, to anger with their vapors. ¹⁴And the remainder of the matters of Elah and all that he did, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel?

¹⁵In the year of year 27 of Asa the king of Judah, Zimri reigned seven days in Tirzah. And the people were camping against Gibbethon, which was for the Philistines. ¹⁶And the people, the ones who camped, heard, saying, "Zimri has conspired and also has struck down the king!" And all Israel caused Omri, the commander of the army, to reign over Israel on that day in the camp. ¹⁷And Omri went up from Gibbethon and all Israel with him, and they laid siege against Tirzah. ¹⁸And it happened as soon as Zimri saw that the city had been seized, that he entered into the citadel of the house of the king. And he burned the house of the king over himself with fire and he died, ¹⁹on account of his sin that he had sinned by doing the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh, by walking in the way of Jeroboam, and by his sin that he did by causing Israel to sin. ²⁰And the remainder of the matters of Zimri and his conspiracy that he conspired, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel?

²¹Then the people of Israel was divided by the half. Half of the people were behind Tibni the son of Ginath, to cause him to reign, but the other half were behind Omri. ²²And the people who were behind Omri became strong against the people who were behind Tibni the son of Ginath. And Tibni died and Omri reigned. ²³In the year of year 31 of Asa the king of Judah, Omri reigned over Israel 12 years. In Tirzah he reigned six years. ²⁴And he bought the hill Samaria from with Shemer for two kikkars silver. And he built the hill and he called the name of the city that he built Samaria, in accordance with the name of Shemer, the master of the hill. ²⁵And Omri did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh and he did more evil than all who were before him. ²⁶And he walked in all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sins that he caused Israel to sin by provoking Yahweh, the God of Israel, to anger with their vapors. ²⁷And the remainder of the matters of Omri, what he did and his might that he did, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel? ²⁸And Omri laid down with his fathers and he was buried in Samaria. And Ahab his son reigned in his place.

²⁹And Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in the year of year 38 of Asa the king of Judah. And Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria 22 years. ³⁰And Ahab the son of Omri did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh, more than all who were before his face. ³¹And it happened (was his walking in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat trivial?) that he took a wife, Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal the king of the Sidonians. And he went and served the Baal and he bowed down to him. ³²And he raised up an altar for the Baal at the house of the Baal that he had built in Samaria. ³³And Ahab made the Asherah and Ahab continued to act, to provoke Yahweh, the God of Israel, to anger more than all the kings of Israel who were before his face. ³⁴In his days Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho. For Abiram his firstborn he founded it, and for Segub his younger one he set up its doors, according to the word of Yahweh that he spoke by the hand of Joshua the son of Nun.

Chapter 17

¹And Elijah the Tishbite from the Tishbites of Gilead said to Ahab, "As Yahweh, the God of Israel is alive, before whose face I stand, there will not be dew or rain these years unless by the mouth of my word." ²And the word of

Yahweh was to him, saying, ³“Go from this place and turn for yourself eastward. And you will be hidden at the wadi of Kerith, which is on the face of the Jordan. ⁴And it will happen that you shall drink from the wadi. And I have commanded the ravens to sustain you there.” ⁵And he went and did according to the word of Yahweh. And he went and dwelled at the wadi of Kerith, which is on the face of the Jordan. ⁶And the ravens were bringing bread and meat to him in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening. And he drank from the wadi. ⁷And it happened from the end of some days that the wadi dried up because rain was not in the land.

⁸And the word of Yahweh was to him, saying, ⁹“Rise, go to Zarephath, which is for Sidon, and you shall dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a woman, a widow, there to sustain you.” ¹⁰And he rose and went to Zarephath. And he entered into the opening of the city. And behold, there was a woman, a widow, gathering wood pieces. And he called to her and he said, “Please take to me a little water in the vessel and I will drink.” ¹¹As she went to take, and he called to her, and said, “Please take to me a bit of bread in your hand.” ¹²And she said, “As Yahweh your God is alive, there is not for me a bread cake, but only a fullness of a palm of flour in the jar and a little bit of oil in the jug. And behold, I am gathering two wood pieces and I will enter and I make it for me and for my son. And we will eat it and will die.” ¹³And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear. Come, do according to your word, only make for me from there a little bread cake at the first and bring it out to me. And make for you and for your son at the later time. ¹⁴For thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour will not come to an end, and the jug of oil will not lack, until the day Yahweh gives rain on the face of the ground.’” ¹⁵And she went and did according to the word of Elijah. And she ate, he and she and her house for days. ¹⁶The jar of flour did not come to an end, and the jug of oil did not lack, according to the word of Yahweh, which he had spoken by the hand of Elijah.

¹⁷And it happened that after these things the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick, and his sickness became very strong until breath did not remain in him. ¹⁸And she said to Elijah, “What is to me and is to you, man of God, that you came to me to cause my iniquity to be remembered and to put my son to death?” ¹⁹And he said to her, “Give to me your son.” And he took him from her lap and he brought him up to the upper room there where he was dwelling, and he laid him down on his bed. ²⁰And he cried out to Yahweh and said, “Yahweh, my God, will you also cause evil on the widow with whom I am sojourning, by putting her son to death?” ²¹And he stretched himself out over the child three times. And he cried out to Yahweh and he said, “Yahweh, my God, please let the life of this child return on his inner part.” ²²And Yahweh heard the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child returned on his inner part, and he lived. ²³And Elijah took the child and he brought him down from the upper room to the house, and he gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives.” ²⁴And the woman said to Elijah, “Now this I know, that you are a man of God. And the word of Yahweh in your mouth is truth.”

Chapter 18

¹And it was many days and the word of Yahweh was to Elijah in the third year, saying, “Go, appear to Ahab and I will give rain on the face of the ground.” ²And Elijah went to appear to Ahab. (Now the famine was strong in Samaria.) ³And Ahab called to Obadiah, who was over the house. (Now Obadiah was one who feared Yahweh exceedingly.) ⁴And it had happened when Jezebel cut off the prophets of Yahweh, that Obadiah had taken 100 prophets and hid them, 50 men in the cave, and he sustained them with bread and water.) ⁵And Ahab said to Obadiah, “Go in the land to all the springs of water and to all the wadis. Perhaps we will find grass and we will keep alive a horse or a mule, and not cut off some of the livestock.” ⁶And they divided the land for themselves to pass through it. Ahab went in the one way by himself and Obadiah went in the one way by himself.

⁷And it happened that Obadiah was in the road, and behold, Elijah was to meet him. And he recognized him and fell on his face and said, “Is this you, my master Elijah?” ⁸And he said to him, “It is I. Go, say to your master, ‘Here is Elijah.’” ⁹And he said, “How have I sinned, that you are giving your servant over into the hand of Ahab, to put me to death? ¹⁰As Yahweh your God is alive, if there is a nation or a kingdom there where my master has not sent to seek you, and they said ‘he is not here,’ then he caused the kingdom or the nation to swear that it did not find you. ¹¹And now you are saying, ‘Go, say to your master, ‘Here is Elijah.’” ¹²And it will happen that I myself will go from

with you, and the Spirit of Yahweh will lift you to where I will not know. And I will come to tell Ahab and he will not find you and he will slay me. And your servant has been fearing Yahweh from my youth. ¹³Has it not been told to my master, what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of Yahweh, and I hid from the prophets of Yahweh a hundred men, 50 by 50 men in the cave, and I sustained them with bread and water? ¹⁴And now you are saying, 'Go, say to your master, "Here is Elijah," ' and he will slay me." ¹⁵And Elijah said, "As Yahweh of hosts is alive, before whose face I stand, surely today I will appear to him."

¹⁶And Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and he told him. And Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷And it happened as soon as Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Are you this one who troubles Israel?" ¹⁸And he said, "I have not troubled Israel, but rather you and the house of your father, by your forsaking the commandments of Yahweh and going after the Baals. ¹⁹And now send, gather to me all Israel to the mountain of the Carmel, and the 450 prophets of the Baal and the 400 prophets of the Asherah, those who eat of the table of Jezebel."

²⁰And Ahab sent among all the sons of Israel and he gathered the prophets to the mountain of the Carmel. ²¹And Elijah came near to all the people and he said, "Until when will you be limping over the two opinions? If Yahweh is God, go after him, but if the Baal, go after him." And the people did not answer him a word. ²²And Elijah said to the people, "I myself remain a prophet of Yahweh by myself, but the prophets of the Baal are 450 men. ²³And let them give to us two bulls, and let them choose for themselves the one bull, and let them cut it into pieces. And let them set it on the wood pieces, but a fire they will not set. And as for me I will make the one bull that I will give on the wood pieces, but a fire I will not set. ²⁴And you will call on the name of your god, but as for me, I will call on the name of Yahweh. And it will happen that the God who answers with fire, he is God." And all the people answered and they said, "The thing is good."

²⁵And Elijah said to the prophets of the Baal, "Choose for yourselves the one bull and make it first, for you are the most abundant. And call on the name of your god, but a fire you will not set." ²⁶And they took the bull that he gave to them and they made, and they called on the name of the Baal from the morning and until the midday, saying, "The Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice and there was no answering. And they limped beside the altar that he had made. ²⁷And it happened at the midday that Elijah mocked them and he said, "Cry out with a great voice, for he is a god. Surely he is musing, or surely moving away for himself, or surely a way is for him. Perhaps he is asleep and he will wake up." ²⁸And they cried out with a great voice, and they cut themselves, according to their custom, with the swords and with the spears, until a pouring out of blood was on them. ²⁹And it happened as soon as the midday passed, that they prophesied until the offering up of the grain offering, but there was no voice and there was no answering and there was no attentiveness.

³⁰And Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." And all the people came near to him. And he repaired the torn down altar of Yahweh. ³¹And Elijah took 12 stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom was the word of Yahweh, saying, "Israel shall be your name." ³²And he built with the stones an altar in the name of Yahweh. And he made a trench like the house of two seahs of seed surrounding the altar. ³³And he arranged the wood pieces. And he cut the bull into pieces and he set it on the wood pieces. ³⁴And he said, "Fill four jars with water, and pour out on the burnt up offering and on the wood pieces." And he said "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time. And he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. ³⁵And the water went around the altar and even the trench he filled with water. ³⁶And it happened at the offering up of the grain offering, that Elijah the prophet came near and he said, "Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel, and I am your servant, and by your word I have done all these things. ³⁷Answer me, Yahweh! Answer me, that this people may know that you, Yahweh, are God, and you have turned around their heart backward." ³⁸And the fire of Yahweh fell and ate the burnt up offering and the wood pieces and the stones and the dust. And it licked up the water that was in the trench. ³⁹And all the people saw and they fell on their faces. And they said, "Yahweh, he is God! Yahweh, he is God!" ⁴⁰And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of the Baal. Do not let a man from them slip away." And they seized them. And Elijah brought them down to the wadi Kishon and he slaughtered them there.

⁴¹And Elijah said to Ahab, "Get up, eat and drink, for there is the sound of the roar of the rain." ⁴²And Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the head of the Carmel, and he bent down toward the earth and he put

his face between his knees. ⁴³And he said to his young man, "Go up, now, look toward the way of the sea." And he went up and he looked and he said, "There is not anything." And he said, "Return seven times." ⁴⁴And it happened at the seventh time that he said, "Behold, a small cloud like the palm of a man is going up from the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Harness and go down so the rain will not stop you.'" ⁴⁵And it happened until here and until there, that the heavens became dark with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁶And the hand of Yahweh was to Elijah, and he girded up his loins and he ran before the face of Ahab as far as your coming into Jezreel.

Chapter 19

¹And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and everthing, that he had slain all the prophets with the sword. ²And Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do and so may they add, unless about this time tomorrow I will set your life as the life of one from them." ³And he saw and rose and went for his life and he came to Beersheba, which is for Judah. And he caused his young man to rest there. ⁴But as for him, he went a road of a day into the wilderness, and he came and sat under one broom shrub. And he requested with respect to his life to die, and he said, "Too much, now, Yahweh; take my life, for I am not better than my fathers." ⁵And he lay down and slept under one broom shrub. And behold this, an angel was touching him and he said to him, "Get up! Eat!" ⁶And he looked, and behold, at the place of his head was a bread cake of glowing coals and a jug of water. And he ate and drank and returned and lay down. ⁷And the angel of Yahweh returned a second time and he touched him and he said, "Get up! Eat! For the road will be too much for you." ⁸And he rose and ate and drank. And he went in the strength of that food 40 days and 40 nights as far as the mountain of God, Horeb.

⁹And he entered there into the cave, and he spent the night there. And behold, the word of Yahweh was to him and he said to him, "What is for you here, Elijah?" ¹⁰And he said, "I have been very zealous for Yahweh, the God of hosts, but the sons of Israel have forsaken your covenant, your altars they have torn down, and your prophets they have slain with the sword. And I am left, I by myself, and they seek my life, to take it." ¹¹And he said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the face of Yahweh, and behold, Yahweh is about to pass over!" And a great and strong wind was splitting the mountains and shattering rocks before the face of Yahweh. Yahweh was not in the wind. And after the wind was an earthquake. Yahweh was not in the earthquake. ¹²And after the earthquake was a fire. Yahweh was not in the fire. And after the fire was the voice of a thin whisper. ¹³And it happened as soon as Elijah heard, that he wrapped his face in his cloak. And he went out and stood at the opening of the cave. And behold, a voice was to him and it said, "What is for you here, Elijah?" ¹⁴And he said, "I have been very zealous for Yahweh, the God of hosts, but the sons of Israel have forsaken your covenant, your altars they have torn down, and your prophets they have slain with the sword. And I am left, I by myself, and they seek my life, to take it."

¹⁵And Yahweh said to him, "Go, return to your way toward the wilderness of Damascus. And you shall come and anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶And you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And you shall anoint Elisha the son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷And it will happen that the one who slips away from the sword of Hazael, Jehu will put to death. And the one who slips away from the sword of Jehu, Elisha will put to death. ¹⁸And I have left in Israel 7000 men, all the knees that have not bowed to the Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

¹⁹And he went from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat. And he was plowing with 12 pairs before his face and he was with the 12th. And Elijah passed over to him and he threw his cloak on him. ²⁰And he left the cattle and he ran after Elijah and he said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, and let me go after you." And he said to him, "Go, return, for what have I done to you?" ²¹And he returned from after him. And he took the pair of cattle and he sacrificed it and with the implements of the cattle he boiled them, the meat. And he gave to the people and they ate. And he rose and went after Elijah and he attended him.

Chapter 20

¹Now Ben Hadad the king of Aram gathered all his strength and 32 kings with him, and horse and chariotry. And he went up and laid siege against Samaria and he fought against it. ²And he sent messengers to Ahab the king of Israel at the city. ³And he said to him, 'Thus says Ben Hadad, "Your silver and your gold, it is for me. And your wives and your sons, the good ones, they are for me."' ⁴And the king of Israel answered and said, "According to your word, my master the king, I and all that is for me is for you." ⁵And the messengers returned and said, "Thus says Ben Hadad, saying, 'Surely I sent to you, saying, your silver and your gold and your wives and your sons you will give to me, ⁶but rather around this time tomorrow I will send my servants to you, and they will search through your house and the houses of your servants. And it will happen that any precious thing of your eyes they will put in their hand and they will take.'"

⁷And the king of Israel called to all the elders of the land. And he said, "Please know and see that this one is seeking evil, for he has sent to me for my wives and for my sons and for my silver and for my gold, and I have not withheld from him." ⁸And all the elders and all the people said to him, "Do not listen and do not consent." ⁹And he said to the messengers of Ben Hadad, "Say to my master the king, 'All that you sent to your servant at the first I will do, but this thing I am not able to do.'" And the messengers went and returned him word. ¹⁰And Ben Hadad sent to him and he said, "Thus may gods do to me and thus may they add, if the dust of Samaria will be sufficient for handfuls for all the people who will be at my feet!" ¹¹And the king of Israel answered and said, "Speak, 'one about to gird should not boast like one who is ungirding.'" ¹²And it happened at the hearing of this word as he was drinking, he and the kings in the huts, that he said to his servants, "Set up," and they set up against the city.

¹³And behold, one prophet came near to Ahab the king of Israel and he said, "Thus says Yahweh, 'Have you seen all of this great crowd? Behold, I am about to give it into your hand today, and you shall know that I am Yahweh.'"

¹⁴And Ahab said, "By whom?" And he said, "Thus says Yahweh, by the young men of the commanders of the provinces." And he said, "Who will tie up the battle?" And he said, "You." ¹⁵And he mustered the young men of the commanders of the provinces, and they were 232. And after them he mustered all the people, all the sons of Israel were 7,000.

¹⁶And they went out at the midday. And Ben Hadad was drinking drunk in the huts, he and the kings, 32 kings who helped him. ¹⁷And the young men of the commanders of the provinces went out at the first. And Ben Hadad sent and they told him, saying, "Men have gone out from Samaria." ¹⁸And he said, "If they have gone out for peace, seize them alive, and if they have gone out for war, alive seize them." ¹⁹And these went out from the city, the young men of the commanders of the provinces and the strength that was behind them. ²⁰But they struck down a man his man. And Aram fled and Israel pursued them. And Ben Hadad the king of Aram slipped away on a horse with horsemen. ²¹And the king of Israel went out and he struck down the horse and the chariot. And he struck Aram a great blow.

²²And the prophet came near to the king of Israel and he said to him, "Go, strengthen yourself, and know and see what you should do, because at the return of the year the king of Aram will be coming up against you." ²³And the servants of the king of Aram said to him, "Their gods are gods of the mountains. Therefore they were stronger than us. But indeed let us fight them in the plain, surely we will be stronger than them. ²⁴And do this thing: remove the kings, a man from his place, and set governors in their places. ²⁵And you should assign for yourself strength like the strength that fell from you, and a horse like the horse and a chariot like the chariot, and we will fight them in the plain. Surely will we be stronger than them." And he listened to their voice and did so.

²⁶And it happened at the return of the year, that Ben Hadad mustered Aram. And he went up to Aphek for the battle with Israel. ²⁷And the sons of Israel had been mustered and were sustained and they went to meet them. And the sons of Israel camped in front of them were like two little flocks of goats, and Aram filled the land. ²⁸And a man of God came near and said to the king of Israel, and he said, "Thus says Yahweh, 'Because Aram said "Yahweh is a god of mountains, but he is not a god of valleys," I shall give all of this great crowd into your hand, and you shall know that I am Yahweh.'" ²⁹And they camped, these opposite these, seven days. And it happened on the

seventh day that the battle approached, and the sons of Israel struck down Aram, 100,000 on foot in one day.

³⁰And the ones who were left fled to Aphek, into the city, and the wall fell on 127,000 men, the ones who were left. And Ben Hadad fled and entered into the city, a room in a room.

³¹And his servants said to him, "Behold, please, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel, that they are kings of mercy. Please let us put sackcloth around our loins and ropes on our heads, and we will go out to the king of Israel. Perhaps he may let your life live." ³²And they girded on sackcloth around their waists and ropes on their heads and they came to the king of Israel. And they said, "Your servant Ben Hadad says, 'Please let my life live.'" And he said, "Is he still alive? He is my brother." ³³And the men sought an omen and they hurried and accepted whether it was from him. And they said, "Your brother is Ben Hadad." And he said, "Come, bring him!" And Ben Hadad went out to him, and he brought him up on the chariot. ³⁴And he said to him, "I will return the cities that my father took from with your father, and the outside you may set up for yourself in Damascus, just as my father set up in Samaria. As for me, by the covenant, I will send you away." And he cut a covenant for him and he sent him away.

³⁵And one man from the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor, "By the word of Yahweh, please strike me." But the man refused to strike him. ³⁶And he said to him, "Because you did not listen to the voice of Yahweh, behold, you are about to go from with me, and the lion will strike you down." And he went from beside him and the lion found him and struck him down. ³⁷And he found one man and said, "Please strike me." And the man struck him, striking and wounding. ³⁸And the prophet went and he stood for the king on the road. And he made himself unrecognizable with the covering over his eyes. ³⁹And it happened that the king was passing by and he himself cried out to the king. And he said, "Your servant went out in the middle of the battle, and behold, a man turned aside and he brought a man to me. And he said, 'Keep this man. If he is missing at all, then your life will be in place of his life or you must weigh a kikkar of silver.'" ⁴⁰And it happened that your servant was doing here and there, and he was not there." And the king of Israel said to him, "Thus is your judgment, you yourself have decided." ⁴¹And he hurried and removed the covering from over his eyes. And the king of Israel recognized him, that he was from the prophets. ⁴²And he said to him, "Thus says Yahweh, 'Because you have sent away a man of complete destruction from hand. And it will be your life in place of his life, and your people in place of his people.'" ⁴³And the king of Israel went to his house sullen and vexed, and he came to Samaria.

Chapter 21

¹Now it happened after these things that there was a vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which was in Jezreel, beside the palace of Ahab the king of Samaria. ²And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give to me your vineyard, and it will be for me as a garden of herbage, because it is near beside my house. And let me give to you in its place a better vineyard than it. If it is good in your eyes, let me give to you silver of the price of this one." ³And Naboth said to Ahab, "Far be it for me from Yahweh, from my giving the inheritance of my fathers to you." ⁴And Ahab entered into his house sullen and vexed on account of the word that Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him. And he said, "I will not give to you the inheritance of my fathers." And he lay down on his bed, and he turned away his face and he did not eat bread.

⁵And Jezebel his wife came to him and she spoke to him, "What is this? Your spirit is sullen and you are not eating bread?" ⁶And he spoke to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and I said to him, 'Give your vineyard to me for silver, or if you are desiring, let me give a vineyard to you in its place.' And he said, 'I will not give my vineyard to you.'" ⁷And Jezebel his wife said to him, "You now, you do the kingship over Israel. Get up! Eat bread and let your heart be good! I myself will give to you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite." ⁸And she wrote letters in the name of Ahab, and she sealed them with his seal. And she sent the letters to the elders and to the nobles who were in his city, the ones who dwelled near Naboth. ⁹And she wrote in the letters, saying, "Call a fast and seat Naboth at the head the people. ¹⁰And seat two men, sons of worthlessness, in front of him and let them witness against him, saying, 'You cursed God and the king.' And take him out and stone him and let him die."

¹¹And the men of his city, the elders and the nobles, who were the ones dwelling in his city, did just as Jezebel had sent to them, just as was written in the letters that she had sent to them. ¹²They called a fast and they seated Naboth at the head of the people. ¹³And the two men, the sons of worthlessness, came and they sat in front of him, and the men of worthlessness witnessed against Naboth in front of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." And they brought him to the outside of the city and they stoned him with the stones and he died. ¹⁴And they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned and he has died." ¹⁵And it happened as soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and had died, that Jezebel said to Ahab, "Get up! Possess the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give to you for silver, for Naboth is not alive, but he has died!" ¹⁶And it happened as soon as Ahab heard that Naboth had died, that Ahab rose to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite to possess it.

¹⁷And the word of Yahweh was to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ¹⁸"Get up! Go down to meet Ahab the king of Israel, who is in Samaria. Behold he is in the vineyard of Naboth, there where he has gone down to possess it. ¹⁹And you shall speak to him saying, 'Thus says Yahweh, "Have you murdered and also taken possession?" ' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says Yahweh, "In a place where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth, the dogs will lick your blood, even you." ' " ²⁰And Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, my enemy?" And he said, "I have found, on account of you having sold yourself by doing the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh. ²¹'Behold, I am about to bring evil on you and I will burn after you, and I will cut off with respect to Ahab one who urinates on a wall, and one who is restrained, and one who is let free in Israel. ²²And I will give over your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, on account of the anger that you have provoked to anger and you have caused Israel to sin.' ²³And also with respect to Jezebel Yahweh has spoken, saying, 'The dogs will eat Jezebel at the rampart of Jezreel.' ²⁴The one of Ahab who dies in the city, the dogs shall eat. And the one who dies in the field, the bird of the heavens shall eat." ²⁵Surely there was not one like Ahab, who sold himself by doing the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh, he whom Jezebel his wife incited. ²⁶And he acted very abominably by walking after the idols, like all that the Amorite had done, whom Yahweh had dispossessed from the face of the sons of Israel.

²⁷And it happened as soon as Ahab heard these words, that he tore his garments and put sackcloth over his flesh and he fasted. And he lay down in the sackcloth and he walked softly. ²⁸And the word of Yahweh was to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ²⁹"Have you seen that Ahab has humbled himself from before my face? Because he has humbled himself from my face, I will not bring the evil thing in his days. In the days of his son I will bring the evil thing on his house."

Chapter 22

¹And they dwelled three years; there was no war between Aram and Israel. ²And it happened in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went down to the king of Israel. ³And the king of Israel said to his servants, "Do you know that Ramoth Gilead is for us, but we are staying inactive from taking it from the hand of the king of Aram?" ⁴And he said to Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to war at Ramoth Gilead?" And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Like me, like you. Like my people, like your people. Like my horses, like your horses."

⁵And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please seek the word of Yahweh at today." ⁶And the king of Israel gathered the prophets, about 400 men, and he said to them, "Should I go against Ramoth Gilead to war, or should I refrain?" And they said, "Go up, for my Lord will give into the hand of the king." ⁷And Jehoshaphat said, "Is there still no prophet of Yahweh here so we may seek from him?" ⁸And the king of Israel responded to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one man for seeking Yahweh from him, but I myself hate him because he does not prophesy good on my account, but rather evil: Micaiah the son of Imlah." And Jehoshaphat said, "The king should not say so." ⁹And the king of Israel called to one eunuch. And he said, "Get quickly Micaiah the son of Imlah." ¹⁰Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah were sitting, a man on his throne, clothed with garments, by the threshing floor at the opening of the gate of Samaria. And all the prophets were prophesying before their faces. ¹¹And Zedekiah the son of Kenaanah made horns of iron for him, and he said, "Thus says Yahweh: 'With these you shall gore Aram

until their finishing.”¹² And all the prophets were prophesying thus, saying, “Go up to Ramoth Gilead and be successful, and Yahweh will give into the hand of the king.”

¹³ And the messenger who had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, “Behold, please, the words of the prophets as one mouth are good for the king. Please let your word be like the one word from them and speak good.”¹⁴ And Micaiah said, “As Yahweh is alive, surely what Yahweh will say to me, it I will speak.”¹⁵ And he came to the king, and the king said to him, “Micaiah, should we go to Ramoth Gilead to war, or should we refrain?” And he said to him, “Go up and be successful, and Yahweh will give into the hand of the king.”¹⁶ And the king said to him, “Up to how many times must I cause you to swear that you would not speak concerning me except truth in the name of Yahweh?”¹⁷ And he said, “I saw all Israel scattered to the mountains, like a flock when there is not a shepherd for them. And Yahweh said, ‘There are no masters for these. Let them return, a man to his house, in peace.’”¹⁸ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Did I not say to you he would not prophesy good concerning me, but rather evil?”¹⁹ And he said, “Therefore hear the word of Yahweh: I saw Yahweh sitting on his throne, and all the host of the heavens standing beside him from his right and from his left.”²⁰ And Yahweh said, ‘Who will deceive Ahab, so he may go up and may fall at Ramoth Gilead?’ And this one said, “In this way,” and this one was saying, “In this way.”²¹ And the spirit went out, and he stood before the face of Yahweh. And he said, ‘I myself will deceive him.’ And Yahweh said to him, ‘By what means?’²² And he said, ‘I will go out and I will be a spirit of falsehood in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘You may deceive and also you will be able. Go out and do so.’²³ And now, behold, Yahweh has given a spirit of falsehood into the mouth of all these prophets of yours. And Yahweh has spoken evil against you.”

²⁴ And Zedekiah the son of Kenaanah came near, and he struck Micaiah on the cheek. And he said, “How is this, the Spirit of Yahweh has passed over from with me to speak with you?”²⁵ And Micaiah said, “Behold, you are about to see on that day when you enter a room in a room to hide yourself.”²⁶ And the king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah and return him to Amon, the commander of the city, and to Joash, the son of the king.”²⁷ And you shall say, ‘Thus says the king, “Put this one in the house of imprisonment and feed him bread of oppression and water of oppression, until my coming in peace.’”²⁸ And Micaiah said, “If indeed you return in peace, Yahweh has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Listen, peoples, all of them.”

²⁹ And 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 cause myself to be unrecognizable and come into the battle, but you wear your garments.” And the king of Israel caused himself to be unrecognizable and he came into the battle.³¹ Now the king of Aram had commanded the commanders of the chariotry, which were 32 for him, saying, “You shall not fight with a small one or with a great one, but rather with the king of Israel by himself.”³² And it happened as soon as the commanders of the chariotry saw Jehoshaphat, that they themselves said, “Surely he is the king of Israel.” And they turned aside to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out.³³ And it happened as soon as the commanders of the chariotry saw that he was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from after him.³⁴ But a man drew with the bow in his innocence and he struck the king of Israel between the joints and the body armor. And he said to his charioteer, “Turn your hand and bring me out from the camp, for I am wounded.”³⁵ And the battle went up on that day and the king was being stood up in the chariot opposite Aram. And he died in the evening and the blood of the wound poured out to the bosom of the chariot.³⁶ Then the cry passed through in the camp about the going of the sun, saying, “A man to his city and a man to his land!”

³⁷ And the king died and came to Samaria. And they buried the king in Samaria.³⁸ And one rinsed the chariot beside the pool of Samaria. And the dogs licked his blood, and the prostitutes bathed, according to the word of Yahweh that he had spoken.³⁹ And the remainder of the matters of Ahab and all that he did, and the house of ivory that he built, and all the cities that he built, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Israel?⁴⁰ And Ahab lay down with his fathers. And Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

⁴¹ And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa reigned over Judah in year four of Ahab the king of Israel.⁴² Jehoshaphat was a son of 35 years when he reigned, and he reigned 25 years in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.⁴³ And he walked in every way of Asa his father, he did not turn away from it, to do the

upright thing in the eyes of Yahweh. However the high places they did not remove. The people were still sacrificing and burning incense at the high places. ⁴⁴And Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

⁴⁵And the remainder of the matters of Jehoshaphat, and his mighty things that he did, and how he fought, are they not written on the book of the matters of the days of the kings of Judah? ⁴⁶And the remainder of the cultic prostitutes who were left in the days of Asa his father, he burned from the land. ⁴⁷And there was not a king in Edom, a stationed one was king. ⁴⁸Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold, but he did not go because ships were broken at Ezion Geber. ⁴⁹Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships." But Jehoshaphat was not willing. ⁵⁰And Jehoshaphat lay down with his fathers and he was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father. And Jehoram his son reigned in his place.

⁵¹Ahaziah the son of Ahab reigned over Israel in Samaria in year 17 of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah. And he reigned over Israel two years. ⁵²And he did the evil thing in the eyes of Yahweh. And he walked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin. ⁵³And he served the Baal and he bowed down to him. And he provoked Yahweh, the God of Israel, to anger, according to all that his father had done.

2 Kings

Chapter 1

¹Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. ²Then Ahaziah fell down through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samaria, and was injured. So he sent for messengers and said to them, "Go, ask Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I will recover from this injury." ³But the angel of Yahweh said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and ask them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to consult with Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?' ⁴Therefore Yahweh says, "You will not come down from the bed to where you have gone up; instead, you will certainly die." Then Elijah left.

⁵When the messengers returned to Ahaziah, he said to them, "Why have you returned?" ⁶They said to him, "A man came to meet us who said to us, 'Go back to the king who sent you, and say to him, "Yahweh says this: 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you sent men to consult with Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you will not come down from the bed to which you have gone up; instead, you will certainly die.'" ⁷Ahaziah said to his messengers, "What sort of man was he, the one who came up to meet you and said these words to you?" ⁸They answered him, "He wore a garment made of hair and had a leather belt wrapped around his waist." So the king replied, "That is Elijah the Tishbite."

⁹Then the king sent a captain with fifty soldiers to Elijah. The captain went up to Elijah where he was sitting on the top of a hill. The captain spoke to him, "You, man of God, the king has said, 'Come down.'" ¹⁰Elijah answered and said to the captain, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty men. ¹¹Again King Ahaziah sent to Elijah another captain with fifty soldiers. This captain also said to Elijah, "You, man of God, the king says, 'Come down quickly.'" ¹²Elijah answered and said to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." Again the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty men. ¹³Yet again the king sent a third group of fifty warriors. This captain went up, fell on his knees before Elijah, and implored him and said to him, "You, man of God, I ask you, let my life and the life of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight. ¹⁴Indeed, fire came down from heaven and consumed the first two captains with their men, but now let my life be precious in your sight." ¹⁵The angel of Yahweh said to Elijah, "Go down with him. Do not be afraid of him." So Elijah arose and went down with him to the king. ¹⁶Later Elijah said to Ahaziah, "This is what Yahweh says, 'You have sent messengers to consult with Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron. Is it because there is no God in Israel from whom you can ask for information? So now, you will not come down from the bed where you have gone up; you will certainly die.'"

¹⁷So King Ahaziah died according to the word of Yahweh that Elijah had spoken. Joram began to reign in his place, in the second year of Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, because Ahaziah had no son. ¹⁸As for the other matters concerning Ahaziah, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel?

Chapter 2

¹So it came about, when Yahweh was going to take up Elijah by a whirlwind into heaven, that Elijah left with Elisha from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, because Yahweh has sent me to Bethel." Elisha replied, "As Yahweh lives, and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that Yahweh will take away your master from you today?" Elisha replied, "Yes, I know it, but do not talk about it." ⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, wait here, please, for Yahweh has sent me to Jericho." Then Elisha replied, "As Yahweh lives, and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho. ⁵Then the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know

that Yahweh will take away your master from you today?" Elisha answered, "Yes, I know it, but do not talk about it."⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for Yahweh has sent me to the Jordan." Elisha replied, "As Yahweh lives, and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two went on.⁷ Later, fifty of the sons of the prophets stood opposite them at a distance while the two stood by the Jordan.⁸ Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up, and struck the water with it. The river divided on both sides so that the two of them walked over on dry ground.⁹ It came about, after they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask me what I should do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha replied, "Please let a double portion of your spirit come on me."¹⁰ Elijah answered, "You have asked for a difficult thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, this will happen for you, but if not, it will not happen."¹¹ As they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared, which separated the two men from each other, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.¹² Elisha saw it and cried out, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!"

He saw Elijah no more, and he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces.¹³ He picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen off him, and went back to stand by the bank of the Jordan.¹⁴ He struck the water with Elijah's cloak that had fallen and said, "Where is Yahweh, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the waters, they divided on both sides and Elisha crossed over.

¹⁵When the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him across from them, they said, "The spirit of Elijah does rest on Elisha!" So they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.¹⁶ They said to him, "See now, among your servants there are fifty strong men. Let them go, we ask, and look for your master, in case the Spirit of Yahweh has taken him up and thrown him onto some mountain or into some valley." Elisha answered, "No, do not send them."¹⁷ But when they urged Elisha until he was ashamed, he said, "Send them." Then they sent fifty men, and they looked for three days, but did not find him.¹⁸ They came back to Elisha, while he stayed at Jericho, and he said to them, "Did I not say to you, 'Do not go?'"

¹⁹The men of the city said to Elisha, "See, we beg of you, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my master can see, but the water is bad and the land is not fruitful."²⁰ Elisha replied, "Bring me a new bowl and put salt in it," so they brought it to him.²¹ Elisha went out to the spring of water and threw salt in it; then he said, "Yahweh says this, 'I have healed these waters. From this time on, there will be no more death or unfruitful land.'"²² So the waters were healed to this day, by the word which Elisha spoke.

²³Then Elisha went up from there to Bethel. As he was going up the road, young boys came out of the city and mocked him; they said to him, "Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead!"²⁴ Elisha looked behind him and saw them; he called on Yahweh to curse them. Then two female bears came out of the woods and injured forty-two of the boys.²⁵ Then Elisha went from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.

Chapter 3

¹Now in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, Joram son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned twelve years.² He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, but not like his father and his mother; for he removed the sacred stone pillar of Baal that his father had made.³ Nevertheless he held on to the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin; he did not turn away from them.

⁴Now Mesha king of Moab bred sheep. He had to give to the king of Israel 100,000 lambs and the wool of 100,000 rams.⁵ But after Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.⁶ So King Joram left Samaria at that time to mobilize all Israel for war.⁷ He sent a message to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, saying, "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me against Moab to battle?" Jehoshaphat replied, "I will go. I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."⁸ Then he said, "By which way should we attack?" Jehoshaphat answered, "By way of the wilderness of Edom."⁹ So the king of Israel went with the king of Judah and the king of Edom. They wandered around for seven days, and then there was no water for the army or for the animals that followed them.¹⁰ So the king of Israel said, "What is this? Has Yahweh called three kings to give them

into the hand of Moab?" ¹¹But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not here a prophet of Yahweh, that we may consult Yahweh by him?" One of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, "Elisha son of Shaphat is here, who poured water on the hands of Elijah." ¹²Jehoshaphat said, "The word of Yahweh is with him." So the king of Israel, Jehoshaphat, and the king of Edom went down to him.

¹³Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What have I to do with you? Go to the prophets of your father and mother." So the king of Israel said to him, "No, because Yahweh has called these three kings together to give them into the hand of Moab." ¹⁴Elisha replied, "As Yahweh of hosts lives, before whom I stand, surely were it not for the fact that I honor the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not pay any attention to you, or even look at you. ¹⁵But now bring me a musician." Then it came to pass when the harpist played, the hand of Yahweh came upon Elisha. ¹⁶He said, "Yahweh says this, 'Make this dry river valley full of trenches.' ¹⁷For Yahweh says this, 'You will not see wind, neither will you see rain, but this river valley will be filled with water, and you will drink, you and your livestock and all your animals.' ¹⁸This is an easy thing in the sight of Yahweh. He will also give you victory over the Moabites. ¹⁹You will attack every fortified city and every good city, cut down every good tree, stop up all springs of water, and ruin every good piece of land with rocks." ²⁰So in the morning about the time of offering the sacrifice, there came water from the direction of Edom; the country was filled with water.

²¹Now when all the Moabites heard that the kings had come to fight against them, they gathered themselves together, all who were able to put on armor, and they stood at the border. ²²They awakened early in the morning and the sun reflected on the water. When the Moabites saw the water opposite them, it looked as red as blood. ²³They exclaimed, "This is blood! The kings have certainly been destroyed, and they have killed each other! So now, Moab, let us go plunder them!" ²⁴When they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites surprised them and attacked the Moabites, who fled before them. The army of Israel drove the Moabites across the land, killing them. ²⁵They destroyed the cities, and on every good piece of land every man threw a rock until it was covered up. They stopped up every spring of water and chopped down all the good trees. Only Kir Hareseth was left with its rocks in place. But the soldiers armed with slings surrounded and attacked it. ²⁶When King Mesha of Moab saw that the battle was lost, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but they failed. ²⁷Then he took his oldest son, who should have reigned after him, and offered him as a burnt offering upon the wall. So there was great anger against Israel, and the Israelite army left King Mesha and returned to their own land.

Chapter 4

¹Now the wife of one of the sons of the prophets came crying to Elisha, saying, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared Yahweh. Now the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves." ²So Elisha said to her, "What can I do for you? Tell me what do you have in the house?" She said, "Your servant has nothing in the house, except a pot of oil." ³Then Elisha said, "Go out to borrow jars from your neighbors, empty jars. Borrow as many as possible. ⁴Then you must go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons, and pour oil into all those jars; set aside the jars that are full." ⁵So she left Elisha and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her, and she filled them with oil. ⁶When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another jar." But he said to her, "There are no more jars." Then the oil stopped flowing. ⁷Then she came and told the man of God. He said, "Go, sell the oil; pay your debt, and live with your sons on the rest."

⁸One day Elisha walked to Shunem where an important woman lived; she urged him to eat food with her. So as often as Elisha passed by, he would stop there to eat. ⁹The woman said to her husband, "See, now I realize that this is a holy man of God who is always passing by. ¹⁰Let us make a little room on the roof for Elisha, and let us put in it a bed, a table, a seat, and a lamp. Then when he comes to us, he will stay there." ¹¹So when the day came again that Elisha stopped there, he stayed in the room and rested there. ¹²Elisha said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite." When he had called her, she stood before him. ¹³Elisha said to him, "Say to her, 'You have gone to all this trouble to care for us. What can be done for you? Can we speak for you to the king or to the army

commander?" She answered, "I live among my own people." ¹⁴So Elisha said, "What can we do for her, then?" Gehazi answered, "Indeed, she has no son, and her husband is old." ¹⁵So Elisha answered, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the door. ¹⁶Elisha said, "At this time of year, in one year's time, you will be holding a son." She said, "No, my master and man of God, do not lie to your servant."

¹⁷But the woman conceived and gave birth to a son at the same time in the following year, as Elisha had said to her. ¹⁸When the child had grown, he went out one day to his father, who was with harvesters. ¹⁹He said to his father, "My head, my head." His father said to his servant, "Carry him to his mother." ²⁰When the servant had picked him up and brought the boy to his mother, the child sat on her knees until noon and then died. ²¹So the woman got up and laid the boy on the bed of the man of God, shut the door, and went out. ²²She called to her husband, and said, "Please send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys so that I may hurry to the man of God and then come back." ²³Her husband said, "Why do you want to go to him today? It is not a new moon nor a Sabbath." She replied, "It will be all right." ²⁴Then she saddled a donkey and said to her servant, "Drive on quickly; do not slow down for me unless I say so." ²⁵So she went and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

So when the man of God saw her in the distance, he said to Gehazi his servant, "Look, here comes the Shunammite woman." ²⁶Please run to meet her and say to her, "Is everything alright with you and with your husband and child?" She answered, "It is alright." ²⁷When she came to the man of God at the mountain, she caught hold of his feet. Gehazi came near to thrust her away but the man of God said, "Leave her alone, for she is very upset, and Yahweh has hidden the problem from me, and has told me nothing." ²⁸Then she said, "Did I ask you for a son, my master? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me?'" ²⁹Then Elisha said to Gehazi, "Dress for travel and take my staff in your hand. Go to her home. If you meet any man, do not greet him, and if anyone greets you, do not answer him. Lay my staff on the child's face." ³⁰But the mother of the child said, "As Yahweh lives, and as you live, I will not leave you." So Elisha arose and followed her. ³¹Gehazi hurried on ahead of them and laid the staff on the child's face, but the child did not speak or hear. So then Gehazi returned to meet Elisha and told him saying, "The child has not awakened."

³²When Elisha arrived at the house, the child was dead and was still on the bed. ³³So Elisha went in and shut the door on the child and himself and prayed to Yahweh. ³⁴He went up and lay on the child; he put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands. He stretched himself out on the boy, and the boy's body grew warm. ³⁵Then Elisha got up and walked around the room and again went up and stretched himself out on the boy. The child sneezed seven times and then opened his eyes! ³⁶So Elisha called Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite!" So he called her, and when she came into the room, Elisha said, "Pick up your son." ³⁷Then she lay facedown on the ground at his feet and bowed to the ground, and then picked up her son and went out.

³⁸Then Elisha came again to Gilgal. There was famine in the land, and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him. He said to his servant, "Put the large pot on the fire and cook stew for the sons of the prophets." ³⁹One of them went out into a field to gather vegetables. He found a wild vine and gathered enough wild gourds to fill the fold of his robe. They cut them up and put them into the stew, but did not know what kind they were. ⁴⁰So they poured out the stew for the men to eat. Later, as they were eating, they cried out and said, "Man of God, there is death in the pot!" So they could not eat it anymore. ⁴¹But Elisha said, "Bring some flour." He threw it into the pot and said, "Pour it out for the people, so that they may eat." Then there was no longer anything hurtful in the pot.

⁴²A man came from Baal Shalishah to the man of God and brought twenty loaves of barley bread in his sack from the new harvest, and fresh ears of grain. He said, "Give this to the people so they can eat." ⁴³His servant said, "What, should I set this before a hundred men?" But Elisha said, "Give this to the people, so they can eat, because Yahweh says, 'They will eat and will have some left.'" ⁴⁴So his servant set it before them; they ate, and left some remaining, just as the word of Yahweh promised.

Chapter 5

¹Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great and honorable man in his master's view, because by him Yahweh had given victory to Aram. He was also a strong, courageous man, but he was a leper. ²The Arameans had gone out raiding in bands and had taken a little girl from the land of Israel. She served Naaman's wife. ³The girl said to her mistress, "I wish that my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! Then he would heal my master of his leprosy." ⁴So Naaman went in and told the king what the little girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵So the king of Aram said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." Naaman left and took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of clothes. ⁶He also took the letter to the king of Israel that said, "Now when this letter is brought to you, you will see that I have sent Naaman my servant to you, so that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel had read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man wants me to cure a man of his leprosy? It seems he is seeking to start an argument with me."

⁸So when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent word to the king saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and dip yourself into the Jordan seven times, and your flesh will be restored; you will be clean." ¹¹But Naaman was angry and went away and said, "Look, I thought he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of Yahweh his God, and wave his hand over the place and heal my leprosy. ¹²Are not Abanah and Parpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Can I not bathe in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³Then Naaman's servants came near and spoke to him, "My father, if the prophet had commanded you do some difficult thing, would you not have done it? How much rather then, when he says to you to simply, 'Dip yourself and be clean?'" ¹⁴Then he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, obeying the instructions of the man of God. His flesh was restored again like the flesh of a little child, and he was healed.

¹⁵Naaman returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came and stood before him. He said, "Look, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. So therefore, please take a gift from your servant." ¹⁶But Elisha replied, "As Yahweh lives, before whom I stand, I will receive nothing." Naaman urged Elisha to take a gift, but he refused. ¹⁷So Naaman said, "If not, then I ask you to let there be given to your servant two mule loads of earth, for from now on, your servant will offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice to any god but Yahweh. ¹⁸In this one thing may Yahweh pardon your servant, that is, when my king goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, may Yahweh pardon your servant in this matter." ¹⁹Elisha said to him, "Go in peace." So Naaman left.

²⁰He had traveled only a short distance, when Gehazi the servant of Elisha the man of God said to himself, "Look, my master has spared this Naaman the Aramean by not receiving from his hands gifts that he brought. As Yahweh lives, I will run after him and receive something from him." ²¹So Gehazi followed after Naaman. When Naaman saw someone running after him, he jumped down from his chariot to meet him and said, "Is everything alright?" ²²Gehazi said, "Everything is alright. My master has sent me, saying, 'See, 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.'" ²³Naaman replied, "I am very happy to give you two talents." Naaman urged Gehazi and tied two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothes, and laid them on two of his servants, who carried the bags of silver before Gehazi. ²⁴When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the bags of silver from their hands and hid them in the house; he sent the men away, and they left. ²⁵When Gehazi went in and stood before his master, Elisha said to him, "Where have you come from, Gehazi?" He answered, "Your servant went nowhere." ²⁶Elisha said to Gehazi, "Was not my spirit with you when the man turned his chariot to meet you? Is this a time to accept money and clothes, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants? ²⁷So the leprosy of Naaman will be on you and your descendants forever." So Gehazi went out from his presence, a leper as white as snow.

Chapter 6

¹The sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "The place where we live with you is too small for us all. ²Please let us go to the Jordan, and let every man cut down a tree there, and let us build us a place there where we may live." Elisha answered, "You may go ahead." ³One of them said, "Please go with your servants." Elisha answered, "I will go." ⁴So he went with them, and when they came to the Jordan, they began to cut down trees. ⁵But as one was chopping, the ax head fell into the water; he cried out and said, "Oh no, my master, it was borrowed!" ⁶So the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" The man showed Elisha the place. He then cut off a stick, threw it in the water, and made the iron float. ⁷Elisha said, "Pick it up." So the man reached out his hand and grabbed it.

⁸Now the king of Aram was waging war against Israel. He consulted with his servants, saying, "My camp will be in such and such a place." ⁹So the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, "Be careful not to pass that place, for the Arameans are going down there." ¹⁰The king of Israel sent a message to the place about which the man of God had spoken and warned him. More than once or twice, when the king went there, he was on his guard. ¹¹The king of Aram was enraged about these warnings, and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not tell me who among us is for the king of Israel?" ¹²So one of his servants said, "No, my master, king, for Elisha the prophet in Israel tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your own bedroom!" ¹³The king replied, "Go and see where Elisha is so I may send men and capture him." It was told him, "See, he is in Dothan."

¹⁴So the king sent to Dothan horses, chariots, and a large army. They came by night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵When the servant of the man of God had risen early and gone outside, behold, a large army with horses and chariots surrounded the city. His servant said to him, "Oh, my master! What will we do?" ¹⁶Elisha answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷Elisha prayed and said, "Yahweh, I beg that you will open his eyes that he may see." Then Yahweh opened the servant's eyes, and he saw. Behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around Elisha! ¹⁸When the Arameans came down to him, Elisha prayed to Yahweh and said, "Strike these people blind, I ask you." So Yahweh made them blind, just as Elisha had asked. ¹⁹Then Elisha told the Arameans, "This is not the way, neither is this the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you are looking for." Then he led them to Samaria.

²⁰It came about that when they had come into Samaria, Elisha said, "Yahweh, open the eyes of these men that they may see." Yahweh opened their eyes and they saw, and behold, they were in the middle of the city of Samaria. ²¹The king of Israel said to Elisha, when he saw them, "My father, should I kill them? Should I kill them?" ²²Elisha answered, "You must not kill them. Would you kill those whom you had taken captive with your sword and bow? Put bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master." ²³So the king prepared much food for them, and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went back to their master. Those bands of Aramean soldiers did not return for a long time into the land of Israel.

²⁴Later after this Ben Hadad king of Aram gathered all his army and attacked Samaria and besieged it. ²⁵So there was a great famine in Samaria. 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. ²⁶As the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried to him, saying, "Help, my master, king." ²⁷He said, "If Yahweh does not help you, how can I help you? Is there anything coming from the threshing floor or winepress?" ²⁸The king continued, "What is troubling you?" She answered, "This woman said to me, 'Give your son so that we may eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow.'" ²⁹So we boiled my son and ate him, and I said to her on the next day, "Give your son that we may eat him, but she has hidden her son." ³⁰So when the king heard the words of the woman, he tore his clothes (now he was passing by on the wall), and the people looked and saw that he had sackcloth underneath, against his skin. ³¹Then he said, "May God do so to me, and more also, if the head of Elisha son of Shaphat remains on him today."

³²But Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. The king sent a man from before him, but when the messenger came to Elisha, 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 the door shut against him. Is not the

sound of his master's feet behind him?" ³³While he was still talking with them, behold, the messenger came down to him. The king had said, "Behold, this trouble comes from Yahweh. Why should I wait for Yahweh any longer?"

Chapter 7

¹Elisha said, "Hear the word of Yahweh. This is what Yahweh says: '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.'" ²Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, "See, even if Yahweh should make windows in heaven, can this thing happen?" Elisha replied, "See, you will watch it happen with your own eyes, but you will not eat any of it."

³Now there were four men with leprosy right outside the city gate. They said one to another, "Why should we sit here until we die? ⁴If we say that we should go into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we will die there. But if we still sit here, we will still die. Now then, come, let us go to the army of the Arameans. If they keep us alive, we will live, and if they kill us, we will only die." ⁵So they rose up at twilight to go into the Aramean camp; when they arrived at the outermost part of the camp, there was no one there. ⁶For the Lord had made the Aramean army hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses—the noise of another large army, and they said to each other, "The king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and Egyptians to come against us." ⁷So the soldiers arose and fled in the twilight; they left their tents, their horses, their donkeys, and the camp as it was, and fled for their lives. ⁸When the men with leprosy came to the outermost part of the camp, they went into one tent and ate and drank, and carried away silver and gold and clothes, and went and hid them. They came back and entered into another tent and carried plunder away from there also, and went and hid it.

⁹Then they said each other, "We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, but we are keeping quiet about it. If we wait until daybreak, punishment will overtake us. Now then, come, let us go and tell the king's household."

¹⁰So they went and called the gatekeepers of the city. They told them, saying, "We went to the camp of the Arameans, but there was no one there, not the sound of anyone, but there were the horses tied, and the donkeys tied, and the tents as they were." ¹¹Then the gatekeepers shouted out the news, and then it was told inside the king's household. ¹²Then the king arose at night and said to his servants, "I will tell you now what the Arameans have done to us. They know that we are hungry, so they have gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the fields. They are saying, 'When they come out of the city, we will take them alive, and get into the city.'" ¹³One of the king's servants answered and said, "I beg you, let some men take five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city. They are like all the rest of the population of Israel who are left—most are now dead; let us send them and see." ¹⁴So they took two chariots with horses, and the king sent them after the army of the Arameans, saying, "Go and see." ¹⁵They went after them to the Jordan, and all the road was full of clothes and equipment that the Arameans had cast away in their hurry. So the messengers returned and told the king.

¹⁶The people went out and plundered the camp of the Arameans. So a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, just as the word of Yahweh had said. ¹⁷The king had ordered the captain on whose hand he had leaned to be in charge of the gate, and the people trampled him down in the gateway. He died as the man of God had said, who spoke when the king had come down to him. ¹⁸So it happened as the man of God had said to the king, saying, "About this time in the gate of Samaria, two measures of barley will be available for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel." ¹⁹That captain had answered the man of God and said, "See, even if Yahweh should make windows in heaven, can this thing happen?" Elisha had said, "See, you will watch it happen with your own eyes, but you will not eat any of it." ²⁰That is what exactly what happened to him, for the people trampled him in the gate, and he died.

Chapter 8

¹Now Elisha had spoken to the woman whose son he had restored to life. He said to her, "Arise, and go with your household, and stay wherever you can in another land, because Yahweh has called for a famine which will come on

this land for seven years." ²So the woman arose and she obeyed the word of the man of God. She went with her household and lived in the land of the Philistines seven years. ³It came about at the end of seven years that the woman returned from the land of the Philistines, and she went to the king to beg him for her house and for her land. ⁴Now the king was talking with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, "Please tell me all the great things that Elisha has done." ⁵Then as he was telling the king how Elisha had restored to life the child who was dead, the very woman whose son he had restored to life came to beg the king for her house and land. Gehazi said, "My master, king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life." ⁶When the king asked the woman about her son, she explained it to him. So the king ordered a certain officer for her, saying, "Give back to her all that was hers and all the harvests of her fields since the day that she left the land until now."

⁷Elisha came to Damascus where Ben Hadad the king of Aram was sick. The king was told, "The man of God has come here." ⁸The king said to Hazael, "Take a gift in your hand and go meet the man of God, and consult with Yahweh through him, saying, 'Will I recover from this sickness?'" ⁹So Hazael went to meet him and took a gift with him of every kind of good thing of Damascus, carried by forty camels. So Hazael came and stood before Elisha and said, "Your son Ben Hadad king of Aram has sent me to you, saying, 'Will I recover from this sickness?'" ¹⁰Elisha said to him, "Go, say to Ben Hadad, 'You will surely recover,' but Yahweh has shown me that he will surely die." ¹¹Then Elisha stared at Hazael until he was ashamed, and the man of God wept. ¹²Hazael asked, "Why do you weep, my master?" He answered, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the people of Israel. You will set their strongholds on fire, and you will kill their young men with the sword, dash in pieces their little ones, and rip open their pregnant women." ¹³Hazael replied, "Who is your servant, that he should do this great thing? He is only a dog." Elisha answered, "Yahweh has shown me that you will be king over Aram." ¹⁴Then Hazael left Elisha and came to his master, who said to him, "What did Elisha say to you?" He answered, "He told me that you would certainly recover." ¹⁵Then the next day Hazael took the blanket and dipped it in water, and spread it on Ben Hadad's face so that he died. Then Hazael became king in his place.

¹⁶In the fifth year of Joram son of Ahab, king of Israel, Jehoram began to reign. He was the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. He began to reign when Jehoshaphat was king of Judah. ¹⁷Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned for eight years in Jerusalem. ¹⁸Jehoram walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab was doing; for he had Ahab's daughter as his wife, and he did what was evil in Yahweh's sight. ¹⁹However, because of his servant David, Yahweh did not want to destroy Judah, since he had told him that he would always give him descendants.

²⁰In Jehoram's days, Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and they set a king over themselves. ²¹Then Jehoram crossed over to Zair with all his chariots. When the Edomites surrounded Jehoram, his chariot commanders rose up and attacked them during the night; but Jehoram's army ran away and went back to their homes. ²²So Edom has been in rebellion against the rule of Judah to this present day. Libnah also revolted at the same time. ²³As for the other matters concerning Jehoram, all that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ²⁴Jehoram rested with his fathers and was buried with them in the city of David. Then Ahaziah his son became king in his place.

²⁵In the twelfth year of Joram son of Ahab, king of Israel, Ahaziah son of Jehoram, king of Judah, began to reign. ²⁶Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned for one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah; she was the daughter of Omri, king of Israel. ²⁷Ahaziah walked in the ways of the house of Ahab; he did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, as the house of Ahab was doing, for Ahaziah was a son-in-law to the house of Ahab. ²⁸Ahaziah went with Joram son of Ahab, to fight against Hazael, king of Aram, at Ramoth Gilead. The Arameans wounded Joram. ²⁹King Joram returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds that the Arameans had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Aram. So Ahaziah son of Jehoram, king of Judah, went down to Jezreel to see Joram son of Ahab, because Joram had been wounded.

Chapter 9

¹Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets and said to him, "Dress for travel, then take this little bottle of oil in your hand and go to Ramoth Gilead. ²When you arrive, look for Jehu son of Jehoshaphat son of Nimshi, and go in and make him arise up from among his companions, and conduct him to an inner chamber. ³Then take the bottle of oil and pour it on his head and say, 'Yahweh says this: "I have anointed you king over Israel.'" Then open the door, and run off; do not delay." ⁴So the young man, the young prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead. ⁵When he arrived, behold, the captains of the army were sitting. So the young prophet said, "I have come on an errand to you, captain." Jehu replied, "To which of us?" The young prophet answered, "To you, captain." ⁶So Jehu arose and went into the house, and the prophet poured the oil on his head and said to Jehu, "Yahweh, the God of Israel, says this: 'I have anointed you king over the people of Yahweh, over Israel. ⁷You must kill the family of Ahab your master, so that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of Yahweh, who were murdered by the hand of Jezebel. ⁸For the whole family of Ahab will perish, and I will cut off from Ahab every male child, whether he is a slave or a free person. ⁹I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha son of Ahijah. ¹⁰The dogs will eat Jezebel in Jezreel, and there will be no one to bury her.'" Then the prophet opened the door and ran off.

¹¹Then Jehu came out to the servants of his master, and one said to him, "Is everything alright? Why did this mad fellow come to you?" Jehu answered them, "You know the man and the kinds of things he says." ¹²They said, "That is a lie. Tell us." Jehu answered, "He said this and that to me, and he also said, 'This is what Yahweh says: I have anointed you as king over Israel.'" ¹³Then each of them quickly took off his outer garment and put it under Jehu at the top of the steps. They blew the trumpet and said, "Jehu is king."

¹⁴In this way Jehu son of Jehoshaphat son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. Now Joram had been defending Ramoth Gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Aram, ¹⁵but King Joram had gone back to Jezreel to be healed of the wounds that the Arameans had given him, when he had fought against Hazael king of Aram.

Jehu said to the servants of Joram, "If this is your opinion, then let no one escape and go out of the city, in order to go tell this news in Jezreel." ¹⁶So Jehu rode in a chariot to Jezreel; for Joram was resting there. Now Ahaziah king of Judah had come down to see Joram.

¹⁷The watchman was standing on the tower in Jezreel, and he saw the company of Jehu as he came at a distance; he said, "I see a group of men coming." Joram said, "Take a horseman, and send him out to meet them; tell him to say, 'Are you coming in peace?'" ¹⁸So a man was sent on horseback to meet him; he said, "The king says this: 'Are you coming in peace?'" So Jehu said, "What have you to do with peace? Turn and ride behind me." Then the watchman told the king, "The messenger has met them, but he is not coming back." ¹⁹Then he sent out a second man on horseback, who came to them and said, "The king says this: 'Are you coming in peace?'" Jehu answered, "What have you to do with peace? Turn and ride behind me." ²⁰Again the watchman reported, "He has met them, but he is not coming back. For the way that the chariot is being driven is the way that Jehu son of Nimshi drives; he is driving wildly."

²¹So Joram said, "Get my chariot ready." They prepared his chariot, and Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah rode out, each in his chariot, to meet Jehu. They found him at the property of Naboth the Jezreelite. ²²When Joram saw Jehu, he said, "Are you coming in peace, Jehu?" He answered, "What peace is there, when the idolatrous acts of prostitution and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel are so many?" ²³So Joram turned his chariot and fled and said to Ahaziah, "There is treachery, Ahaziah." ²⁴Then Jehu drew his bow with his full strength and shot Joram between his shoulders; the arrow went through his heart, and he sank down in his chariot. ²⁵Then Jehu said to Bidkar his captain, "Pick him up and throw him in the field of Naboth the Jezreelite. Think about how when you and I rode together after Ahab his father, Yahweh placed this prophecy against him: ²⁶Yesterday I saw the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons—declares Yahweh—and I will surely make you pay for it on this field—declares Yahweh. Now then, pick him up and throw him on this field, according to the word of Yahweh."

²⁷When Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled up the road to Beth Haggan. But Jehu followed him, and said, "Kill him also in the chariot," and they shot him at the ascent of Gur, which is by Ibleam. Ahaziah fled to Megiddo and died there. ²⁸His servants carried his body in a chariot to Jerusalem and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the city of David.

²⁹Now it was in the eleventh year of Joram son of Ahab that Ahaziah had begun to reign over Judah.

³⁰When Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it, and she painted her eyes, arranged her hair, and looked out the window. ³¹As Jehu was entering the gate, she said to him, "Are you coming in peace, you Zimri, your master's murderer?" ³²Jehu looked up at the window and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" Then two or three eunuchs looked out. ³³So Jehu said, "Throw her down." So they threw Jezebel down, and some of her blood splattered on the wall and the horses, and Jehu trampled her underfoot. ³⁴When Jehu entered the palace, he ate and drank. Then he said, "See now to this cursed woman and bury her, for she is a king's daughter." ³⁵They went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull, the feet, and the palms of her hands. ³⁶So they came back and told Jehu. He said, "This is the word of Yahweh which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'In the land at Jezreel the dogs will eat the flesh of Jezebel, ³⁷and the body of Jezebel will be like dung on the surface of the fields in the land at Jezreel, so that no one will be able to say, "This is Jezebel."'"

Chapter 10

¹Now Ahab had seventy descendants in Samaria. Jehu wrote letters and sent them to Samaria, to the rulers of Jezreel, including the elders and the guardians of Ahab's descendants, saying, ²"Your master's descendants are with you, and you also have chariots and horses and a fortified city and armor. So then, as soon as this letter comes to you, ³select the best and most deserving of your master's descendants and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's royal line." ⁴But they were terrified and said among themselves, "See, the two kings could not stand before Jehu. So how can we stand?" ⁵Then the man who was in charge of the palace, and the man who was over the city, and the elders also, and they who raised the children, sent word back to Jehu, saying, "We are your servants. We will do everything that you command us. We will not make any man king. Do what is good in your eyes." ⁶Then Jehu wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, "If you are on my side, and if you will listen to my voice, you must take the heads of the men of your master's descendants, and come to me to Jezreel by tomorrow this time." Now the king's descendants, seventy in number, were with the important men of the city, who were bringing them up. ⁷So when the letter came to them, they took the king's sons and killed them, seventy persons, put their heads in baskets, and sent them to Jehu in Jezreel. ⁸A messenger came to Jehu, saying, "They have brought the heads of the king's sons." So he said, "Put them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning." ⁹In the morning Jehu went out and stood, and said to all the people, "You are innocent. See, I plotted against my master and killed him, but who killed all these? ¹⁰Now you should certainly realize that no part of Yahweh's word, the word that he spoke concerning the family of Ahab, will fall to the ground, for Yahweh has done what he spoke about through his servant Elijah." ¹¹So Jehu killed all who remained in the family of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his important men, his close friends, and his priests, until none of them remained.

¹²Then Jehu arose and left; he went to Samaria. As he was arriving at Beth Eked of the shepherd, ¹³he met brothers of Ahaziah king of Judah. Jehu said to them, "Who are you?" They answered, "We are brothers of Ahaziah, and we are going down to greet the children of the king and the children of Queen Jezebel." ¹⁴Jehu said to his own men, "Take them alive." So they took them alive and killed them at the well of Beth Eked, all forty-two men. He did not leave any of them alive.

¹⁵When Jehu had left there, he met Jehonadab son of Recab coming to meet him. Jehu greeted him and said to him, "Is your heart with me, as my heart is with yours?" Jehonadab answered, "It is." Jehu said, "If it is, give me your hand." So he gave Jehu his hand, and Jehu took Jehonadab up with him into the chariot. ¹⁶Jehu said, "Come with me and see my zeal for Yahweh." So he had Jonadab ride along with him in his chariot. ¹⁷When he came to Samaria,

Jehu killed all who remained from Ahab's descendants in Samaria, until he had destroyed Ahab's royal line, just as was told them before by the word of Yahweh, which he had spoken to Elijah.

¹⁸Then Jehu gathered all the people together and said to them, "Ahab served Baal a little, but Jehu will serve him much. ¹⁹Now therefore call to me all the prophets of Baal, all his worshipers, and all his priests. Let no one be left out, for I have a great sacrifice to offer to Baal. Whoever does not come will not live." But Jehu did this deceitfully, with the intent to kill the worshipers of Baal. ²⁰Jehu said, "Set a time to have an assembly for Baal." So they announced it. ²¹Then Jehu sent throughout all Israel and all the worshipers of Baal came, so that there was not a man left who did not come. They came into the temple of Baal, and it was filled from one end to another. ²²Jehu said to the man who kept the priest's wardrobe, "Bring out robes for all the worshipers of Baal." So the man brought out robes to them. ²³So Jehu went with Jehonadab son of Recab into the house of Baal, and he said to the worshipers of Baal, "Search and make sure that there is no one here with you from the servants of Yahweh, but the worshipers of Baal alone." ²⁴Then they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings. Now Jehu had chosen eighty men who were standing outside, and he told them, "If any of the men whom I bring into your hands escapes, whoever lets that man escape, his life will be taken for the life of the one who escaped."

²⁵So then as soon as Jehu finished offering the burnt offering, he said to the guard and to the captains, "Go in and kill them. Let no one come out." So they killed them with the edge of the sword, and the guard and the captains threw them out and went into the inner room of the house of Baal. ²⁶They dragged out the stone pillars that were in the house of Baal, and they burned them. ²⁷Then they broke down the pillar of Baal, and destroyed the house of Baal and made it a latrine, which it is to this day. ²⁸That is how Jehu destroyed Baal worship from Israel.

²⁹But Jehu did not leave the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, by which he made Israel sin—that is, the worship of the golden calves in Bethel and Dan. ³⁰So Yahweh said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in executing what was right in my eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in my heart, your descendants will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." ³¹But Jehu took no care to walk in the law of Yahweh, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam, by which he made Israel sin.

³²In those days Yahweh began to cut off regions from Israel, and Hazael defeated the Israelites at the borders of Israel, ³³from the Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the Valley of the Arnon, through Gilead to Bashan. ³⁴As for the other matters concerning Jehu, and all that he did, and all his power, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel? ³⁵Jehu slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in Samaria. Then Jehoahaz his son became king in his place. ³⁶The time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty-eight years.

Chapter 11

¹Now when Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, saw that her son was dead, she arose and killed all the royal children. ²But Jehosheba, a daughter of King Jehoram and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash son of Ahaziah, and hid him away from among the king's sons who were killed, along with his nurse; she put them into a bedroom. They hid him from Athaliah so that he was not killed. ³He remained with her six years, hidden in the house of Yahweh, while Athaliah reigned over the land.

⁴In the seventh year, Jehoiada sent messages and brought the commanders of hundreds of the Carites and of the guard, and brought them to himself, into the temple of Yahweh. He made a covenant with them, and he made them swear an oath in the house of Yahweh. Then he showed them the king's son. ⁵He commanded them, saying, "This is what you must do. A third of you who come on the Sabbath will keep watch over the king's house, ⁶and a third will be at the Sur Gate, and a third at the gate behind the guardhouse." ⁷The two other groups who are not serving on the Sabbath, you must keep the watch over the house of Yahweh for the king. ⁸You must surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand. Whoever enters within your ranks, let him be killed. You must stay with the king when he goes out, and when he comes in.

⁹So the commanders of hundreds obeyed everything Jehoiada the priest commanded. Each one took his men, those who were to come in to serve on the Sabbath, and those who were to stop serving on that Sabbath; and they came to Jehoiada the priest. ¹⁰Then Jehoiada the priest gave the commanders of hundreds the spears and shields that belonged to King David and that were in the house of Yahweh. ¹¹So the guards stood, each man with his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the temple to the left side, near the altar and the temple, surrounding the king. ¹²Then Jehoiada brought out the king's son Joash, put the crown on him, and gave him the covenant decrees. Then they made him king and anointed him. They clapped their hands and said, "Long live the king!"

¹³When Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people in the house of Yahweh.

¹⁴She looked, and, behold, the king was standing by the pillar, as the custom was, and the captains and the trumpeters were by the king. All the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing trumpets. Then Athaliah tore her clothes and shouted, "Treason! Treason!" ¹⁵Then Jehoiada the priest ordered the commanders of hundreds who were over the army, saying, "Bring her out between the ranks. Anyone who follows her, kill him with the sword." For the priest had said, "Do not let her be killed in the house of Yahweh." ¹⁶So they seized her as she reached the place where the horses enter the palace grounds, and there she was killed.

¹⁷Then Jehoiada made a covenant between Yahweh and the king and people, that they should be Yahweh's people, and also between the king and the people. ¹⁸So all the people of the land went to the house of Baal and tore it down. They smashed Baal's altars and his idol figures to pieces, and they killed Mattan, the priest of Baal, in front of those altars. Then Jehoiada the priest appointed guards over the temple of Yahweh. ¹⁹Jehoiada took with him the commanders of hundreds, the Carites, the guard, and all the people of the land, and together they brought down the king from the house of Yahweh and they went into the king's house, entering by way of the gate of the guards. Joash took his place on the royal throne. ²⁰So all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet after Athaliah had been killed with the sword at the king's house.

²¹Joash was seven years old when he began to reign.

Chapter 12

¹In the seventh year of Jehu, the reign of Joash began; he reigned for forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah, of Beersheba. ²Joash did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh all the time, because Jehoiada the priest was instructing him. ³But the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

⁴Joash said to the priests, "All the money that is brought in as sacred offerings into the house of Yahweh, that money for which each person is assessed—whether it is the money collected in the census, or the money received from personal vows, or the money brought in by people motivated by Yahweh in their hearts to give— ⁵the priests should receive the money from one of their treasurers and repair whatever damage is found in the temple." ⁶But by the twenty-third year of King Joash, the priests had not repaired anything in the temple. ⁷Then King Joash called for Jehoiada the priest and for the other priests; he said to them, "Why have you not repaired anything in the temple? Now take no more money from your taxpayers, but take what has been collected for repairs of the temple and give it to those who can make the repairs." ⁸So the priests consented to take no more money from the people and not repair the temple themselves.

⁹Instead, Jehoiada the priest took a chest, bored a hole in its lid, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one comes into the house of Yahweh. The priests who were guarding the temple entrance put into it all the money that was brought to the house of Yahweh. ¹⁰Whenever they saw that there was much money in the chest, the king's scribe and the high priest would come and put the money in bags and then count it, the money found in the temple of Yahweh. ¹¹They gave the money that was weighed out into the hands of men who took care of the temple of Yahweh. They paid it out to the carpenters and the builders who worked on the temple of Yahweh, ¹²and to the masons and the stonecutters, for buying timber and cutting stone to repair the temple of Yahweh, and for all that was needed to be paid to repair it. ¹³But the money that was brought into the house of Yahweh did not pay

to make for it any silver cups, lamp trimmers, basins, trumpets, or any gold or silver furnishing. ¹⁴They gave this money to those who did the work of repairing the house of Yahweh. ¹⁵In addition, they did not require the money paid for repairs to be accounted for by the men who received it and paid it to the workmen, because these men were honest. ¹⁶But the money for the guilt offerings and the money for the sin offerings was not brought into the temple of Yahweh, because it belonged to the priests.

¹⁷Then Hazael king of Aram attacked and fought against Gath, and took it. Hazael then turned to attack Jerusalem.

¹⁸Joash king of Judah took all the things that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had set apart, and what he had set apart, and all the gold that was found in the storerooms of the houses of Yahweh and of the king and he sent them to Hazael king of Aram. Then Hazael went away from Jerusalem.

¹⁹As for the other matters concerning Joash, all that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ²⁰His servants arose and plotted together; they attacked Joash in Beth Millo, on the way that goes down to Silla. ²¹Jozabad^[1] son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad son of Shomer, his servants, attacked him, and he died. They buried Joash with his ancestors in the city of David, and Amaziah, his son, became king in his place.

12:21 ^[1] .

Chapter 13

¹In the twenty-third year of Joash son of Ahaziah king of Judah, Jehoahaz son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned seventeen years. ²He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh and followed the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin; and Jehoahaz did not turn away from them. ³The anger of Yahweh burned against Israel, and he gave them continually into the hand of Hazael king of Aram and into the hand of Ben Hadad son of Hazael. ⁴So Jehoahaz implored Yahweh, and Yahweh listened to him because he saw the oppression of Israel, how the king of Aram was oppressing them. ⁵So Yahweh gave Israel a rescuer, and they escaped from the hand of the Arameans, and the people of Israel began to live in their homes as they had before. ⁶Nevertheless, they did not depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who caused Israel to sin, and they continued in them; and the Asherah pole remained in Samaria. ⁷The Arameans left Jehoahaz with only fifty horsemen, ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen, for the king of Aram had destroyed them and made them like the chaff at threshing time. ⁸As for the other matters concerning Jehoahaz, and all that he did and his power, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel? ⁹So Jehoahaz slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in Samaria. Jehoash his son became king in his place.

¹⁰In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, the reign of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz began over Israel in Samaria; he reigned sixteen years. ¹¹He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. He did not leave behind any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, by which he had made Israel to sin, but he walked in them. ¹²As for the other matters concerning Jehoash, 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 events of the kings of Israel? ¹³Jehoash slept with his ancestors, and Jeroboam sat on his throne. Jehoash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

¹⁴Now Elisha became sick with an illness by which he later died, so Jehoash the king of Israel came down to him and wept over him. He said, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and the horsemen are taking you away!"

¹⁵Elisha said to him, "Pick up a bow and some arrows," so Jehoash picked up a bow and some arrows. ¹⁶Elisha said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow," so he put his hand on it. Then Elisha laid his hands on the king's hands. ¹⁷Elisha said, "Open the window eastward," so he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot!", and he shot. Elisha said, "This is Yahweh's arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Aram, for you will attack the Arameans in Aphek until you have consumed them." ¹⁸Then Elisha said, "Take the arrows," so Jehoash took them. He said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground with them," and he struck the ground three times, then stopped. ¹⁹But the man of God was angry with him and said, "You should have hit the ground five or six times. Then you would have attacked Aram until you annihilated it, but now you will attack Aram only three times."

²⁰Then Elisha died, and they buried him. Now groups of Moabites invaded the land at the beginning of the year.

²¹As they were burying a certain man, they saw a group of Moabites, so they threw the body into Elisha's grave. As soon as the man touched Elisha's bones, he revived and stood up on his feet.

²²Hazael king of Aram oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz. ²³But Yahweh was gracious to Israel, and had compassion on them and concern for them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. So Yahweh did not destroy them, and he still has not driven them away from his presence. ²⁴Hazael king of Aram died, and Ben Hadad his son became king in his place. ²⁵Jehoash son of Jehoahaz took back from Ben Hadad son of Hazael the cities that had been taken from Jehoahaz his father by war. Jehoash attacked him three times, and he recovered those cities of Israel.

Chapter 14

¹In the second year of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, Amaziah son of Joash, king of Judah, began to reign.

²He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddan, of Jerusalem. ³He did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, yet not like David his father. He did everything that Joash, his father, had done. ⁴But the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense at the high places. ⁵It came about that as soon as his rule was well established, he killed the servants who had murdered his father, the king. ⁶Yet he did not put the sons of the murderers to death; instead, he acted according to what was written in the book of the law Moses, as Yahweh had commanded, saying, "The fathers must not be put to death for their children, neither must the children be put to death for their parents. Instead, every person must be put to death for his own sin." ⁷He killed ten thousand soldiers of Edom in the Valley of Salt; he also took Sela in war and called it Joktheel, which is what it is called to this day.

⁸Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us meet each other face to face in battle." ⁹But Jehoash the king of Israel sent messengers back to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "A thistle that was in Lebanon sent a message to a cedar in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son for a wife,' but a wild beast in Lebanon walked by and trampled down the thistle. ¹⁰You have indeed attacked Edom, and your heart has lifted you up. Take pride in your victory, but stay at home, for why should you cause yourself trouble and fall, both you and Judah with you?"

¹¹But Amaziah would not listen. So Jehoash king of Israel attacked and he and Amaziah king of Judah met each other face to face at Beth Shemesh, which belongs to Judah. ¹²Judah was defeated by Israel, and every man fled home. ¹³Jehoash king of Israel, captured Amaziah, king of Judah son of Jehoash son of Ahaziah, at Beth Shemesh. He came to Jerusalem and tore down the wall of Jerusalem from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate, four hundred cubits in distance. ¹⁴He took all the gold and silver, all the objects that were found in the house of Yahweh, and the valuable things in the king's palace, with hostages also, and returned to Samaria.

¹⁵As for the other matters concerning Jehoash, all that he did, his power, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel? ¹⁶Then Jehoash slept with his ancestors and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel, and Jeroboam, his son, became king in his place.

¹⁷Amaziah son of Joash, king of Judah, lived fifteen years after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel.

¹⁸As for the other matters concerning Amaziah, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ¹⁹They made a conspiracy against Amaziah in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish. He fled to Lachish, but they sent men after him to Lachish and killed him there. ²⁰They brought him back on horses, and he was buried with his ancestors in the city of David. ²¹All the people of Judah took Azariah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in place of his father Amaziah. ²²It was Azariah who rebuilt Elath and restored it to Judah, after King Amaziah slept with his ancestors.

²³In the fifteenth year of Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria; he reigned forty-one years. ²⁴He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. He did not depart from any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin. ²⁵He restored the border of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah, following the commands of the word of Yahweh, the God of Israel, which he had spoken through his servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet, who was from Gath Hopher. ²⁶For Yahweh saw the suffering of Israel, that it was very bitter for everyone, both slave and free, and that there was no rescuer for Israel. ²⁷So Yahweh said that he would not blot out the name of Israel under heaven; instead, he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam son of Jehoash.

²⁸As for the other matters concerning Jeroboam, all that he did, his power, how he waged war and recovered Damascus and Hamath, which had belonged to Judah, for Israel, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel? ²⁹Jeroboam slept with his ancestors, with the kings of Israel, and Zechariah his son became king in his place.

Chapter 15

¹In the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah began to reign. ²Azariah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned for fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jekoliah, and she was from Jerusalem. ³He did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, just as his father Amaziah had done. ⁴However, the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense at the high places. ⁵Yahweh afflicted the king so that he was a leper to the day of his death and lived in a separate house. Jotham, the king's son, was over the household and ruled the people of the land. ⁶As for the other matters concerning Azariah, all that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ⁷So Azariah slept with his ancestors; they buried him with his ancestors in the city of David. Jotham, his son, became king in his place.

⁸In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah, Zechariah son of Jeroboam reigned over Israel in Samaria for six months. ⁹He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, as his fathers had done. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin. ¹⁰Shallum son of Jabesh conspired against Zechariah, attacked him in Ibleam, and killed him. Then he became king in his place. ¹¹As for the other matters concerning Zechariah, they are written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel. ¹²This was the word of Yahweh that he spoke to Jehu, saying, "Your descendants will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." That is what happened.

¹³Shallum son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah, and he reigned only one month in Samaria. ¹⁴Menahem son of Gadi went up from Tirzah to Samaria. There he attacked Shallum son of Jabesh, in Samaria. He killed him and became king in his place. ¹⁵As for the other matters concerning Shallum and the conspiracy that he formed, they are written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel. ¹⁶Then Menahem attacked Tiphshah and all who were there, and the borders around Tirzah, because they did not open up the city to him. So he attacked it, and he ripped open all the pregnant women in that village.^[1] ¹⁷In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah, Menahem son of Gadi began to reign over Israel; he reigned ten years in Samaria. ¹⁸He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. For his whole life, he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin. ¹⁹Then Pul the king of Assyria came against the land, and Menahem gave Pul one thousand talents of silver, so that Pul's support might be with him to strengthen the kingdom of Israel in his hand. ²⁰Menahem exacted this money from Israel by requiring each of the wealthy men to pay fifty shekels of silver to him to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back and did not stay there in the land. ²¹As for the other matters concerning Menahem, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel? ²²So Menahem slept with his ancestors, and Pekahiah his son became king in his place.

²³In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekahiah son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned two years. ²⁴He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. He did not leave behind the sins of Jeroboam son

of Nebat, by which he had caused Israel to sin. ²⁵Pekahiah had an officer named Pekah son of Remaliah, who conspired against him. Along with fifty men of Gilead, Pekah killed Pekahiah as well as Argob and Arieah in Samaria, in the citadel of the king's palace. Pekah killed Pekahiah and became king in his place. ²⁶As for the other matters concerning Pekahiah, all that he did, they are written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel.

²⁷In the fifty-second year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekah son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned twenty years. ²⁸He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin.

²⁹In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria came and took Ijon, Abel Beth Maacah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, Gilead, Galilee, and all the land of Naphtali. He carried away the people to Assyria. ³⁰So Hoshea son of Elah formed a conspiracy against Pekah son of Remaliah. He attacked him and killed him. Then he became king in his place, in the twentieth year of Jotham son of Uzziah. ³¹As for the other matters concerning Pekah, all that he did, they are written in the book of the events of the kings of Israel.

³²In the second year of Pekah son of Remaliah, king of Israel, Jotham son of Azariah, king of Judah began to reign. ³³He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jerushah; she was the daughter of Zadok. ³⁴Jotham did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh. He followed the example of all his father Azariah had done. ³⁵However, the high places were not taken away. The people still sacrificed and burned incense at the high places. Jotham built the upper gate of the house of Yahweh. ³⁶As for the other matters concerning Jotham, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ³⁷In those days Yahweh began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Aram, and Pekah son of Remaliah. ³⁸Jotham slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in the city of David, his ancestor. Then Ahaz, his son, became king in his place.

15:16 ^[1], one ancient version and some modern versions read, .

Chapter 16

¹In the seventeenth year of Pekah son of Remaliah, Ahaz son of Jotham king of Judah, began to reign. ²Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. He did not do what was right in the eyes of Yahweh his God, as David his ancestor had done. ³Instead, he walked in the way of the kings of Israel; indeed, he made his son pass through the fire, following the detestable practices of the nations, which Yahweh had driven out before the people of Israel. ⁴He offered sacrifices and burned incense at the high places, on the hilltops, and under every green tree.

⁵Then Rezin, king of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah, king of Israel, came up to Jerusalem to attack. They besieged Ahaz, but they could not conquer him. ⁶At that time, Rezin king of Aram recovered Elath for Aram and drove the men of Judah out of Elath. Then the Arameans came to Elath where they have lived to this day.

⁷So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria, saying, "I am your servant and your son. Come up and save me from the hand of the king of Aram and from the hand of the king of Israel, who have attacked me." ⁸So Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of Yahweh and among the treasures of the king's palace and he sent it as a gift to the king of Assyria. ⁹Then the king of Assyria listened to him, and the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, conquered it and carried off its people as prisoners to Kir. He also killed Rezin the king of Aram.

¹⁰King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria. At Damascus he saw an altar. He sent to Uriah the priest a model of the altar and its pattern and the design for all the workmanship needed. ¹¹So Uriah the priest built an altar to be just like the plans that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus. He finished it before King Ahaz arrived back from Damascus. ¹²When the king came from Damascus he saw the altar; the king approached the altar and made offerings on it. ¹³He made his burnt offering and his grain offering, poured out his drink offering,

and sprinkled the blood of his fellowship offerings on the altar. ¹⁴The bronze altar that was before Yahweh—he brought it from the front of the temple, from between his altar and the temple of Yahweh and put it on the north side of his altar. ¹⁵Then King Ahaz commanded Uriah the priest, saying, “On the large altar burn the morning burnt offering and the evening grain offering, and the king’s burnt offering and his grain offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their grain offering and their drink offerings. Sprinkle on it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice. But the bronze altar will be for me to consult for guidance.”

¹⁶Uriah the priest did just what King Ahaz commanded.

¹⁷Then King Ahaz removed the panels and the basins from the portable stands; he also took down the sea from off the bronze oxen that were under it and put it on a stone pavement. ¹⁸He removed the covered walkway for the Sabbath that they had built at the temple, along with the king’s entry outside the temple of Yahweh, because of the king of Assyria. ¹⁹As for the other matters concerning Ahaz and what he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ²⁰Ahaz slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in the city of David. Hezekiah his son became king in his place.

Chapter 17

¹In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, the reign of Hoshea son of Elah began. He ruled in Samaria over Israel for nine years. ²He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, yet not as the kings of Israel who were before him. ³Shalmaneser king of Assyria attacked him, and Hoshea became his servant and brought him tribute. ⁴Then the king of Assyria realized that Hoshea had been plotting against him, for Hoshea had sent messengers to So king of Egypt; also, he offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year. So the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison. ⁵Then the king of Assyria attacked throughout all the land, and attacked Samaria and besieged it for three years. ⁶In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria took Samaria and carried Israel away to Assyria. He put them in Halah, at the Habor River of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

⁷This captivity happened because the people of Israel had sinned against Yahweh their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. The people had been worshiping other gods ⁸and walking in the practices of the nations whom Yahweh had driven out before the people of Israel, and in the practices of the kings of Israel that they had done. ⁹The people of Israel did secretly—against Yahweh their God—things that were not right. They built for themselves high places in all their cities, from the watchtower to the fortress. ¹⁰They also set up stone pillars and Asherah poles on every high hill and under every green tree.

¹¹There they burned incense in all the high places, as the nations had done, those whom Yahweh had carried away before them. The Israelites performed wicked things to provoke Yahweh to anger; ¹²they worshiped idols, about which Yahweh had said to them, “You will not do this thing.” ¹³Yet Yahweh had testified to Israel and to Judah by every prophet and every seer, saying, “Turn from your evil ways and keep my commandments and my statutes, and be careful to keep all the law I commanded your fathers, and that I sent to you by my servants the prophets.” ¹⁴But they would not listen; instead they were very stubborn like their fathers who did not trust in Yahweh their God.

¹⁵They rejected his statutes and the covenant that he had made with their ancestors, and the covenant decrees that he had given to them. They followed useless practices and they themselves became useless. They followed the pagan nations who were around them, those that Yahweh had commanded them not to imitate. ¹⁶They ignored all the commandments of Yahweh their God. They made cast metal figures of two calves to worship. They made an Asherah pole, and they worshiped all the stars of the heavens and Baal. ¹⁷They made their sons and daughters pass through the fire, they used divination and enchantments, they sold themselves to do that which was evil in the sight of Yahweh, and they provoked him to anger. ¹⁸Therefore Yahweh was very angry with Israel and removed them out of his sight. There was no one left but the tribe of Judah alone.

¹⁹Even Judah did not keep the commandments of Yahweh their God, and they followed the practices that Israel had done. ²⁰So Yahweh rejected all the descendants of Israel; he afflicted them and gave them into the hand of those who would take the possession as spoil, until he had cast them out of his sight. ²¹He tore Israel from the royal line of David, and they made Jeroboam son of Nebat king. Jeroboam drove Israel away from following Yahweh and

made them commit a great sin. ²²The people of Israel followed all the sins of Jeroboam and they did not depart from them, ²³so Yahweh removed Israel from his sight, as he had said through all his servants the prophets that he would. So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria, and it is this way to this present day.

²⁴The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon and from Kuthah, and from Avva, and from Hamath and Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria in place of the people of Israel. They took over Samaria and lived in its cities. ²⁵It happened at the beginning of their residence there that they did not honor Yahweh. So Yahweh sent lions among them which killed some of them. ²⁶So they spoke to the king of Assyria, saying, "The nations that you have carried away and placed in the cities of Samaria do not know the practices required by the god of the land. So he has sent lions among them, and, see, the lions are killing people there because they do not know the practices required by the god of the land."

²⁷Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, "Take one of the priests there whom you brought from there, and let him go and live there, and let him teach them the practices required by the god of the land." ²⁸So one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Bethel; he taught them how they should honor Yahweh. ²⁹Every ethnic group made gods of their own, and put them in the high places that the Samaritans had made—every ethnic group in the cities where they lived. ³⁰The people of Babylon made Succoth Benoth; the people of Kuthah made Nergal; the people of Hamath made Ashima; ³¹the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak. The Sepharvites burned their children in the fire to Adrammelek and Anammelek, the gods of the Sepharvites. ³²They also honored Yahweh, and appointed from among themselves priests of the high places, who sacrificed for them in the temples at the high places. ³³They honored Yahweh and also worshiped their own gods, in the customs of the nations from among whom they had been taken away.

³⁴To this day they persist in their old customs. They neither honor Yahweh, nor do they follow the statutes, decrees, the law, or the commandments that Yahweh gave to the people of Jacob—whom he named Israel— ³⁵and with whom Yahweh had made a covenant and commanded them, "You will not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor worship them, nor sacrifice to them. ³⁶But Yahweh, who brought you up from the land of Egypt with great power and a raised arm, is the one you must honor; it is to him that you will prostrate yourselves, and it is to him that you will sacrifice. ³⁷The statutes and the decrees, the law and the commandments that he wrote for you, you will keep them forever. So you must not fear other gods, ³⁸and the covenant that I have made with you, you will not forget; neither will you honor other gods. ³⁹But Yahweh your God is who you will honor. He will rescue you from the might of your enemies." ⁴⁰They would not listen, because they continued to do what they had done in the past. ⁴¹So these nations feared Yahweh and they also worshiped their carved figures, and their children did the same—as did their children's children. They continue to do what their ancestors did, up to this day.

Chapter 18

¹Now in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezekiah son of Ahaz, king of Judah began to reign.

²He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abijah; she was the daughter of Zechariah. ³He did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, following the example of all that David, his ancestor, had done. ⁴He removed the high places, destroyed the stone pillars, and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke to pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, because in those days the people of Israel were burning incense to it; it was called "Nehushtan." ⁵Hezekiah trusted in Yahweh, the God of Israel, so that after him there was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among the kings who were before him. ⁶For he held on to Yahweh. He did not stop following him but kept his commandments, which Yahweh commanded Moses. ⁷So Yahweh was with Hezekiah, and wherever he went he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. ⁸He attacked the Philistines to Gaza and the borders around, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city.

⁹In the fourth year of King Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria and besieged it. ¹⁰At the end of three years they took it, in the sixth year

of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel; in this way Samaria was captured. ¹¹So the king of Assyria carried Israel away to Assyria and put them in Halah, and at the Habor River in Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes. ¹²He did this because they did not obey the voice of Yahweh their God, but they violated the terms of his covenant, all that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded. They refused to listen to it or do it.

¹³Then in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. ¹⁴So Hezekiah king of Judah sent word to the king of Assyria, who was at Lachish, saying, "I have offended you. Withdraw from me. Whatever you put on me I will bear." The king of Assyria required Hezekiah king of Judah to pay three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. ¹⁵So Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of Yahweh and in the treasuries of the king's palace. ¹⁶Then Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of Yahweh and from the pillars that he had overlaid; he gave the gold to the king of Assyria. ¹⁷But the king of Assyria mobilized his great army, sending Tartan and Rabsaris and the chief commander from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. They traveled up the roads and arrived outside Jerusalem. They approached the conduit of the upper pool, on the highway of the launderers' field, and stood by it. ¹⁸When they had called to King Hezekiah, Eliakim son of Hilkiyah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder, went out to meet them.

¹⁹So the chief commander said to them to tell Hezekiah what the great king, the king of Assyria, said: "What is the source of your confidence? ²⁰You speak only useless words, saying there are allies and strength for war. In whom are you trusting, that you should rebel against me? ²¹Look, you trust in the walking stick of this bruised reed of Egypt, but if a man leans on it, it will stick into his hand and pierce it. That is what Pharaoh king of Egypt is to anyone who trusts in him. ²²But if you say to me, 'We are trusting in Yahweh our God,' is not he the one whose high places and altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You must worship before this altar in Jerusalem?' ²³Now therefore, I want to make you a good offer from my master the king of Assyria. I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able to find riders for them. ²⁴How could you resist even one captain of the least of my master's servants? You have put your trust in Egypt for chariots and horsemen! ²⁵Have I traveled up here without Yahweh to fight against this place and destroy it? Yahweh said to me, 'Attack this land and destroy it.'"

²⁶Then Eliakim son of Hilkiyah, and Shebna, and Joah said to the chief commander, "Please speak to your servants in the Aramaic language, for we understand it. Do not speak with us in the language of Judah in the ears of the people who are on the wall." ²⁷But the chief commander 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, who will have to eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?" ²⁸Then the chief commander stood and shouted in a loud voice in the Jews' language, saying, "Listen to the word of the great king, the king of Assyria. ²⁹The king says, 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to rescue you from my power. ³⁰Do not let Hezekiah make you trust in Yahweh, saying, 'Yahweh will surely rescue us, and this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'" ³¹Do not listen to Hezekiah, for this is what the king of Assyria says: 'Make peace with me and come out to me. Then every one of you will eat from his own vine and from his own fig tree, and drink from the water in his own cistern. ³²You will do this until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive trees and honey, so that you may live and not die.' Do not listen to Hezekiah when he tries to persuade you, saying, 'Yahweh will rescue us.' ³³Has any of the gods of the peoples rescued them out of the hand of the king of Assyria? ³⁴Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? Have they rescued Samaria out of my hand? ³⁵Among all the gods of the lands, is there any god who has rescued his land from my power? How could Yahweh save Jerusalem from my might?"

³⁶But the people remained silent and did not respond, for the king had commanded, "Do not answer him." ³⁷Then Eliakim son of Hilkiyah, who was over the household; Shebna the scribe; and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, and reported to him the words of the chief commander.

Chapter 19

¹It came about that when King Hezekiah heard their report, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of Yahweh. ²He sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, all covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah son of Amoz, the prophet. ³They said to him, "Hezekiah says, 'This day is a day of distress, rebuke, and disgrace, for the children have come to the time of birth, but there is no strength for them to be born. ⁴It may be that Yahweh your God will hear all the words of the chief commander, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to defy the living God, and will rebuke the words which Yahweh your God has heard. Now lift up your prayer for the remnant that is still here.'" ⁵So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, ⁶and Isaiah said to them, "Say to your master: 'Yahweh says, "Do not be afraid of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have insulted me. ⁷Look, I will put a spirit in him, and he will hear a certain report and go back to his own land. I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'" ⁸Then the chief commander returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he had heard that the king had gone away from Lachish. ⁹Then Sennacherib heard that Tirhakah king of Cush and Egypt had mobilized to fight against him, so he sent messengers again to Hezekiah with a message: ¹⁰"Say to Hezekiah king of Judah, 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem will not be given over into the hand of the king of Assyria.'" ¹¹See, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by destroying them completely. So will you be rescued? ¹²Have the gods of the nations rescued them, the nations that my fathers destroyed: Gozan, Haran, Rezepth, and the people of Eden in Tel Assar? ¹³Where are the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, the king of the cities of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?"

¹⁴Hezekiah received this letter from the messengers and read it. Then he went up to the house of Yahweh and spread it before him. ¹⁵Then Hezekiah prayed before Yahweh and said, "Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, you who sit above the cherubim, you are God alone over all the kingdoms of the earth. You made the heavens and the earth. ¹⁶Turn your ear, Yahweh, and listen. Open your eyes, Yahweh, and see, and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God. ¹⁷Truly, Yahweh, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands. ¹⁸They have put their gods into the fire, for they were not gods but the work of men's hands, just wood and stone. So the Assyrians have destroyed them. ¹⁹Now then, Yahweh our God, save us, I implore you, from his power, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, Yahweh, are God alone."

²⁰Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah, saying, "Yahweh, the God of Israel says, 'Because you have prayed to me concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard you. ²¹This is the word that Yahweh has spoken about him:

"The virgin daughter of Zion

despises you and laughs you to scorn.

The daughter of Jerusalem

shakes her head at you.

²²Whom have you defied and insulted?

Against whom have you exalted your voice

and lifted up your eyes in pride?

Against the Holy One of Israel!

²³By your messengers

you have defied the Lord,

and have said,

'With the multitude of my chariots
I have gone up to the heights of the mountains,
to the highest elevations of Lebanon.
I will cut down the tall cedars
and the choice cypress trees there.
I will enter into its farthest parts,
its most fruitful forest.

²⁴I have dug wells
and have drunk foreign waters.
I dried up all the rivers of Egypt
under the soles of my feet.'

²⁵Have you not heard how I
determined it long ago,
and worked it out in ancient times?
Now I am bringing it to pass.
You are here to reduce impregnable cities
into heaps of ruins.

²⁶Their inhabitants, of little strength,
are shattered and ashamed.
They are plants in the field,
green grass,
the grass on the roof or in the field,
burned before it has grown up.

²⁷But I know your sitting down,
your going out, your coming in,
and your raging against me.

²⁸Because of your raging against me,
and because your arrogance has reached my ears,
I will put my hook in your nose,
and my bit in your mouth;
I will turn you back

the way you came.”

²⁹This will be the sign for you:

This year you will eat what grows wild,

and in the second year what grows from that.

But in the third year you must plant and harvest,

plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

³⁰The remnant of the house of Judah that survives

will again take root and bear fruit.

³¹For from Jerusalem a remnant will come out,

from Mount Zion survivors will come. The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will do this. ³²Therefore Yahweh says this about the king of Assyria:

“He will not come into this city

nor shoot an arrow here.

Neither will he come before it with shield

or build up a siege ramp against it.

³³The way by which he came

will be the same way he will leave;

he will not enter this city—

this is Yahweh’s declaration.”

³⁴For I will defend this city and rescue it,

for my own sake and for my servant David’s sake.”

³⁵It came about that night that the angel of Yahweh went out and attacked the camp of the Assyrians, putting to death 185,000 soldiers. When the men arose early in the morning, dead bodies lay everywhere. ³⁶So Sennacherib king of Assyria left Israel and went home and stayed in Nineveh. ³⁷Later, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisrok his god, his sons Adrammelek and Sharezer killed him with the sword. Then they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son became king in his place.

Chapter 20

¹In those days Hezekiah was sick to the point of dying. So Isaiah son of Amoz, the prophet came to him, and said to him, “Yahweh says, ‘Set your house in order; for you will die, and not live.’” ²Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to Yahweh, saying, ³“Please, Yahweh, call to mind how I have faithfully walked before you with my whole heart, and how I have done what was good in your sight.” Then Hezekiah wept loudly. ⁴Before Isaiah had gone out into the middle courtyard, the word of Yahweh came to him, saying, ⁵“Turn back, and say to Hezekiah, the leader of my people, ‘This is what Yahweh, the God of David your ancestor, says: “I have heard your prayer, and I have seen your tears. I am about to heal you on the third day, and you will go up to the house of Yahweh. ⁶I will add fifteen years to your life, and I will rescue you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will

defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David's sake." 7 So Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." They did so and put it on his boil, and he recovered.

8 Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What will be the sign that Yahweh will heal me, and that I should go up to the temple of Yahweh on the third day?" 9 Isaiah replied, "This will be the sign for you from Yahweh, that Yahweh will do the thing that he has spoken. Shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or go back ten steps?" 10 Hezekiah answered, "It is an easy thing for the shadow to go forward ten steps. No, let the shadow go backward ten steps." 11 So Isaiah the prophet cried out to Yahweh, and he brought the shadow ten steps backward, from where it had moved on the stairway of Ahaz.

12 At that time Marduk-Baladan son of Baladan king of Babylon sent letters and a gift to Hezekiah, for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick. 13 Hezekiah listened to those letters, and then showed the messengers all the palace and his valuable things, the silver, the gold, the spices and precious oil, and the storehouse of his weapons, and all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house, nor in all his kingdom, that Hezekiah did not show them. 14 Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and asked him, "What did these men say to you? Where did they come from?" Hezekiah said, "They came from the distant country of Babylon." 15 Isaiah asked, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen everything in my house. There is nothing among my valuable things that I have not shown them."

16 So Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Listen to the word of Yahweh: 17 Look, the days are about to come when everything in your palace, the things that your ancestors stored away until this present day, will be carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says Yahweh. 18 The sons born from you, whom you yourself have fathered—they will take them away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon." 19 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of Yahweh that you have spoken is good." For he thought, "Will there not be peace and stability in my days?" 20 As for the other matters concerning Hezekiah, and all his power, and how he constructed the pool and the conduit, and how he brought water into the city—are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah?

21 Hezekiah slept with his ancestors, and Manasseh his son became king in his place.

Chapter 21

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign; he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah. 2 He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, like the disgusting things of the nations whom Yahweh had driven out before the people of Israel. 3 For he rebuilt the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed, and he built altars for Baal, made an Asherah pole, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and he bowed down to all the stars of heaven and worshiped them. 4 Manasseh built altars in the house of Yahweh, although Yahweh had commanded, "It is in Jerusalem that my name will be forever." 5 He built altars for all the stars of heaven in the two courtyards of the house of Yahweh. 6 He caused his son to pass through the fire, he performed sorcery and divination and consulted with those who talked with the dead and with those who talked with spirits. He did much evil in the sight of Yahweh, provoking him to anger. 7 The carved figure of Asherah that he had made, he placed it in the house of Yahweh. It was about this house that Yahweh had spoken to David and Solomon his son; he had said: "It is in this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel, that I will put my name forever. 8 I will not cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land that I gave to their ancestors, if they will only be careful to obey all that I have commanded them, and to follow all the law that my servant Moses commanded them." 9 But the people did not listen, and Manasseh led them to do evil even more than the nations that Yahweh had destroyed before the people of Israel.

10 So Yahweh spoke by his servants the prophets, saying, 11 "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these disgusting things, and has acted wickedly more than all that the Amorites who were before him did, and has also made Judah sin with his idols, 12 therefore Yahweh, the God of Israel, says this: Look, I am about to bring such evil on Jerusalem and Judah that whoever hears of it, both his ears will tingle. 13 I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line used against Samaria, and the plumb line used against the house of Ahab; I will wipe Jerusalem

clean, as a man wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. ¹⁴I will throw off the remnant of my inheritance and give them into the hand of their enemies. They will become victims and plunder for all their enemies, ¹⁵because they have done what is evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their ancestors came out of Egypt, to this day."

¹⁶Moreover, Manasseh shed much innocent blood, until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another with death. This was in addition to the sin by which he made Judah to sin, when they did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh. ¹⁷As for the other matters concerning Manasseh, all that he did, and the sin that he committed, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ¹⁸Manasseh slept with his ancestors and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza. Amon his son became king in his place.

¹⁹Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Meshullemeth; she was the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. ²⁰He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, as Manasseh his father had done. ²¹Amon followed in all the way that his father had walked in and worshiped the idols that his father worshiped, and bowed down to them. ²²He abandoned Yahweh, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of Yahweh. ²³The servants of Amon conspired against him and put the king to death in his own house. ²⁴But the people of the land killed all those who had conspired against King Amon, and they made Josiah his son king in his place. ²⁵As for the other matters concerning Amon that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ²⁶The people buried him in his tomb in the garden of Uzza, and Josiah his son became king in his place.

Chapter 22

¹Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign; he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah (she was the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath). ²He did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh. He walked in all the way of David his ancestor, and he did not turn away either to the right or to the left.

³It came about that in the eighteenth year of King Josiah, he sent Shaphan son of Azaliah son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of Yahweh, saying, ⁴"Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest and tell him to count the money that has been brought into the house of Yahweh, which the temple guards have gathered from the people. ⁵Let it be given into the hand of the workmen who are in charge of the house of Yahweh, and let them give it to the workmen who are in the house of Yahweh, for them to make repairs to damage in the temple. ⁶Let them give money to the carpenters, the builders, and the masons, and also to buy timber and cut stone to repair the temple." ⁷But no accounting was required for the money that was given to them, because they handled it faithfully.

⁸Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "I have found the book of the law in the house of Yahweh." So Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it. ⁹Shaphan went and took the book to the king, and also reported to him, saying, "Your servants have spent the money that was found in the temple and they have given it into the hand of the workmen who supervise the care for the house of Yahweh." ¹⁰Then Shaphan the scribe said to the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has given me a book." Then Shaphan read it to the king. ¹¹It came about that when the king had heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes. ¹²The king commanded Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Akbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah, his own servant, saying, ¹³"Go and consult with Yahweh for me, and for the people and for all Judah, because of the words of this book that has been found. For great is the anger of Yahweh that has been kindled against us because our ancestors have not listened to the words of this book so as to obey all that was written concerning us."

¹⁴So Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam, Akbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe (she lived in Jerusalem in the second quarter), and they spoke with her. ¹⁵She said to them, "This is what Yahweh, the God of Israel, says: 'Tell the man who sent you to me, ¹⁶"This is what Yahweh says: 'See, I will bring disaster to this place and to its inhabitants, according to everything written in the book that the king of Judah has read. ¹⁷Because they have forsaken me and have burned incense to other

gods, so that they might provoke me to anger with all the deeds they have committed—therefore my anger has been kindled against this place, and it will not be extinguished.”¹⁸ But to the king of Judah, who sent you to ask Yahweh’s will, this is what you will say to him: “Yahweh, the God of Israel says this: ‘About the words that you heard,¹⁹ because your heart was tender, and because you have humbled yourself before Yahweh, when you heard what I said against this place and its inhabitants, that they would become a desolation and a curse, and because you have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have listened to you—this is Yahweh’s declaration.²⁰ See, I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster that I will bring upon this place.’” So the men took this message back to the king.

Chapter 23

¹So the king sent messengers who gathered to him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem. ²Then the king went up to the house of Yahweh, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, prophets, and all the people, from small to great. He then read in their hearing all the words of the book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of Yahweh. ³The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before Yahweh, to walk after Yahweh and to keep his commandments, his regulations, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to confirm the words of this covenant that were written in this book. So all the people agreed to stand by the covenant.

⁴The king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, the priests under him, and the gatekeepers to bring out of the temple of Yahweh all the vessels that were made for Baal and Asherah, and for all the stars of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields in the Kidron Valley and carried their ashes to Bethel. ⁵He got rid of the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had chosen to burn incense at the high places in the cities of Judah and in the places around Jerusalem—those who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and the moon, to the planets, and to all the stars of heaven. ⁶He brought out the Asherah pole from the temple of Yahweh, outside Jerusalem to the Kidron Valley and burned it there. He beat it to dust and threw that dust onto the graves of the common people. ⁷He cleared out the rooms of the cultic prostitutes who were in the temple of Yahweh, where the women wove garments for Asherah. ⁸Josiah 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. He destroyed the high places at the gates that were at the entrance to the gate of Joshua (the city governor), on the left side of the city gate. ⁹Although the priests of those high places were not allowed to serve at the altar of Yahweh in Jerusalem, they ate unleavened bread among their brothers. ¹⁰Josiah defiled Topheth, which is in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, so that no one might cause his son or his daughter to pass through the fire as a sacrifice to Molech. ¹¹He took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun. They had been in an area at the entrance to the temple of Yahweh, near the room of Nathan-Melek, the chamberlain. Josiah burned the chariots of the sun. ¹²Josiah the king destroyed the altars that were on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courts of the temple of Yahweh. Josiah smashed them into pieces and threw them into the Kidron Valley. ¹³The king ruined the high places east of Jerusalem, south of the mount of corruption that Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth, the detestable idol of the Sidonians; for Chemosh, the detestable idol of Moab; and for Molech, the detestable idol of the people of Ammon. ¹⁴He broke the stone pillars into pieces and cut down the Asherah poles and he filled those places with the bones of human beings.

¹⁵Josiah also completely destroyed the altar that was at Bethel and the high place that Jeroboam son of Nebat (the one who made Israel to sin) had constructed. He also burned that altar and the high place and beat it to dust. He also burned the Asherah pole. ¹⁶As Josiah looked over the area, he noticed the graves that were on the hillside. He sent men to take the bones from the graves; then he burned them on the altar, which defiled it. This was according to the word of Yahweh which the man of God had spoken, the man who spoke of these things beforehand. ¹⁷Then he said, “What monument is that I see?” The men of the city told him, “That is the grave of the man of God who came from Judah and spoke about these things that you have just done against the altar of Bethel.” ¹⁸So Josiah said, “Let it alone. No one should move his bones.” So they let his bones alone, along with the bones of the prophet who had come from Samaria. ¹⁹Then Josiah removed all the houses on the high places that were in the cities of

Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made, and that provoked Yahweh to anger. He did to them exactly what had been done at Bethel. ²⁰He slaughtered all the priests of the high places on the altars and he burned human bones on them. Then he returned to Jerusalem.

²¹Then the king commanded all the people, saying, "Keep the Passover to Yahweh your God, as it is written in this book of the covenant." ²²Such a Passover celebration had never been held from the days of the judges who ruled Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel or Judah. ²³But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover of Yahweh was celebrated in Jerusalem.

²⁴Josiah also banished those who talked with the dead or with spirits. He also banished the fetishes, the idols, and all the disgusting things that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, so as to confirm the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest had found in the house of Yahweh. ²⁵Before Josiah, there had been no king like him, who turned to Yahweh with all his heart, all his soul, and all his might, who followed all the law of Moses. Nor did any king like Josiah arise after him.

²⁶Nevertheless, Yahweh did not turn away from the burning of his fierce anger, which burned against Judah because of all that Manasseh had done to provoke him to anger. ²⁷So Yahweh said, "I will also remove Judah out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will throw away this city that I have chosen, Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, 'My name will be there.'"

²⁸As for the other matters concerning Josiah, everything that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ²⁹In his days, Pharaoh Necho, king of Egypt, went to fight against the king of Assyria at the Euphrates River. King Josiah went to meet Necho in battle, and Necho killed him at Megiddo. ³⁰Josiah's servants carried him dead in a chariot from Megiddo, brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own grave. Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz son of Josiah, anointed him, and made him king in his father's place.

³¹Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal; she was the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. ³²Jehoahaz did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, like everything that his ancestors had done. ³³Pharaoh Necho put him in chains at Riblah in the land of Hamath, so that he might not reign in Jerusalem. Then Necho fined Judah one hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold. ³⁴Pharaoh Necho made Eliakim son of Josiah king in the place of Josiah his father, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But he took Jehoahaz away to Egypt, and Jehoahaz died there. ³⁵Jehoiakim paid the silver and gold to Pharaoh. In order to meet the demand of Pharaoh, Jehoiakim taxed the land and he forced each man among the people of the land to pay him the silver and gold according to their assessments.

³⁶Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zebidah; she was the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah. ³⁷Jehoiakim did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, just as his ancestors had done.

Chapter 24

¹In Jehoiakim's days, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon attacked Judah; Jehoiakim became his servant for three years. Then Jehoiakim turned back and rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar. ²Yahweh sent against Jehoiakim bands of Chaldeans, Arameans, Moabites, and Ammonites; he sent them against Judah to destroy it. This was in conformity with the word of Yahweh that had been spoken through his servants the prophets. ³It was certainly at the mouth of Yahweh that this came on Judah, to remove them out of his sight, because of the sins of Manasseh, all that he did, ⁴and also because of the innocent blood that he shed, for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood. Yahweh was not willing to pardon that. ⁵As for the other matters concerning Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the events of the kings of Judah? ⁶Jehoiakim slept with his ancestors, and Jehoiachin his son became king in his place. ⁷The king of Egypt did not attack any more out of his land, because the king of Babylon had conquered all the lands that had been controlled by the king of Egypt, from the brook of Egypt to the Euphrates River.

⁸Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign; he reigned in Jerusalem three months. His mother's name was Nehushta; she was the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. ⁹He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh; he did all that his father had done.

¹⁰At that time the army of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon attacked Jerusalem and besieged the city.

¹¹Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to the city while his soldiers were besieging it, ¹²and Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, his mother, his servants, his princes, and his officers. The king of Babylon captured him in the eighth year of his own reign. ¹³Nebuchadnezzar took out from there all the valuable things in the house of Yahweh, and those in the king's palace. He cut into pieces all the golden objects that Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of Yahweh, as Yahweh had said would happen. ¹⁴He took into exile all Jerusalem, all the leaders, and all the fighting men, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and the smiths. No one was left except the poorest people in the land. ¹⁵Nebuchadnezzar took Jehoiachin into exile at Babylon, as well as the king's mother, wives, officers, and the chief men of the land. He took them into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ¹⁶All the fighting men, seven thousand in number, and one thousand craftsmen and blacksmiths, all of them fit for fighting—the king of Babylon brought these men into exile at Babylon. ¹⁷The king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's father's brother, king in his place, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

¹⁸Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign; he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal; she was the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. ¹⁹He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh; he did all that Jehoiakim had done. ²⁰Through Yahweh's anger, all these events happened in Jerusalem and Judah, until he drove them out of his presence. Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

24:3 ^[1] .

Chapter 25

¹It happened that in the ninth year of the reign of King Zedekiah, in the tenth month, and on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem. He camped opposite it, and they built a siege wall around it. ²So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah's reign. ³On the ninth day of the fourth month of that year, the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. ⁴Then the city was broken into, and all the fighting men fled at night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the king's garden, although the Chaldeans were all around the city. The king went in the direction of the Arabah. ⁵But the army of Chaldeans pursued King Zedekiah and overtook him in the plains of the Jordan River valley near Jericho. All his army was scattered away from him. ⁶They captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, where they passed sentence on him. ⁷As for Zedekiah's sons, they slaughtered them before his eyes. Then he put out his eyes, bound him in bronze chains, and brought him to Babylon.

⁸Now in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan, a servant of the king of Babylon and commander of his bodyguards, came to Jerusalem. ⁹He burned the house of Yahweh, the king's palace, and all the houses of Jerusalem; also every important building in the city he burned. ¹⁰As for all the walls around Jerusalem, all the army of the Babylonians who were under the commander of the bodyguard destroyed them. ¹¹As for the rest of the people who were left in the city, those who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the remainder of the population—Nebuzaradan, the commander of the bodyguard, took them away into exile. ¹²But the commander of the bodyguard did leave some of the poorest of the land to work the vineyards and fields.

¹³As for the bronze pillars that were in the house of Yahweh, and the stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of Yahweh, the Chaldeans broke them into pieces and carried the bronze back to Babylon. ¹⁴The pots, shovels, lamp trimmers, spoons, and all the utensils of bronze with which the priests had served in the temple—the Chaldeans took them all away. ¹⁵The pots for removing ashes and the bowls that were made of gold, and those made of silver—the captain of the king's guard took them away as well. ¹⁶The two pillars, the sea, and the stands

that Solomon had made for the house of Yahweh contained more bronze than could be weighed. ¹⁷The height of the first pillar was eighteen cubits, and a capital of bronze was on top of it. The capital was three cubits high, with latticework and pomegranates all around on the capital, all made of bronze. The other pillar and its latticework were the same as the first.

¹⁸The commander of the bodyguard took Seraiah the chief priest, together with Zephaniah, the second priest, and the three gatekeepers. ¹⁹From the city he took prisoner an officer who was in charge of soldiers, and five men of those who advised the king, who were still in the city. He also took prisoner the king's army officer responsible for drafting men into the army, along with sixty important men from the land who were in the city. ²⁰Then Nebuzaradan, the commander of the bodyguard, took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. ²¹The king of Babylon put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. In this way, Judah went out of its land into exile.

²²As for the people who remained in the land of Judah, those whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, he put Gedaliah son of Ahikam, son of Shaphan, in charge of them. ²³Now when all the commanders of the soldiers, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, they went to Gedaliah at Mizpah. These men were Ishmael son of Nethaniah, Johanan son of Kareah, Seraiah son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah son of the Maakathite—they and their men. ²⁴Gedaliah made an oath to them and to their men, and said to them, "Do not be afraid of the Chaldean officials. Live in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well with you." ²⁵But it happened that in the seventh month Ishmael son of Nethaniah son of Elishama, from the royal family, came with ten men and attacked Gedaliah. Gedaliah died, along with the men of Judah and the Babylonians who were with him at Mizpah. ²⁶Then all the people, from the least to the greatest, and the commanders of the soldiers, arose and went to Egypt, because they were afraid of the Babylonians.

²⁷It happened later in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, that Awel-Marduk king of Babylon released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison. This happened in the year that Awel-Marduk began to reign. ²⁸He spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat more honorable than that of the other kings who were with him in Babylon. ²⁹Awel-Marduk removed Jehoiachin's prison clothes, and Jehoiachin ate regularly at the king's table for the rest of his life. ³⁰A regular food allowance was given to him every day for the rest of his life.

1 Chronicles

Chapter 1

¹Adam, Seth, Enosh, ²Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, ³Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, ⁴Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.^[1]

⁵The sons of Japheth: Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshek, and Tiras. ⁶And the sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, and Diphath, and Togarmah.^[2] ⁷And the sons of Javan: Elishah, and Tarshish, the Kittites, and the Rodanites.

⁸The sons of Ham: Cush and Egypt, Put and Canaan. ⁹And the sons of Cush: Seba, and Havilah, and Sabta, and Raamah, and Sabteka. And the sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. ¹⁰And Cush fathered Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. ¹¹And Egypt fathered the Ludites, and the Anamites, and the Lehabites, and the Naphtuhites, ¹²and the Pathrusites, and the Kasluhites (from whom the Philistines came), and the Caphtorites. ¹³And Canaan fathered Sidon, his firstborn, and Heth, ¹⁴and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, and the Girgashites, ¹⁵and the Hivites, and the Arkites, and the Sinites, ¹⁶and the Arvadites, and the Zemarites, and the Hamathites.

¹⁷The sons of Shem: Elam, and Ashur, and Arpachshad, and Lud, and Aram, and Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Meshek. ¹⁸And Arpachshad fathered Shelah, and Shelah fathered Eber. ¹⁹And to Eber were born two sons. The name of the one, Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided. And the name of his brother, Joktan. ²⁰And Joktan fathered Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah, ²¹and Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah, ²²and Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba, ²³and Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab; all these, the sons of Joktan.

²⁴Shem, Arpachshad, Shelah, ²⁵Eber, Peleg, Reu, ²⁶Serug, Nahor, Terah, ²⁷Abram, that is, Abraham.

²⁸The sons of Abraham: Isaac and Ishmael. ²⁹These, their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; then Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, ³⁰Mishma, and Dumah, Massa, Hadad, and Tema, ³¹Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These were the sons of Ishmael.

³²And the sons of Keturah, the concubine of Abraham: she bore Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan. ³³And the sons of Midian: Ephah, and Epher, and Hanok, and Abida, and Eldaah; all these, the sons of Keturah.

³⁴And Abraham fathered Isaac. The sons of Isaac: Esau and Israel.

³⁵The sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel, and Jeush, and Jalam, and Korah. ³⁶The sons of Eliphaz: Teman, and Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, Kenaz, and Timna, and Amalek. ³⁷The sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

³⁸And the sons of Seir: Lotan, and Shobal, and Zibeon, and Anah, and Dishon, and Ezer, and Dishan. ³⁹And the sons of Lotan: Hori and Homam. And the sister of Lotan: Timna. ⁴⁰The sons of Shobal: Alian, and Manahath, and Ebal, Shephi, and Onam. And the sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. ⁴¹The sons of Anah: Dishon. And the sons of Dishon: Hemdan, and Eshban, and Ithran, and Keran. ⁴²The sons of Ezer: Bilhan, and Zaavan, and Akan. The sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran.

⁴³And these, the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before the face of a king reigned over the sons of Israel: Bela, son of Beor. And the name of his city: Dinhabah. ⁴⁴And Bela died, and Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah reigned in his place. ⁴⁵And Jobab died, and Husham from the land of the Temanites reigned in his place. ⁴⁶And Husham died, and Hadad son of Bedad, who struck down Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place. And the name of his city: Avith. ⁴⁷And Hadad died, and Samlah from Masrekah reigned in his place. ⁴⁸And Samlah died, and Shaul from Rehoboth of the river reigned in his place. ⁴⁹And Shaul died, and Baal-Hanan son of Akbor reigned in his

place. ⁵⁰And Baal-Hanan died, and Hadad reigned in his place. And the name of his city: Pai. And the name of his wife: Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Me-Zahab. ⁵¹And Hadad died.

And the chiefs of Edom were Chief Timna, Chief Alvah, Chief Jetheth, ⁵²Chief Oholibamah, Chief Elah, Chief Pinon, ⁵³Chief Kenaz, Chief Teman, Chief Mibzar, ⁵⁴Chief Magdiel, Chief Iram. These, the chiefs of Edom.

1:4 ^[1] .

1:6 ^[2] instead of . Many ancient copies change it to in order to make it agree with the same name in Gen. 10:2.

Chapter 2

¹These were the sons of Israel: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun, ²Dan, Joseph, and Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

³The sons of Judah: Er, and Onan, and Shelah; three were born to him by Bath-shua the Canaanite. And Er, the firstborn of Judah, was wicked in the eyes of Yahweh, and he killed him. ⁴And Tamar, his daughter-in-law, bore to him Perez and Zerah. All the sons of Judah, five.

⁵The sons of Perez: Hezron and Hamul. ⁶And the sons of Zerah: Zimri, and Ethan, and Heman, and Kalkol, and Dara. All of them, five. ⁷And the sons of Karmi: Achar, the troubler of Israel who violated the ban. ^[1] ⁸And the sons of Ethan: Azariah.

⁹And the sons of Hezron who were born to him: Jerahmeel, and Ram, and Caleb. ¹⁰And Ram fathered Amminadab, and Amminadab fathered Nahshon, leader of the sons of Judah. ¹¹And Nahshon fathered Salmon, and Salmon fathered Boaz. ¹²And Boaz fathered Obed, and Obed fathered Jesse. ¹³And Jesse fathered his firstborn, Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimea the third, ¹⁴Nethanel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, ¹⁵Ozem the sixth, David the seventh, ¹⁶and their sisters: Zeruah and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruah: Abishai, and Joab, and Asahel, three. ¹⁷And Abigail bore Amasa, and the father of Amasa: Jether the Ishmaelite.

¹⁸And Caleb son of Hezron had children with Azubah, a wife, and with Jerioth. And these, her sons: Jeshar, and Shobab, and Ardon. ¹⁹And Azubah died, and Caleb took for himself Ephrath. And she bore to him Hur. ²⁰And Hur fathered Uri, and Uri fathered Bezalel.

²¹And afterward Hezron went into the daughter of Makir the father of Gilead, and he took her. And he was a son of 60 years. And she bore to him Segub. ²²And Segub fathered Jair. And there were to him 23 cities in the land of Gilead. ²³And Geshur and Aram took from them Havvoth-Jair, Kenath, and its daughters, 60 towns. All these, the sons of Makir, the father of Gilead. ²⁴And after the death of Hezron in Caleb Ephrathah, then the wife of Hezron, Abijah, then she bore to him Ashhur, the father of Tekoa. ^[2]

²⁵And the sons of Jerahmeel, the firstborn of Hezron, were the firstborn Ram, and Bunah, and Oren, and Ozem, Ahijah. ²⁶And there was another wife of Jerahmeel, and her name, Atarah. She, the mother of Onam. ²⁷And the sons of Ram, the firstborn of Jerahmeel, were Maaz, and Jamin, and Eker. ²⁸And the sons of Onam were Shammai and Jada. And the sons of Shammai: Nadab and Abishur. ²⁹And the name of the wife of Abishur: Abihail. And she bore to him Ahban and Molid. ³⁰And the sons of Nadab: Seled and Appaim. And Seled died without sons. ³¹And the sons of Appaim: Ishi. And the sons of Ishi: Sheshan. And the sons of Sheshan: Ahlai. ³²And the sons of Jada, the brother of Shammai: Jether and Jonathan. And Jether died without sons. ³³And the sons of Jonathan: Peleth and Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel. ³⁴And there were not to Sheshan sons, but only daughters. And to Sheshan a servant, an Egyptian, and his name, Jarha. ³⁵And Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant for a wife. And she bore to him Attai. ³⁶And Attai fathered Nathan, and Nathan fathered Zabad. ³⁷And Zabad fathered Ephlal, and Ephlal fathered Obed. ³⁸And Obed fathered Jehu, and Jehu fathered Azariah. ³⁹And Azariah fathered

Helez, and Helez fathered Eleasah. ⁴⁰And Eleasah fathered Sismai, and Sismai fathered Shallum. ⁴¹And Shallum fathered Jekamiah, and Jekamiah fathered Elishama.

⁴²And the sons of Caleb, the brother of Jerahmeel: Mesha his firstborn; he, the father of Ziph. And the sons of Mareshah, the father of Hebron. ⁴³And the sons of Hebron: Korah, and Tappuah, and Rekem, and Shema. ⁴⁴And Shema fathered Raham, the father of Jorkeam. And Rekem fathered Shammai. ⁴⁵And the son of Shammai: Maon, and Maon the father of Beth Zur. ⁴⁶And Ephah, the concubine of Caleb, bore Haran, and Moza, and Gazez. And Haran fathered Gazez. ⁴⁷And the sons of Jahdai: Regem, and Jotham, and Geshan, and Pelet, and Ephah, and Shaaph. ⁴⁸The concubine of Caleb, Maakah, bore Sheber and Tirhanah. ⁴⁹And she bore Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Makbenah and the father of Gibea. And the daughter of Caleb, Aksah.

⁵⁰These were the sons of Caleb. The son of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah: Shobal the father of Kiriath Jearim, ⁵¹Salma the father of Bethlehem, Hareph the father of Beth Gader. ⁵²And the sons of Shobal, the father of Kiriath Jearim, were Haroeh, half of the Menuhoth, ⁵³and the clans of Kiriath Jearim: the Ithrites, and the Puthites, and the Shumathites, and the Mishraitites. From these came the Zorathites and Eshtaolites. ⁵⁴The sons of Salma: Bethlehem, and the Netophathites, Atroth Beth Joab, and half of the Manahathites, the Zorites. ⁵⁵And the clans of the scribes lived at Jabez: the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, and the Sucathites. These, the Kenites who came from Hammath, the father of the house of Rekab.

2:7 ^[1] instead of .

2:24 ^[2] .

Chapter 3

¹And these were the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: the firstborn Amnon by Ahinoam the Jezreelite; the second Daniel by Abigail the Carmelite; ²the third Absalom, the son of Maakah, the daughter of Talmai the king of Geshur; the fourth Adonijah, the son of Haggith; ³the fifth Shephatiah by Abital; the sixth Ithream by Eglah, his wife.

⁴Six were born to him in Hebron, and he reigned there seven years and six months. Then 33 years he reigned in Jerusalem. ⁵And these were born to him in Jerusalem: Shimea, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon, four by Bathshua, the daughter of Ammiel; ⁶and Ibhar, and Elishua, and Eliphelet, ⁷and Nogah, and Nepheg, and Japhia, ⁸and Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphelet; nine. ⁹All the sons of David, besides sons of concubines, and Tamar their sister.

¹⁰And the son of Solomon, Rehoboam; Abijah his son; Asa his son; Jehoshaphat his son; ¹¹Joram his son; Ahaziah his son; Joash his son; ¹²Amaziah his son; Azariah his son; Jotham his son; ¹³Ahaz his son; Hezekiah his son; Manasseh his son; ¹⁴Amon his son; Josiah his son. ¹⁵And the sons of Josiah: the firstborn Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum. ¹⁶And the sons of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his son, Zedekiah his son. ¹⁷And the sons of Jeconiah, a prisoner: Shealtiel his son, ¹⁸and Malkiram, and Pedaiah, and Shenazzar, Jekamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah. ¹⁹And the sons of Pedaiah: Zerubbabel and Shimei. And the son of Zerubbabel: Meshullam, and Hananiah, and Shelomith their sister; ²⁰and Hashubah, and Ohel, and Berekiah, and Hasadiah, Jushab-Hesed, five. ²¹And the son of Hananiah: Pelatiah and Jeshaiah. The sons of Rephaiah, the sons of Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, the sons of Shekaniah. ²²And the sons of Shekaniah: Shemaiah. And the sons of Shemaiah: Hattush, and Igal, and Bariah, and Neariah, and Shaphat, six. ²³And the son of Neariah: Elioenai, and Hizkiah, and Azrikam, three. ²⁴And the sons of Elioenai: Hodaviah, and Eliashib, and Pelaiah, and Akkub, and Johanan, and Delaiah, and Anani, seven.

3:5 ^[1] or instead of .

Chapter 4

¹The sons of Judah: Perez, Hezron, and Karmi, and Hur, and Shobal. ²And Reaiah the son of Shobal fathered Jahath. And Jahath fathered Ahumai and Lahad. These, the clans of the Zorathites. ³And these of the father Etam: Jezreel, and Ishma, and Idbash. And the name of their sister, Hazzelepuni. ⁴And Penuel, the father of Gedor, and Ezer the father of Hushah; these, the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah, the father of Bethlehem. ⁵And to Ashhur the father of Tekoa were two wives, Helah and Naarah. ⁶And Naarah bore to him Ahuzzam, and Hephher, and Temeni, and Haahashtari. These, the sons of Naarah. ⁷And the sons of Helah: Zereth, and Zohar, and Ethnan. ⁸And Koz fathered Anub and Hazzobebah. And the clans of Aharhel, the son of Harum. ⁹And Jabez was respected more than his brothers. And his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because I bore in pain." ¹⁰And Jabez called to the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that you would surely bless me, and would enlarge my territory, and your hand would be with me, and you would act not in accordance with harm, so that I might not be in pain!" And God brought about what he asked. ¹¹And Kelub, the brother of Shuhah, fathered Mehiri; he, the father of Eshton. ¹²And Eshton fathered Beth Rapha, and Paseah, and Tehinnah, the father of Ir Nahash.^[1] These, the men of Rekah. ¹³And the sons of Kenaz: Othniel and Seraiah. And the sons of Othniel: Hathath.^[2] ¹⁴And Meonothai fathered Ophrah, and Seraiah fathered Joab, the father of Ge-Harashim, for craftsmen they were. ¹⁵And the sons of Caleb, the son of Jephunneh: Iru, Elah, and Naam. And the sons of Elah: Kenaz. ¹⁶And the sons of Jehallelel: Ziph, and Ziphah, Tiria, and Asarel. ¹⁷And the sons of Ezra: Jether, and Mered, and Epher, and Jalon. And she conceived Miriam, and Shammai, and Ishbah, the father of Eshtemoa. ¹⁸And his Judahite wife bore Jered the father of Gedor, and Heber the father of Soco, and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah. And these, the sons of Bithiah the daughter of Pharaoh, whom Mered took. ¹⁹And the sons of the wife of Hodiah, the sister of Naham, the father of Keilah the Garmite, and Eshtemoa the Maakathite. ²⁰And the sons of Shimon: Amnon, and Rinnah, Ben-Hanan, and Tilon. And the sons of Ishi: Zoheth and Ben-Zoheth. ²¹The sons of Shelah the son of Judah: Er the father of Lekah, and Laadah the father of Mareshah, and the clans of the house of the service of linen at Beth Ashbea, ²²and Jokim, and the men of Kozeba, and Joash and Saraph, who ruled in Moab and Jashubi Lehem. And the words are ancient. ²³These, the potters and inhabitants in Netaim and Gederah. With the king in his work, they lived there.

²⁴The sons of Simeon: Nemuel, and Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, Shaul; ²⁵Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, Mishma his son. ²⁶And the sons of Mishma: Hammuel his son; Zakkur his son; Shimei his son. ²⁷And to Shimei, 16 sons and six daughters; but to his brothers, not many sons, and all their clan did not multiply like the sons of Judah. ²⁸And they lived in Beersheba, and Moladah, and Hazar Shual, ²⁹and in Bilhah, and in Ezem, and in Tolad, ³⁰and in Bethuel, and in Hormah, and in Ziklag, ³¹and in Beth Markaboth, and in Hazar Susim, and in Beth Biri, and in Shaaraim. These, their cities until the reign of David. ³²And their villages: Etam, and Ain, and Rimmon, and Token, and Ashan, five towns, ³³and all their villages which are around these towns as far as Baal. These, their settlements, and their genealogy was to them. ³⁴And Meshobab, and Jamlech, and Joshah the son of Amaziah, ³⁵and Joel, and Jehu the son of Joshibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel, ³⁶and Elioenai, and Jaakobah, and Jeshohaiah, and Asaiah, and Adiel, and Jesimiel, and Benaiah, ³⁷and Ziza the son of Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah. ³⁸These mentioned by name, leaders in their clans and the house of their fathers broke through into a multitude. ³⁹And they went to the entrance of Gedor, as far as to the east of the valley, to seek pasture for their flock. ⁴⁰And they found rich and good pasture, and the land was broad of hands, and quiet, and peaceful; for those from Ham had lived there before faces. ⁴¹And these, written by names, came in the days of Hezekiah, the king of Judah, and struck down their tents and the Meunites, who were found there. And they destroyed them completely to this day, and they lived in their place because pasture for their flock was there. ⁴²And from them, from the sons of Simeon, they went to Mount Seir, 500 men, and Pelatiah, and Neariah, and Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi, their heads. ⁴³And they struck down the rest of the Amalekites who escaped, and they have lived there to this day.

4:12 ^[1] .

4:13 ^[2] into this verse, believing that it dropped out by a copyist's mistake.

Chapter 5

¹And the sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel; for he was the firstborn, but when he defiled the bed of his father, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph, the son of Israel, and not recorded according to the birthright, ²though Judah was superior among his brothers, and a leader was from him, but the birthright was to Joseph— ³the sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanok, and Pallu, Hezron, and Karmi. ⁴The sons of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son, ⁵Micah his son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son, ⁶Beerah his son, whom Tilgath-Pileser, the king of Assyria, took into exile. He was a leader of the Reubenites. ⁷And his brothers by his clans in the genealogy of their generations: the head Jeiel, and Zechariah, ⁸and Bela the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel; he lived in Aroer, and as far as Nebo and Baal Meon, ⁹and to the east he lived as far as the entrance of the wilderness extending to the Euphrates River; for their livestock multiplied in the land of Gilead. ¹⁰And in the days of Saul, they made war with the Hagarites and they fell into their hand. And they lived in their tents over all the face of the east of Gilead.

¹¹And the sons of Gad lived opposite them in the land of Bashan as far as Salekah: ¹²Joel the head, and Shapham the second, and Janai, and Shaphat in Bashan. ¹³And their brothers, according to the house of their fathers: Michael, and Meshullam, and Sheba, and Jorai, and Jakan, and Zia, and Eber, seven. ¹⁴These, the sons of Abihail, the son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of Jeshisha, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz. ¹⁵Ahi, the son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, head of the house of their fathers. ¹⁶And they lived in Gilead, in Bashan, and in its daughters, and in all the pasturelands of Sharon as far as their borders. ¹⁷All of them were listed in the genealogies in the days of Jotham, the king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam, the king of Israel.

¹⁸The sons of Reuben, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh from sons of strength, men who carried shield and sword, and who bent the bow, and who were trained in battle, 44,760 who went out to war. ¹⁹And they made war with the Hagarites, and Jetur, and Naphish, and Nodab. ²⁰And they were helped against them, and the Hagarites were given into their hand and all who were with them. For they cried out to God in the battle, and he granted their entreaty because they trusted in him. ²¹And they took captive their livestock: their camels 50,000, and sheep 250,000, and donkeys 2,000, and living people 100,000. ²²For many fell slain because the battle was from God. And they lived in their place until the exile.

²³And the sons of the half tribe of Manasseh lived in the land from Bashan as far as Baal Hermon and Senir, and Mount Hermon. They multiplied. ²⁴And these, the heads of the house of their fathers: even Epher, and Ishi, and Eliel, and Azriel, and Jeremiah, and Hodaviah, and Jahdiel, men mighty of strength, men of names, heads of the house of their fathers.

²⁵And they acted faithlessly against the God of their fathers, and they acted like a harlot after the gods of the peoples of the land whom God had destroyed before their faces. ²⁶And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul, the king of Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgath-Pileser, the king of Assyria. And he took them into exile, namely the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh. And he brought them to Halah, and Habor, and Hara, and the river of Gozan until this day.

Chapter 6

¹The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. ²And the sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel. ³And the sons of Amram: Aaron, and Moses, and Miriam. And the sons of Aaron: Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ⁴Eleazar fathered Phinehas. Phinehas fathered Abishua. ⁵And Abishua fathered Bukki, and Bukki fathered Uzzi. ⁶And Uzzi fathered Zerariah, and Zerariah fathered Meraioth. ⁷Meraioth fathered Amariah, and Amariah fathered Ahitub. ⁸And Ahitub fathered Zadok, and Zadok fathered Ahimaaz. ⁹And Ahimaaz fathered Azariah, and Azariah fathered Johanan. ¹⁰And Johanan fathered Azariah, he who served as priest in the house that Solomon built in Jerusalem. ¹¹And Azariah fathered Amariah, and Amariah fathered Ahitub. ¹²And Ahitub fathered Zadok,

and Zadok fathered Shallum. ¹³And Shallum fathered Hilkiah, and Hilkiah fathered Azariah. ¹⁴And Azariah fathered Seraiah, and Seraiah fathered Jozadak. ¹⁵And Jozadak went when Yahweh took into exile Judah and Jerusalem in the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

¹⁶The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. ¹⁷And these, the names of the sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei. ¹⁸And the sons of Kohath: Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel. ¹⁹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. And these, the clans of the Levites according to their fathers. ²⁰Of Gershom: Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zimmah his son, ²¹Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, Jeatherai his son. ²²The sons of Kohath: Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son, ²³Elkanah his son, and Ebiasaph his son, and Assir his son, ²⁴Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uziah his son, and Shaul his son. ²⁵And the sons of Elkanah: Amasai, and Ahimoth, ²⁶Elkanah, his son Elkanah, Zophai his son, and Nahath his son, ²⁷Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, Elkanah his son.^[1] ²⁸And the sons of Samuel: the firstborn and the second, Abijah. ²⁹The sons of Merari: Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzzah his son, ³⁰Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, Asaiah his son,

³¹And these whom David set up over hands of song in the house of Yahweh, after the Box came to rest. ³²And they were the ones ministering to the face of the tabernacle, the tent of meeting, with song until Solomon built the house of Yahweh in Jerusalem. And they stood according to their judgments over their service.

³³And these, the ones standing and their sons. From the sons of the Kohathites: Heman the singer, the son of Joel, the son of Samuel, ³⁴the son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah, ³⁵the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai, ³⁶the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah, ³⁷the son of Tahath, the son of Assir, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, ³⁸the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, the son of Israel.

³⁹And his brother Asaph who stood at his right hand, Asaph, the son of Berekiah, the son of Shimea, ⁴⁰the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malkijah, ⁴¹the son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah, ⁴²the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah, the son of Shimei, ⁴³the son of Jahath, the son of Gershon, the son of Levi. ⁴⁴And the sons of Merari, their brothers, on the left: Ethan, the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of Malluk, ⁴⁵the son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah, ⁴⁶the son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shemer, ⁴⁷the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.

⁴⁸And their brothers, the Levites, were set to all the service of the tabernacle of the house of God. ⁴⁹And Aaron and his sons made sacrifices on the altar of burnt offering and on the altar of incense for all the work of the Holy of Holies and to make atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded. ⁵⁰And these, the sons of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son, ⁵¹Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son, ⁵²Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son, ⁵³Zadok his son, Ahimaaz his son. ⁵⁴And these, their dwellings according to their encampments in their borders. To the sons of Aaron, to the clans of the Kohathites, for to them was the lot. ⁵⁵And they gave to them Hebron in the land of Judah and its surrounding pasturelands, ⁵⁶but the field of the city and its villages, they gave to Caleb, the son of Jephunneh.

⁵⁷And to the sons of Aaron they gave the cities of refuge: Hebron, and Libnah and its pasturelands, and Jattir, and Eshtemoa and its pasturelands, ⁵⁸and Hilez and its pasturelands, Debir and its pasturelands, ⁵⁹and Ashan and its pasturelands,^[2] and Beth Shemesh and its pasturelands. ⁶⁰And from the tribe of Benjamin: Geba and its pasturelands, and Alemeth and its pasturelands, and Anathoth and its pasturelands.

All their cities, 13 cities, among their clans.

⁶¹And to the sons of Kohath remaining from the clan of the tribe, from the half tribe, the half of Manasseh, by lot, ten cities. ⁶²And to the sons of Gershom, for their clans, from the tribe of Issachar and from the tribe of Asher and from the tribe of Naphtali and from the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, 13 cities. ⁶³To the sons of Merari, for their clans, from the tribe of Reuben and from the tribe of Gad and from the tribe of Zebulun, by lot, 12 cities. ⁶⁴And the sons of Israel gave to the Levites the cities and their pasturelands. ⁶⁵And they gave by lot from the tribe of the sons

of Judah and from the tribe of the sons of Simeon and from the tribe of the sons of Benjamin these cities which they called them by names.

⁶⁶And from the clans of the sons of Kohath; and there were cities of their territory from the tribe of Ephraim. ⁶⁷And they gave to them the cities of refuge: Shechem and its pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim, and Gezer and its pasturelands, ⁶⁸and Jokmeam and its pasturelands, and Beth Horon and its pasturelands, ⁶⁹and Aijalon and its pasturelands, and Gath Rimmon and its pasturelands. ⁷⁰And from the half tribe of Manasseh, Aner and its pasturelands, and Bileam and its pasturelands, for the clans of the sons of Kohath remaining.

⁷¹To the sons of Gershon from the clans of the half tribe of Manasseh: Golan in Bashan and its pasturelands, and Ashtaroth and its pasturelands. ⁷²And from the tribe of Issachar: Kedesh and its pasturelands, Daberath and its pasturelands, ⁷³and Ramoth and its pasturelands, and Anem and its pasturelands. ⁷⁴And from the tribe of Asher: Mashal and its pasturelands, and Abdon and its pasturelands, ⁷⁵and Hukok and its pasturelands, and Rehob and its pasturelands. ⁷⁶And from the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in Galilee and its pasturelands, and Hammon and its pasturelands, and Kiriathaim and its pasturelands.

⁷⁷To the sons of Merari remaining: from the tribe of Zebulun,^[3] Rimmono and its pasturelands, Tabor and its pasturelands; ⁷⁸and from beyond the Jordan at Jericho, to the east of the Jordan from the tribe of Reuben, Bezer in the wilderness and its pasturelands, and Jahzah and its pasturelands, ⁷⁹and Kedemoth and its pasturelands, and Mephaath and its pasturelands. ⁸⁰And from the tribe of Gad: Ramoth in Gilead and its pasturelands, and Mahanaim and its pasturelands, ⁸¹and Heshbon and its pasturelands, and Jazer and its pasturelands.

6:27 ^[1] .

6:59 ^[2] is found in the Syriac and LXX versions; also see Joshua 21:16.

6:77 ^[3] and are not found in the MT but are in the LXX. Compare the list in Josh. 21:34.

Chapter 7

¹And to the sons of Issachar: Tola, and Puah, Jashub, and Shimron, four. ²And the sons of Tola: Uzzi, and Rephaiah, and Jeriel, and Jahmai, and Ibsam, and Samuel, the heads of the house of their fathers, from of Tola, mighty of strength in their generations. Their number in the days of David, 22,600. ³And the sons of Uzzi: Izrahiah. And the sons of Izrahiah: Michael, and Obadiah, and Joel, and Ishijah, five heads all of them. ⁴And along with them, by their generations according to the house of their fathers, troops of the army of war, 36,000; for they multiplied wives and sons. ⁵And their brothers of all the clans of Issachar, mighty of strength, 87,000 listed in their genealogy in all.

⁶Of Benjamin: Bela, and Beker, and Jediael, three. ⁷And the sons of Bela: Ezbon, and Uzzi, and Uzziel, and Jerimoth, and Iri, five heads of the house of their fathers, mighty of strength, and listed in their genealogy, 22,034. ⁸And the sons of Beker: Zemirah, and Joash, and Eliezer, and Elioenai, and Omri, and Jeremoth, and Abijah, and Anathoth, and Alemeth. All these, the sons of Beker, ⁹and listed in their genealogy, according to their generations, heads of the house of their fathers, mighty of strength, 20,200. ¹⁰And the sons of Jediael: Bilhan. And the sons of Bilhan: Jeush, and Benjamin, and Ehud, and Kenaanah, and Zethan, and Tarshish, and Ahishahar. ¹¹All these, the sons of Jediael, according to the heads of their fathers, mighty of strength, 17,200, going out as an army to battle. ¹²And Shuppim and Huppim, the sons of Ir. Hushim, the sons of Aher.

¹³The sons of Naphtali: Jahziel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem, the sons of Bilhah.

¹⁴The sons of Manasseh: Asriel, whom his Aramean concubine bore. She bore Makir, the father of Gilead. ¹⁵And Makir took a wife of Huppim and of Shuppim. And the name of his sister, Maakah. And the name of the second, Zelophehad. And to Zelophehad there were daughters. ¹⁶And Maakah, the wife of Makir, bore a son and she called his name Peresh. And the name of his brother, Sheresh; and his sons, Ulam and Rakem. ¹⁷And the sons of Ulam: Bedan. These, the sons of Gilead, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh. ¹⁸And his sister Hammoleketh bore Ishhod, and Abiezer, and Mahlah. ¹⁹And the sons of Shemida were Ahian, and Shechem, and Likhi, and Aniam.

²⁰And the sons of Ephraim: Shuthelah, and Bered his son, and Tahath his son, and Eleadah his son, and Tahath his son, ²¹and Zabad his son, and Shuthelah his son, and Ezer and Elead. And the men of Gath who were born in the land killed them because they came down to take their livestock. ²²And Ephraim their father mourned many days, and his brothers came to comfort him. ²³And he went into his wife. And she conceived. And she bore a son. And he called his name Beriah, because disaster was in his house. ²⁴And his daughter, Sheerah, and she built Lower Beth Horon, and the Upper, and Uzzen Sheerah. ²⁵And Rephah, his son, and Resheph, and Telah, his son, and Tahan, his son, ²⁶Ladan, his son, Ammihud, his son, Elishama, his son, ²⁷Non, his son, Joshua, his son.

²⁸And their possessions and their dwellings: Bethel and its daughters. And to the east, Naaran. And to the west, Gezer and its daughters, and Shechem and its daughters as far as Ayyah and its daughters. ²⁹And on the hands of the sons of Manasseh, Beth Shan and its daughters, Taanach and its daughters, Megiddo and its daughters, Dor and its daughters. In these lived the sons of Joseph, the son of Israel.

³⁰The sons of Asher: Imnah, and Ishvah, and Ishvi, and Beriah, and Serah their sister. ³¹And the sons of Beriah: Heber and Malkiel; he, the father of Birzaith. ³²And Heber fathered Japhlet, and Shomer, and Hotham, and Shua their sister. ³³And the sons of Japhlet: Pasak, and Bimhal, and Ashvath. These, the sons of Japhlet. ³⁴And the sons of Shamer: Ahi, and Rohgah, and Hubbah, and Aram. ³⁵And the sons of Helem his brother: Zophah, and Imna, and Shelesh, and Amal. ³⁶And the sons of Zophah: Suah, and Harnepher, and Shual, and Beri, and Imrah, ³⁷Bezer, and Hod, and Shamma, and Shilshah, and Ithran, and Beera. ³⁸And the sons of Jether: Jephunneh, and Pispah, and Ara. ³⁹And the sons of Ulla: Arah, and Hanniel, and Rizia. ⁴⁰All these, the sons of Asher, heads of the house of their fathers, chosen, mighty of strength, heads of the chiefs. And listed in their genealogy in the army for war, their number, 26,000 men.

Chapter 8

¹And Benjamin fathered Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second, and Aharah the third, ²Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth. ³And there were sons to Bela: Addar, and Gera, and Abihud, ⁴and Abishua, and Naaman, and Ahoah, ⁵and Gera, and Shephuphan, and Hiram. ⁶And these, the sons of Ehud: these, they, heads of fathers, belonging to those dwelling in Geba. And they took them into exile to Manahath: ⁷and Naaman, and Ahijah, and Gera. He took them into exile, and he fathered Uzzah and Ahihud. ⁸And Shaharaim fathered in the field of Moab, after he sent them away, Hushim and Baara, his wives. ⁹And he fathered from Hodesh his wife: Jobab, and Zibia, and Mesha, and Malkam, ¹⁰and Jeuz, and Sakia, and Mirmah. These, his sons, heads of fathers. ¹¹And from Hushim he fathered Abitub and Elpaal. ¹²And the sons of Elpaal: Eber, and Misham, and Shemed, he built Ono and Lod and its daughters; ¹³and Beriah and Shema. They, heads of the fathers to those living in Aijalon; they caused those living in Gath to flee. ¹⁴and Ahio, Shashak, and Jeremoth, ¹⁵and Zebadiah, and Arad, and Eder, ¹⁶and Michael, and Ishpah, and Joha, the sons of Beriah. ¹⁷And Zebadiah, and Meshullam, and Hizki, and Heber, ¹⁸and Ishmerai, and Izliah, and Jobab, the sons of Elpaal. ¹⁹And Jakim, and Zikri, and Zabdi, ²⁰and Elienai, and Zillethai, and Eliel, ²¹and Adaiah, and Beraiah, and Shimrath, the sons of Shimei. ²²And Ishpan, and Eber, and Eliel, ²³and Abdon, and Zikri, and Hanan, ²⁴and Hananiah, and Elam, and Anthothijah, ²⁵and Iphdeiah, and Penuel, the sons of Shashak. ²⁶And Shamsherai, and Shehariah, and Athaliah, ²⁷and Jaareshiah, and Elijah, and Zikri, the sons of Jeroham. ²⁸These, heads of fathers by their generations, heads. They lived in Jerusalem.

²⁹And in Gibeon, they lived: the father of Gibeon, and the name of his wife, Maakah, ³⁰and his son, the firstborn, Abdon, and Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Nadab, ³¹and Gedor, and Ahio, and Zeker. ³²And Mikloth fathered Shimeah. And also they, opposite their brothers, lived in Jerusalem with their brothers. ³³And Ner fathered Kish. And Kish fathered Saul. And Saul fathered Jonathan, and Malki-Shua, and Abinadab, and Esh-Baal. ³⁴And the son of Jonathan, Merib-Baal. And Merib-Baal fathered Micah. ³⁵And the sons of Micah: Pithon, and Melek, and Tarea, and Ahaz. ³⁶And Ahaz fathered Jehoaddah. And Jehoaddah fathered Alemeth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri. And Zimri fathered Moza. ³⁷And Moza fathered Binea. Raphah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. ³⁸And to Azel six sons.

And these, their names: Azrikam, Bokeru, and Ishmael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan. All these, the sons of Azel. ³⁹And the sons of Eshek, his brother: Ulam his firstborn, Jeush the second, and Eliphelet the third. ⁴⁰And the sons of Ulam were men mighty in strength, who bent the bow, and multipliers of sons and sons of sons, 150. All these from the sons of Benjamin.

Chapter 9

¹And all Israel were listed in genealogy, and behold, they are written on the scroll of the kings of Israel. And Judah was taken into exile to Babylon because of their unfaithfulness. ²And the first inhabitants who were in their possession, in their cities: Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the temple servants. ³And in Jerusalem they lived, from the sons of Judah, and from the sons of Benjamin, and from the sons of Ephraim and Manasseh. ⁴Uthai the son of Ammihud, the son of Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, from the sons of Perez, the son of Judah. ⁵And from the Shilonites: Asaiah the firstborn and his sons. ⁶And from the sons of Zerah: Jeuel and their brothers, 690. ⁷And from the sons of Benjamin: Sallu, the son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hassenuah, ⁸and Ibneiah the son of Jeroham, and Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Mikri, and Meshullam the son of Shephatiah, the son of Reuel, the son of Ibrijah, ⁹and their brothers according to their generations, 956. All these men, heads of fathers, according to the house of their fathers.

¹⁰And from the priests: Jedaiah, and Jehoiarib, and Jakin, ¹¹and Azariah, the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the leader of the house of God, ¹²and Adaiah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashhur, the son of Malkijah, and Maasai, the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer, ¹³and their brothers, heads of the house of their fathers, 1,760, mighty of strength for the work of the service of the house of God.

¹⁴And from the Levites: Shemaiah, the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, from the sons of Merari, ¹⁵and Bakbakkar, Heresh, and Galal, and Mattaniah, the son of Mika, the son of Zikri, the son of Asaph, ¹⁶and Obadiah, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun, and Berekiah, the son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the Netophathites.

¹⁷And the gatekeepers: Shallum, and Akkub, and Talmon, and Ahiman, and their brothers; Shallum, the head.

¹⁸And until now in the gate of the king to the east, they were the gatekeepers for the camps of the sons of Levi.

¹⁹And Shallum, the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, ^[1] the son of Korah, and his brothers of the house of his father, the Korahites, were over the work of the service, the keepers of the thresholds of the tent, and their fathers over the camp of Yahweh, the keepers of the entrance. ²⁰And Phinehas the son of Eleazar was leader over them before faces; Yahweh was with him. ²¹Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah, gatekeeper of the entrance to the tent of meeting. ²²All those chosen as gatekeepers at the thresholds, 212. They in their villages listed in their genealogy, they, David and Samuel the seer, established in their official duty. ²³And they and their sons over the gates of the house of Yahweh, of the house of the tent as guards. ²⁴To the four winds were the gatekeepers, east, west, north, and south. ²⁵And their brothers in their villages were to come for seven days from time to time with these. ²⁶For in official duty, they, the four leaders of the gatekeepers, they were Levites, and they were over the chambers and over the treasuries of the house of God. ²⁷And around the house of God they would lodge, for on them was the watch. And they were over the key and morning by morning.

²⁸And from them over the utensils of the service, for by number they would bring them in and by number they would bring them out. ²⁹And from them ones who were appointed over the vessels and over all the utensils of the Holy Place, and over the fine flour, and the wine, and the oil, and the frankincense, and the spices. ³⁰And from the sons of the priests, mixers of the ointment for the spices. ³¹And Mattithiah, from the Levites, he the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, in official duty over the work of the flat cakes. ³²And from the sons of the Kohathites, from their brothers, over the bread of the rows, to prepare Sabbath by Sabbath.

³³And these, the singers, the heads of the fathers of the Levites in the chambers were free, for by day and by night they were over them in the work. ³⁴These, the heads of the fathers of the Levites, according to their generations, heads. These lived in Jerusalem.

³⁵And in Gibeon, they lived, the father of Gibeon, Jeiel, and the name of his wife, Maakah, ³⁶and his son, the firstborn, Abdon, and Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Ner, and Nadab, ³⁷and Gedor, and Ahio, and Zechariah, and Mikloth. ³⁸And Mikloth fathered Shimeam. And also they, opposite their brothers, lived in Jerusalem with their brothers. ³⁹And Ner fathered Kish. And Kish fathered Saul. And Saul fathered Jonathan, and Malki-Shua, and Abinadab, and Esh-Baal. ⁴⁰And the son of Jonathan, Merib-Baal. And Merib-Baal fathered Micah. ⁴¹And the sons of Micah: Pithon, and Melek, and Tahrea. ⁴²And Ahaz fathered Jarah. And Jarah fathered Alemeth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri. And Zimri fathered Moza. ⁴³And Moza fathered Binea. And Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. ⁴⁴And to Azel six sons, and these, their names: Azrikam, Bokeru, and Ishmael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan. These, the sons of Azel.

9:19 ^[1] in 1 Chronicles 26:1.

Chapter 10

¹And the Philistines fought with Israel. And the men of Israel fled from the faces of the Philistines, and they fell slain on Mount Gilboa. ²And the Philistines pursued after Saul and after his sons. And the Philistines struck down Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malki-Shua, the sons of Saul. ³And the battle was heavy against Saul, and those who shoot with the bow found him, and he writhed in pain from the ones shooting. ⁴Then Saul said to the lifter of his equipment, "Draw your sword and pierce me with it, lest these uncircumcised will come and mistreat me." But the lifter of his equipment was not willing, for he feared greatly. And Saul took the sword, and he fell on it. ⁵And the lifter of his equipment saw that Saul had died, and he himself likewise fell on the sword, and he died. ⁶And Saul died, and his three sons. And all his house died together.

⁷And every man of Israel who was in the valley saw that they had fled, and that Saul and his sons had died. And they abandoned their cities, and they fled. And the Philistines came, and they lived in them. ⁸And it happened on the next day, and the Philistines came to strip the slain, and they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. ⁹And they stripped him, and they carried away his head and his armor. And they sent among the land of the Philistines all around to bring news to their idols and the people. ¹⁰And they put his armor in the house of their gods, and his head they fastened in the house of Dagon. ¹¹And all Jabesh Gilead heard all that the Philistines did to Saul, ¹²and all the men of strength rose, and they carried the corpse of Saul and the corpses of his sons. And they brought them to Jabesh. And they buried their bones under the large tree in Jabesh, and they fasted seven days.

¹³And Saul died because of his infidelity which he was unfaithful to Yahweh on account of the word of Yahweh which he did not keep, and also to ask a medium to seek, ¹⁴and he did not seek Yahweh, and he killed him. And he turned the kingdom to David, the son of Jesse.

Chapter 11

¹And all Israel gathered to David at Hebron, saying, "Look, your bones and your flesh are we. ²Even yesterday also the day before that, even when Saul was king, you were the one who brought out and the one who brought in Israel. And Yahweh your God said to you, 'You yourself will shepherd my people, Israel, and you yourself will be leader over my people Israel.'" ³And all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David cut with them a covenant at Hebron before the face of Yahweh. And they anointed David king over Israel according to the word of Yahweh by the hand of Samuel.

⁴And David went and all Israel to Jerusalem; that is, Jebus. And there were the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land. ⁵And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You will not come in here." But David captured the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David. ⁶And David said, "Whoever strikes down the Jebusites first will become head and chief." And Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, and he became head. ⁷And David lived in the stronghold; therefore they called it the city of David. ⁸And he built the city all around, from the Millo and as far as that which surrounds. And Joab restored the rest of the city. ⁹And David went, going and becoming great, and Yahweh of Hosts was with him.

¹⁰And these, the heads of the mighty ones who belonged to David strengthened themselves with him in his kingdom, with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of Yahweh concerning Israel. ¹¹And these, the number of the mighty ones who belonged to David: Jashobeam, a son of a Hachmonite, the head of the officers^[1]. He swung his spear against 300, slain at one time. ¹²And after him, Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, he among the three mighty ones. ¹³He was with David at Pas Dammim, and the Philistines had assembled there for battle. And there was a portion of the field full of barley. And the people fled from the faces of the Philistines. ¹⁴And they took their stand in the midst of the portion. And they delivered it, and they struck down the Philistines. And Yahweh saved a great salvation.

¹⁵And three from the 30 heads went down to the rock to David, to the cave of Adullam. And the camp of the Philistines encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁶And David then was in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines then was in Bethlehem. ¹⁷And David desired, and he said, "Who will give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem which is by the gate?" ¹⁸And the three broke through the camp of the Philistines, and they drew water from the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate. And they carried, and they brought to David. But David was not willing to drink it, and he poured it out to Yahweh. ¹⁹And he said, "Far be it from me before my God from doing this! Do I drink the blood of these men with their lives? For with their lives they brought it." And he was not willing to drink it. These, the three mighty ones did.

²⁰And Abshai, the brother of Joab, he was the head of the Three. And he swung his spear against 300, slain. And to him a name among the Three. ²¹From the Three, in the second he was honored and he became to them a chief, but up to the Three he did not enter.

²²Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a man of strength, great deeds, from Kabzeel. He himself struck down the two of Ariel of Moab. And he himself went down, and he struck down the lion in the midst of the pit on the day of the snow. ²³And he himself struck down the man of Egypt, a man of stature, five cubits. And in the hand of the Egyptian, a spear like the beam of weavers, but he went down to him with a staff. And he seized the spear from the hand of the Egyptian, and he killed him with his spear. ²⁴These, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did, and to him a name among the three mighty ones. ²⁵From the 30, behold, he himself was honored, but to the three, he did not enter. And David set him over his bodyguard.

²⁶And the mighty ones of strength: Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo from Bethlehem, ²⁷Shammoth the Hararite, Helez the Pelonite, ²⁸Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite, ²⁹Sibbekai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite, ³⁰Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite, ³¹Ithai the son of Ribai from Gibeah of the sons of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite, ³²Hurai from the valleys of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite, ³³Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite, ³⁴the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite, ³⁵Ahiam the son of Sakar the Hararite, Eliphai the son of Ur, ³⁶Hepher the Mekerathite, Ahijah the Pelonite, ³⁷Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai, ³⁸Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Hagri, ³⁹Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the lifter of the equipment of Joab the son of Zeruiah, ⁴⁰Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, ⁴¹Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai, ⁴²Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a head of the Reubenites, and with him 30, ⁴³Hanan the son of Maacah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite, ⁴⁴Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite, ⁴⁵Jediael the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite, ⁴⁶Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite, ⁴⁷Eliel, and Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

11:11 ^[1] or .

Chapter 12

¹And these, the ones who came to David at Ziklag, while he was one restrained from the face of Saul the son of Kish. And they were among the mighty ones, helping the battle. ²They were armed with a bow, right-handed and left-handed with stones and with arrows with the bow, from the brothers of Saul, from Benjamin. ³The head, Ahiezer, and Joash, the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite, and Jeziel and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth, and Berakah, and Jehu the Anathothite, ⁴and Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty one among the 30 and over the 30, and Jeremiah, and Jahaziel, and Johanan, and Jozabad the Gederathite, ⁵Eluzai, and Jerimoth, and Bealiah, and Shemariah, Shephatiah the Haruphite, ⁶Elkanah, and Isshiah, and Azarel, and Joezer, and Jashobeam, the Korahites, ⁷and Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham from Gedor.

⁸And from the Gadites they separated themselves to David at the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty in strength, men of the army for battle, ready with shield and spear, and faces of lions were their faces, and like gazelles on the hills to hasten. ⁹Ezer the head, Obadiah the second, Eliab the third, ¹⁰Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the fifth, ¹¹Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh, ¹²Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the ninth, ¹³Jeremiah the tenth, Makbannai the 11th. ¹⁴These from the sons of Gad, the heads of the army. One for 100, the least; and the greatest for 1,000. ¹⁵These, they who passed over the Jordan in the first month, and it was filling over all its banks, and caused to flee all the valleys, to the east and to the west.

¹⁶And from the sons of Benjamin and Judah came to the stronghold to David. ¹⁷And David went out before their faces, and he answered, and he said to them: "If for peace you have come to me, to help me, my heart will be to you all for unity. But if to betray me to my adversaries, with no violence in my palms, may the God of our fathers see and rebuke." ¹⁸And the Spirit clothed Amasai, the head of the 30: "To you, O David, and with you, O Son of Jesse. Peace, peace to you and peace to the one who helps you, for your God has helped you." And David received them and placed them as the heads of the troop.

¹⁹And from Manasseh fell upon David when he went with the Philistines against Saul to battle. And they did not help them because by counsel the governors of the Philistines sent them away, saying, "By our heads he will fall to his lord, Saul." ²⁰In his going to Ziklag, they fell upon him from Manasseh: Adnah, and Jozabad, and Jediael, and Michael, and Jozabad, and Elihu, and Zillethai, the heads of the thousands who were of Manasseh. ²¹And they helped with David against the troop, for mighty ones of strength, all of them, and they were chiefs in the army. ²²For at the time of day by day, they were coming to David to help him, until there was a great camp, like the camp of God.

²³And these, the numbers of the heads of those equipped for war. They came to David at Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul to him according to the mouth of Yahweh. ²⁴The sons of Judah, those carrying shield and spear, 6,800, equipped for war. ²⁵From the sons of Simeon, mighty ones of strength for war, 7,100. ²⁶From the sons of Levi, 4,600. ²⁷And Jehoiada, the leader from Aaron, and with him, 3,700. ²⁸And Zadok, a young, mighty one of strength, and the house of his father, 22 chiefs. ²⁹And from the sons of Benjamin, the brothers of Saul, 3,000. And until then the majority of them were keeping the charge of the house of Saul. ³⁰And from the sons of Ephraim, 20,800 mighty ones of strength, men of names, according to the house of their fathers. ³¹And from the half tribe of Manasseh, 18,000 who were marked by names to come to make David king. ³²And from the sons of Issachar, those who knew understanding of the times to know what Israel should do, their heads, 200, and all their brothers according to their mouth. ³³From Zebulun, those going out for war, prepared for battle with all the weapons of battle, 50,000, and to help with no heart and a heart. ³⁴And from Naphtali, 1,000 chiefs, and with them with shield and spear, 37,000. ³⁵And from the Danites, prepared for battle, 28,600. ³⁶And from Asher those going out for war to prepare for battle, 40,000. ³⁷And from beyond the Jordan, from the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, with all the weapons of war for battle, 120,000.

³⁸All these men of battle, helpers of the battle line; with a whole heart, they came to Hebron to make David king over all Israel. And also all the rest of Israel was of one heart to make David king. ³⁹And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brothers had prepared for them. ⁴⁰And also, those near to them, as far as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, were bringing bread on donkeys, and on camels, and on mules, and on oxen; food of flour, fig cakes, and raisins cakes, and wine, and oil, and oxen, and sheep, in abundance, for joy was in Israel.

Chapter 13

¹And David consulted with the chiefs of thousands and of hundreds, to every leader. ²And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If to you all it is good, and from Yahweh our God, let us break out, let us send to our brothers who remain in all the regions of Israel, and with them the priests and the Levites in the cities of their pasturelands. And let them gather to us. ³And let us return the Box of our God to us, for we did not seek it in the days of Saul." ⁴And all the assembly said to do thus, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. ⁵And David assembled all Israel from Shihor of Egypt and as far as Lebo Hamath, to bring in the Box of God from Kiriath Jearim. ⁶And David went up and all Israel to Baalah, to Kiriath Jearim, which belongs to Judah, to bring up from there the Box of God Yahweh who sits over the cherubim which is called by name. ⁷And they transported the Box of God on a new cart from the house of Abinadab; and Uzzah and Ahio were driving the cart. ⁸And David and all Israel were celebrating before the face of God with all might, and with songs, and lyres, and harps, and tambourines, and cymbals, and trumpets.

⁹And they came to the threshing floor of Kidon, and Uzzah sent out his hand to grasp the Box for the oxen stumbled. ¹⁰And the anger of Yahweh burned against Uzzah, and He struck him down because he sent out his hand on the Box. And he died there before the face of God. ¹¹And David became angry because Yahweh broke out a breaking out against Uzzah. And he called that place Perez Uzzah until this day. ¹²And David feared God in that day, saying, "How will I bring to myself the Box of God?" ¹³And David did not remove the Box to himself, to the city of David, but he turned it to the house of Obed Edom the Gittite. ¹⁴And the Box of God dwelt with the house of Obed Edom in his house three months. And Yahweh blessed the house of Obed Edom and all that belonged to him.

Chapter 14

¹And Hiram the king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and wood of cedar, and craftsmen of a wall, and craftsmen of wood to build for him a house. ²And David knew that Yahweh had established him as king over Israel, that his kingdom was lifted upwards for the sake of his people Israel.

³And David took more wives in Jerusalem, and David fathered more sons and daughters. ⁴And these, the names of those born who were to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, and Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon, ⁵and Ibhar, and Elishua, and Elpelet, ⁶and Nogah, and Nepheg, and Japhia, ⁷and Elishama, and Beeliada, and Eliphelet.

⁸Now the Philistines heard that David was anointed as king over all Israel, and all the Philistines went up to seek David. And David heard and went out before their faces. ⁹And the Philistines went, and they raided in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁰Then David asked God, saying, "Should I go up against the Philistines? And will you give them into my hand?" And Yahweh said to him, "Go up and I will give them into your hand." ¹¹And they went up to Baal Perazim, and David struck them down there. And David said, "God has broken through my enemies by my hand like a breaking through of waters." Therefore they called the name of that place Baal Perazim. ¹²And they abandoned their gods there, and David ordered, and they were burned with fire.

¹³And the Philistines acted yet again, and they raided in the valley. ¹⁴And David asked God again. And God said to him, "Do not go up after them; circle around from upon them and come at them in front of the balsam trees. ¹⁵And it shall be when you hear the sound of the marching in the heads of the balsam trees, at that time you shall go out

in battle. For God has gone out before your face to strike down the camp of the Philistines." ¹⁶And David did just as God commanded him. And he struck down the camp of the Philistines, from Gibeon and as far as Gezer. ¹⁷And the name of David went out into all the lands, and Yahweh placed the fear of him on all the nations.

Chapter 15

¹And he made for himself houses in the city of David. And he prepared a place for the Box of God, and he stretched out a tent for it. ²Then David said, "No one shall carry the Box of God, but only the Levites. For them Yahweh chose to carry the Box of Yahweh and to minister for him forever." ³And David assembled all Israel to Jerusalem to bring up the Box of Yahweh to its place which he had prepared for it. ⁴And David gathered the sons of Aaron and the Levites. ⁵Of the sons of Kohath, Uriel the chief and his brothers, 120. ⁶Of the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief and his brothers, 220. ⁷Of the sons of Gershon, Joel the chief and his brothers, 130. ⁸Of the sons of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief and his brothers, 200. ⁹Of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief and his brothers, 80. ¹⁰Of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the chief and his brothers, 112. ¹¹And David called for Zadok and for Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, and Joel, Shemaiah, and Eliel, and Amminadab. ¹²And he said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers of the Levites. Consecrate yourselves, you and your brothers, and bring up the Box of Yahweh, the God of Israel, to where I prepared for it. ¹³Because at the first it was not you, Yahweh our God broke out against us, for we did not seek him according to the judgment." ¹⁴And the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the Box of Yahweh, the God of Israel. ¹⁵And the sons of Levi carried the Box of God just as Moses commanded, according to the word of Yahweh, on their shoulders with poles on them.

¹⁶And David said to the chiefs of the Levites to assign their brothers as the singers with instruments of song, harps, and lyres, and cymbals, playing to raise a sound of joy. ¹⁷And the Levites assigned Heman the son of Joel and from his brothers, Asaph the son of Berechiah, and from the sons of Merari their brothers, Ethan the son of Kushaiah, ¹⁸and with them, their brothers of the second rank: Zechariah, Ben, and Jaaziel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Unni, Eliab, and Benaiah, and Maaseiah, and Mattithiah, and Eliphelehu, and Mikneiah, and Obed Edom, and Jeiel, the gatekeepers. ¹⁹And the singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, with bronze cymbals to play. ²⁰And Zechariah, and Aziel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Unni, and Eliab, and Maaseiah, and Benaiah with harps, according to Alamothe. ²¹And Mattithiah, and Eliphelehu, and Mikneiah, and Obed Edom, and Jeiel, and Azaziah with lyres, according to the Sheminith to lead. ²²And Kenaniah, the chief of the Levites in lifting up, an instructor in lifting up, for he was one who understood. ²³And Berechiah and Elkanah, gatekeepers for the Box. ²⁴And Shebaniah, and Joshaphat, and Nethanel, and Amasai, and Zechariah, and Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, the ones to blow the trumpets before the face of the Box of God. And Obed Edom and Jehiah, gatekeepers for the Box.

²⁵And it happened David, and the elders of Israel, and the chiefs of thousands were going to bring up the Box of the covenant of Yahweh from the house of Obed Edom with joy. ²⁶And it happened when God helped the Levites carrying the Box of the covenant of Yahweh, and they slaughtered seven bulls and seven rams. ²⁷And David was clothed in a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites carrying the Box, and the singers, and Kenaniah, the chief of the lifting up of the singers. And on David, an ephod of linen. ²⁸And all Israel was bringing up the Box of the covenant of Yahweh with shouting of joy, and with a sound of a horn and with trumpets, and with cymbals, playing with harps and lyres.

²⁹And it happened the Box of the covenant of Yahweh was coming to the city of David, and Michal the daughter of Saul, looked down out of the window. And she saw the king, David, dancing and celebrating. And she despised him in her heart.

Chapter 16

¹And they brought in the Box of God and put it in the midst of the tent that David stretched out for it. And they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the face of God. ²And David finished bringing up the burnt

offering and the peace offerings, and he blessed the people in the name of Yahweh. ³And he distributed to each person of Israel, from man and as far as woman, to each a loaf of bread, and a date cake, and a raisin cake.

⁴And he appointed before the face of the Box of Yahweh from the Levites as ones who minister, and to commemorate and to thank and to praise Yahweh, the God of Israel. ⁵Asaph the head, and second to him Zechariah, Jeiel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Mattithiah, and Eliab, and Benaiah, and Obed Edom, and Jeiel, with instruments of harps and lyres, and Asaph with cymbals was playing, ⁶and Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets regularly, before the face of the Box of the covenant of God.

⁷On that day then David first appointed to thank Yahweh by the hand of Asaph and his brothers.

⁸Give thanks to Yahweh, call on his name;
make known among the peoples his deeds.

⁹Sing to him, make music to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.

¹⁰Glory in his holy name;
let the heart of those who seek Yahweh rejoice.

¹¹Seek Yahweh and his strength;
seek his face continually.

¹²Remember his wonderful acts which he has done,
his miracles and the judgments of his mouth,

¹³O seed of Israel his servant,
O sons of Jacob, his chosen ones.

¹⁴He is Yahweh, our God;
in all the earth are his judgments.

¹⁵Remember forever his covenant,
the word he commanded for 1,000 generations,

¹⁶which he cut with Abraham,
and his oath to Isaac.

¹⁷And he established it for Jacob as a statute,
for Israel a covenant forever,

¹⁸saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan
the allotment of your inheritance."

¹⁹When you all were few in number,
insignificant, and sojourners in it,

²⁰and they walked back and forth from nation to nation,

and from a kingdom to another people,

²¹he did not permit a person to oppress them;

and he rebuked kings on account of them.

²²"Do not strike my anointed ones,

and against my prophets do not do evil."

²³Sing to Yahweh, all the earth;

announce from day to day his salvation.

²⁴Recount among the nations his glory,

among all the peoples his wonderful acts.

²⁵For great is Yahweh and to be praised much,

and to be feared is he above all gods.

²⁶For all the gods of the peoples are worthless,

but Yahweh, the heavens he made.

²⁷Splendor and majesty are before his face;

strength and joy in his place.

²⁸Ascribe to Yahweh, O clans of peoples,

ascribe to Yahweh glory and strength!

²⁹Ascribe to Yahweh the glory of his name;

bring an offering and come before his face;

worship Yahweh in holy splendor.

³⁰Tremble from before his face, all the earth.

Indeed, the world is established; it cannot be shaken.

³¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth shout in exultation;

and let them say among the nations, "Yahweh reigns."

³²Let the sea roar and that which fills it.

Let the field exult, and all that is in it.

³³Then the trees of the forest will shout for joy from before the face of Yahweh,

for he is coming to judge the earth.

³⁴Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,

for forever is his loyal love.

³⁵And say, "Save us, God of our salvation,

and gather us and deliver us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
to boast in your praise.”

³⁶Blessed be Yahweh, the God of Israel,
from everlasting and as far as everlasting.

And all the people said, “Amen” and praised Yahweh.

³⁷And he left there before the face of the Box of the covenant of Yahweh Asaph and his brothers to minister before the face of the Box continually, according to the matter of the day in its day, ³⁸and Obed Edom and their brothers, 68, and Obed Edom the son of Jeduthun, and Hosah, were gatekeepers, ³⁹and Zadok the priest and his brothers the priests before the face of the tabernacle of Yahweh at the high place which was in Gibeon ⁴⁰to bring up burnt offerings to Yahweh on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, even according to all that is written in the law of Yahweh, which he commanded to Israel. ⁴¹And with them, Heman and Jeduthun and the rest of those chosen who were marked by names to give thanks to Yahweh, for forever is his loyal love. ⁴²And with them, Heman and Jeduthun for those playing trumpets and cymbals and the instruments of song of God; and the sons of Jeduthun for the gate. ⁴³And all the people went, each to his house, and David turned around to bless his house.

Chapter 17

¹And it happened when David was living in his house, and David said to Nathan the prophet, “Behold, I am living in a house of cedars, but the Box of the covenant of Yahweh is under curtains.” ²And Nathan said to David, “All which is in your heart, do, for God is with you.” ³And it happened in that night, and the word of God came to Nathan, saying, ⁴“Go and say to David my servant, ‘Thus says Yahweh: You yourself shall not build for me a house in which to live, ⁵for I have not lived in a house from the day that I brought up Israel until this day, but I have been from tent to tent, and from a tabernacle. ⁶In all where I have walked back and forth among all Israel, what word did I speak to one of the judges of Israel whom I commanded to shepherd my people, saying, “Why have you all not built for me a house of cedars?”’” ⁷And now, thus you shall say to my servant, to David, ‘Thus says Yahweh of Hosts: I myself took you from the pasture, from behind sheep, to be a leader over my people Israel. ⁸And I have been with you in all where you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before your face, and I will make for you a name, like a name of the great ones who are on the earth. ⁹And I will set a place for my people Israel, and I will plant them, and they will settle on it, and they will not tremble again. And the sons of injustice will not continue to trouble them, just as at the first, ¹⁰and from the days that I commanded judges over my people Israel. And I will humble all your enemies. And I declare to you that a house Yahweh will build for you. ¹¹And it will be when your days are fulfilled, to walk with your fathers, then I will raise up your seed after you who will be from your sons, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹²He himself will build for me a house, and I will establish his throne as far as forever. ¹³I myself will be to him a father, and he himself will be to me a son. And my covenant faithfulness I will not take away from with him, as I took away from who was before your face. ¹⁴And I will set him up in my house and in my kingdom as far as forever, and his throne will be established as far as forever.”’” ¹⁵According to all these words and according to all this vision, thus Nathan spoke to David.

¹⁶Then the king David went in and sat before the face of Yahweh; and he said, “Who am I, Yahweh God, and what is my house, that you have brought me as far as here? ¹⁷And a small thing was this in your eyes, God, and you have spoken regarding the house of your servant from a distance; and you have seen me as an appearance of the man moving upwards, Yahweh God. ¹⁸What more can David still say to you about honoring your servant. And you, your servant you know. ¹⁹Yahweh, for the sake of your servant and according to your heart, you have done all this greatness to make known all the greatnesses. ²⁰Yahweh, there is none like you, and no God except you, in all which

we have heard with our ears. ²¹And who is like your people Israel, one nation on the earth whom God went to ransom for himself a people, to set for you a name great and to be feared, to drive out nations from the faces of your people whom you ransomed from Egypt? ²²And you made your people Israel for yourself a people as far as forever, and you, Yahweh, became to them God. ²³And now, Yahweh, the word which you spoke concerning your servant and concerning his house, may it be confirmed as far as forever, and do just as you have spoken. ²⁴And may it be confirmed and may your name be great as far as forever, saying, 'Yahweh of Hosts, the God of Israel, is God to Israel,' and the house of David your servant established before your face. ²⁵For you, my God, have uncovered the ear of your servant to build for him a house; therefore your servant has found to pray before your face. ²⁶And now, Yahweh, you are God, and you have spoken concerning your servant this good. ²⁷And now, you have decided to bless the house of your servant, to be forever before your face. For you, Yahweh, have blessed, and it is blessed forever."

Chapter 18

¹And it happened after this that David struck down the Philistines, and he humbled them. And he took Gath and its daughters from the hand of the Philistines. ²And he struck down Moab, and the Moabites became servants to David, carriers of tribute.

³And David struck down Hadadezer, the king of Zobah Hamath, when he went to set up his hand at the Euphrates River. ⁴And David captured from him 1,000 chariots, and 7,000 horsemen, and 20,000 men on foot. And David hamstringed all the chariots, but spared from him 100 chariots.

⁵And Aram of Damascus came to help Hadadezer the king of Zobah, and David struck down of the Arameans 22,000 men. ⁶And David set up in Aram of Damascus, and Aram became servants to David, carriers of tribute. And Yahweh saved David in all where he went. ⁷And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and he brought them to Jerusalem. ⁸And from Tibhath and from Kun, cities of Hadadezer, David took very much bronze. With it, Solomon made the sea of bronze and the pillars and bronze items.

⁹And Tou, the king of Hamath, heard that David struck down all the army of Hadadezer, the king of Zobah. ¹⁰And he sent Hadoram his son to King David to ask him for peace and to bless him because he had fought against Hadadezer and struck him down, for a man of war Tou was with Hadadezer, and all the items of gold and silver and bronze. ¹¹Also these King David consecrated to Yahweh with the silver and the gold that he carried away from all the nations: from Edom, and from Moab, and from the sons of Ammon, and from the Philistines, and from Amalek.

¹²And Abishai the son of Zeruiah struck down Edom in the Valley of Salt, 18,000. ¹³And he set in Edom garrisons, and all Edom became servants to David. And Yahweh saved David in all where he went.

¹⁴And David reigned over all Israel. And it happened he was doing judgment and righteousness for all his people. ¹⁵And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army, and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, secretary. ¹⁶And Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, priests, and Shavsha, scribe. ¹⁷And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites and the Pelethites, and the sons of David, the heads at the hand of the king.

Chapter 19

¹And it happened after this, and Nahash, the king of the sons of Ammon, died, and his son reigned in his place. ²And David said, "I will do loyal kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father did to me loyal kindness." And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. And the servants of David came to the land of the sons of Ammon, to Hanun, to comfort him. ³And the chiefs of the sons of Ammon said to Hanun, "Is David honoring your father in your eyes because he sent to you comforters? Is it not for the sake of to explore and to overthrow and to spy the land his servants came to you?" ⁴And Hanun took the servants of David, and he shaved them, and he cut their garments in half, until the buttocks, and he sent them away. ⁵And they went, and they

declared to David concerning the men. And he sent to meet them for the men were greatly humiliated. And the king said, "Stay in Jericho until when your beards grow, then return."

⁶And the sons of Ammon saw that they were a stench to David, and Hanun sent, and the sons of Ammon, 1,000 talents of silver to hire for themselves from Aram Naharaim, and from Aram Maacah, and from Zobah, chariots and horsemen. ⁷And they hired for themselves 32,000 chariots and the king of Maacah and his people. And they came, and they encamped before the face of Medeba. And the sons of Ammon assembled from their cities, and came to battle. ⁸And David heard, and he sent Joab and all the army of mighty ones. ⁹And the sons of Ammon came out, and they arrayed for battle at the entrance of the city. And the kings who came were by themselves in the field.

¹⁰And Joab saw that the face of the battle was to him faces and hindquarter, and he chose from all the choice ones among Israel, and he arrayed to meet Aram. ¹¹And the remainder of the people he placed in the hand of Abishai his brother, and they arrayed to meet the sons of Ammon. ¹²And he said, "If Aram is too strong for me, then you shall be to me for salvation. And if the sons of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will save you. ¹³Be strong, and let us strengthen ourselves on behalf of our people and on behalf of the cities of our God, and Yahweh, the good in his eyes, he will do." ¹⁴And Joab drew near, and the people who were with him, before the faces of Aram for battle. And they fled from his face. ¹⁵And the sons of Ammon saw that Aram fled, and these also fled from the face of Abishai his brother. And they came to the city and Joab came to Jerusalem.

¹⁶And Aram saw that they were defeated before the face of Israel. And they sent messengers, and they brought out Aram, who was beyond the river, and Shophak the chief of the army of Hadadezer before their faces. ¹⁷And it was told to David, and he gathered all Israel. And he passed over the Jordan, and he came to them. And he arrayed against them. And David arrayed to meet Aram for battle, and they fought with him. ¹⁸And Aram fled from before the face of Israel, and David killed from Aram 7,000 chariots and 40,000 men on foot. And Shophak the chief of the army, he killed. ¹⁹And the servants of Hadadezer saw that they were defeated before the face of Israel, and they made peace with David, and they served him. And Aram was not willing to save the sons of Ammon again.

Chapter 20

¹And it happened at the time of the turning of the year, at the time of the going out of kings, that Joab led out the army for war and he devastated the land of the sons of Ammon. And he came, and he besieged Rabbah. And David stayed in Jerusalem. And Joab struck down Rabbah, and he tore it down. ²And David took the crown of their king from on his head, and he found the weight was a talent of gold, and in it was a precious stone. And it was on the head of David, and the plunder of the city he brought out, a very great amount. ³And the people who were in it, he brought out, and they sawed with saws and with sharp instruments of iron and with saws. And thus David did to all the cities of the sons of Ammon. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

⁴And it happened after this that war arose at Gezer with the Philistines. Then Sibbekai the Hushathite struck down Sippai, from the descendants of the Rephaim, and they were humbled. ⁵And there was again war with the Philistines, and Elhanan the son of Jair struck down Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite; and the wood of his spear was like a beam of a weaver. ⁶And there was again war in Gath. And there was a man of stature. And his digits were six and six, 24, and he also was born of Rapha. ⁷And he taunted Israel. And Jonathan the son of Shimea, the brother of David, struck him down. ⁸These were born to Rapha in Gath, and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

Chapter 21

¹And an adversary stood against Israel, and he incited David to count Israel. ²And David said to Joab and to the chiefs of the people, "Go, count Israel from Beersheba and as far as Dan, and bring to me, that I may know their number." ³And Joab said, "May Yahweh add to his people like them 100 times. Are not, my lord the king, all of them servants to my lord? Why does my lord seek this? Why should it be guilt for Israel?" ⁴But the word of the king was

strong against Joab. So Joab went out and walked back and forth in all Israel. Then he came to Jerusalem. ⁵And Joab gave the number of the numbering of the people to David. And all Israel was 1,100,000 men who drew the sword, and Judah, 470,000 men who drew the sword. ⁶But Levi and Benjamin he did not number in their midst, for the word of the king was abhorrent to Joab. ⁷And it was evil in the eyes of God concerning this word, and he struck Israel. ⁸And David said to God, "I have sinned greatly in that I have done this thing. And now please cause to pass the iniquity of your servant, for I have acted very foolishly."

⁹And Yahweh spoke to Gad, the seer of David, saying, ¹⁰"Go and speak to David, saying, 'Thus says Yahweh, three I am stretching over you; choose for yourself one from them, and I will act towards you.'" ¹¹And Gad came to David, and he said to him, "Thus says Yahweh, 'Take for yourself: ¹²either three years famine, or three months being swept away from the faces of your foes and overtaken by the sword of your enemies, or three days of the sword of Yahweh, even pestilence in the land and the angel of Yahweh destroying in all the territory of Israel.' And now, see; what word shall I bring back to the one who sent me?" ¹³And David said to Gad, "There is great distress to me! Please let me fall into the hand of Yahweh, for many are his great mercies, but into the hand of man, do not let me fall." ¹⁴And Yahweh gave a pestilence on Israel, and from Israel fell 70,000 men. ¹⁵And God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy her. And when destroying, Yahweh saw, and he relented concerning the disaster. And he said to the angel who was destroying, "Enough! Now release your hand." And the angel of Yahweh was standing at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁶And David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of Yahweh standing between the earth and between the heavens and his sword drawn in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. And David fell, and the elders, covered in sackcloth, on their faces. ¹⁷And David said to God, "Was it not I myself who said to count the people? And it is I who sinned, and I have surely done evil, but these sheep, what have they done? Yahweh my God, please let your hand be against me and against the house of my father, but not on your people a plague."

¹⁸And the angel of Yahweh said to Gad to say to David that David should go up to raise an altar to Yahweh at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁹So David went up at the word of Gad who spoke in the name of Yahweh. ²⁰And Ornan turned, and he saw the angel. And four of his sons with him were hiding themselves. And Ornan was threshing wheat. ²¹And David came to Ornan. And Ornan looked, and he saw David. And he went out from the threshing floor, and he bowed down to David, face to the ground. ²²And David said to Ornan, "Give to me the place of the threshing floor, and I will build on it an altar to Yahweh. At the full price give it to me, so the plague may be restrained from against the people." ²³And Ornan said to David, "Take for yourself that my lord the king may do good in his eyes. See, I give the cattle for the burnt offerings and the threshing sledges for wood, and the wheat for the offering; all I give." ²⁴And King David said to Ornan, "No, for I will surely buy at the full price, for I will not lift up what is yours to Yahweh and offer a burnt offering without paying compensation." ²⁵And David gave to Ornan for the place 600 shekels of gold by weight. ²⁶And David built there an altar to Yahweh and he offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. And he called to Yahweh, and he answered him with fire from the heavens on the altar of the burnt offering. ²⁷And Yahweh spoke to the angel, and he returned his sword to its sheath.

²⁸At that time, when David saw that Yahweh had answered him at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there. ²⁹And the tabernacle of Yahweh which Moses made in the wilderness and the altar of the burnt offering at that time were at the high place at Gibeon. ³⁰And David was not able to go to its face to seek God, for he was terrified from the faces of the sword of the angel of Yahweh.

Chapter 22

¹And David said, "This is the house of Yahweh God, and this is the altar for the burnt offering of Israel."

²And David said to gather the foreigners who were in the land of Israel. And he assigned stonemasons to hew out cut stones to build the house of God. ³And a large amount of iron for the nails for the doors of the gates and for braces, David prepared; and a large amount of bronze, there is no weighing. ⁴And trees of cedar without number, for the Sidonians and the Tyrians brought a large amount of cedar trees to David. ⁵And David said, "Solomon my

son is young and tender, and the house to be built for Yahweh must be great for the sake of a name and for beauty in all the lands. I will now prepare for it." And David prepared a large amount before the face of his death.

⁶And he called for Solomon his son, and he commanded him to build a house for Yahweh, the God of Israel. ⁷And David said to Solomon, "My son, it was with my heart to build a house myself for the name of Yahweh my God. ⁸But the word of Yahweh was to me, saying, 'A large amount of blood you have shed and great wars you have made; you shall not build a house for my name because a large amount of blood you have shed on the ground before my face. ⁹Behold, a son is being born to you; he himself will be a man of rest. And I will give rest to him from all his enemies from all around. For Solomon will be his name, and peace and quietness I will give to Israel in his days. ¹⁰He himself will build a house for my name. And he himself will be to me a son, and I to him a father. And I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel as far as forever.' ¹¹Now, my son, may Yahweh be with you, and may you be successful and build a house of Yahweh your God, just as he spoke concerning you. ¹²Only may Yahweh give to you insight and understanding, and give you charge over Israel so that you may keep the law of Yahweh your God. ¹³Then you will succeed, if you are careful to do the statutes and the judgments which Yahweh commanded Moses concerning Israel. Be strong and courageous. Do not fear and do not be dismayed. ¹⁴Now, see, in my affliction, I have prepared for the house of Yahweh gold talents, 100,000, and silver, 1,000,000 talents, and for bronze and for iron, there is no weighing, for there is a large amount. And trees and stones I have prepared. And to them you will add. ¹⁵And with you is a large amount of doers of work: stonemasons, and craftsmen of stone and wood, and all wise in all work, ¹⁶for gold, for silver, and for bronze, and for iron; there is no numbering. Arise and work. And may Yahweh be with you."

¹⁷And David commanded all the chiefs of Israel to help Solomon his son, ¹⁸"Is not Yahweh your God with you all and given rest to you all from all around? For he has given into my hand the inhabitants of the land, and the land is subdued before the face of Yahweh and before the faces of his people. ¹⁹Now, give your heart and your life to seek Yahweh your God, and arise and build the sanctuary of Yahweh God to bring the Box of the covenant of Yahweh and the sacred items of God to the house to be built for the name of Yahweh."

Chapter 23

¹And David was old and was full of days, and he made Solomon his son king over Israel. ²And he gathered all the chiefs of Israel and the priests and the Levites. ³And the Levites were counted from sons of 30 years and upward and the numbering was by their heads, by males, 38,000. ⁴From these, to lead the work of the house of Yahweh, 24,000, and officers and judges, 6,000, ⁵and 4,000 gatekeepers and 4,000 praisers to Yahweh with the instruments which I made to praise." ⁶And David divided them into divisions according to the sons of Levi: of Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

⁷Of the Gershonites: Ladan and Shimei. ⁸The sons of Ladan: the head Jehiel, and Zetham, and Joel, three. ⁹The sons of Shimei: Shelomoth, and Haziël, and Haran, three. These, the heads of the fathers of Ladan. ¹⁰And the sons of Shimei: Jahath, and Zina, and Jeush, and Beriah. These, the sons of Shimei, four. ¹¹And Jahath was the head, and Zizah the second, but Jeush and Beriah did not have many sons, and they were to a house of a father for one group.

¹²The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four. ¹³The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was set apart for him to consecrate the most holy things, he and his sons until forever, to make sacrifices before the face of Yahweh to minister for him and to bless in his name until forever. ¹⁴And Moses, the man of God, his sons were called according to the tribe of Levi. ¹⁵The sons of Moses: Gershom and Eliezer. ¹⁶The sons of Gershom: Shebuel the head. ¹⁷And the sons of Eliezer were Rehabiah the head, and there were not to Eliezer other sons, but the sons of Rehabiah were many above that. ¹⁸The sons of Izhar: Shelomith the head. ¹⁹The sons of Hebron: Jeriah the head, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁰The sons of Uzziel: Micah the head, and Isshiah the second. ²¹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli: Eleazar and Kish. ²²And Eleazar

died and there were not to him sons, but only daughters. And the sons of Kish, their brothers, lifted them. ²³The sons of Mushi: Mahli, and Eder, and Jerimoth, three.

²⁴These were the sons of Levi according to the house of their fathers, heads of the fathers, by their appointments, in the numbering of names by their heads, the doer of the work of the service of the house of Yahweh; from the sons of 20 years and upward. ²⁵For David said, "Yahweh, the God of Israel, has given rest to his people. And he dwells in Jerusalem until forever. ²⁶And also, for the Levites, no longer to carry the tabernacle and all its items for its service." ²⁷For by the last words of David, they were numbering the sons of Levi, from the sons of 20 years and upward. ²⁸For their office was by the hand of the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of Yahweh over the courts, and over the chambers, and over the cleansing of all the sacred things, and the work of the service of the house of God. ²⁹And concerning the bread of the arrangement, and concerning the fine flour for the offering, and concerning the wafers of the unleavened bread, and concerning the pan, and concerning that which is mixed, and concerning all measure and size. ³⁰And to stand morning by morning to thank and to praise Yahweh, and thus in the evening. ³¹And concerning to offer all the burnt offerings to Yahweh for the Sabbaths, for the new moons, and for the appointed times in the numbering according to the judgment over them regularly before the face of Yahweh. ³²And they were to keep the charge of the tent of meeting and the charge of the holy place, and the charge of the sons of Aaron their brothers for the service of the house of Yahweh.

Chapter 24

¹And to the sons of Aaron, their division. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ²And Nadab died, as well as Abihu, before the face of their father, and sons were not to them. And Eleazar and Ithamar became priests. ³And David divided them, along with Zadok from the sons of Eleazar, and Ahimelech from the sons of Ithamar, according to their office in their service. ⁴And more sons of Eleazar were found for heads of men than the sons of Ithamar, and they divided them for the sons of Eleazar, heads of a house of the fathers, 16, and for the sons of Ithamar for the house of their fathers, eight. ⁵And they divided them by lots, these with these, for there were sacred chiefs and chiefs of God from the sons of Eleazar and in the sons of Ithamar. ⁶And Shemaiah the son of Nethanel the scribe from the Levites wrote them before the face of the king, and the chiefs, and Zadok the priest, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and the heads of the fathers for the priests and for the Levites. One house of a father was picked for Eleazar, and one was picked for Ithamar.

⁷And the first lot went to Jehoiarib, to Jedaiah the second, ⁸to Harim the third, to Seorim the fourth, ⁹to Malkijah the fifth, to Mijamin the sixth, ¹⁰to Hakkoz the seventh, to Abijah the eighth, ¹¹to Jeshua the ninth, to Shecaniah the tenth, ¹²to Eliashib the 11th, to Jakim the 12th, ¹³to Huppah the 13th, to Jeshebeab the 14th, ¹⁴to Bilgah the 15th, to Immer the 16th, ¹⁵to Hezir the 17th, to Huppizez the 18th, ¹⁶to Pethahiah the 19th, to Jehezkel the 20th, ¹⁷to Jakin the 21st, to Gamul the 22nd, ¹⁸to Delaiah the 23rd, to Maaziah the 24th. ¹⁹These, their office for their service to come into the house of Yahweh, according to the judgments by the hand of Aaron their father, just as Yahweh the God of Israel commanded him.

²⁰And to the sons of Levi, the ones who are left, of the sons of Amram, Shubael; of the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah. ²¹To Rehabiah, of the sons of Rehabiah, the head Ishijah. ²²To the Izharites, Shelomoth, of the sons of Shelomoth, Jahath. ²³And the sons of Jeriah, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁴The sons of Uzziel, Micah, of the sons of Micah, Shamir. ²⁵The brother of Micah, Ishijah, of the sons of Ishijah, Zechariah. ²⁶The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Jaaziah: Beno. ²⁷The sons of Merari, of Jaaziah: Beno, and Shoham, and Zaccur, and Ibri. ²⁸To Mahli, Eleazar, and not were to him sons. ²⁹To Kish, the sons of Kish, Jerahmeel. ³⁰And the sons of Mushi: Mahli, and Eder, and Jerimoth. These, the sons of the Levites, according to the house of their fathers. ³¹And these also cast lots just like their brothers, the sons of Aaron, before the face of King David, along with Zadok and Ahimelech and the heads of the fathers, for the priests and for the Levites; the fathers of the head just like his younger brother.

Chapter 25

¹And David and the chiefs of the army divided for the service for the sons of Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun, the ones prophesying with harps, with lyres, and with cymbals. And the numbering of the men of work for their service was: ²Of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, and Joseph, and Nethaniah, and Asharelah,^[1] the sons of Asaph, under the hand of Asaph, who was prophesying under the hands of the king. ³Of Jeduthun, the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, and Zeri,^[2] and Jeshaiiah, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father Jeduthun, with the harp one prophesying, for giving thanks and to praise Yahweh. ⁴Of Heman, the sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel,^[3] Shubael, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamti-Ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, Mahazioth. ⁵All these, the sons of Heman, the seer of the king by the words of God to lift up a horn. And God gave to Heman 14 sons and three daughters. ⁶All these, under the hands of their father in the song of the house of Yahweh, with cymbals, harps, and lyres for the service of the house of God under the hands of the king: Asaph, and Jeduthun, and Heman. ⁷And their numbering with their brothers who were taught the song of Yahweh, all the ones who understand, 288. ⁸And they cast lots for a charge, small and great alike, one who understands with a student.

⁹And the first lot went to Asaph, to Joseph; Gedaliah the second, he and his brothers and his sons, 12. ¹⁰The third Zaccur, his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹¹The fourth to Izri,^[4] his sons and his brothers, 12; ¹²The fifth Nethaniah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹³The sixth Bukkiah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹⁴The seventh Jesarelah,^[5] his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹⁵The eighth Jeshaiiah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹⁶The ninth Mattaniah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹⁷The tenth Shimei, his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹⁸The 11th Azarel,^[6] his sons and his brothers, 12. ¹⁹The 12th to Hashabiah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁰For the 13th Shubael, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²¹For the 14th Mattithiah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²²For the 15th to Jerimoth, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²³For the 16th to Hananiah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁴For the 17th to Joshbekashah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁵For the 18th to Hanani, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁶For the 19th to Mallothi, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁷For the 20th to Eliathah, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁸For the 21st to Hothir, his sons and his brothers, 12. ²⁹For the 22nd to Giddalti, his sons and his brothers, 12. ³⁰For the 23rd to Mahazioth, his sons and his brothers, 12. ³¹For the 24th to Romamti-Ezer, his sons and his brothers, 12.

25:2 ^[1]

25:3 ^[2]

25:4 ^[3]

25:11 ^[4]

25:14 ^[5]

25:18 ^[6]

Chapter 26

¹For the divisions of the gatekeepers: Of the Korahites, Meshelemiah the son of Kore, from the sons of Asaph^[1]. ²And to Meshelemiah^[2] sons: Zechariah the firstborn, Jediahel the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth, ³Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Eliehoenai the seventh. ⁴And to Obed Edom sons: Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, and Sakar the fourth, and Nethanel the fifth, ⁵Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peullethai the eighth, for God blessed him. ⁶And to Shemaiah his son were born sons, rulers in the house of their fathers; for mighty ones of strength they were. ⁷The sons of Shemaiah: Othni, and Rephael, and Obed, Elzabad his brothers, sons of strength, Elihu and Semakiah. ⁸All these from the sons of Obed Edom. They and their sons and their brothers, men of strength with power for service, 62 of Obed Edom. ⁹And to Meshelemiah sons and brothers, sons of strength, 18. ¹⁰And to Hosah, from the sons of Merari, sons: Shimri the head, although he was not firstborn, and his father set him as head, ¹¹Hilkiah the second, Tabaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth. All the sons and brothers to Hosah, 13.

¹²To these divisions of the gatekeepers, to the head males a charge just like their brothers to minister in the house of Yahweh. ¹³And they cast lots, like small like great, according to the house of their fathers for gate and gate.

¹⁴And the lot fell to the east, to Shelemiah^[3] and Zechariah his son, an advisor with insight. And they cast lots and his lot went to the north. ¹⁵To Obed Edom to the south, and to his sons, the house of stores. ¹⁶To Shuppim and to Hosah, to the west with the gate of Shalleketh on the road that goes up; a guard alongside a guard. ¹⁷To the east six Levites, to the north per day four, to the south per day four, and to the stores two by two. ¹⁸At the colonnade to the west, four at the highway, two at the colonnade.^[4] ¹⁹These, the divisions of the gatekeepers for the sons of the Korahites and for the sons of Merari.

²⁰And the Levites, Ahijah over the treasuries of the house of God and of the treasuries of the sacred things. ²¹The sons of Ladan, the sons of the Gershonites belonging to Ladan, the heads of the fathers, belonging to Ladan the Gershonite, Jehieli. ²²The sons of Jehieli: Zetham and Joel his brother, over the treasuries of the house of Yahweh. ²³Of the Amramites, of the Izharites, of the Hebronites, of the Uzzielites: ²⁴And Shubael the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, a leader over the treasuries, ²⁵and his brothers; to Eliezer, Rehabiah his son, and Jeshaiiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomith his son. ²⁶This Shelomith and his brothers were over all the treasuries of the sacred things which David the king consecrated, and the heads of the fathers, of the chiefs of thousands and hundreds, and the chiefs of the army. ²⁷From battles and from plunder they consecrated to strengthen the house of Yahweh. ²⁸And all Samuel the seer consecrated, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah. All the sacred things were under the hand of Shelomith and his brothers.

²⁹Of the Izharites, Kenaniah and his sons to the work of the outside for Israel as officers and judges. ³⁰Of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brothers, sons of strength, 1,700, over appointment of Israel from beyond the Jordan to the west for all the work of Yahweh and for the service of the king. ³¹Of the Hebronites, Jeriah the head of the Hebronites according to his generations of fathers. In the 40th year of the reign of David they were sought out and there were found among them mighty ones of strength in Jazer of Gilead, ³²and his brothers, sons of strength, 2,700 heads of the fathers. And David the king appointed them over the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh, for every matter of God, and matter of the king.

26:1 ^[1] in 1 Chronicles 9:19.

26:2 ^[2] in 1 Chronicles 26:14.

26:14 ^[3] in 1 Chronicles 26:2.

26:18 ^[4]

Chapter 27

¹And the sons of Israel, for the numbering of the heads of the fathers and the chiefs of thousands and hundreds, and their officers of those who minister to the king for any matter of the divisions who come and go month by month for all months of the year, one division, 24,000. ²Over the first division for the first month, Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel, and over his division, 24,000. ³From the sons of Perez the head of all the chiefs of the armies for the first month. ⁴And over the division for the second month, Dodai the Ahohite and his division, and Mikloth the leader, and over his division, 24,000. ⁵The third chief of the army for the third month, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the head priest, and over his division, 24,000. ⁶This Benaiah the mighty one of the 30, and over the 30 and his division, Ammizabad his son. ⁷The fourth for the fourth month, Asahel brother of Joab and Zebadiah his son after him, and over his division, 24,000. ⁸The fifth for the fifth month, the chief Shamhuth the Izrahite, and over his division, 24,000. ⁹The sixth for the sixth month, Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, and over his division, 24,000. ¹⁰The seventh for the seventh month, Helez the Pelonite, from the sons of Ephraim, and over his division, 24,000. ¹¹The eighth for the eighth month, Sibbekai the Hushathite, of the Zerahites, and over his division, 24,000. ¹²The ninth for the ninth month, Abiezer the Anathothite, of the Benjaminites, and over his division, 24,000. ¹³The tenth for the tenth month, Maharai the Netophahite, of the Zerahites, and over his division, 24,000. ¹⁴The 11th for the

11th month, Benaiah the Pirathonite, from the sons of Ephraim, and over his division, 24,000. ¹⁵The 12th for the 12th month, Heldai the Netophahite, of Othniel, and over his division, 24,000.

¹⁶And over the tribes of Israel: for the Reubenites, a leader, Eliezer the son of Zichri; for the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maacah; ¹⁷for the Levites, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel; for Aaron, Zadok; ¹⁸for Judah, Elihu, from the brothers of David; for Issachar, Omri the son of Michael; ¹⁹for Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah; for Naphtali, Jerimoth the son of Azriel; ²⁰for the sons of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Azaziah; for the half tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiiah; ²¹for the half of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah; for Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner; ²²for Dan, Azarel the son of Jeroham. These, the chiefs of the tribes of Israel. ²³And David did not lift the numbering for sons of 20 years and downwards, because Yahweh said he would multiply Israel like the stars of the heavens. ²⁴Joab the son of Zeruiah began to count, but he did not finish. And there was among this wrath on Israel. And the number did not go up into the number of the matters of the days of King David.

²⁵And over the treasuries of the king, Azmaveth the son of Adiel. And over the treasuries in the field, in the cities, and in the villages, and in the towers, Jonathan the son of Uzziah. ²⁶And over the ones who do the work of the field, for the service of the ground, Ezri the son of Kelub. ²⁷And over the vineyards, Shimei the Ramathite. And over what is in the vineyards for the treasuries of the wine, Zabdi the Shiphmite. ²⁸And over the olive trees and the sycamore trees which were in the lowlands, Baal-Hanan the Gederite. And over the treasuries of the oil, Joash. ²⁹And over the herd pasturing in Sharon, Shitrai the Sharonite. And over the herd in the valleys, Shaphat the son of Adlai. ³⁰And over the camels, Obil the Ishmaelite. And over the female donkeys, Jehdeiah the Meronothite. ³¹And over the flock, Jaziz the Hagrite. All these, the chiefs of the property which belonged to King David.

³²And Jonathan, the uncle of David, an advisor, a man of understanding and a scribe, was he. And Jehiel the son of Hakmoni was with the sons of the king. ³³And Ahithophel, an advisor to the king, and Hushai the Arkite, friend to the king. ³⁴And after Ahithophel, Jehoiada the son of Benaiah and Abiathar. And the chief of the army of the king, Joab.

Chapter 28

¹And David called to assembly all the chiefs of Israel: the chiefs of the tribes, and the chiefs of the divisions who served the king, and the chiefs of the thousands, and the chiefs of the hundreds, and the chiefs of all the property and cattle belonging to the king and to his sons, with the high officials, and the mighty ones, and to all the mighty ones of strength, to Jerusalem. ²And David the king rose to his feet, and he said, "Hear me, my brothers and my people, I had in my heart to build a house of rest for the Box of the covenant of Yahweh and for the footstool of the feet of our God. And I have prepared to build. ³But God said to me, 'You will not build a house for my name, because a man of war you are and blood you have shed.' ⁴Yet Yahweh, the God of Israel, chose me from all of the house of my father to be king over Israel forever, for among Judah he chose for a leader, and in the house of Judah, the house of my father, and among the sons of my father, with me he was pleased to make king over all Israel. ⁵And from all my sons, for many sons Yahweh has given to me, and he chose Solomon my son to sit on the throne of the kingdom of Yahweh over Israel. ⁶And he said to me, 'Solomon your son, he himself will build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him for myself for a son, and I myself will be to him for a father. ⁷And I will establish his kingdom until forever, if he is strong to do my commands and my judgments, like this day.' ⁸And now, in the eyes of all Israel, the assembly of Yahweh, and in the ears of our God, keep and seek all the commands of Yahweh your God in order that you all will possess the good land and you all will cause your sons after you to inherit until forever.

⁹And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father, and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing life, for all hearts Yahweh seeks and all purpose of thoughts understands. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you abandon him, he will reject you forever. ¹⁰See, now, that Yahweh has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary. Be strong and act."

¹¹And David gave to Solomon his son the plan of the porch, and its houses, and its treasuries, and its upper rooms, and its inner rooms, and the house of the atonement lid, ¹²and the plan of all that was by the Spirit with him for the courts of the house of Yahweh, and for all the chambers all around, for the treasuries of the house of God and for the treasuries of the sacred things, ¹³and for the divisions of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of Yahweh, and for all the items of the service of the house of Yahweh, ¹⁴for gold by weight, for gold for all the items of service and service, for all the items of silver by weight, for all the items of service and service, ¹⁵and the weight for the gold lampstands and their gold lamps by weight of lampstand and lampstand and its lamps, and for the lampstands of silver by weight for the lampstand and its lamps, according to the service of lampstand and lampstand, ¹⁶and the gold weight for the tables of the arrangement, for the table and table, and silver for the tables of silver, ¹⁷and the forks and the bowls and the jugs of pure gold and for the basins of gold by weight for basin and basin, and for the basins of silver by weight, for basin and basin, ¹⁸and for the altar of incense, refined gold by weight, and for the plan of the chariot of the cherubim, gold, that spread out and cover over the Box of the covenant of Yahweh. ¹⁹The entirety in writing from the hand of Yahweh upon me, he instructed all of the works of the plan."

²⁰And David said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and be courageous and act. Do not fear and do not be dismayed for Yahweh God, my God, is with you. He will not leave you and he will not abandon you until all the work of the service of the house of Yahweh is finished. ²¹And behold, the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God, and with you in all the work will be every willing one with wisdom, for all the service, and the chiefs and all the people for all your ways."

Chapter 29

¹And King David said to all the assembly, "Solomon my son, alone God has chosen him, is young and tender, and the work is great; for not for man is the palace but for Yahweh God. ²And according to all my power I have provided for the house of my God, the gold for the gold, and the silver for the silver, and the bronze for the bronze, the iron for the iron, and the wood for the wood, stones of onyx and settings, stones of antimony and colorful things, and all the rare stones and alabaster stones, in abundance. ³And again, in my delighting in the house of my God, possessions belonging to me, gold and silver, I give to the house of my God, above all I have prepared for the sacred house: ⁴3,000 talents of gold from the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses, ⁵gold for gold, and silver for silver, and for all the work by the hand of the craftsmen. And who offers freely to fill his hand today to Yahweh?"

⁶And the chiefs of the fathers offered freely as well as the chiefs of the tribes of Israel and the chiefs of thousands and hundreds, and the chiefs of the work of the king. ⁷And they gave for the service of the house of God gold, 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics, and silver, 10,000 talents, and bronze, 18,000 talents, and iron, 100,000 talents. ⁸And he who was found with it, stones, they gave to the treasury of the house of Yahweh, under the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. ⁹And the people rejoiced because they offered freely, for with a whole heart they offered freely to Yahweh. And also King David rejoiced with great joy.

¹⁰And David blessed Yahweh in the eyes of all the assembly. And David said, "Blessed are you, Yahweh, God of Israel, our father, from forever and until forever. ¹¹To you, Yahweh, the greatness, and the might, and the beauty, and the splendor, and the majesty; indeed, everything in the heavens and in the earth. To you, Yahweh, the kingdom and lifting yourself above all as head. ¹²And the riches and the glory from before your face, and you are ruling over all, and in your hand power and might, and in your hand to make great and to strengthen all. ¹³And now, our God, we are giving thanks to you and praising the name of your beauty. ¹⁴But who am I, and who are my people, that we should retain power to offer freely like this? For from you is everything, and from your hand we have given to you. ¹⁵For we are foreigners before your face and sojourners, like all our fathers, like the shadow are our days on the earth, and there is no hope. ¹⁶Yahweh our God, all this abundance that we have prepared in order to build for you a house for the name of your holiness, from your hand it is and for you is all. ¹⁷And I know, my God, that you examine the heart and in uprightness are pleased. I, in the uprightness of my heart, I have offered

freely all these, and now your people are found here, I see with joy, to offer freely to you. ¹⁸Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel—our fathers—keep this forever concerning the purpose of the thoughts of the heart of your people, and direct their hearts to you. ¹⁹And to Solomon my son, give a whole heart to keep your commandments, your testimonies, and your statutes, and to do all and to build the palace for which I have prepared.”

²⁰And David said to all the assembly, “Bless Yahweh your God.” And all the assembly blessed Yahweh, the God of their fathers. And they bowed down and paid homage to Yahweh and to the king. ²¹And they sacrificed to Yahweh sacrifices, and they offered burnt offerings to Yahweh on the day following that day, 1,000 bulls, 1,000 rams, 1,000 lambs, and their drink offerings and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel. ²²And they ate and drank before the face of Yahweh that day with great joy.

And they made king a second time Solomon, the son of David, and they anointed for Yahweh for a leader and Zadok for priest. ²³And Solomon sat on the throne of Yahweh as king instead of David his father, and he succeeded. And all Israel listened to him.

²⁴And all the chiefs, and the mighty ones, and also all the sons of King David gave a hand under King Solomon.

²⁵And Yahweh made Solomon exceedingly great in the eyes of all Israel. And he bestowed on him majesty of a kingdom which has not been on any king before his face over Israel.

²⁶And David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. ²⁷And the days which he reigned over Israel, 40 years. In Hebron he reigned seven years, and in Jerusalem he reigned 33. ²⁸And he died at a good old age, full of days, riches, and glory. And Solomon his son reigned in his place. ²⁹And the matters of King David, the first things and the last things, behold, they are written in the words of Samuel the Seer, and in the words of Nathan the prophet, and in the words of Gad the prophet, ³⁰with all his reign and his might and the times which passed over on him, and on Israel, and on all the kingdoms of the lands.

2 Chronicles

Chapter 1

¹And Solomon the son of David strengthened himself over his kingdom, and Yahweh his God was with him and made him exceedingly great. ²And Solomon said to all Israel, to the chiefs of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every prince of all Israel, the heads of the fathers. ³And Solomon went and all the assembly with him to the high place that was at Gibeon, for there was the tent of meeting of God, which Moses the servant of Yahweh, had made in the wilderness. ⁴However, the Box of God David had brought up from Kiriath Jearim to where David prepared for it, for he pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem. ⁵And the bronze altar which Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, made was there before the tabernacle of Yahweh; and Solomon and the assembly sought him.^[1] ⁶And Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before Yahweh, which was at the tent of meeting, and he brought up on it 1,000 burnt offerings.

⁷In that night, God appeared to Solomon, and he said to him, "Ask what I should give to you." ⁸And Solomon said to God, "You yourself did with David my father great covenant faithfulness and have made me king in his place. ⁹Now, Yahweh God, may your word with David my father be confirmed, for you yourself have made me king over a people numerous as the dust of the earth. ¹⁰Now wisdom and knowledge give to me, and I will go out before this people, and I will come in, for who can judge this great people of yours?" ¹¹And God said to Solomon, "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked for wealth, riches, or glory, or the life of those who hate you, and also many days you did not ask, but you have asked for yourself wisdom and knowledge with which you will judge my people, which I made you king over them, ¹²wisdom and knowledge are given to you, and wealth, and riches, and glory I will give to you which were not thus to the kings who were before you, and after you will not be thus." ¹³And Solomon came from the high place that was at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tent of meeting; and he was king over Israel.

¹⁴And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen, and there was to him 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, and he placed them in the chariot cities, and with the king in Jerusalem. ¹⁵And the king made silver and gold in Jerusalem as the stones, and cedars he made as the sycamore trees that were in the lowlands in abundance. ¹⁶And the source of the horses which were to Solomon was from Egypt and from Kue; the traders of the king, they would take at a price from Kue. ¹⁷And they brought up and brought out from Egypt a chariot for 600 silver, and a horse for 150. And thus, according to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram, by their hands, they brought out.

1:5 ^[1], where refers to David.

Chapter 2

¹And Solomon said to build a house for the name of Yahweh and a house for his kingdom. ²And Solomon counted 70,000 men as burden bearers, and 80,000 men as stonemasons in the hills, and directors over them 3,600. ³And Solomon sent to Hiram, the king of Tyre, saying, "Just as you did with David my father and sent to him cedars to build for himself a house to dwell in it. ⁴Behold, I am building a house for the name of Yahweh my God, to consecrate to him, to sacrifice before him spiced incense and the regular display, and burnt offerings in the morning and in the evening, on the Sabbaths and on the new moons, and the appointed times of Yahweh our God. Forever, this is over Israel. ⁵And the house that I am building will be great, for great is our God more than all gods. ⁶But who can keep strength to build for him a house, since the heavens and the heavens of the heavens do not contain him? And who am I that I would build for him a house, except to sacrifice before him? ⁷And now, send to me a wise man to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, and in iron, and in purple and crimson and violet, and one who knows how to engrave engravings; with the wise who are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David

my father prepared. ⁸And send to me trees of cedar, cypress, and algum from Lebanon, for I myself know that your servants know how to cut trees of Lebanon. And behold, my servants will be with your servants, ⁹in order to prepare for me trees in abundance, for the house which I am building will be great and marvelous. ¹⁰And behold, to the wood cutters, to the ones who cut the trees, I will give crushed wheat to your servants 20,000 cors, and barley 20,000 cors, and wine 20,000 baths, and oil 20,000 baths.”^[1]

¹¹And Hiram, the king of Tyre, said in a writing, and sent to Solomon: “Because Yahweh loves his people, he has placed you over them as king.” ¹²And Hiram said, “Blessed be Yahweh, the God of Israel, who made the heavens and the earth, who has given to David the king a son of wisdom, knowing insight and understanding, who will build a house for Yahweh and a house for his kingdom. ¹³And now, I have sent a wise man, knowing understanding, Hiram-Abi, ¹⁴a son of a woman from the daughters of Dan, and his father a man of Tyre, knowing to work in gold, and in silver, in bronze, in iron, in stones, and in trees, in purple, in violet, and in fine linen, and in crimson, and to engrave any engraving and to devise any device, which is given to him with your wise ones and the wise ones of my lord, David, your father. ¹⁵And now, the wheat and the barley, the oil and the wine, which my lord has said, let him send to his servants. ¹⁶And we ourselves will cut trees from Lebanon, according to all your need, and we will bring them to you by rafts by sea to Joppa, and you yourself will bring them up to Jerusalem.”

¹⁷And Solomon counted all the men, the foreigners who were in the land of Israel, after the census that David, his father, had counted them. And there were found 153,600. ¹⁸And he made from them 70,000 burden bearers, 80,000 stonemasons in the hills, and 3,600 directors to cause the people to work.

2:10 ^[1] .

Chapter 3

¹And Solomon began to build the house of Yahweh in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where he had appeared to David his father, where David prepared in the place at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ²And he began to build in the second month on the second, in the fourth year of his reign. ³And these were the founding of Solomon to build the house of God, the length in cubits by the former measure, 60 cubits, and the width 20 cubits. ⁴And the porch which is at the front, the length on the front of the width of the house, 20 cubits, and the height, 120. And he overlaid it from within with pure gold. ⁵and the great house he overlaid with cypress wood, and he overlaid it with pure gold, and he brought up on it palm trees and chains. ⁶And he overlaid the house with precious stones for beauty; and the gold was gold of Parvaim. ⁷And he overlaid the house, the beams, the thresholds, and its walls, and its doors with gold; and he engraved cherubim on the walls.

⁸And he made the house of the holy of holies; its length at the front of the width of the house, 20 cubits, and its width 20 cubits. And he overlaid it with pure gold, to 600 talents. ⁹And the weight of the nails was 50 shekels of gold and the upper rooms he overlaid with gold.

¹⁰And he made in the house of the holy of holies two cherubim, a work of casting; and he overlaid them with gold. ^[1] ¹¹And the wings of the cherubim, their length was 20 cubits, one wing was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house, and another wing five cubits, reaching to a wing of the other cherub. ¹²And the wing of the other cherub five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house; and the other wing five cubits, clinging to the wing of the other cherub. ¹³The wings of these cherubim spread out 20 cubits. And they were standing on their feet, and their faces toward the house. ¹⁴And he made the curtain of violet, and purple, and crimson and fine linen, and he brought up on it cherubim.

¹⁵And he made before the house two pillars, 35 cubits in length; and the capital which was on its head, five cubits.

¹⁶And he made chains in the inner sanctuary, and he placed on the head of the pillars; and he made 100 pomegranates and he placed on the chains. ¹⁷And he set up the pillars on the face of the temple, one on the right hand, and one on the left. And he called the name of the right, Jakin, and the name of the left, Boaz.

3:10 ^[1].

Chapter 4

¹And he made an altar of bronze, 20 cubits its length, and 20 cubits its width, and 10 cubits its height. ²And he made the Sea of cast metal, 10 by the cubit from its edge to its edge, round, all around, and 5 by the cubit its height; and a measuring string 30 by the cubit surrounding it all around. ³And a likeness of oxen was under it all around; all around, surrounding it, 10 cubits, encircling the Sea all around; two rows of the oxen, cast in its cast metal. ⁴Standing on 12 oxen, three turned to the north, and 3 turned to the west, and 3 turned to the south, and three turned to the east. And the Sea was on them above, and all their hindquarters to the house. ⁵And its thickness was a span, and its edge like a work of an edge of a cup, a bud of a lily, taking hold, 3000 baths it could contain. ⁶And he made 10 pots, and he placed five on the right and five on the left to wash in them; the work of the burnt offering, they will rinse in them. And the Sea for bathing for the priests in it.

⁷And he made the 10 lampstands of gold according to their judgment, and he placed in the temple five on the right and five on the left. ⁸And he made 10 tables, and he gave rest in the temple, five on the right, and five on the left. And he made 100 basins of gold. ⁹And he made the courtyard of the priests, and the great court and the doors for the court and their doors he overlaid with bronze. ¹⁰And the Sea he placed on the right side to the east, facing toward the south. ¹¹And Hiram made the tubs, and the shovels, and the basins.

And Hiram finished making the work that he made for King Solomon in the house of God: ¹²the two pillars, and the bowls, and the capitals on the head of the two pillars, and the two trellises to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the head of the pillars, ¹³and the 400 pomegranates for the two trellises, two rows of pomegranates for each trellis to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the face of the pillars. ¹⁴And the stands he made, and the pots he made on the stands, ¹⁵the one Sea, and the 12 oxen under it. ¹⁶And the tubs, and the shovels, and the forks, and all items Hiram-Abi made for King Solomon for the house of Yahweh of polished bronze.^[1] ¹⁷In the vicinity of the Jordan the king cast them, in the thick ground between Succoth and between Zeredathah. ¹⁸And Solomon made all these items in great abundance; indeed, the weight of the bronze was not sought out.

¹⁹And Solomon made all the items that were in the house of God, and the altar of gold, and the tables and on them the bread of the presence; ²⁰and the lampstands and their lamps for their burning according to the judgment before the inner sanctuary, fine gold; ²¹and the buds, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold, it was perfection of gold. ²²and the lamp trimmers, and the basins, and the spoons, and the censers of fine gold. And the entrance of the house, its inner doors into the Holy of Holies and the doors of the house, for the temple, gold.

4:16 ^[1], some versions have .

Chapter 5

¹And all the work which Solomon did for the house of Yahweh was completed, and Solomon brought in the sacred things of David, his father; and the silver, and the gold, and all the items, he placed in the treasuries of the house of God.

²Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers of the sons of Israel to Jerusalem, to bring up the Box of the covenant of Yahweh from the city of David, that is, Zion. ³And all the men of Israel assembled to the king at the feast; it was the seventh month. ⁴And all the elders of Israel came, and the Levites carried the Box. ⁵And they brought up the Box, and the tent of meeting, and all the sacred items that were in the tent; the priests, the Levites, brought them up. ⁶And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel were gathering to him before the Box, sacrificing sheep and oxen which was not counted, and it was not numbered because of the abundance. ⁷And the priests brought in the Box of the covenant of Yahweh to its place,

to the inner sanctuary of the house, to the holy of holies, to under the wings of the cherubim. ⁸And the cherubim were spreading out wings over the place of the Box. And the cherubim covered over the Box and over its poles from above. ⁹And the poles lengthened and the heads of the poles from the Box were seen at the front of the inner sanctuary, but they were not seen outside. And they are there until this day. ¹⁰There was nothing in the Box except the two tablets that Moses had placed at Horeb, which Yahweh cut with the sons of Israel in their going out from Egypt.

¹¹And it happened in the going out of the priests from the holy place that all the priests who were found consecrated themselves; there was no keeping to the divisions. ¹²And the Levites, the singers, all of them, Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, and their sons and their brothers, clothed in fine linen, with cymbals, and with harps and lyres, were standing to the east of the altar. And with them, 120 priests sounding with trumpets. ¹³And it happened, like one were the trumpeters and singers, to cause to hear one voice to praise and to give thanks to Yahweh. And when raising a voice with trumpets and with cymbals and with the items of the song, and when praising Yahweh: "For good, for forever is his covenant faithfulness." And the house filled with a cloud, the house of Yahweh. ¹⁴And the priests were not able to stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Yahweh filled the house of God.

Chapter 6

¹Then Solomon said, "Yahweh has said he would dwell in thick darkness, ²but I have built a lofty house for you and a place for you to dwell forever." ³And the king turned his face, and he blessed all the assembly of Israel, and all the assembly of Israel was standing.

⁴And he said, "Blessed be Yahweh the God of Israel who spoke with his mouth to David my father, and with his hands he fulfilled, saying, ⁵From the day that I brought out my people from the land of Egypt, I did not choose a city from all the tribes of Israel to build a house, for my name to be there. And I did not choose a man to be leader over my people Israel. ⁶But I have chosen Jerusalem, for my name to be there, and I have chosen David to be over my people Israel.' ⁷And it was with the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel. ⁸And Yahweh said to David my father, 'On account of what is with your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was with your heart. ⁹Only you yourself must not build the house; instead, your son who comes from your loins, he himself will build the house for my name.' ¹⁰And Yahweh has established his word that he spoke, and I have risen instead of David my father, and I sit on the throne of Israel, just as Yahweh spoke. And I have built the house for the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel. ¹¹And I set there the Box, in which there is the covenant of Yahweh, which he cut with the sons of Israel."

¹²And he stood before the altar of Yahweh in front of all the assembly of Israel. And he spread out his hands, ¹³for Solomon made a platform of bronze, and he placed it in the midst of the court, five cubits its length, and five cubits its width, and three cubits its height. And he stood on it, and he knelt down on his knees in front of all the assembly of Israel, and he spread out his hands to the heavens. ¹⁴And he said, "Yahweh, God of Israel, there is not like you a god in the heavens or on the earth, one who keeps the covenant and covenant faithfulness to your servants, walking before you with all their heart; ¹⁵who kept for your servant David my father that which he spoke to him. And you spoke with your mouth and by your hand you have fulfilled, like this day. ¹⁶And now, Yahweh, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father that which you spoke to him saying, 'There will not be cut off for you a man from before me, sitting on the throne of Israel, only if your sons keep their ways to walk in my law, just as you walked before me.' ¹⁷And now, Yahweh, God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you spoke to your servant, to David.

¹⁸But will God indeed dwell with mankind on the earth? Behold, the heavens and the heavens of the heavens do not contain you—how much less this house that I have built! ¹⁹Yet turn to the prayer of your servant and to his supplication, Yahweh my God, to listen to the cry and to the prayer that your servant is praying before you, ²⁰your eyes to be open to this house days and night, to the place where you said to put your name there, to listen to the prayer which your servant prays toward this place. ²¹And listen to the supplications of your servant and your

people Israel when they pray toward this place, and you yourself hear from the place of your dwelling from the heavens, and hear and forgive.

²²If a man sins against his neighbor and is made by him to swear an oath, and brings an oath before your altar in this house, ²³then you yourself hear from the heavens, and act, and judge your servants, to bring back the wicked, to put his way on his head, and to make righteous the righteous, to give to him according to his righteousness.

²⁴And if your people Israel are struck down before an enemy because they have sinned against you, and they return, and they confess your name, and they pray, and they seek favor before you in this house, ²⁵then you yourself hear from the heavens and forgive the sin of your people Israel, and bring them back to the ground that you gave to them and to their fathers.

²⁶When the heavens are restrained and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, and they pray toward this place, and they confess your name, from their sin they turn for you afflict them, ²⁷then you yourself hear in the heavens and forgive the sin of your servants and your people Israel, for you teach them the good way in which they should walk in it. And give rain on your land, which you gave to your people for a possession.

²⁸Famine, if there is, in the land pestilence, if there is blight or mildew, locust or grasshopper, if there is indeed they suffer distress from their enemies in the land at the gates, any plague or any sickness, ²⁹any prayer, any supplication which is by any person or by all your people Israel which they know each his own plague and his own sorrow, and he spreads out his hands toward this house, ³⁰then you yourself hear from the heavens, your dwelling place, and forgive, and give to each according to all his ways; because you know his heart, for you yourself, only you, know the heart of the sons of mankind, ³¹in order that they may fear you, by walking in your ways all the days that they live on the face of the ground that you gave to our fathers.

³²And also to the foreigner who is not from your people Israel, and he comes from a distant land because of your great name, and your strong hand, and your outstretched arm, and they come and pray toward this house, ³³and you yourself hear from the heavens, from your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, like your people Israel, and to know that your name is called toward this house that I have built.

³⁴When your people go out to battle against their enemies in the way which you send them, and they pray to you toward the way of this city that you have chosen it and the house that I have built for your name, ³⁵then hear from the heavens their prayer, and their supplication, and do their judgment.

³⁶When they sin against you—for there is no person who does not sin—and you are angry with them and give them before an enemy, and their captors take them captive, to a land, distant or near, ³⁷and they turn back their heart in the land where they are captive there, and they turn and they seek favor from you in the land of their captivity, saying, 'We have sinned; we have committed iniquity, and we have done evil,' ³⁸and they turn to you with all their heart and with all their being in the land of their captivity, where they took them captive, and they pray toward the way of their land which you gave to their fathers, and the city that you chose, and toward the house that I have built for your name, ³⁹then hear from the heavens, from your dwelling place, their prayer and their supplication, and do their judgment, and forgive your people who sinned against you.

⁴⁰Now, my God, please let your eyes be open, and your ears attentive to the prayer of this place. ⁴¹And now arise, Yahweh God, to your resting place, you and the Box of your strength. Your priests, Yahweh God, may they be clothed in salvation, and your faithful ones rejoice in goodness. ⁴²Yahweh God, do not turn away the face of your anointed ones. Remember the covenant faithfulnesses of David your servant."

Chapter 7

¹And when Solomon finished praying, then the fire came down from the heavens and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of Yahweh filled the house. ²And the priests were not able to go into the house of

Yahweh because the glory of Yahweh filled the house of Yahweh. ³And all the sons of Israel were seeing the fire come down and the glory of Yahweh on the house, and they bowed down their faces to the ground on the stone pavement, and they worshiped and gave thanks to Yahweh, "Truly he is good; truly his covenant faithfulness is forever."

⁴And the king and all the people were offering sacrifice before Yahweh. ⁵And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. And the king and all the people dedicated the house of God. ⁶And the priests at their posts were standing; and the Levites with instruments of song of Yahweh which David the king had made to give thanks to Yahweh, "For his covenant faithfulness is forever," when David praised by the hand of them. And the priests were trumpeting in front of them, and all Israel was standing. ⁷And Solomon consecrated the middle of the courtyard which is before the house of Yahweh. For he did there the burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings because the bronze altar which Solomon made was not able to contain the burnt offerings, and the grain offering, and the fats.

⁸And Solomon did the feast at that time, seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly, from Lebo Hamath to the brook of Egypt. ⁹And they did on the eighth day an assembly, for the dedication of the altar they did, seven days, and the feast, seven days. ¹⁰And on the 23rd day of the seventh month, he sent away the people to their tents joyful and good of heart on account of the goodness which Yahweh did for David, and for Solomon, and for Israel his people.

¹¹And Solomon finished the house of Yahweh and the house of the king. And all that came into the heart of Solomon to do in the house of Yahweh and in his house, he succeeded. ¹²And Yahweh appeared to Solomon in the night, and he said to him, "I have heard your prayer, and I have chosen this place for myself for a house of sacrifice. ¹³If I restrain the heavens and there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people, ¹⁴and my people, whom my name is called over them, humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn back from their evil ways, then I myself will hear from the heavens, and I will forgive their sin, and I will heal their land. ¹⁵Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer of this place. ¹⁶And now I have chosen and I have consecrated this house for my name to be there until forever. And my eyes and my heart will be there all the days. ¹⁷And you, if you walk before me just as David your father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and my statutes and my judgments you keep, ¹⁸then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, just as I cut with David your father, saying, 'There will not be cut off from you a man ruling in Israel.'

¹⁹But if you all turn yourselves, and forsake my statutes and my commandments which I placed before you all, and walk and serve other gods and worship them, ²⁰then I will remove them from upon my ground which I gave to them. And this house which I consecrated for my name, I will cast out from before my face, and I will make it a proverb and a taunt among all the peoples. ²¹And this house which was exalted to all who pass by it will be devastated, and they will say, 'Why did Yahweh do thus to this land and to this house?' ²²And they will say, 'On account of which they forsook Yahweh, the God of their fathers who brought them out from the land of Egypt, and they laid hold of other gods and worshipped them and served them. On account of thus, he brought on them all this misery.'"

Chapter 8

¹And it happened at the end of 20 years, in which Solomon built the house of Yahweh and his house, ²and the cities which Hiram gave to Solomon, Solomon built them. And he caused to dwell there the sons of Israel.

³And Solomon went to Hamathzobah and he prevailed over it. ⁴And he built Tadmor in the wilderness and all the cities of stores which he built in Hamath. ⁵And he built Beth Horon the Upper and Beth Horon the Lower, fortified cities with walls, doors, and a bar, ⁶and Baalath and all the cities of stores which were to Solomon, and all the cities of the chariots and the cities of the horsemen, and all the desire of Solomon which he desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his kingdom.

⁷All the people who were left from the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who were not from Israel, ⁸from their sons who were left after them in the land, whom the sons of Israel had not brought to an end—and Solomon brought them up for forced laborers, until this day. ⁹But, from the sons of Israel which Solomon did not make to be laborers for his work, rather, they were men of battle, and chiefs of his officers, and chiefs of his chariots and his horsemen. ¹⁰and these, the chiefs of supervisors who were to King Solomon, 250 ruling over the people.

¹¹And the daughter of Pharaoh Solomon brought up from the city of David to the house that he built for her, for he said, "My wife must not dwell in the house of David, the king of Israel, because sacred are the places where the Box of Yahweh has come into them."

¹²Then Solomon brought up burnt offerings to Yahweh on the altar of Yahweh that he had built before the porch.

¹³And by the matter day by day to bring up, according to the commandment of Moses, for the Sabbaths, and for the new moons, and for the appointed times three times in the year: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths.

¹⁴And he appointed according to the judgment of David his father the divisions of the priests over their service, and the Levites over their charge to praise and to minister in front of the priests, for the matter of the day in its day, and the gatekeepers in their divisions for gate and gate, for thus was the commandment of David, the man of God. ¹⁵And they did not turn from the commandment of the king regarding the priests and the Levites concerning any matter, or concerning the treasuries.

¹⁶And all the work of Solomon was completed, from the day of the foundation of the house of Yahweh and until its completion. Complete was the house of Yahweh.

¹⁷Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber and to Eloth on the edge of the sea, in the land of Edom. ¹⁸And Hiram sent to him by the hand of his servants ships, and servants who knew the sea. And they came with the servants of Solomon to Ophir. And they took from there 450 talents of gold, and they brought to King Solomon.

Chapter 9

¹And the queen of Sheba heard the report of Solomon, and she came to test Solomon with difficult questions in Jerusalem with very great wealth and camels carrying spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stone. And she came to Solomon and spoke with him about all that was in her heart. ²And Solomon declared to her all her matters; and a matter was not concealed from Solomon which he did not declare to her. ³And the queen of Sheba saw the wisdom of Solomon and the house that he built, ⁴and the food of his table, and the seating of his servants, and the standing of his ministers and their attire, and his cupbearers and their attire, and his burnt offering that he brought up to^[1] the house of Yahweh, and there was not still breath in her. ⁵And she said to the king, "True was the word that I heard in my land concerning your words and concerning your wisdom. ⁶But I did not believe their words until when I came, and my eyes saw. And behold, it was not told to me half of the greatness of your wisdom you have added on to the report that I heard. ⁷How blessed are your men! And how blessed are these servants of yours, who are standing before you continually and are hearing your wisdom.^[2] ⁸Let Yahweh your God be blessed, who delighted in you to place you on his throne, to be king for Yahweh your God, because your God loved Israel to establish them forever. And he has placed you over them to be king, to do justice and righteousness!"

⁹And she gave to the king 120 talents of gold and spices in great abundance and precious stone. And there was not like that spice which the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon. ¹⁰And also the servants of Hiram and the servants of Solomon, who brought gold from Ophir, brought algum wood and precious stone. ¹¹And the king made the algum wood into staircases for the house of Yahweh and for the house of the king, and lyres and harps for the singers. And there was not seen like them before in the land of Judah. ¹²And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire which she asked besides that which she brought to the king. And she turned and went to her land, she and her servants.

¹³And the weight of the gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold, ¹⁴besides from the traveling men and the traders who brought in; and all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the land were bringing gold and silver to Solomon. ¹⁵And King Solomon made 200 large shields of beaten gold; 600 of beaten gold he brought up for one large shield. ¹⁶And 300 shields of beaten gold; 300 gold he brought up for one shield. And the king placed them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. ¹⁷And the king made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with pure gold. ¹⁸And six steps to the throne, and a footstool with gold to the throne was fastened. And hands from this and from this on the place of the seat and two lions standing beside the hands. ¹⁹And 12 lions were standing there on six steps, from this and from this; it had not been done thus for any kingdom. ²⁰And all the vessels of drink of King Solomon were gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were refined gold. Nothing of silver; it was not thought in the days of Solomon for anything. ²¹For the ships belonging to the king went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years the ships of Tarshish would come carrying gold and silver, ivories, and apes and baboons.

²²And King Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. ²³And all the kings of the earth were seeking the face of Solomon to hear his wisdom which God placed in his heart. ²⁴And they were bringing each his gift, items of silver and items of gold, and garments, armor, and spices, and horses and mules, a matter of year by year. ²⁵And there were to Solomon 4,000 stalls for horses and chariots, and 12,000 horsemen; and he placed them in chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. ²⁶And it happened he was ruling over all the kings from the River and until the land of the Philistines, and until the border of Egypt. ²⁷And the king made silver in Jerusalem as stones, and the cedars he made as sycamore trees that were in the lowlands, in abundance. ²⁸And they were bringing out horses from Egypt to Solomon and from all the lands.

²⁹And the remainder of the matters of Solomon, the first things and the last things, are they not written in the words 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? ³⁰And Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel 40 years. ³¹And Solomon lied down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam, his son, reigned in his place.

9:4 ^[1] to say, .

9:7 ^[2] , assuming that the text should read as in 1 Kings 10:8.

Chapter 10

¹And Rehoboam went to Shechem, for to Shechem all Israel had come to make him king. ²And it happened when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard, for he was in Egypt where he had fled from the face of King Solomon. And Jeroboam returned from Egypt. ³And they sent and they called to him, and Jeroboam and all Israel came. And they spoke to Rehoboam, saying, ⁴“Your father hardened our yoke. But now, lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke which he gave to us, and we will serve you.” ⁵And he said to them, “Yet three days and return to me.” And the people went.

⁶And King Rehoboam consulted with the elders who had been standing before Solomon his father when he was alive, saying, “How do you all advise to bring back an answer to this people?” ⁷And they spoke to him, saying, “If you are good to this people and are favorable to them, and speak to them good words, then they will be for you servants all the days.” ⁸But he abandoned the advice of the elders who had advised him, and he consulted the young men who had grown with him, standing before him. ⁹And he said to them, “What do you all advise, that we may bring back an answer to this people who spoke to me, saying, ‘Lighten from the yoke that your father gave us?’” ¹⁰And the young men who had grown with him spoke, saying, “Thus you shall say to the people who spoke to you, saying ‘Your father made our yoke heavy, but you yourself lighten from on us.’ Thus you shall say to them, ‘My little finger is thicker than the loins of my father. ¹¹So now, my father loaded on you all a heavy yoke, but I myself will add to your yoke. My father rebuked you all with whips, but I with scorpions.’”

¹²And Jeroboam came and all the people to Rehoboam on the third day, just as the king spoke saying, "Return to me on the third day." ¹³And the king answered them harshly. And King Rehoboam abandoned the advice of the elders. ¹⁴And he spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, saying, "I will make heavy your yoke, and I myself will add to it. My father rebuked you all with whips, but I with scorpions."

¹⁵And the king did not listen to the people, because it was a turn of affairs from God, in order that Yahweh would establish his word that he spoke by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

¹⁶And all Israel saw that the king did not listen to them, and the people answered the king, saying, "What for us is a portion with David? And no inheritance with the son of Jesse. Each to your tents, Israel! Now, see your house, David." And all Israel went to his tents. ¹⁷But the sons of Israel dwelling in the cities of Judah, and Rehoboam reigned over them. ¹⁸And King Rehoboam sent Hadoram, who was over the forced labor, but the sons of Israel stoned him with stones and he died. And King Rehoboam strengthened himself to go up in the chariot to flee to Jerusalem. ¹⁹And Israel has rebelled against the house of David until this day.

Chapter 11

¹And Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, and he assembled the house of Judah and Benjamin, 180,000 chosen who do battle, to fight against Israel, to bring back the kingdom to Rehoboam. ²But the word of Yahweh was to Shemaiah the man of God, saying, ³"Say to Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying, ⁴Thus says Yahweh, "Do not go up and do not fight with your brothers. Return, each to his house, for from with me, this thing is.'" And they listened to the words of Yahweh and returned from going against Jeroboam.

⁵And Rehoboam dwelled in Jerusalem, and he built cities for fortification in Judah. ⁶And he built Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa, ⁷and Beth Zur, and Soko, and Adullam, ⁸and Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph, ⁹and Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah, ¹⁰and Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which were in Judah and in Benjamin, fortified cities. ¹¹And he strengthened the fortifications. And he placed in them leaders and storehouses of food and oil and wine, ¹²and in each, city by city, large shields and spears, and he very much strengthened them greatly. And to him were Judah and Benjamin.

¹³And the priests and the Levites who were in all Israel presented themselves to him from all their territories. ¹⁴For the Levites left their open lands and their property. And they went to Judah and to Jerusalem, for Jeroboam and his sons rejected them from serving as priests to Yahweh. ¹⁵And he established for himself priests for the high places and for the goats and for the calves which he had made. ¹⁶And after them from all the tribes of Israel, the ones giving their heart to seek Yahweh, the God of Israel, came to Jerusalem to sacrifice to Yahweh, the God of their fathers. ¹⁷And they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and they made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong for three years, for they walked in the way of David and Solomon for three years.

¹⁸And Rehoboam took for himself a wife: Mahalath, the daughter of Jerimoth, the son of David, Abihail, the daughter of Eliab, the son of Jesse. ¹⁹And she bore to him sons: Jeush, and Shemariah, and Zaham. ²⁰And after her, he took Maacah, the daughter of Absalom; and she bore to him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith. ²¹And Rehoboam loved Maacah, the daughter of Absalom, more than all his wives and his concubines, for he lifted 18 wives and 60 concubines, and he fathered 28 sons and 60 daughters. ²²And Rehoboam appointed to be head Abijah the son of Maacah, to be leader among his brothers; for he caused to make him king. ²³And he dealt wisely, and he scattered all his sons to all the lands of Judah and Benjamin to all the fortified cities. And he gave to them provisions in abundance, and he asked for a multitude of wives.

Chapter 12

¹And it happened when the reign of Rehoboam was established and when he had become strong, he abandoned the law of Yahweh—and all Israel with him. ²And it happened in the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak, the king of Egypt, came up against Jerusalem, because they were unfaithful to Yahweh. ³With 1200 chariots, and 60,000 horsemen, and there was no number for the people who came with him from Egypt: Libyans, Sukkites, and Cushites. ⁴And he captured the fortified cities that belonged to Judah, and he came to Jerusalem. ⁵And Shemaiah the prophet came to Rehoboam and the chiefs of Judah who had gathered to Jerusalem because of Shishak. And he said to them, “Thus says Yahweh: You all yourselves have abandoned me, and I myself have also abandoned you all into the hand of Shishak.” ⁶And the chiefs of Israel and the king humbled themselves. And they said, “Righteous is Yahweh.” ⁷And when Yahweh saw that they had humbled themselves, the word of Yahweh was to Shemaiah, saying, “They have humbled themselves. I will not destroy them; and I will give to them like a little for escape, and my rage will not pour out on Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak. ⁸Nevertheless, they will be to him for servants, and they will know my service and the service of the kingdoms of the lands.”

⁹And Shishak, the king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem and took the treasures of the house of Yahweh and the treasures of the house of the king. Everything he took; and he took the shields of gold that Solomon had made.

¹⁰And King Rehoboam made in their place shields of bronze, and he appointed over the hand of the chiefs of the runners, the keepers of the entrance of the house of the king. ¹¹And it happened as often as the king came into the house of Yahweh, the runners came and carried them and brought them back to the chamber of the runners.

¹²And when he humbled himself, the anger of Yahweh turned from him, and did not destroy to completion. And also, in Judah there were good matters.

¹³And King Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and he reigned. For a son of 41 years Rehoboam was in his reigning, and 17 years he reigned in Jerusalem, the city that Yahweh had chosen to put his name there from all the tribes of Israel. And the name of his mother, Naamah the Ammonitess. ¹⁴And he did evil, for he did not establish his heart to seek Yahweh.

¹⁵And the matters of Rehoboam, the first things and the last things, are they not written in the words of Shemaiah the prophet and Iddo the seer, according to genealogy? And there were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days. ¹⁶And Rehoboam lied down with his fathers, and he was buried in the city of David. And Abijah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 13

¹In the 18th year of King Jeroboam, then Abijah reigned over Judah. ²Three years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother, Macaiah, the daughter of Uriel from Gibeah. And war was between Abijah and between Jeroboam. ³And Abijah began the battle with an army of mighty ones of battle, 400,000 chosen men. And Jeroboam deployed against him in battle 800,000 chosen men, mighty ones of strength. ⁴And Abijah rose on Mount Zemaraim, which is in the hills of Ephraim, and he said, “Hear me, Jeroboam and all Israel! ⁵Is it not to you all to know that Yahweh, the God of Israel, gave the kingdom to David over Israel forever, to him and to his sons, a covenant of salt? ⁶But Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon, the son of David, arose, and he rebelled against his lord. ⁷And empty men, sons of wickedness, assembled about him, and they strengthened themselves over Rehoboam, the son of Solomon. And Rehoboam was young and tender of heart, and he did not strengthen himself before them. ⁸And now, you all are saying to strengthen self before the kingdom of Yahweh, by the hand of the sons of David, and you all are a great abundance, and with you all are calves of gold which Jeroboam made for you all for gods. ⁹Did you all not drive out the priests of Yahweh, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and make for yourselves priests like the peoples of the lands? Any who comes to fill his hand with a young bull, a son of a herd, and seven rams, and he will be a priest of what are not gods. ¹⁰But us, Yahweh is our God, and we have not abandoned him. And priests, are ministering to Yahweh, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, in the work. ¹¹And they are making sacrifices to Yahweh, burnt offerings, morning by morning and evening by evening, and spiced incense,

and a line of bread on the pure table, and the gold lampstand and its lamps to burn evening by evening. For we are keeping the charge of Yahweh, our God, but you all yourselves have abandoned him. ¹²And behold, with us, at our head, is God, and his priests and the trumpets of shouting to raise a shout against you all. Sons of Israel, do not fight against Yahweh, the God of your fathers, for you will not succeed."

¹³But Jeroboam had caused to circle around an ambush to come from behind them; and they were before Judah, and the ambush from behind them. ¹⁴And Judah turned, and behold, to them was the battle before them and behind. And they cried out to Yahweh, and the priests were blowing trumpets. ¹⁵And the men of Judah raised a shout; and it happened when the men of Judah raised a shout, then God struck Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah. ¹⁶And the sons of Israel fled from before Judah, and God gave them into their hand. ¹⁷And Abijah and his people struck them a great striking, and they fell slain from Israel, 500,000 chosen men. ¹⁸And the sons of Israel were humbled at that time, and the sons of Judah were strong because they relied on Yahweh, the God of their fathers. ¹⁹And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam; and he captured from him cities: Bethel and its daughters, and Jeshanah and its daughters, and Ephron and its daughters. ²⁰And the strength of Jeroboam did not hold again in the days of Abijah; and Yahweh struck him down, and he died. ²¹And Abijah strengthened himself; and he lifted to himself 14 wives, and he fathered 22 sons and 16 daughters. ²²And the remainder of the matters of Abijah, and his ways, and his words are written in the writing of the prophet Iddo.

Chapter 14

¹And Abijah lied down 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 quiet ten years. ²And Asa did the good and the right in the eyes of Yahweh his God. ³And he took away the foreign altars and the high places, and he shattered the pillars, and he cut to pieces the Asherim. ⁴And he said to Judah to seek Yahweh, the God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment. ⁵And he took away from all the cities of Judah the high places and the incense altars. And the kingdom was quiet before him. ⁶And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land was quiet. And there was not with him war in these years, because Yahweh had given rest to him. ⁷And he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities and let us surround with a wall, and towers, doors, and bars; still the land is before us because we have sought Yahweh our God. We have sought, and he has given rest to us all around." And they built, and they succeeded. ⁸And there was to Asa an army carrying large shield and spear; from Judah, 300,000. And from Benjamin, ones carrying shield and drawing bow, 280,000. All these were mighty ones of strength.

⁹And Zerah the Cushite came out against them with an army of 1,000 thousands and 300 chariots; and he came to Mareshah. ¹⁰And Asa went out before him, and they deployed for battle in the Valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. ¹¹And Asa called to Yahweh his God and said, "Yahweh, it is nothing for you to help between many and one without strength. Help us, Yahweh our God, for on you we rely, and in your name we have come against this multitude. Yahweh, our God you are; do not let man prevail against you." ¹²And Yahweh struck down the Cushites before Asa and before Judah; and the Cushites fled. ¹³And Asa and the people who were with him pursued them until Gerar. And there fell from the Cushites so that there was none to them something living; for they were broken before Yahweh and before his camp. And they carried away very much plunder. ¹⁴And they struck all the cities around Gerar, for the dread of Yahweh was on them. And they plundered all the cities, for great spoils was in them. ¹⁵And also the tents of cattle they struck; and they took captive sheep in abundance, and camels, and they returned to Jerusalem.

Chapter 15

¹And Azariah the son of Oded, on him came the Spirit of God. ²And he went out before Asa, and he said to him, "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: Yahweh is with you all, when you all are with him. And if you all seek him, he will be found by you all; but if you all abandon him, he will abandon you all. ³And many days were to Israel

without the true God, and without a priest teaching, and without the law. ⁴But they turned in their distress to Yahweh, the God of Israel, and they sought him, and he was found by them. ⁵And in those times there was no peace for one going out, nor for one coming in; for great dismay was upon all the inhabitants of the lands. ⁶And they were beaten down, nation by nation, and city by city, for God confused them in all distress. ⁷But you all, be strong, and do not let your hands grow slack, for there is reward for your work."

⁸And when Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he strengthened himself and caused to pass away the abhorrences from all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and from the cities that he had captured from the hill country of Ephraim. And he restored the altar of Yahweh which was before the porch of Yahweh. ⁹And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the sojourners with them from Ephraim and Manasseh, and from Simeon; for they fell on him from Israel in abundance when they saw that Yahweh his God was with him. ¹⁰And they gathered at Jerusalem in the third month, in the 15th year of the reign of Asa. ¹¹And they sacrificed to Yahweh in that day from the plunder they brought: 700 oxen and 7,000 sheep. ¹²And they entered into a covenant to seek Yahweh, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and with all their being. ¹³And any who does not seek Yahweh, the God of Israel, will be killed, whether small or great, whether man or woman. ¹⁴And they swore to Yahweh with a great voice, and with a shout, and with trumpets and with horns. ¹⁵And all Judah rejoiced about the oath, for with all their heart they swore, and with all their will they sought him, and he was found by them. And Yahweh gave rest to them all around.

¹⁶And also Maacah, the mother of King Asa, he took her away from being queen, because she made to Asherah an abominable image. And Asa cut down her abominable image, and crushed and burned at the brook Kidron. ¹⁷But the high places they did not take away from Israel. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was undivided all his days. ¹⁸And he brought the sacred things of his father and his sacred things into the house of God, silver and gold and items. ¹⁹And war was not until the 35th year of the reign of Asa.

Chapter 16

¹In the 36th year of the reign of Asa, Baasha, the king of Israel, went up against Judah and built Ramah, so as to not allow one to go out or come in to Asa, the king of Judah. ²And Asa brought silver and gold from the treasuries of the house of Yahweh and the house of the king. And he sent to Ben Hadad, the king of Aram, who was dwelling in Damascus, saying, ³"A covenant between me and between you, and between my father and between your father. Behold, I have sent to you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha, the king of Israel, and he will go up from against me." ⁴And Ben Hadad listened to King Asa and he sent the chiefs of the armies which belonged to him against the cities of Israel. And they struck Ijon, and Dan, and Abel Maim^[1], and all the stores of the cities of Naphtali. ⁵And it happened when Baasha heard, then he ceased building Ramah, and he stopped his work. ⁶And King Asa took all Judah. And they carried away the stones of Ramah and its wood with which Baasha had been building, and he built with them Geba and Mizpah.

⁷And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa, the king of Judah, and he said to him, "Because you relied on the king of Aram, and you did not rely on Yahweh your God, therefore the army of the king of Aram escaped from your hand. ⁸Were not the Cushites and the Lubites an abundant army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because you relied on Yahweh, he gave them into your hand. ⁹For Yahweh, his eyes, are going quickly in all the earth to strengthen himself with their heart undivided to him. You have acted foolishly regarding this. For from now, there will be with you wars." ¹⁰And Asa was angry at the seer; and he put him in the house of the stocks, for in rage with him regarding this. And Asa oppressed some of the people at that time.

¹¹And behold, the matters of Asa, the first things and the last things, behold, they are written on the scroll of the kings of Judah and Israel. ¹²And Asa became sick in the 39th year of his reign, in his feet, until increasing his sickness. And yet, in his sickness, he did not seek Yahweh, but among the healers. ¹³And Asa lied down with his fathers, and he died in the 41st year of his reign. ¹⁴And they buried him in his graves, which he hollowed out for

himself in the city of David. And they laid him on a bed which he filled with spices and kinds of mixtures with an ointment mixture of a work. And they burned for him a great burning until abundance.

16:4 ^[1]

Chapter 17

¹And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place, and he strengthened himself against Israel. ²And he placed a force in all the unassailable cities of Judah, and he placed garrisons in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa his father had captured. ³And Yahweh was with Jehoshaphat because he walked in the first ways of David his father, and he did not seek the Baals.^[1] ⁴Instead, the God of his father he sought, and in his commandments he walked and not according to the work of Israel. ⁵And Yahweh established the kingdom in his hand, and all Judah gave tribute to Jehoshaphat. And there was to him wealth and glory in abundance. ⁶And his heart was high in the ways of Yahweh. And also, he took away the high places and the Asherim from Judah.

⁷And in the third year of his reign he sent his chiefs, Ben-Hail, and Obadiah, and Zechariah, and Nethanel, and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah. ⁸And with them the Levites: Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tob-Adonijah, the Levites; and with them, Elishama and Jehoram, the priests. ⁹And they taught in Judah, and with them, the scroll of the law of Yahweh. And they went around in all the cities of Judah, and they taught among the people.

¹⁰And the dread of Yahweh was on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, and they did not fight with Jehoshaphat. ¹¹And some of the Philistines were bringing to Jehoshaphat tribute, and a silver load. Also, the Arabians were bringing to him flocks, 7,700 rams and 7,700 goats. ¹²And it happened Jehoshaphat was walking and becoming increasingly great. And he built in Judah palaces and cities of stores. ¹³And much work was to him in the cities of Judah, and men of battle, mighty ones of strength in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And these were their mustering according to the house of their fathers: for Judah, chiefs of thousands, Adnah the chief, and with him mighty ones of strength, 300,000; ¹⁵and on his hand, Jehohanan the chief and with him 280,000; ¹⁶and on his hand Amasiah the son of Zichri, who freely offered himself to Yahweh, and with him 200,000 mighty ones of strength. ¹⁷And from Benjamin: a mighty one of strength, Eliada, and with him, ones armed with bow and shield, 200,000; ¹⁸and on his hand, Jehozabad and with him 180,000 equipped for war. ¹⁹These ministered to the king, besides those whom the king placed in the cities of fortification in all Judah.

17:3 ^[1], and some modern versions leave it out.

Chapter 18

¹And it was to Jehoshaphat wealth and glory in abundance; and he became son-in-law to Ahab. ²And he went down at the end of years to Ahab in Samaria, and Ahab sacrificed for him sheep and oxen in abundance and for the people who were with him. And he incited him to go up against Ramoth Gilead. ³And Ahab, the king of Israel, said to Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, "Will you go with me to Ramoth Gilead?" And he said to him, "Like me, like you, and like your people, my people, and with you in battle."

⁴And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please seek as the day the word of Yahweh." ⁵And the king of Israel gathered the prophets, 400 men. And he said to them, "Should we go against Ramoth Gilead in battle, or should I refrain?" And they said, "Go up, and God will give into the hand of the king." ⁶And Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not here another prophet of Yahweh, that we might seek from him?" ⁷And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Still one man to seek Yahweh from him. But I myself hate him for nothing does he prophesy about me that is good, but all his days evil. He is Micaiah the son of Imlah." And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say thus." ⁸And the king of Israel called to one officer, and he said, "Hasten Micaiah the son of Imlah." ⁹And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah were sitting, each on his throne, clothed with robes. And they were sitting at a threshing floor at

the entrance of the gate of Samaria, and all the prophets were prophesying before them. ¹⁰And Zedekiah the son of Kenaanah made for himself horns of iron, and he said, "Thus says Yahweh: With these you will gore Aram until they are finished." ¹¹And all the prophets were prophesying thus, saying, "Go up to Ramoth Gilead and succeed. And Yahweh will give into the hand of the king."

¹²And the messenger who went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "Behold, the words of the prophets, one mouth, good to the king. And please let your word be as one from them, and speak good." ¹³And Micaiah said, "As Yahweh lives, surely that which my God says, it I will speak." ¹⁴And he came to the king, and the king said to him, "Micaiah, should we go against Ramoth Gilead for battle, or should I refrain?" And he said, "Go up and succeed. And they will be given into your hand." ¹⁵And the king said to him, "How many times must I myself make you swear that you will speak not to me, only truth in the name of Yahweh?" ¹⁶And he said, "I saw all Israel scattered on the hills, like sheep which do not have to them one who shepherds. And Yahweh said, 'No master to these; they will turn, each to his house in peace.'" ¹⁷And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not say to you, he will not prophesy about me good, but only evil?" ¹⁸And he said, "Therefore, hear the word of Yahweh: I saw Yahweh sitting on his throne and all the host of heaven standing on his right and his left. ¹⁹And Yahweh said, 'Who will entice Ahab, the king of Israel, so he will go up, and he will fall at Ramoth Gilead?' And this speaker said thus, and this speaker thus. ²⁰And the spirit went out, and he stood before Yahweh. And he said, 'I myself will entice him.' And Yahweh said to him, 'With what?' ²¹And he said, 'I will go out and I will become a spirit of deception in the mouth of all his prophets.' And he said, 'You will entice, and also you will be able. Go out and do thus.' ²²And now, behold, Yahweh placed a spirit of deception in the mouth of these your prophets, and Yahweh, he has spoken against you disaster."

²³And Zedekiah the son of Kenaanah, drew near, and he struck Micaiah on the cheek. And he said, "Where is this, the way the Spirit of Yahweh passed over from me to speak with you?" ²⁴And Micaiah said, "Behold, you will see on that day, when you go chamber by chamber to hide yourself." ²⁵And the king of Israel said, "Take Micaiah and return him to Amon, the chief of the city, and to Joash, the son of the king, ²⁶and say, 'Thus says the king: Put this in the house of imprisonment and feed him bread of oppression and water of oppression, until my returning in peace.'" ²⁷And Micaiah said, "If you certainly return in peace, Yahweh did not speak with me." And he said, "Hear, O peoples, all of them!"

²⁸And the king of Israel went up, and Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, against Ramoth Gilead. ²⁹And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into the battle, and now put on your garments." And the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into the battle. ³⁰And the king of Aram had commanded the chiefs of the chariots which were to him, saying, "Do not fight the small or the great, but with the king of Israel alone." ³¹And it happened when the chiefs of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, and they said, "It is the king of Israel." And they turned against him to fight. And Jehoshaphat cried out, and Yahweh helped him, and God incited them from him. ³²And it happened when the chiefs of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, and they turned back from after him. ³³And a man drew the bow in his innocence and struck the king of Israel between the joinings and between the armor. And he said to the charioteer, "Turn your hand and bring me out from the camp, for I have been seriously wounded." ³⁴And the battle went up that day, and the king of Israel was set up in the chariot opposite Aram until the evening. And he died at the time of the going of the sun.

Chapter 19

¹And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace, to Jerusalem. ²But Jehu, the son of Hanani the seer, went out to his face, and he said to King Jehoshaphat, "Should the wicked you help and the ones who hate Yahweh you love? And because of this, upon you is wrath from before Yahweh. ³However, good things have been found with you, for you removed the Asherah from the land, and you established your heart to seek God."

⁴And Jehoshaphat dwelt in Jerusalem. And he turned and he went out among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim. And he brought them back to Yahweh, the God of their fathers. ⁵And he appointed judges in

the land in all the fortified cities of Judah, for city and city. ⁶And he said to the judges, "See what you all are doing. For not for man do you all judge but for Yahweh; and with you all in the matter of judgment. ⁷And now, let the dread of Yahweh be upon you all. Watch and act for there is not with Yahweh our God injustice or lifting of faces or taking a bribe."

⁸And also in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat appointed from the Levites and the priests, and from the heads of fathers for Israel, for the judgment of Yahweh, and for dispute. And they returned to Jerusalem. ⁹And he commanded them, saying, "Thus you will do in the fear of Yahweh in trustworthiness and with a complete heart. ¹⁰And any dispute that comes to you all from your brothers, the ones dwelling in their cities, between blood to blood, between law to command, to statutes, and to judgments, and you all must caution them, so they will not be guilty to Yahweh, and there will be wrath on you all and on your brothers. Thus you will do, and you all will not be guilty. ¹¹And behold, Amariah the head priest is over you all for any matter of Yahweh. And Zebadiah, the son of Ishmael, is the leader of the house of Judah for any matter of the king. And officials of the Levites are before you all. Be strong and act! And let Yahweh be with the good!"

Chapter 20

¹And it happened after this, the sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon, and with them some Meunites came against Jehoshaphat for battle.^[1] ²And they came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Aram. And behold, they are in Hazezon Tamar," that is, Engedi.^[2] ³And he feared, and Jehoshaphat set his face to seek Yahweh. And he proclaimed a fast over all Judah. ⁴And Judah gathered to seek from Yahweh; also from all the cities of Judah, they came to seek Yahweh.

⁵And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of Yahweh, before the new court.

⁶And he said, "Yahweh, the God of our fathers, are you not he, the God in the heavens? And you rule in all the kingdoms of the nations. And in your hand are power and might and none stands himself with you. ⁷Did you yourself our God not drive out the inhabitants of this land from before your people Israel, and give it to the seed of Abraham, the one who loved you, forever? ⁸And they have dwelled in it, and they built for you in it a sanctuary for your name, saying, ⁹If disaster comes on us—the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine—we will stand before this house, and before you for your name is in this house. And we will cry to you from our distress, and you will hear and deliver.^[3] ¹⁰And now behold the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir whom you did not give to Israel to enter against them when they were coming from the land of Egypt, for they turned from against them, and they did not destroy them. ¹¹And behold they are repaying us, to come to drive us out from your possession which you caused us to possess. ¹²Our God, will you not judge them, for there is not in us strength before this great multitude coming against us. And we ourselves do not know what we should do, but on you are our eyes." ¹³And all Judah was standing before Yahweh, even their children, their wives, and their sons.

¹⁴And Jahaziel, the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite from the sons of Asaph, the Spirit of Yahweh was on him in the midst of the assembly. ¹⁵And he said, "Give attention, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat. Thus says Yahweh to you all, 'You yourselves, do not fear; and do not be dismayed from before this great multitude, for not to you all is the battle but to God.

¹⁶Tomorrow, go down against them. Behold, they are coming up by the Ascent of Ziz. And you will find them at the end of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷Not to you all is it to fight in this. Station yourselves, stand and see the deliverance of Yahweh with you all, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow, go out before them, and Yahweh is with you all.'" ¹⁸And Jehoshaphat bowed down, face to the earth. And all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before Yahweh to worship Yahweh. ¹⁹And the Levites, from the sons of the Kohathites and from the sons of the Korahites, stood up to praise Yahweh, the God of Israel, with a great voice upwards.

²⁰And they rose early in the morning, and they went out to the wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Believe in Yahweh your God, and be

confirmed. Believe in his prophets and succeed.” ²¹And he consulted with the people, and he appointed ones who sing to Yahweh and ones who praise the holy majesty as they went out before the equipped. And they were saying, “Give thanks to Yahweh, for his covenant faithfulness is forever.” ²²And at the time they began in cry of jubilation and praise, Yahweh placed ambushers against the sons of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who were coming to Judah. And they were struck. ²³And the sons of Ammon and Moab stood against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, to devote to destruction and to destroy. And when they finished with the inhabitants of Seir, they helped a man against his neighbor for destruction.

²⁴And Judah came to the watchtower of the wilderness, and they turned toward the multitude. And behold, corpses fallen to the earth! And there none who escaped. ²⁵And Jehoshaphat and his people came to plunder the spoils, and they found among them in abundance goods, and corpses, and precious items. And they took for themselves, so there was no carrying away. And there were three days of plundering the spoils, for it was great.^[4] ²⁶And on the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Berakah. For there they blessed Yahweh. Therefore they called the name of that place “Valley of Berakah” until today. ²⁷And they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem and Jehoshaphat at their head, to return to Jerusalem with joy, for Yahweh had made them rejoice over their enemies. ²⁸And they came to Jerusalem with harps and with lyres and with trumpets to the house of Yahweh. ²⁹And the dread of God was on all the kingdoms of the lands when they heard that Yahweh had fought with the enemies of Israel. ³⁰And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was quiet, and his God gave rest to him all around.

³¹And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. The son of 35 years when he became king, and 25 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother, Azubah, the daughter of Shilhi. ³²And he walked in the way of his father Asa, and he did not turn aside from it, doing what was right in the eyes of Yahweh. ³³However, the high places did not turn aside. And still the people did not establish their heart to the God of their fathers. ³⁴And the remainder of the matters of Jehoshaphat, the first things and the last things, behold, they are written in the words of Jehu the son of Hanani, which is taken up on the scroll of the kings of Israel.

³⁵And after this Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, allied himself with Ahaziah, the king of Israel; he made himself guilty in so doing. ³⁶And he allied himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish. And they made ships at Ezion Geber. ³⁷And Eliezer the son of Dodavahu from Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, “When you allied yourself with Ahaziah, Yahweh broke through your works.” And the ships were broken, and they were not able to go to Tarshish.

20:1 ^[1] represents a correction to the Hebrew text, which reads, . It is thought that was original, and that a copyist changed it to . But this last reading makes no sense, because Ammonites have already been mentioned in this verse. However, different versions deal with this problem in different ways.

20:2 ^[2] , some ancient and modern versions have .

20:9 ^[3] , some ancient and modern versions read .

20:25 ^[4] , some ancient and modern versions read . Instead of , some ancient manuscripts and most modern versions read .

Chapter 21

¹And Jehoshaphat laid down with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram, his son, reigned in his place. ²And to him brothers, the sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariahu, and Michael, and Shephatiah. All these, the sons of Jehoshaphat, the king of Israel. ³And their father gave to them many gifts of silver and of gold and of precious things with fortified cities in Judah. And the kingdom he gave to Jehoram for he was the firstborn. ⁴And Jehoram rose over the kingdom of his father and he strengthened himself. And he killed all his brothers with the sword, and also some of the chiefs of Israel. ⁵A son of 32 years Jehoram was when he became king, and eight years he reigned in Jerusalem. ⁶And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab did, for the daughter of Ahab was to him a wife, and he did evil in the eyes

of Yahweh. ⁷But Yahweh was not willing to destroy the house of David on account of the covenant which he had cut with David; and just as he said to give to him a lamp and to his sons all the days.

⁸In his days, Edom rebelled from under the hand of Judah, and they caused to reign over themselves a king. ⁹And Jehoram passed over with his chiefs and all his chariots with him. And it happened he rose at night and he struck Edom surrounding him and the chiefs of the chariots. ¹⁰And Edom rebelled from under the hand of Judah until this day. Then Libnah rebelled at that time from under his hand, for he abandoned Yahweh, the God of his fathers.

¹¹Also, he himself made the high places in the hills of Judah, and he caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit adultery, and he drove Judah away. ¹²And a writing came to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, "Thus says Yahweh, the God of David your father: 'Because you did not walk in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father and in the ways of Asa, the king of Judah, ¹³but you walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and he caused Judah to commit adultery and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, like the house of Ahab committed adultery, and also your brothers, the house of your father, the ones better than you, you have killed. ¹⁴Behold, Yahweh is striking a great striking among your people, and among your sons, and among your wives, and among all your goods, ¹⁵and you with many sicknesses, with a disease of your intestines, until your intestines come out from the sickness, days upon days."

¹⁶And Yahweh stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines and the Arabians who were at the hand of the Cushites. ¹⁷And they came up against Judah, and they broke it up. And they captured all the goods that were found in the house of the king, and also his sons and his wives, and there was not left to him a son except Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

¹⁸And after all this, Yahweh struck him in his intestines with a sickness for which there is no cure. ¹⁹And it happened from days to days, and at the time of the going out for the end of days, two, his intestines came out with his sickness, and he died with evil diseases. And his people did not make for him a burning like the burning of his fathers. ²⁰A son of 32 he was when he became king; and eight years he reigned in Jerusalem, and he went with no delight. And they buried him in the city of David, but not in the grave of the kings.

Chapter 22

¹And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah, his youngest son, king in his place, for all the older the band had killed coming with the Arabians to the camp. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram, the king of Judah, reigned. ²A son of 42 years was Ahaziah when he became king, and one year he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri. ³Also he himself walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother was his advisor to do wickedly. ⁴And he did evil in the eyes of Yahweh, like the house of Ahab, for they themselves were to him advisors after the death of his father, for destruction to him. ⁵Also, with their counsel he walked, and he went with Jehoram the son of Ahab, the king of Israel, for battle against Hazael, the king of Aram, at Ramoth Gilead. And the Arameans struck Joram. ⁶And he returned to get healed in Jezreel because of the strikings that they struck him at Ramah when he fought Hazael, the king of Aram. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram, the king of Judah, went down to see Jehoram, the son of Ahab, in Jezreel because he was wounded.

⁷And from God was the downfall of Ahaziah for going to Joram. And when he came, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom Yahweh anointed him to cut off the house of Ahab. ⁸And it happened when Jehu was judging on the house of Ahab, and he found the chiefs of Judah and the sons of the brothers of Ahaziah, ones ministering to Ahaziah, and he killed them. ⁹And he sought Ahaziah; and they captured him, and he was hiding himself in Samaria. And they brought him to Jehu, and they killed him. And they buried him, for they said, "The son of Jehoshaphat is he, who sought Yahweh with all his heart." And there was none belonging to the house of Ahaziah to retain power for the kingdom.

¹⁰And Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, saw that her son died, and she arose, and she destroyed all the seed of the kingdom of the house of Judah. ¹¹But Jehoshabeath,^[1] the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and she stole him from the midst of the sons of the king who were being killed, and she placed him and his nurse in the

room of beds. And Jehoshabeath the daughter of the king Jehoram, the wife of Jehoida the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah) hid him from the face of Athaliah, and she did not kill him. ¹²And he was with them in the house of God, hiding himself six years. And Athaliah was reigning over the land.

22:11 ^[1] Jehoshaba in some versions.

Chapter 23

¹And in the seventh year, Jehoiada strengthened himself and took the chiefs 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 with him into the covenant. ²And they went around in Judah, and they gathered the Levites from all the cities of Judah and the heads of the fathers of Israel. And they came to Jerusalem. ³And all the assembly cut a covenant in the house of God with the king. And he said to them, "Behold, the son of the king will reign, just as Yahweh spoke concerning the sons of David. ⁴This is the thing that you must do: A third from you all who come in on the Sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, will be gatekeepers at the threshold. ⁵And a third at the house of the king, and a third at the Gate of the Foundation. And all the people will be in the courts of the house of Yahweh. ⁶And do not let one enter the house of Yahweh, except the priests and the ministering ones from the Levites; they are entering for sacred are they. And all the people must keep the charge of Yahweh. ⁷And the Levites will surround the king all around, each and his weapon in his hand. And the one going into the house will be killed. And they will be with the king in his coming in and his going out."

⁸And the Levites and all Judah did according to all that Jehoiada the priest commanded. And each took his men, those coming in on the Sabbath, with those going out on the Sabbath, for Jehoiada the priest did not release the divisions. ⁹And Jehoiada the priest gave to the chiefs of the hundreds the spears and the shields and the large shields which belonged to King David which were in the house of God. ¹⁰And he stationed all the people, and each, his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the house to the left side of the house, at the altar and at the house, about the king all around. ¹¹And they brought out the son of the king, and they placed on him the crown and the testimony. And they made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him. And they said, "May the king live!"

¹²And Athaliah heard the sound of the people running and praising the king, and she came to the people at the house of Yahweh. ¹³And she looked, and, behold, the king was standing by his pillar at the entrance, and the chiefs and the trumpets were by the king. And all the people of the land were joyful and blowing trumpets, and the singers with the articles of the song and leading the praising. And Athaliah ripped to pieces her clothes, and she said, "Conspiracy! Conspiracy!" ¹⁴And Jehoiada the priest brought out the chiefs of the hundreds who were appointed over the army, and he said to them, "Bring her out to before the house of the ranks; and the one who goes after her, let him be killed with the sword." For the priest had said, "Do not kill her in the house of Yahweh." ¹⁵And they laid hands on her, and she went into the entrance of the Horse Gate of the house of the king. And they put her to death there.

¹⁶And Jehoiada cut a covenant between himself, and between all the people, and between the king, to become a people for Yahweh. ¹⁷And all the people entered the house of Baal, and they tore it down, and its altars and its images they smashed, and Mattan, the priest of Baal, they killed before the altars. ¹⁸And Jehoiada set the musterings of the house of Yahweh by the hand of the priests, the Levites whom David assigned over the house of Yahweh, to offer the burnt offerings of Yahweh, as is written in the law of Moses, with joy and with song, by the hands of David. ¹⁹And he stationed gatekeepers at the gates of the house of Yahweh, and unclean in any way did not enter. ²⁰And he took the chiefs of the hundreds, and the majestic ones, and the rulers among the people, and all the people of the land. And he brought down the king from the house of Yahweh; and they came into the midst of the Upper Gate of the house of the king, and they sat the king on the throne of the kingdom.^[1] ²¹And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet. And Athaliah they put to death with the sword.

23:20 ^[1] .

Chapter 24

¹A son of seven years was Joash when he became king; and 40 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Zibiah from Beersheba. ²And Joash did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh all the days of Jehoiada the priest. ³And Jehoiada lifted up for him two wives, and he fathered sons and daughters.

⁴And it happened after this, there was with the heart of Joash to restore the house of Yahweh. ⁵And he gathered the priests and the Levites, and he said to them, "Go out to the cities of Judah and gather from all Israel enough money to make strong the house of your God year by year. And you all yourselves, hasten to the matter." But the Levites did not hasten. ⁶And the king called for Jehoiada the head, and he said to him, "Why did you not seek after the Levites to bring in from Judah and from Jerusalem the tribute of Moses, the servant of Yahweh, and of the assembly of Israel for the tent of the testimony?" ⁷For wicked Athaliah, her sons had broken into the house of God and also, all the sacred things of the house of Yahweh, they used for the Baals.

⁸And the king commanded, and they made one chest. And they placed it by the gate of the house of Yahweh outside. ⁹And they gave voice in Judah and in Jerusalem to bring in to Yahweh the tribute of Moses, the servant of God, over Israel in the wilderness. ¹⁰And all the chiefs and all the people rejoiced. And they brought in and they threw into the chest until completed. ¹¹And it happened at the time one brings in the chest to the oversight of the king by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was an abundance of money, then a scribe of the king would come, and the officer of the head priest. And they would empty the chest, and they would carry it, and they would return it to its place. Thus they did day by day, and they gathered money in abundance. ¹²And the king and Jehoiada gave it to the ones doing the work of the service of the house of Yahweh. And they were hiring stonemasons and craftsmen to restore the house of Yahweh, and also for craftsmen of iron and bronze to make strong the house of Yahweh. ¹³And the doers of the work did, and the restoration of the work went up by their hand. And they made stand the house of God according to its measurement, and they strengthened it. ¹⁴And when they finished, they brought in before the king and Jehoiada the remainder of the money. And they made items for the house of Yahweh, items of ministry and of burnt offerings and pans and items of gold and silver. And they were offering up burnt offerings at the house of Yahweh regularly all the days of Jehoiada.

¹⁵And Jehoiada grew old and was full of days, and he died, a son of 130 years at his death. ¹⁶And they buried him in the city of David with the kings, because he did good in Israel and toward God and his house. ¹⁷And after the death of Jehoiada, the chiefs of Judah came and bowed down to the king. Then the king listened to them. ¹⁸And they abandoned the house of Yahweh, the God of their fathers, and they served the Asherim and the idols. And there was wrath on Judah and Jerusalem on account of this, their guilt. ¹⁹And he sent among them prophets to bring them back to Yahweh. And they testified against them, but they did not listen.

²⁰And the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest. And he stood above the people, and he said to them, "Thus says God: Why are you passing over the commands of Yahweh, and you do not prosper? Because you all abandoned Yahweh, then he has abandoned you all." ²¹But they conspired against him, and they stoned him with stones by the command of the king in the court of the house of Yahweh. ²²And King Joash did not remember the covenant faithfulness that Jehoiada, his father did with him, and he killed his son. And when he died, he said, "May Yahweh see and seek."

²³And it happened at the turn of the year, the army of Aram came up against him, and they came to Judah and Jerusalem. And they destroyed all the chiefs of the people from the people. And all the plunder they sent to the king of Damascus. ²⁴Indeed with a small amount of men the army of Aram came, yet Yahweh gave into their hand a very large army because they abandoned Yahweh, the God of their fathers. And they did judgment on Joash.

²⁵And when they went from him, for they left him with many wounds, his servants conspired against him on account of the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest. And they killed him on his bed, and he died. And they buried him in the city of David, but they did not bury him in the graves of the kings. ²⁶And these were the ones who conspired against him: Zabad the son of Shimeath, the Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith, the

Moabites. ²⁷And his sons, and many oracles against him, and the establishing of the house of God, behold, they are written in the exposition of the scroll of the Kings. And Amaziah his son became king in his place.

Chapter 25

¹A son of 25 years, Amaziah became king. And 29 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Jehoaddan from Jerusalem. ²And he did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, only not with a complete heart. ³And it happened when the kingdom was strong upon him, then he killed his servants, the ones who struck down the king, his father. ⁴But their sons he did not put to death for as it is written in the law, in the scroll of Moses, whom Yahweh commanded saying, "Fathers must not die on account of their sons, and sons must not die on account of their fathers, but each for his sin, they must die."

⁵And Amaziah gathered Judah, and he appointed them according to the house of the fathers, for chiefs of thousands and for chiefs of hundreds for all of Judah and Benjamin. And he mustered them from a son of 20 years and upward. And he found them, 300,000 chosen, going out to war grasping spear and large shield. ⁶And he hired from Israel 100,000 mighty ones of strength for 100 talents of silver. ⁷But a man of God came to him, saying, "O King, do not let the army of Israel go with you, for Yahweh is not with Israel, all the sons of Ephraim. ⁸But if you go, act, be strong in battle; God will cause you to fall before the enemy, for there is power in God to help and to cause to fall." ⁹And Amaziah said to the man of God, "And what will we do with the 100 talents that I have given to the troop of Israel?" And the man of God said, "There is to Yahweh to give to you much more than this." ¹⁰And Amaziah separated them, the troop that had come to him from Ephraim to go to their place. And their anger burned greatly against Judah, and they returned to their place in the burning of anger. ¹¹And Amaziah, he strengthened himself, and he led out his people. And he went to the Valley of Salt. And he struck down the sons of Seir, 10,000. ¹²And 10,000 alive the sons of Judah took captive. And they brought them to the head of the cliff, and they threw them from the head of the cliff. And all of them were dashed to pieces. ¹³But the sons of the troop that Amaziah sent back from going with him to battle, and they raided against the cities of Judah from Samaria and until Beth Horon. And they struck down from them 3,000 and they plundered much plunder.

¹⁴And it happened after Amaziah had come from striking the Edomites, and he brought the gods of the sons of Seir, and set them up for himself to be gods. And before them he bowed down and to them he made sacrifices.

¹⁵And the anger of Yahweh burned against Amaziah. And he sent to him a prophet, and he said to him, "Why do you seek the gods of the people who did not deliver their people from your hand?" ¹⁶And it happened when he was speaking with him, and he said to him, "For a counselor to the king have we placed you? Stop yourself! Why should they strike you down?" And the prophet stopped. And he said, "I know that God has counselled to destroy you because you have done this and you did not listen to my counsel."

¹⁷And Amaziah, the king of Judah, took counsel and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, the king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us meet each other face to face." ¹⁸And Joash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah, the king of Judah, saying, "A bramble that was in Lebanon sent to a cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son for a wife,' but an animal passed over the field that was in Lebanon and trampled the bramble. ¹⁹You have said, Behold, you have struck down Edom, and your heart has lifted you to boast. Now, sit in your house. Why excite yourself in evil and fall, you and Judah with you?"

²⁰But Amaziah did not listen, because from God it was, in order to give them into the hand because they sought the gods of Edom. ²¹And Joash, the king of Israel, went up, and he and Amaziah, the king of Judah, looked at each other face to face at Beth Shemesh, which belonged to Judah. ²²And Judah was struck down before Israel, and each fled to his tent. ²³And Amaziah, the king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, Joash, the king of Israel, seized at Beth Shemesh. And he brought him to Jerusalem, and he broke through the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim until the gate of the Corner, 400 cubits. ²⁴And with all the gold and the silver and all the items that were found in the house of God with Obed Edom, and the treasures in the house of the king, and the sons of the hostages, he returned to Samaria.

²⁵And Amaziah the son of Joash, the king of Judah, lived after the death of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the king of Israel, 15 years. ²⁶And the remainder of the matters of Amaziah, the first things and the last things, behold, are they not written on the scroll of the kings of Judah and Israel? ²⁷And from the time that Amaziah turned from after Yahweh, and they bound against him a conspiracy in Jerusalem. And he fled to Lachish. And they sent after him to Lachish, and they put him to death there. ²⁸And they carried him on horses, and they buried him with his fathers in a city of Judah.

Chapter 26

¹And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, and he was a son of 16 years. And they made him king in the place of his father Amaziah. ²He himself built Eloth, and he restored it to Judah after the lying down of the king with his fathers. ³A son of 16 years was Uzziah when he became king. And 52 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Jekoliah from Jerusalem. ⁴And he did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, according to all that Amaziah his father had done. ⁵And he was seeking God in the days of Zechariah, the one instructing to see God^[1]. And in the days of his seeking Yahweh, God caused him to prosper.

⁶And he went out, and he fought against the Philistines. And he broke through the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod. And he built cities in Ashdod and among the Philistines. ⁷And God helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians who dwelled in Gurbaal, and the Meunites. ⁸And the Ammonites gave tribute to Uzziah. And his name went as far as the border of Egypt because he was becoming strong increasingly. ⁹And Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate, and at the Valley Gate, and at the Angle, and he made them strong. ¹⁰And he built towers in the wilderness, and he dug out many cisterns, for much cattle was to him, both in the lowlands and in the plains, and plowmen and vinedressers in the hills and in Carmel, for a lover of the ground he was. ¹¹And there was to Uzziah an army of doers of battle who went out for war according to the troop by the numbering of the mustering by the hand of Jeiel, the scribe, and Maaseiah, the official, under the hand of Hananiah, from the chiefs of the king. ¹²All the number of the heads of the fathers according to the mighty ones of strength, 2,600. ¹³And under their hand, an army of war 307,500 doers of battle with strength of power to help the king against the enemy. ¹⁴And Uzziah prepared for them—for all the army—shields, and spears, and helmets, and armor, and bows, and stones of slings. ¹⁵And he made in Jerusalem war machines, invention of an inventor, to be on the towers and on the corners to shoot arrows and great stones. And his name went out as far as a distance, for he did wondrously to be helped until when he was strong.

¹⁶But at his strength, his heart was high until destroying, and he acted unfaithfully against Yahweh, his God, and he went into the temple of Yahweh to sacrifice on the altar of incense. ¹⁷And Azariah, the priest, went in after him, and with him the priests of Yahweh, 80 sons of strength. ¹⁸And they stood against Uzziah the king, and they said to him, "Not for you, Uzziah, to sacrifice to Yahweh, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, the ones consecrated to sacrifice. Go out from the sanctuary, for you acted unfaithfully, and not for you for honor from Yahweh God." ¹⁹And Uzziah raged, and in his hand was a censer to sacrifice. And when he raged against the priests, and the leprosy, it appeared on his forehead before the priests in the house of Yahweh from beside the altar of incense. ²⁰And Azariah the head priest turned to him, and all the priests, and, behold, he was leprous on his forehead. And they hastened him from there. And also, he himself hastened to go out, for Yahweh afflicted him. ²¹And Uzziah the king was leprous until the day of his death. And he dwelled in the house of separation, being leprous, for he was cut off from the house of Yahweh. And Jotham his son was over the house of the king, judging the people of the land. ²²And the remainder of the matters of Uzziah, the first things and the last things, Isaiah, the son of Amoz, the prophet wrote. ²³And Uzziah laid down with his fathers. And they buried him with his fathers in the field of the grave that belonged to the kings, for they said, "Leprous is he." And Jotham his son became king in his place.

26:5 ^[1], or or . Scholars are divided.

Chapter 27

¹A son of 25 years was Jotham when he became king. And 16 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok. ²And he did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, according to all that Uzziah his father did, except he did not go into the temple of Yahweh. And yet the people were acting corruptly. ³He himself built the upper gate of the house of Yahweh, and on the wall of Ophel he built in abundance. ⁴And cities he built in the hill country of Judah, and in the forests he built fortresses and towers. ⁵And he himself fought with the king of the sons of Ammon, and he was strong over them. And the sons of Ammon gave to him in that year 100 talents of silver, 10,000 kors of wheat, and 10,000 barley. This the sons of Ammon brought back to him, and in the second year and the third. ⁶And Jotham strengthened himself for he established his ways before Yahweh his God. ⁷And the remainder of the matters of Jotham, and all his battles and his ways, behold, they are written on the scroll of the king of Israel and Judah. ⁸A son of 25 years he was when he became king; and 16 years he reigned in Jerusalem. ⁹And Jotham laid down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David. And Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 28

¹A son of 20 years was Ahaz when he became king, and 16 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And he did not do what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, like David his father. ²And he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel; and also metal images he made for the Baals. ³And he himself offered incense in the Valley of Ben Hinnom. And he caused his sons to burn in fire, according to the abominations of the nations that Yahweh drove away from before the sons of Israel. ⁴And he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places and on the hills and under every leafy tree.

⁵And Yahweh his God gave him into the hand of the king of Aram. And he struck him, and they took captive from him many captives. And they brought to Damascus. And also into the hand of the king of Israel he gave, and he struck him a great striking. ⁶And Pekah the son of Remaliah killed in Judah 120,000 in one day, all sons of strength, when they abandoned Yahweh the God of their fathers. ⁷And Zicri, a mighty one of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah, the son of the king, and Azrikam, the leader of the house, and Elkanah, the second of the king. ⁸And the sons of Israel took captive from their brothers 200,000 wives, sons, and daughters. And also much plunder they plundered from them. And they brought the plunder back to Samaria. ⁹And there, a prophet of Yahweh was, Oded his name. And he went out before the army coming to Samaria. And he said to them, "Behold, in wrath, Yahweh, the God of your fathers was against Judah; he gave them into your hand. But you all killed them in rage; up to the heavens it reached. ¹⁰And now the sons of Judah and Jerusalem you all are saying to subjugate as male slaves and as female slaves for yourselves. Are you surely not with wrongdoings of your own against Yahweh your God? ¹¹And now, hear me and bring back the captives whom you all took captive from your brothers. For the burning anger of Yahweh is upon you all." ¹²And men rose from the heads of the sons of Ephraim—Azariah the son of Jehohanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai—against the ones coming from the army. ¹³And they said to them, "Do not bring the captives here, for wrongdoing of Yahweh against us you all are saying to add upon our sins and upon our wrongdoings. For much is the guilt to us and the burning anger upon Israel." ¹⁴And the armed ones released the captives and the spoils before the chiefs and all the assembly. ¹⁵And the men who were marked by names rose and they grasped among the captives, and all their naked persons they clothed from the plunder. And they clothed them, and they gave them sandals. And they fed them, and they gave them drink. And they poured on them, and they led them on donkeys all who stumble. And they brought them to Jericho, the City of Palms, near their brothers. And they returned to Samaria.

¹⁶At that time, King Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria to help him. ¹⁷And again the Edomites had come, and they struck Judah. And they took captive captives. ¹⁸And the Philistines had raided among the cities of the lowlands and the Negev of Judah. And they captured Beth Shemesh, and Aijalon, and Gederoth, and Soko and its daughters, and Timnah and its daughters, and Gimzo and its daughters. And they dwelled there. ¹⁹For Yahweh humbled Judah because of Ahaz, the king of Israel; for he caused to break loose in Judah and to act faithlessly in faithlessness

against Yahweh. ²⁰And Tiglath-Pileser, the king of Assyria, came against him. And he harassed him, and he did not strengthen him. ²¹For Ahaz divided up the house of Yahweh and the house of the king and the chiefs. And he gave to the king of Assyria, but it was not a help to him.

²²And in the time of his harassment, and he added to act faithlessly against Yahweh, this King Ahaz. ²³And he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus, those striking him, and he said, "Because the gods of the kings of Aram, they were helping them, to them I will sacrifice, and they will help me." But they themselves were to him a cause to fall and to all Israel. ²⁴And Ahaz gathered the items of the house of God and cut up the items of the house of God. And he shut the doors of the house of Yahweh. And he made for himself altars in every corner in Jerusalem. ²⁵And in every city and city of Judah he made high places to make sacrifices to other gods. And he provoked to anger Yahweh, the God of his fathers. ²⁶And the remainder of his matters and all his ways, the first things and the last things, behold, they are written on the scroll of the kings of Judah and Israel. ²⁷And Ahaz laid down with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, in Jerusalem, but they did not bring him to the graves of the kings of Israel. And Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 29

¹Hezekiah became king as a son of 25 years, and 29 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah. ²And he did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, like all that David his father did. ³He, in the first year of his reigning, in the first month, himself opened the doors of the house of Yahweh, and he made them strong. ⁴And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and he gathered them into the plaza to the east. ⁵And he said to them, "Hear me, Levites! Now, consecrate yourselves and consecrate the house of Yahweh, the God of your fathers, and bring out the defilement from the holy place. ⁶For our fathers acted unfaithfully, and they did evil in the eyes of Yahweh our God. And they have abandoned him. And they turned their faces from the tabernacle of Yahweh, and they turned the back. ⁷Also, they shut the doors of the porch. And they extinguished the lamps, and incense they did not offer and burnt offerings they did not offer in the holy place of the God of Israel. ⁸And the wrath of Yahweh was on Judah and Jerusalem. And he gave them to be a terror, to be a horror, and to be a hissing, just as you all are seeing with your eyes. ⁹And behold, our fathers fell by the sword, and our sons, and our daughters, and our wives are in captivity on account of this. ¹⁰Now with my heart to cut a covenant with Yahweh, the God of Israel, so that his burning anger may turn from us. ¹¹My sons, now, do not be negligent for you all Yahweh has chosen to stand before him, to minister to him, and to be to him ones ministering and ones offering sacrifices."

¹²And the Levites arose: Mahath the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, from the sons of the Kohathites; and from the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehallelel; and from the Gershonites, Joah the son of Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah; ¹³and from the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeuel; and from the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah; ¹⁴and from the sons of Heman, Jehuel and Shimei; and from the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and Uzziel. ¹⁵And they gathered their brothers, and they consecrated themselves, and they entered, according to the commandment of the king with the words of Yahweh, to cleanse the house of Yahweh. ¹⁶And the priests entered the inner part of the house of Yahweh to cleanse; and they brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of Yahweh to the court of the house of Yahweh. And the Levites took to bring out to the brook Kidron outside. ¹⁷And they began on the first of the first month to consecrate. And on the eighth day of the month they came to the porch of Yahweh, and they consecrated the house of Yahweh for eight days. And on the 16th day of the first month they finished. ¹⁸And they came within to Hezekiah, the king, and they said, "We have cleansed all the house of Yahweh, the altar of burnt offerings and all its items, and the table of the arrangement and all its items, ¹⁹and all the items which King Ahaz rejected in his reign in his unfaithfulness. We have prepared, and we have consecrated, and, behold, they are before the altar of Yahweh."

²⁰And Hezekiah the king rose early and gathered the chiefs of the city. And he went up to the house of Yahweh.

²¹And they brought seven bulls, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven male goats of female goats for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the sanctuary, and for Judah. And he said to the sons of Aaron, the priests, to

cause to go up to the altar of Yahweh. ²²And they slaughtered the cattle, and the priests took the blood, and they scattered on the altar. And they slaughtered the rams, and they scattered the blood on the altar. And they slaughtered the lambs, and they scattered the blood on the altar. ²³And they brought near the goats of the sin offering before the king and the assembly, and they laid their hands on them. ²⁴And the priests slaughtered them, and they made a sin offering with their blood on the altar to atone for all Israel, because "For all Israel," the king said, "are the burnt offering and the sin offering."

²⁵And he stationed the Levites in the house of Yahweh with cymbals, with harps, and with lyres, according to the commandment of David and Gad, the seer of the king, and Nathan the prophet, for by the hand of Yahweh was the commandment by the hand of his prophets. ²⁶And the Levites stood with the instruments of David and the priests with the trumpets. ²⁷And Hezekiah said to offer the burnt offering on the altar. And at the time the burnt offering began, the song of Yahweh began and the trumpets, and by the hands of the instruments of David, the king of Israel. ²⁸And the whole assembly was worshipping, and the song was singing, and the trumpets were sounding, all until the burnt offering was finished.

²⁹And when the burnt offering was finished, the king bowed down and all who were found with him, and they worshiped. ³⁰And King Hezekiah said, and the chiefs, to the Levites to praise Yahweh according to the words of David and Asaph the seer. And they praised with joy, and they bowed down, and they worshiped.

³¹And Hezekiah answered, and he said, "You yourselves have filled your hand to Yahweh. Come near and bring in sacrifices and thanksgivings to the house of Yahweh." And the assembly brought in sacrifices and thanksgivings, and all inclined of heart, burnt offerings. ³²And the number of the burnt offering that the assembly brought in was 70 bulls, 100 rams, 200 lambs, for the burnt offering to Yahweh was all these. ³³And the consecrated were 600 bulls and 3,000 sheep. ³⁴Except the priests were too few and they were not able to skin all the burnt offerings, so their brothers, the Levites, made them strong until the work was finished, and until the priests consecrated themselves, for the Levites were right of heart to consecrate themselves more than the priests. ³⁵And also, there were burnt offerings in abundance with the fat of the peace offerings and with the drink offerings for the burnt offering. And the service of the house of Yahweh was established. ³⁶And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, over God having prepared for the people, for in suddenness the matter happened.

Chapter 30

¹And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and also letters he wrote to Ephraim and Manasseh to come to the house of Yahweh in Jerusalem to do a Passover to Yahweh, the God of Israel. ²And the king consulted, and his chiefs, and all the assembly in Jerusalem, to do the Passover in the second month. ³for they were not able to do it at that time because the priests had not consecrated themselves sufficiently, and the people had not assembled to Jerusalem. ⁴And the matter was right in the eyes of the king and in the eyes of all the assembly. ⁵And they caused to stand a word to cause a voice to pass over among all Israel, from Beersheba and to Dan to come to do a Passover to Yahweh, the God of Israel, in Jerusalem; for they had not in abundance done as was written. ⁶And runners went with letters from the hand of the king and his chiefs among all Israel and Judah and according to the command of the king, saying, "Sons of Israel, return to Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the escaped remaining of you all from the palm of the kings of Assyria. ⁷And do not be like your fathers and your brothers, who acted unfaithfully against Yahweh, the God of their fathers. And he made them to be a horror, just as you all are seeing. ⁸Now, do not harden your neck like your fathers; give hand to Yahweh and come to his sanctuary which he has consecrated forever, and serve Yahweh your God, that he may turn from you all his burning anger. ⁹For in your turning back to Yahweh, your brothers and your sons will have mercies before their captors and return this land. For gracious and compassionate is Yahweh your God, and he will not turn away his face from you all, if you return to him."

¹⁰And the runners were passing from city to city in the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and until Zebulun, but they were mocking them and ridiculing them. ¹¹However, men from Asher and Manasseh and from Zebulun humbled

themselves and came to Jerusalem. ¹²Also on Judah was the hand of God to give them one heart to do the command of the king and the chiefs by the word of Yahweh.

¹³And many people gathered in Jerusalem to do the Feast of the Unleavened Bread in the second month, a very abundant assembly. ¹⁴And they rose, and they took away the altars that were in Jerusalem, and all the incense altars they took away, and they threw into the brook Kidron. ¹⁵And they slaughtered the Passover lambs on the 14th of the second month. And the priests and the Levites were ashamed, and they consecrated themselves, and they brought in the burnt offerings to the house of Yahweh. ¹⁶And they stood at their stations according to their judgment, according to the law of Moses, the man of God. The priests were scattering the blood from the hand of the Levites, ¹⁷for many were in the assembly who had not consecrated themselves. And the Levites were over the slaughtering of the Passover lambs for all were not clean to consecrate to Yahweh. ¹⁸For a multitude of the people, many from Ephraim and Manasseh, Issachar and Zebulun, had not purified themselves, but they ate the Passover, against what is written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, "May Yahweh who is good atone for ¹⁹everyone who prepares his heart to seek God, Yahweh, the God of his fathers, but not according to the purifying of the holy place." ²⁰And Yahweh listened to Hezekiah, and he healed the people. ²¹And the sons of Israel who were found in Jerusalem did the Feast of the Unleavened Bread seven days with great joy. And the Levites and the priests were praising Yahweh day by day, with instruments of might to Yahweh. ²²And Hezekiah spoke to the heart of all the Levites, who were insightful with good insight of Yahweh. And they ate the appointed seven days, sacrificing sacrifices of peace offerings and confessing to Yahweh, the God of their fathers.

²³And all the assembly consulted to do seven days after them, and they did seven days joyfully. ²⁴For Hezekiah the king of Judah contributed to the assembly 1,000 bulls and 7,000 sheep; and the chiefs contributed to the assembly 1,000 bulls and 10,000 sheep. And many priests consecrated themselves. ²⁵And they rejoiced, all the assembly of Judah and the priests and the Levites, and all the assembly who came from Israel, and the sojourners who came from the land of Israel and the inhabitants of Judah. ²⁶And there was great joy in Jerusalem, for from the days of Solomon the son of David, the king of Israel, there was not like this in Jerusalem. ²⁷And the priests, the Levites, rose, and they blessed the people. And their voice was heard, and their prayer came to his holy dwelling in the heavens.

Chapter 31

¹And when all this was finished, all Israel who were to be found went out to the cities of Judah, and they shattered the pillars. And they cut to pieces the Asherim, and they tore down the high places and the altars from all Judah and Benjamin, and in Ephraim and Manasseh, until finished. And all the sons of Israel returned, each to his possession, to their cities.

²And Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and the Levites according to their divisions, each according to the mouth of his service, for the priests and for the Levites for burnt offering and for peace offerings, to minister, and to give thanks, and to praise at the gates of the camp of Yahweh. ³And the portion of the king was from his property for burnt offerings, for the burnt offerings of the morning and the evening and the burnt offerings for the Sabbaths and for the new moons and for the appointed times, as is written in the law of Yahweh. ⁴And he said to the people, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, in order that they might be strong in the law of Yahweh. ⁵And when the word broke through, the sons of Israel gave in abundance firstfruits of grain, new wine, and oil, and honey, and all the produce of the field. And the tithe of all the abundance they brought in. ⁶And the sons of Israel and Judah, the inhabitants in the cities of Judah, also they, the tithe of cattle and sheep, and the tithe of sacred things consecrated to Yahweh their God, they brought in, and they gave heaps, heaps. ⁷In the third month, they began the heaps to establish, and in the seventh month they finished. ⁸And Hezekiah and the chiefs came, and they saw the heaps. And they blessed Yahweh and his people Israel. ⁹And Hezekiah sought the priests and the Levites about the heaps. ¹⁰And Azariah, the head priest, of the house of Zadok, said to him, and he said, "From the beginning of the bringing of the contribution to the house of Yahweh we ate, and were full and had left over in abundance, for Yahweh has blessed his people, and this abundance is left."

¹¹And Hezekiah said to prepare the chambers in the house of Yahweh, and they prepared. ¹²And they brought in the contribution and the tithe and the sacred things in faithfulness. And over them as a leader was Konaniah the Levite, and Shimei his brother, second. ¹³And Jehiel, and Azariah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and Eliel, and Ismakiah, and Mahath, and Benaiah were overseers under the hand of Konaniah and Shimei his brother, by the arrangement of Hezekiah, the king, and Azariah, the leader over the house of God. ¹⁴And Kore the son of Imnah the Levite, the gatekeeper to the east was over the free will offering of God, to give the contribution of Yahweh and the most holy things, ¹⁵and by his hand Eden, and Miniamin, and Jeshua, and Shemaiah, and Amariah, and Shecaniah, in the cities of the priests in faithfulness to give to their brothers in divisions, like great, like small, ¹⁶regardless of their genealogy, to males from a son of three years and upward, to all who came into the house of Yahweh, by the matter of a day in its day, for their service by their charges according to their divisions,^[1] ¹⁷and the genealogy of the priests by the house of their fathers and the Levites from a son of 20 years and upward by their charges according to their divisions, ¹⁸and to the genealogy with all their children, their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, to all the assembly, for in their faithfulness they were consecrating themselves in holiness. ¹⁹And for the sons of Aaron, the priests, in the fields of open land of their cities, in each city and city, were men who were marked by names to give portions to every male among the priests, and to all genealogically among the Levites.

²⁰And Hezekiah did like this in all Judah. And he did what is good, and what is right, and faithful before Yahweh his God. ²¹And in every deed that he began in the service of the house of God, and by the law, and by the commandment to seek his God, with all his heart he did and succeeded.

31:16^[1], some modern versions have .

Chapter 32

¹After these things and faithfulness, Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, came. And he came into Judah. And he encamped against the fortified cities. And he said to capture them for himself. ²And Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come and his face was to battle against Jerusalem. ³And he consulted with his chiefs and his mighty ones to stop up the waters of the springs that were outside the city; and they helped him. ⁴And many people gathered, and they stopped up all the springs and the stream that was flowing in the midst of the land, saying, "Why should the kings of Assyria come and find many waters?" ⁵And he strengthened himself. And he built all the broken wall, and he brought up the towers and the other outer wall. And he strengthened the Millo in the city of David. And he made weapons in abundance and shields.^[1] ⁶And he placed chiefs of battle over the people. And he gathered them to himself to the plaza at the city gate. And he spoke to their heart, saying, ⁷"Be strong and be courageous. Do not be afraid, and do not be dismayed from before the king of Assyria and from before all the multitude that is with him, for with us is one greater than with him. ⁸With him, an arm of flesh, but with us, Yahweh, our God, to help us and to fight our battles." And the people leaned on the words of Hezekiah, the king of Judah.

⁹After this, Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, sent his servants to Jerusalem (and he was by Lachish, and all his military strength was with him) to Hezekiah, the king of Judah, and to all Judah who was in Jerusalem, saying, ¹⁰"Thus says Sennacherib, the king of Assyria: On what are you all trusting and dwelling in siege in Jerusalem? ¹¹Is not Hezekiah misleading you all, to give you all to die by famine and by thirst, saying, 'Yahweh our God will deliver us from the palm of the king of Assyria?' ¹²Did not he, Hezekiah, take away his high places and his altars and he said to Judah and to Jerusalem, saying, 'Before one altar you all must worship, and on it you all must make sacrifice?' ¹³Do you all not know what I have done, I and my fathers, to all the peoples of the lands? Were the gods of the nations of the lands surely able to deliver their land from my hand? ¹⁴Who is among all the gods of these nations whom my fathers devoted to destruction who is able to deliver his people from my hand, that your God is able to deliver you all from my hand? ¹⁵And now do not let Hezekiah deceive you all and do not let him mislead you all like this. And do not believe him for any god of any nation or kingdom has not been able to deliver his people from my hand or from the hand of my fathers. Also, indeed, your God will not deliver you all from my hand." ¹⁶And

again his servants spoke against Yahweh God and against Hezekiah, his servant. ¹⁷And letters he wrote to taunt Yahweh, the God of Israel, and to speak against him, saying, "Like the gods of the nations of the lands who did not deliver their people from my hand, thus the God of Hezekiah will not deliver his people from my hand." ¹⁸And they called in a great voice in Judean against the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, to frighten them and to dismay them, in order that they might capture the city. ¹⁹And they spoke about the God of Jerusalem as against the gods of the peoples of the land, the work of the hands of man.

²⁰And Hezekiah, the king, prayed, and Isaiah the son of Amoz, the prophet, about this, and they cried out to the heavens. ²¹And Yahweh sent an angel, and he wiped out all the mighty ones of the army and leaders and chiefs in the camp of the king of Assyria. And he returned with shame on faces to his land. And he came to the house of his god, and some of the ones coming forth from his inward parts, there they caused him to fall by the sword. ²²And Yahweh saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all. And he gave them rest all around. ^[2] ²³And many were bringing gifts to Yahweh to Jerusalem and precious things to Hezekiah the king of Judah. And he was lifted up in the eyes of all the nations from after that.

²⁴In those days Hezekiah was sick unto death. And he prayed to Yahweh, and he spoke to him. And a sign he gave to him. ²⁵But according to the benefit to him Hezekiah did not return, for his heart was high. And there was on him wrath and on Judah and Jerusalem. ²⁶And Hezekiah humbled himself from the height of his heart, he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the wrath of Yahweh did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

²⁷And there was to Hezekiah very many riches and glory, and treasures he made for himself for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all desirable items, ²⁸and storehouses for produce of grain, and new wine, and oil, and stalls for all beasts and beasts, and flocks for the stalls. ²⁹And cities he made for himself and livestock of sheep and cattle in abundance, for God gave to him very much property. ^[3] ³⁰And this same Hezekiah stopped up the upper outlet of the waters of Gihon, and he directed them down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah succeeded in all his work. ³¹And thus, when the envoys of the chiefs of Babylon sent to him to seek the sign that was in the land, God left him to test him, to know all in his heart.

³²And the remainder of the matters of Hezekiah, and his covenant faithfulnesses, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah, the son of Amoz, the prophet, on the scroll of the kings of Judah and Israel. ³³And Hezekiah laid down with his fathers, and they buried him in the ascent of the graves of the sons of David. And honor they did for him in his death, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

32:5 ^[1], some ancient and modern versions have , that is, on the wall.

32:22 ^[2], some ancient and modern versions have . The original reading is uncertain.

32:29 ^[3], some modern versions have , and some other modern versions leave out the word entirely.

Chapter 33

¹A son of 12 years was Manasseh when he became king; and 55 years he reigned in Jerusalem. ²And he did what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh, like the abominations of the nations whom Yahweh had driven out from before the sons of Israel. ³And he turned and built the high places that Hezekiah his father had torn down, and he erected altars to the Baals, and he made Asheroth, and he bowed down to all the host of the heavens, and he served them. ⁴And he built altars in the house of Yahweh, about which Yahweh had said, "In Jerusalem, my name will be forever." ⁵And he built altars for all the host of the heavens in the two courts of the house of Yahweh. ⁶And he himself caused his sons to pass through the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom and he practiced soothsaying, and divination, and he practiced magic, and he dealt with mediums and spirits. He multiplied doing what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh to provoke him to anger. ⁷And he put the image of the idol which he made in the house of God of which God said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house and in Jerusalem which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel, I will set my name forever. ⁸And I will not again remove the foot of Israel from upon the soil that I appointed for your fathers, only if they are careful to do all that I commanded them, all the law, and the statutes,

and the judgments by the hand of Moses.”⁹ And Manasseh led astray Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to do evil more than the nations that Yahweh had exterminated from before the sons of Israel.

¹⁰And Yahweh spoke to Manasseh and to his people, but they did not pay attention. ¹¹And Yahweh brought against them the chiefs of the army which belonged to the king of Assyria. And they captured Manasseh in chains, and they bound him in bronze, and they took him to Babylon. ¹²And when he was in distress, he entreated the face of Yahweh, his God, and he humbled himself much from before the God of his fathers. ¹³And he prayed to him; and he was entreated by him, and he heard his supplication, and he brought him back to Jerusalem to his kingdom. And Manasseh knew that Yahweh, he is God.

¹⁴And after this, he built an outer wall for the city of David, on the west of Gihon, in the valley, and at the entrance of the Fish Gate, and around the hill, and he made it very high. And he put chiefs of the army in all the fortified cities in Judah. ¹⁵And he took away the foreign gods, and the idol from the house of Yahweh, and all the altars that he built on the mountain of the house of Yahweh and in Jerusalem. And he threw them outside the city. ¹⁶And he built the altar of Yahweh, and he sacrificed on it sacrifices of peace offerings and thank offerings. And he said to Judah to serve Yahweh, the God of Israel. ¹⁷However, the people were still sacrificing on the high places, only to Yahweh, their God.

¹⁸And the remainder of the matters of Manasseh, and his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers, those speaking to him in the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel, behold, they are on the words of the kings of Israel. ¹⁹And his prayer and how he was entreated by him, and all his sin, and his unfaithfulness, and the places where he built in them high places, and he raised Asherim and idols before he humbled himself—behold, they are written in the Words of Hozai.^[1] ²⁰And Manasseh laid down with his fathers, and they buried him in his house. And Amon, his son, became king in his place.

²¹A son of 22 years was Amon when he became king; and two years he reigned in Jerusalem. ²²And he did what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh, just as Manasseh, his father, had done. And to all the idols that Manasseh his father made, Amon sacrificed, and he served them. ²³And he did not humble himself from before Yahweh, as Manasseh his father humbled himself, for this Amon multiplied guilt. ²⁴And his servants conspired against him, and they put him to death in his house. ²⁵But the people of the land struck down all those who had conspired against King Amon, and the people of the land made Josiah, his son, king in his place.

33:19^[1], which is the reading of the original text. But many modern versions correct it to read . Also, a few modern versions have .

Chapter 34

¹A son of eight years was Josiah when he became king; and 31 years he reigned in Jerusalem. ²And he did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh, and he walked in the ways of David his father, and he did not turn to the right or to the left. ³And in the eighth year of his reigning, and he was still a youth, he began to seek the God of David, his father. And in the 12th year, he began to cleanse Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the Asherim, and the idols, and the metal images. ⁴And they tore down before him the altars of the Baals, and the incense altars which were above them he cut to pieces. And the Asherim and the idols and the metal images he shattered, and he crushed, and he scattered over the faces of the graves of those who sacrificed to them. ⁵And the bones of the priests he burned on their altars. And he cleansed Judah and Jerusalem, ⁶and in the cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, and until Naphtali, in the hills of their houses all around. ⁷And he tore down the altars, and the Asherim and the idols he beat to pieces to grinding, and all the incense altars he cut to pieces in all the land of Israel. And he returned to Jerusalem.

⁸And in the 18th year of his reigning, to cleanse the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah, the chief of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the secretary, to make strong the house of Yahweh his God. ⁹And they came to Hilkiyah, the great priest, and they gave the money that had been brought to the house of

God, that the Levites gathered, the keepers of the threshold, from the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and from all the remnant of Israel, and from all Judah and Benjamin, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁰And they gave to the hand of the doer of the work, the ones appointed over the house of Yahweh. And they gave it to the doers of the work who were working on the house of Yahweh to repair and to make strong the house. ¹¹And they gave to the craftsmen and the builders to buy cut stone and woods for the braces, and to make beams for the houses that the kings of Judah had destroyed. ¹²And the men were working with faithfulness in the work. And over them were appointed Jahath, and Obadiah, the Levites from the sons of Merari, and Zechariah, and Meshullam, from the sons of the Kohathites, to direct, and the Levites, all who understand about the instruments of song. ¹³And over the burden bearers and directors for every doer of the work for service and service, and from the Levites, were scribes and officials and gatekeepers.

¹⁴And when they were bringing out the money that had been brought into the house of Yahweh, Hilkiah the priest found the scroll of the law of Yahweh by the hand of Moses. ¹⁵And Hilkiah answered, and he said to Shaphan the scribe, "The scroll of the law I have found in the house of Yahweh." And Hilkiah gave the scroll to Shaphan. ¹⁶And Shaphan brought the scroll to the king, and brought further to the king word, saying, "All that was given by the hand of your servants they are doing. ¹⁷And they poured out the money that was found in the house of Yahweh, and they gave it to the hand of those appointed and to the hand of the doers of the work." ¹⁸And Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, "A scroll Hilkiah the priest gave to me." And Shaphan read from it before the king. ¹⁹And it happened when the king heard the words of the law, and he tore his clothes. ²⁰And the king commanded Hilkiah, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Abdon the son of Micah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah, the servant of the king, saying, ²¹"Go, seek Yahweh on behalf of me, and on behalf of the one who remains in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the scroll that has been found. For great is the rage of Yahweh that is poured out on us because our fathers have not kept the word of Yahweh to do like all that is written on this scroll."^[1]

²²And Hilkiah went, and those of the king, to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tokhath, the son of Hasrah, the keeper of the garments. And she was dwelling in Jerusalem in the Second. And they spoke to her about this. ²³And she said to them, "Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: Say to the man who sent you all to me, ²⁴Thus says Yahweh: Behold, I am bringing disaster upon this place and upon its inhabitants all the curses written on the scroll that they read before the king of Judah, ²⁵because they abandoned me and burned incense to other gods in order to provoke me to anger in all the works of their hands. And my rage will pour out on this place, and it will not be quenched."^[2] ²⁶But to the king of Judah, the one who sent you all to seek Yahweh, thus you all shall say to him, 'Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel about the words that you heard: ²⁷because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before God when you heard his words concerning this place and concerning its inhabitants, and you have humbled yourself before me, and you have torn your clothes, and you wept before me, and also I myself have heard—declares Yahweh— ²⁸behold, I myself will gather you to your fathers. And you will be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes will not see all the disaster that I am bringing on this place and on its inhabitants.'" And they brought back word to the king.

²⁹And the king sent, and he gathered all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. ³⁰And the king went up to the house of Yahweh, and each man of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the Levites, and all the people, from the great to the small. And he read in their ears all the words of the scroll of the covenant, the one that was found in the house of Yahweh. ³¹And the king stood in his place, and he cut the covenant before Yahweh, to walk after Yahweh, and to keep his commandments, and his testimony, and his statutes, with all his heart and with all his being, to do the words of the covenant that were written on this scroll. ³²And he made stand each one found in Jerusalem and Benjamin. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem acted according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers. ³³And Josiah took away all the abominations from all the lands that belonged to the sons of Israel. And he caused to serve each one found in Israel, to serve Yahweh, their God. All his days, they did not turn away from after Yahweh, the God of their fathers.

34:21 ^[1] , some versions have, .

34:25 ^[2] , some versions have, .

Chapter 35

¹And Josiah did a Passover in Jerusalem to Yahweh. And they slaughtered the Passover on the 14th of the first month. ²And he appointed the priests over their charges, and he strengthened them for the service of the house of Yahweh. ³And he said to the Levites who are teaching all Israel, who are sacred to Yahweh, "Place the Holy Box in the house that Solomon, the son of David, the king of Israel built; not to you all a burden on your shoulder. Now serve Yahweh your God and his people Israel. ⁴And prepare by the house of your fathers, according to your divisions, by the writing of David, the king of Israel, and by the writing of Solomon, his son. ⁵And stand in the holy place, according to the division of the house of the fathers of your brothers, the sons of the people, and the portion of the house of a father of the Levites. ⁶And slaughter the Passover, and consecrate yourselves, and prepare for your brothers, to do according to the word of Yahweh by the hand of Moses."

⁷And Josiah raised to the sons of the people a flock of lambs and sons of female goats, the entirety for the Passovers, for all who are found, for the number, 30,000. And oxen, 3,000. These were from the property of the king. ⁸And his chiefs, for a free will offering to the people, to the priests, and to the Levites, they raised. Hilkiah, and Zechariah, and Jehiel, leaders in the house of God, to the priests they gave for the Passovers, 2,600, and oxen, 300. ⁹And Konaniah, and Shemaiah and Nethanel, his brothers, and Hashabiah, and Jeiel, and Jozabad, the chiefs of the Levites, raised to the Levites for the Passovers, 5,000 and oxen, 300.

¹⁰And the service was prepared, and the priests stood at their places, and the Levites by their divisions, according to the commandment of the king. ¹¹And they slaughtered the Passover, and the priests scattered from their hand, and the Levites were skinning. ¹²And they took away the burnt offering, in order to place them according to the divisions of the house of fathers, for the sons of the people to bring near to Yahweh according to what is written in the scroll of Moses. And thus for the oxen. ¹³And they cooked the Passover in fire according to the judgment. And the consecrated things they cooked in pots, and in kettles, and in pans, and they brought to all the sons of the people. ¹⁴And after they prepared for themselves and for the priests, because the priests, the sons of Aaron, were offering the burnt offering and the fat portions until night, and the Levites prepared for themselves and for the priests, the sons of Aaron. ¹⁵And the singers, the sons of Asaph, in their place, according to the commandment of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun, the seer of the king, and the gatekeepers for gate and gate. It was not for them to turn aside from their place because their brothers, the Levites, prepared for them.

¹⁶And all the service of Yahweh was prepared on that day to do the Passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of Yahweh, according to the commandment of King Josiah. ¹⁷And the sons of Israel who were found did the Passover at that time and the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days. ¹⁸And a Passover was not done like it in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet, and all the kings of Israel did not do like the Passover that Josiah did, and the priests and the Levites and all Judah and Israel who were found and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁹In the 18th year of the reign of Josiah, this Passover was done.

²⁰After all this, when Josiah prepared the house, Necho, the king of Egypt, went up to fight against Carchemish near the Euphrates. And Josiah went out to meet him. ²¹And he sent to him messengers, saying, "What to me and to you, King of Judah? Not against you yourself today, but against the house of my battle. And God said for me to hurry. Stop yourself from God, who is with me, and let him not destroy you." ²²But Josiah did not turn his face from him, but, in order to fight with him, he disguised himself. And he did not listen to the words of Necho, the mouth of God. And he came to fight on the plain of Megiddo. ²³And the archers shot King Josiah, and the king said to his servants, "Cause me to pass over for I am badly wounded." ²⁴And his servants carried him away from the chariot, and they made him ride on the second chariot which belonged to him. And they brought him to Jerusalem. And he died, and he was buried in the graves of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem were mourning on account of Josiah. ²⁵And Jeremiah sang a dirge for Josiah, and all the male singers and the female singers said in their dirges about Josiah until today. And they placed for a statute over Israel; and behold, they are written in the Laments. ²⁶And the remainder of the matters of Josiah and his covenant faithfulnesses as is written in the law of Yahweh— ²⁷and his matters, the first things and the last things, behold, they are written in the scroll of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Chapter 36

¹And the people of the land took Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, and they made him king in the place of his father in Jerusalem. ²A son of 23 years was Joahaz^[1] when he became king. And three months he reigned in Jerusalem. ³And the king of Egypt removed him at Jerusalem, and he imposed a fine on the land, 100 talents of silver and a talent of gold. ⁴And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem. And he turned his name to Jehoiakim. And Joahaz his brother Necho took, and he brought him to Egypt.

⁵A son of 25 years was Jehoiakim when he became king, and 11 years he reigned in Jerusalem. And he did what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh his God. ⁶Against him Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, came up, and he bound him with bronze to bring him to Babylon. ⁷and some of the items of the house of Yahweh Nebuchadnezzar brought to Babylon, and he placed them in his temple at Babylon. ⁸And the remainder of the matters of Jehoiakim, and the abominations that he did, and what was found against him, behold, they are written on the scroll of the kings of Israel and Judah. And Jehoiachin, his son, became king in his place.

⁹A son of eight years was Jehoiachin when he became king; and three months and ten days he reigned in Jerusalem. And he did what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh. ¹⁰And in the return of the year, King Nebuchadnezzar sent and he brought him to Babylon, with the desirable items of the house of Yahweh And he made Zedekiah, his brother, king over Judah and Jerusalem.

¹¹A son of 21 years was Zedekiah when he became king; and 11 years he reigned in Jerusalem. ¹²And he did what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh his God; he did not humble himself from before Jeremiah the prophet from the mouth of Yahweh. ¹³And also against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God, he rebelled. And he stiffened his neck, and he hardened his heart from turning to Yahweh, the God of Israel. ¹⁴Also, all the chiefs of the priests and the people multiplied doing acts of unfaithfulness like all the abominations of the nations. And they defiled the house of Yahweh which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. ¹⁵And Yahweh, the God of their fathers, sent to them by the hand of his messengers, rising early and sending, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling. ¹⁶But they were deriding the messengers of God, and despising his words, and mocking his prophets, until the wrath of Yahweh went up against his people, until there was no healing.

¹⁷And he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, and he killed their young men with the sword in the house of their holy place, and he did not spare a young man or a virgin, old or aged. All he gave into his hand. ¹⁸All the items of the house of God, great things and small things, and the treasures of the house of Yahweh, and the treasures of the king and his chiefs—the entirety he brought to Babylon. ¹⁹And they burned the house of God, and they tore down the wall of Jerusalem; and all of its palaces they burned with fire, and all the precious objects, destroyed. ²⁰And the remaining from the sword he led into exile to Babylon, and they became to him and to his sons servants until the reign of the kingdom of Persia ²¹to fulfill the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land restored its Sabbaths. All the days of its being desolate, it kept to fulfill 70 years.

²²And in the first year of Cyrus, the king of Persia, to complete the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah. Yahweh stirred up the spirit of Cyrus, the king of Persia, and he caused voice to pass through all his kingdom, and also in writing, saying, ²³“Thus says Cyrus, the king of Persia: ‘All the kingdoms of the earth Yahweh, the God of the heavens, has given to me. And he himself has charged me to build for him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you all from all his people, may Yahweh his God, be with him, and let him go up.’”

36:2 ^[1] Jehoahaz in 36:1.

Ezra

Chapter 1

¹Now in year one of Cyrus, the king of Persia, in order to accomplish the word of Yahweh from the mouth of Jeremiah, Yahweh stirred up the spirit of Cyrus, the king of Persia. So he caused a sound to pass throughout all his kingdom, and also in writing, saying: ²"Thus says Cyrus, the king of Persia: Yahweh, the God of heaven, has given to me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he himself has appointed me to build for him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. ³Whoever among you is from all his people, may his God be with him, and may he go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and may he build the house of Yahweh, the God of Israel. He is the God who is in Jerusalem. ⁴And every one who is remaining in all of the places where he is sojourning there, let the men of his place lift him with silver and with gold, and with goods and with livestock, along with the freewill offering for the house of God, which is in Jerusalem."

⁵Then the heads of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, that is, all whose spirit God had stirred up, arose to go up to build the house of Yahweh, which is in Jerusalem. ⁶And all those around them strengthened their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with livestock, and with precious gifts, apart from all that was freely offered. ⁷And the king Cyrus brought out the vessels of the house of Yahweh that Nebuchadnezzar had brought out from Jerusalem and had put in the house of his gods. ⁸And Cyrus, the king of Persia, brought them out by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer. And he counted them out to Sheshbazzar, the ruler of Judah. ⁹And this was their number: 30 basins of gold, 1000 basins of silver, 29 knives, ¹⁰30 bowls of gold, 410 bowls of silver of a second kind, and 1000 other vessels. ¹¹All the vessels of gold and of silver were 5400. Sheshbazzar brought up all this with the going up of the exiles from Babylon to Jerusalem.

Chapter 2

¹Now these are the sons of the province, the ones who went up from the captivity of the exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, had exiled to Babylon. And they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, a man to his city; ²who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, and Baanah. This is the number of the men of the people of Israel.

³The sons of Parosh were 2, 172.

⁴The sons of Shephatiah were 372.

⁵The sons of Arah were 775.

⁶The sons of Pahath-Moab, of the sons of Jeshua and Joab were 2, 812.

⁷The sons of Elam were 1, 254.

⁸The sons of Zattu were 945.

⁹The sons of Zakkai were 760.

¹⁰The sons of Bani were 642.

¹¹The sons of Bebai were 623.

¹²The sons of Azgad were 1, 222.

¹³The sons of Adonikam were 666.

¹⁴The sons of Bigvai were 2,056.

¹⁵The sons of Adin were 454.

¹⁶The sons of Ater, of Hezekiah were 98.

¹⁷The sons of Bezai were 323.

¹⁸The sons of Jorah were 112.

¹⁹The sons of Hashum were 223.

²⁰The sons of Gibbar were 95.

²¹The sons of Bethlehem were 123.

²²The men of Netophah were 56.

²³The men of Anathoth were 128.

²⁴The sons of Azmaveth were 42.

²⁵The sons of Kirjath-Arim, Kephirah, and Beeroth were 743.

²⁶The sons of the Ramah and Geba were 621.

²⁷The men of Michmas were 122.

²⁸The men of Bethel and the Ai were 223.

²⁹The sons of Nebo were 52.

³⁰The sons of Magbish were 156.

³¹The sons of the other Elam were 1, 254.

³²The sons of Harim were 320.

³³The sons of Lod, Hadid, and Ono were 725.

³⁴The sons of Jericho were 345.

³⁵The sons of Senaah were 3, 630.

³⁶The priests: the sons of Jedaiah of the house of Jeshua were 973. ³⁷The sons of Immer were 1,052. ³⁸The sons of Pashhur were 1, 247. ³⁹The sons of Harim were 1,017.

⁴⁰The Levites: the sons of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the sons of Hodaviah, were 74.

⁴¹The singers: the sons of Asaph were 128.

⁴²The sons of the gatekeepers: the sons of Shallum, the sons of Ater, the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkub, the sons of Hatita, and the sons of Shobai were 139 in all.

⁴³The temple servants: the sons of Ziha, the sons of Hasupha, the sons of Tabbaoth, ⁴⁴the sons of Keros, the sons of Siaha, the sons of Padon, ⁴⁵the sons of Lebanah, the sons of Hagabah, the sons of Akkub, ⁴⁶the sons of Hagab,

the sons of Shalmi, and the sons of Hanan, ⁴⁷the sons of Giddel, the sons of Gahar, the sons of Reaiah, ⁴⁸the sons of Rezin, the sons of Nekoda, the sons of Gazzam, ⁴⁹the sons of Uzza, the sons of Paseah, the sons of Besai, ⁵⁰the sons of Asnah, the sons of Meunim, the sons of Nephusim, ⁵¹the sons of Bakbuk, the sons of Hakupha, the sons of Harhur, ⁵²the sons of Bazluth, the sons of Mehida, the sons of Harsha, ⁵³the sons of Barkos, the sons of Sisera, the sons of Temah, ⁵⁴the sons of Neziah, and the sons of Hatipha.

⁵⁵The sons of the servants of Solomon: the sons of Sotai, the sons of Hassophereth, the sons of Peruda, ⁵⁶the sons of Jaalah, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel, ⁵⁷the sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth Hazzebaim, and the sons of Ami. ⁵⁸All the temple servants and the sons of the servants of Solomon were 392.

⁵⁹And these were the ones who went up from Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Kerub, Addon, and Immer; but they were not able to tell the house of their fathers or their seed, whether they were from Israel. ⁶⁰The sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, and the sons of Nekoda were 652. ⁶¹And from the sons of the priests: the sons of Habaiah; the sons of Hakkoz; and the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, so he was called by their name. ⁶²These ones sought their record among the ones who were enrolled by genealogy, but they were not found. And they were desecrated from the priesthood. ⁶³And the Tirshatha said to them that they must not eat from the holiest holy food until a priest stood with Urim and with Thummim.

⁶⁴All the assembly, as one, was 42, 360: ⁶⁵apart from their male servants and their female servants, these were 7, 337; and for them were 200 men who sang and women who sang. ⁶⁶Their horses were 736. Their mules were 245. ⁶⁷Their camels were 435. Their donkeys were 6, 720.

⁶⁸And when some from the heads of the fathers came to the house of Yahweh which is in Jerusalem, they freely gave for the house of God to cause it to stand upon its place. ⁶⁹They gave according to their ability to the treasury of the work: 61000 gold darics, and 5000 silver minas, and 100 tunics of the priests.

⁷⁰So the priests, and the Levites, and some from the people, and the singers, and the gatekeepers, and the temple servants dwelt in their cities. So all Israel was in their cities.

Chapter 3

¹Then the seventh month came and the sons of Israel were in their cities. And the people were gathered together as one man to Jerusalem. ²Then arose Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brothers the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brothers, and they built the altar of the God of Israel to offer up burnt up offerings on it as is written in the law of Moses, the man of God. ³And they set up the altar on its foundation, for dread was on them because of the peoples of the lands. Then they offered up on it burnt up offerings to Yahweh, burnt up offerings at the morning and at the evening. ⁴Then they performed the Festival of Huts as is written, with a burnt up offering day by day, by number according to the ordinance of the matter of the day, on its day. ⁵And after this was a continual burnt up offering, and for the new moons, and for all the consecrated appointed times of Yahweh, and for everyone who freely offered a freewill offering to Yahweh. ⁶From day one of the seventh month they began to offer up burnt up offerings to Yahweh, but the temple of Yahweh had not been founded. ⁷And they gave silver to the masons and to the carpenters, and food, and drink, and oil to the Sidonians and to the Tyrians, to bring trees of cedar from Lebanon to the sea of Joppa, according to the permission of Cyrus, the king of Persia, given to them.

⁸Then in the second year of their coming to the house of God in Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the rest of their brothers the priests and the Levites, and all the ones who came from captivity to Jerusalem began, and they appointed the Levites from a son of 20 years and above to act as overseers for the work of the house of Yahweh. ⁹And Jeshua, his sons and his brothers, Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, stood as one to act as overseers for the ones doing the work at the house of God, the sons of Henadad, their sons, and their brothers the Levites.^[1] ¹⁰Then the ones who were building laid the foundation of the temple of Yahweh. And they caused to stand the clothed priests with the trumpets, and the

Levites, the sons of Asaph, with the cymbals, to praise Yahweh in accordance with the hands of David, the king of Israel. ¹¹Then they sang in response, praising and giving thanks to Yahweh: "For he is good, for his covenant faithfulness to Israel is to eternity!" And all the people shouted a great shout in praise to Yahweh because the foundation of the house of Yahweh had been laid. ¹²But many from the priests and the Levites, and the heads of the fathers, the old men who had seen the first house, at the founding of this house in their eyes, were weeping with a loud voice. Yet many with a shout, with joy, were lifting up a voice. ¹³So the people could not differentiate the sound of the shout of joy from the sound of the weeping of the people. For the people were shouting a great shout, and the sound was heard as far as from a remote place.

3:9 ^[1]

Chapter 4

¹Now the enemies of Judah and Benjamin heard that the sons of the exile were building a temple for Yahweh, the God of Israel. ²So they came to Zerubbabel and to the heads of the fathers and they said to them, "Let us build with you, for, like you, we seek your God and to him we have been sacrificing since the days of Esarhaddon, the king of Assyria, the one who caused us to come up here."

³But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the heads of the fathers of Israel said to them, "It is not for you and for us to build a house for our God, but we ourselves together will build for Yahweh, the God of Israel, just as the king Cyrus, the king of Persia, has commanded us."

⁴And it happened that the people of the land were making the hands of the people of Judah weak, and making them afraid to build, ⁵and hiring counselors against them to frustrate their plans all the days of Cyrus, the king of Persia, and until the reign of Darius, the king of Persia.

⁶Now in the reign of Ahasuerus,^[1] in the beginning of his reign, they wrote an accusation against those who dwelled in Judah and Jerusalem.

⁷And in the days of Artaxerxes, Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel and the rest of his companions wrote to Artaxerxes, the king of Persia, and the script of the letter was written in Aramaic and was interpreted in Aramaic.

⁸Rehum, a lord of decree, and Shimshai the scribe wrote one letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king as follows:

⁹Then Rehum, a lord of decree, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions, the judges and the rulers, the officials, the Persians, the Erechites, the Babylonians, the Susaites (that is, the Elamites), ¹⁰and the rest of the nations whom Ashurbanipal the great and the noble caused to be exiled and caused them to dwell in the cities of Samaria, and the rest of Beyond-the-River. And now: ¹¹(This is a copy of the letter that they sent to him.)

"To Artaxerxes the king; your servants, men of Beyond-the-River; and now:

¹²let it be known to the king that the Jews who went up from near you have come to us at Jerusalem. Rebuilding the rebellious and evil city, they are completing the walls and repairing the foundations. ¹³Now let it be known to the king that if that city is built and the walls are completed, they will not give tax, tribute, or custom, and the revenue of the kings will suffer harm.

¹⁴Now, because we have eaten the salt of the palace, and it is not appropriate for us to see the nakedness of the king, on account of this we have sent and made known to the king, ¹⁵so that he may search in the book of the records of your fathers. And you will discover in the book of the records and learn that that city is a rebellious city and one that has caused harm to kings and provinces, and they have made revolt in its midst since the ancient days. On account of this, that city was destroyed. ¹⁶We are making known to the king that if that city is built and the walls are completed, because of this there will be no share for you in Beyond-the-River."

¹⁷The king sent the answer:

"To Rehum, a lord of decree, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions who dwell in Samaria, and the rest of Beyond the River: Peace. And now:

¹⁸The letter that you sent to us has been carefully read aloud before me. ¹⁹So from me was set a decree, and they searched and discovered that that city since the ancient days has risen up against kings and rebellion and revolt have been made in it. ²⁰And mighty kings were over Jerusalem, even rulers over all of Beyond the River; and tax, tribute, and custom were paid to them.

²¹Now, set a decree to stop these men, so that city may not be rebuilt until the decree is set from me. ²²And be careful of negligence of action concerning this. Why should the damage increase to the harm of the kings?"

²³Then from when the copy of the letter of Artaxerxes the king was read aloud before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they went in a hurry to Jerusalem against the Jews, and they stopped them by an arm and strength. ²⁴At that time the work of the house of God which is in Jerusalem stopped, and it was stopped until the second year of the reign of Darius, the king of Persia.

4:6 ^[1] .

Chapter 5

¹Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet and Zechariah, the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and in Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel who was over them. ²Then Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, arose and began to build the house of God which is in Jerusalem, and the prophets of God were with them, supporting them.

³At that time, Tattenai, the governor of Beyond-the-River, and Shethar-Bozenai, and their companions came to them and spoke to them thus, "Who set for you a decree to build this house and to complete this structure?"

⁴Then accordingly we said to them, "What are the names of the men who are building this building?"

⁵But the eye of God was on the elders of the Jews, and they did not stop them until the report came to Darius and then they returned the letter concerning this matter.

⁶A copy of the letter that Tattenai, the governor of Beyond-the-River, and Shethar-Bozenai and his companions, the officials who were in Beyond-the-River, sent to Darius the king. ⁷They sent a report to him and thus was written within it:

"To Darius the king: All peace.

⁸Let it be known to the king that we went to Judah, the province, to the house of the great God, and it is being built of large stones, and timber is being placed in the walls. And this work is being done diligently and is succeeding in their hand. ⁹Then we asked these elders, we said thus to them, 'Who set a decree for you to build this house and to complete this structure?' ¹⁰And also we asked of them their names, to let you know, so that we could write down the names of the men who were at their head.

¹¹And thus is the answer they returned us, saying, 'We are servants of him who is the God of heaven and earth, and we are building the house that was built many years before this, and a great king of Israel built it and completed it.

¹²However, because of this, that our fathers caused the God of heaven to be angry, he gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, and he destroyed this house and caused the people to be exiled to Babylon.

¹³But in year one of Cyrus, the king of Babylon, Cyrus the king set a decree to build this house of God. ¹⁴And also the vessels of the house of God, of gold and silver, that Nebuchadnezzar had taken out from the temple that was in

Jerusalem and had brought them to the temple of Babylon—Cyrus the king took them out from the temple of Babylon and they were given to one whose name was Sheshbazzar, whom he had set as governor. ¹⁵Then he said to him, “Take away these vessels. Go deposit them in the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be built on its place.” ¹⁶Then that Sheshbazzar came; he laid the foundation of the house of God which is in Jerusalem. And from then even until now it is being built, but it is not complete.’

¹⁷And now, if it is good to the king, let a search be made in the house of the treasures of the king which is there in Babylon, if it is that a decree was set by Cyrus the king to build this house of God in Jerusalem. And let him send to us the will of the king concerning this.”

Chapter 6

¹Then Darius the king set a decree and they searched in the house of the books where the treasures had been deposited there in Babylon. ²And one scroll was found in the fortress at Ecbatana that is in the province of Media, and the record was written within it thusly:

³“In year one of Cyrus the king, Cyrus the king set a decree about the house of God in Jerusalem:

‘Let the house be built, a place where sacrifices are sacrificed, and let its foundations be raised. Its height will be 60 cubits. Its width will be 60 cubits, ⁴with three layers of large stone and a layer of new timber. And let the cost be given from the house of the king. ⁵And also, the vessels of the house of God, of gold and silver, that Nebuchadnezzar had taken out from the temple that was in Jerusalem and had brought to Babylon, must be returned. And let each go to the temple that is in Jerusalem, to its place. So you must put them in the house of God.’”

⁶“Now Tattenai, the governor of Beyond-the-River, Shethar-Bozenai, and their companions, the officials who are in Beyond-the-River: be far away from there. ⁷Leave alone the work of that house of God. Let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build that house of God on its place. ⁸And from me is set a decree for what it is that you shall do with these elders of the Jews to build that house of God. And from the treasures of the king (that is, the tribute of Beyond-the-River) let the expense be given to those men diligently, so that it does not stop. ⁹And whatever is needed (whether sons of bulls, or rams, or lambs for burnt up offerings to the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, or oil, according to the command of the priests who are in Jerusalem), let it be given to them day by day (that is, without neglect), ¹⁰so that they may be offering sweet-smelling sacrifices to the God of heaven and praying for the life of the king and his sons.

¹¹And from me is set a decree that, for any man who changes this edict, a beam shall be pulled from his house, and, being erect, he shall be impaled on it. And his house shall be made a rubbish heap on account of this. ¹²And may the God who has caused his name to dwell there overthrow any king or people who stretches out his hand to change, to destroy that house of God which is in Jerusalem. I, Darius, have set a decree. Let it be done diligently.”

¹³Then Tattenai, the governor of Beyond-the-River, Shethar-Bozenai, and their companions did thus diligently, according to what Darius the king had sent. ¹⁴And the elders of the Jews were building and prospering by the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built and completed by the decree of the God of Israel and by the decree of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes, the king of Persia. ¹⁵And this house was done by day three of the month of Adar, which was year six of the reign of Darius the king.

¹⁶And the sons of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the rest of the sons of the exile performed the dedication of this house of God with joy. ¹⁷And they offered for the dedication of this house of God 100 bulls, 200 rams, 400 lambs, and 12 bucks of goats for a sin offering for all Israel, according to the number of the tribes of Israel. ¹⁸And they caused the priests to stand in their divisions, and the Levites in their sections, for the service of the God who is in Jerusalem, according to the writing of the book of Moses.

¹⁹So the sons of the exile performed the Passover on day 14 of the first month. ²⁰For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves as one, all of them were pure. And they slaughtered the Passover for all the sons of the exile, and for their brothers, the priests, and for themselves. ²¹And the sons of Israel ate, the ones who had returned from the exile and every one who separated himself to them from the uncleanness of the nations of the land in order to seek Yahweh, the God of Israel. ²²Then they performed the Festival of Unleavened Bread seven days with joy, because Yahweh had caused them to be joyful, and had caused the heart of the king of Assyria to turn toward them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

Chapter 7

¹Now after these things, in the reign of Artaxerxes, the king of Persia: Ezra (the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah, ²the son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub, ³the son of Amariah, the son of Azariah, the son of Meraioth, ⁴the son of Zerariah, the son of Uzzi, the son of Bukki, ⁵the son of Abishua, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the head priest), ⁶this Ezra went up from Babylon, and he was a skilled scribe in the law of Moses that Yahweh, the God of Israel, had given. And the king granted to him all his request according to the hand of Yahweh his God upon him.

⁷And some from the sons of Israel and from the priests, and the Levites, and the ones who sang, and the gatekeepers, and the temple servants went up to Jerusalem in year seven of Artaxerxes the king. ⁸And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king. ⁹For on the first of the first month was the beginning of the ascent from Babylon. And on the first of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, according to the good hand of his God upon him. ¹⁰For Ezra had made his heart firm to seek the law of Yahweh, and to do it, and to teach statute and ordinance in Israel.

¹¹Now this is a copy of the letter that the king Artaxerxes gave to Ezra the priest, the scribe, a scribe of the words of the commandments of Yahweh and his statutes for Israel:

¹²"Artaxerxes, the king of kings, to Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven: Peace. And now:

¹³from me is set a decree that everyone in my kingdom who freely offers to go to Jerusalem with you, from the people 'Israel' and its priests and the Levites, may go.

¹⁴Because it was sent from before the king and his seven counselors to inquire about Judah and about Jerusalem by the law of your God which is in your hand, ¹⁵and to bring silver and gold that the king and his counselors have freely offered to the God of Israel whose dwelling is in Jerusalem, ¹⁶with all the silver and the gold that you find in all the province of Babylon, along with the freewill offering of the people and the priests who freely give for the house of God, which is in Jerusalem: ¹⁷therefore, diligently you shall buy with this money bulls, rams, lambs, and their grain offerings and their drink offerings; and you shall offer them on the altar of the house of your God, which is in Jerusalem. ¹⁸And you may do whatever seems good to you and to your brothers to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, according to the will of your God. ¹⁹And the vessels that were given to you for the service of the house of your God, deliver in full before the God of Jerusalem. ²⁰And the rest of what is needed for the house of your God that falls to you to give, you may give from the house of the treasures of the king.

²¹And from me myself, Artaxerxes the king, is set a decree for all the treasurers who are in Beyond-the-River: that all that Ezra (the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven) may ask of you, let it be done diligently; ²²as much as 100 silver kikkars, and as much as 100 cors of wheat, and as much as 100 baths of wine, and as much as 100 baths of oil, and salt which is not written. ²³Everything that is from the decree of the God of heaven shall be done exactly for the house of the God of heaven. For why should there be wrath against the kingdom of the king and his sons?

²⁴And to you is made known that there is no authority to set tax, tribute, or custom upon all the priests, and the Levites, the singers, the gatekeepers, the temple servants, and the servants of that house of God. ²⁵And as for you,

Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand, appoint magistrates and judges who may judge all the people who are in Beyond-the-River, all who know the laws of your God. And you shall teach those who do not know. ²⁶And everyone who will not do the law of your God and the law of the king, judgment shall be exacted from him diligently, whether for death, whether for banishment, whether for confiscation of goods, or for imprisonment."

²⁷Blessed be Yahweh, the God of our fathers, who gave according to this in the heart of the king, to glorify the house of Yahweh, which is in Jerusalem, ²⁸and caused covenant faithfulness to extend to me before the face of the king, and his counselors, and before all the mighty officials of the king. And as for me, I gained strength according to the hand of Yahweh my God upon me, and I gathered from Israel heads to go up with me.

Chapter 8

¹Now these are the heads of their fathers and their enrollment by genealogy, the ones who went up with me from Babylon in the reign of Artaxerxes the king:

²From the sons of Phinehas: Gershom.

From the sons of Ithamar: Daniel.

From the sons of David: Hattush,

³from the sons of Shecaniah.

From the sons of Parosh: Zechariah, and with him were 150 males enrolled by genealogy.

⁴From the sons of Pahath-Moab: Eliehoenai, the son of Zerahiah, and with him were 200 males.

⁵From the sons of ... Shecaniah the son of Jahaziel, and with him were 300 males.^[1]

⁶And from the sons of Adin: Ebed, the son of Jonathan, and with him were 50 males.

⁷And from the sons of Elam: Jeshaiiah, the son of Athaliah, and with him were 70 males.

⁸And from the sons of Shephatiah: Zebadiah, the son of Michael, and with him were 80 males.

⁹From the sons of Joab: Obadiah, the son of Jehiel, and with him were 218 males.

¹⁰And from the sons of ... Shelomith, the son of Josiphiah, and with him were 160 males.^[2]

¹¹And from the sons of Bebai: Zechariah, the son of Bebai, and with him were 28 males.

¹²And from the sons of Azgad: Johanan, the son of Hakkatan, and with him were 110 males.

¹³And from the last sons of Adonikam, and these were their names: Eliphelet, Jeuel, and Shemaiah, and with them were 60 males.

¹⁴And from the sons of Bigvai: Uthai and Zaccur, and with him were 70 males.

¹⁵And I gathered them to the river, the one that goes to Ahava, and we encamped there three days. And I examined the people and the priests, but I did not find there any from the sons of Levi. ¹⁶Then I sent for Eliezer, for Ariel, for Shemaiah, and for Elnathan, and for Jarib, and for Elnathan and for Nathan, and for Zechariah, and for Meshullam, the heads; and for Joiarib, and for Elnathan, men of understanding. ¹⁷And I commanded them to go to Iddo, the head at the place Kasiphia. And I put in their mouth words to speak to Iddo and his brothers, the temple servants in the place Kasiphia, to bring to us those who minister for the house of our God.

¹⁸And according to the good hand of our God upon us, they brought to us: a man of insight from the sons of Mahli, the son of Levi, the son of Israel, even Sherebiah, and his sons and his brothers were 18; ¹⁹and Hashabiah, and with him, Jeshaiiah, from the sons of Merari, whose brothers and their sons were 20; ²⁰and 220 temple servants from the temple servants whom David with the officials had given for the service of the Levites. All of them were designated by names.

²¹Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river Ahava, to afflict ourselves before the face of our God to seek from him a straight way for us, and for our children, and for all our property. ²²For I was ashamed to ask from the king an army and horsemen to help us from an enemy on the way. For we had spoken to the king, saying, "The hand of our God is for good upon all those who seek him, but his might and his nose are against all those who forsake him." ²³So we fasted and sought from our God concerning this, and he was entreated by us.

²⁴Then I separated 12 from the leaders of the priests to Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and with them ten from their brothers. ²⁵And I weighed out to them the silver and the gold and the vessels, the offering of the house of our God that the king, and his counselors, and his officials, and all Israel (the ones who were found) had offered. ²⁶And I weighed out to their hand 650 kikkars of silver, and vessels of silver of 100 kikkars, 100 kikkars of gold, ²⁷and 20 bowls of gold of 1000 darics, and two good, gleaming vessels of bronze, precious as gold. ²⁸And I said to them, "You are holy to Yahweh, and the vessels are holy. And the silver and the gold are a freewill offering to Yahweh, the God of your fathers. ²⁹Watch and keep until you weigh them out before the face of the leaders of the priests and the Levites and the leaders of the fathers of Israel, at Jerusalem, in the chambers of the house of Yahweh."

³⁰So the priests and the Levites received the weight of the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, to bring them to Jerusalem, to the house of our God.

³¹Then we set out from the river Ahava on day 12 of the first month to go to Jerusalem. And the hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from the palm of the enemy and ambush on the way. ³²So we came to Jerusalem, and we stayed there three days. ³³And on the fourth day, the silver and the gold and the vessels were weighed out: in the house of our God into 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, the Levites); ³⁴by number and weight of everything. And all the weight was written at that time.

³⁵The ones who had come from the captivity, the sons of the exile, offered burnt up offerings to the God of Israel: 12 bulls for all Israel, 96 rams, 77 lambs, 12 male goats of a sin offering. The whole was a burnt up offering to Yahweh.

³⁶And they gave the laws of the king to the satraps of the king and the governors of Beyond-the-River. And they lifted the people and the house of God.

8:5 ^[1]

8:10 ^[2]

Chapter 9

¹Now as soon as these things were finished, the leaders came to me, saying, "The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands according to their abominations, of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, the Ammonite, the Moabite, the Egyptian, and the Amorite.

²For they have lifted from their daughters for themselves and for their sons, so they have mixed the seed of holiness with the peoples of the lands. And the hand of the leaders and the rulers has been first in this unfaithfulness."

³And as soon as I heard this matter, I tore my garment and my robe. And I pulled out some from the hair of my head and my beard, and I sat down appalled. ⁴And all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel on account of the unfaithfulness of the exiles were gathered to me. And I was sitting appalled until the offering of the evening.

⁵And at the offering of the evening I arose from my humiliation, and when I tore my garment and my robe. And I knelt down on my knees, and spread out my palms to Yahweh my God. ⁶And I said, "My God, I am ashamed and humiliated to raise my face to you, my God. For our iniquities have multiplied to above the head, and our guilt has grown up as far as to the heavens. ⁷From the days of our fathers until this day we are in great guilt. And in our iniquities, we ourselves, our kings, and our priests have been given into the hand of the kings of the lands by sword, by captivity, and by plunder, and by shame of face, as this day.

⁸But now, according to a little moment, favor has come from with Yahweh our God to leave for us survivors and to give to us a peg in his holy place, for our God to brighten our eyes and to give us a little reviving in our slavery. ⁹For we are slaves, yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery. But he has extended to us covenant faithfulness before the face of the kings of Persia to give to us reviving, to raise up the house of our God and to cause its ruins to stand, and to give to us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem.

¹⁰So now, our God, what can we say after this? For we have forsaken your commandments, ¹¹which you commanded by the hand of your servants, the prophets, saying, 'The land that you are entering to possess is a land of impurity by the impurity of the peoples of the lands, by their abominations that have filled it from mouth to mouth with their uncleanness. ¹²So now, neither give your daughters to their sons nor lift their daughters for your sons, nor shall you seek their peace or their good until eternity, so that you may be strong and eat the good things of the land and cause your sons to inherit it until eternity.'

¹³Yet after all that has come upon us because of our evil deeds and because of our great guilt (although you, our God, you have restrained it to lower than our iniquities, and you have given to us a survival such as this), ¹⁴should we return to breaking your commandments and to intermarrying with the peoples of these abominations? Would you not be angry with us as far as completion, so that there is neither remnant nor survivors?

¹⁵Yahweh, the God of Israel, you are righteous, for we are left as survivors, as this day. Behold us, before your face in our guilt, for there is none to stand before your face on account of this."

Chapter 10

¹And when Ezra prayed, and when he confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the face of the house of God, an extremely great assembly from Israel, men and women and children, gathered to him. Indeed the people wept an abundant weeping.

²Then Shekariah, the son of Jehiel, from the sons of Elam, answered and said to Ezra, "We ourselves have acted unfaithfully against our God and have caused foreign women from the peoples of the land to dwell. But now, there is hope for Israel concerning this. ³So now, let us cut a covenant with our God to cause all the women to go out, and the ones who were born from them, by the counsel of my lord and the ones who tremble at the commandment of our God. And let it be done according to the law. ⁴Arise, for the matter is on you, and we are with you. Be strong and do."

⁵And Ezra arose and caused the leaders of the priests, the Levites, and all Israel to swear an oath to do according to this word. So they swore an oath. ⁶And Ezra rose up from before the face of the house of God, and he went to the chamber of Jehohanan, the son of Eliashib. And he went there. He did not eat bread and he did not drink water, but was mourning on account of the unfaithfulness of the exiles.

⁷And they caused a sound to pass throughout Judah and Jerusalem for all the sons of the exile to gather to Jerusalem. ⁸And for all who did not come in three days according to the counsel of the leaders and the elders, all his property would be devoted to the ban. And he himself would be separated from the assembly of the exiles. ⁹So all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered to Jerusalem in three days. It was the ninth month, on 20 in the month. And all the people sat in the open place of the house of God, trembling on account of the matter and because of the rains.

¹⁰And Ezra the priest rose up and said to them, "You yourselves have acted unfaithfully and have caused foreign wives to dwell, to add to the guilt of Israel. ¹¹But now, give praise to Yahweh, the God of your fathers, and do his will, and separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the foreign women."

¹²Then all the assembly answered and said in a loud voice, "Thus, according to your word, it is on us to do.

¹³However, the people are many, and the time is rain showers and there is no strength to stand in the outdoors. And the work is neither for one day nor for two, for we have done much to rebel in this matter. ¹⁴Let our leaders stand for all the assembly. And let all who are in our cities, the ones who have caused foreign women to dwell, come at appointed times, and with them the elders of city by city and its magistrates, until the burning of the nose of our God is turned back from us as far as it concerns this matter."

¹⁵Only Jonathan, the son of Asahel, and Jahzeiah, the son of Tikvah, stood against this. And Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite supported them. ¹⁶So the sons of the exile did thus, and men (the heads of the fathers by the house of their fathers, and all of them by names) were separated to Ezra the priest. And they sat down on day one of the tenth month to seek out the matter. ¹⁷And they finished with all the men, the ones who had caused foreign women to dwell, by day one of the first month.

¹⁸And some were found from the sons of the priests who had caused foreign women to dwell: from the sons of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and his brothers: Maaseiah, and Eliezer, and Jarib, and Gedaliah. ¹⁹So they gave their hand to cause their wives to go out, and, being guilty ones, a ram of the flock for their guilt.

²⁰And from the sons of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah.

²¹And from the sons of Harim: Maaseiah, and Elijah, and Shemaiah, and Jehiel, and Uziah.

²²And from the sons of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel, Jozabad, and Elasa.

²³And from the Levites: Jozabad, and Shimei, and Kelaiah (that is, Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.

²⁴And from the singers: Eliashib. And from the gatekeepers: Shallum, and Telem, and Uri.

²⁵And these were from Israel. From the sons of Parosh: Ramiah, and Izziah, and Malkijah, and Mijamin, and Eleazar, and Malkijah, and Benaiah.^[1]

²⁶And from the sons of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, and Abdi, and Jeremoth, and Elijah.

²⁷And from the sons of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, and Jeremoth, and Zabad, and Aziza.

²⁸And from the sons of Bebai: Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.

²⁹And from the sons of Bani: Meshullam, Malluk, and Adaijah, Jashub, and Sheal, Jeremoth.^[2] ³⁰And from the sons of Pahath-Moab: Adna, and Kelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, and Binnui, and Manasseh.

³¹And from the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Ishijah, Malkijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon, ³²Benjamin, Malluk, Shemariah.

³³From the sons of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.

³⁴From the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram, and Uel, ³⁵Benaiah, Bedeiah, Keluhi, ³⁶Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,

³⁷Mattaniah, Mattenai, and Jaasu, ³⁸and Bani, and Binnui, Shimei,^[3] ³⁹and Shelemiah, and Nathan, and Adaijah,

⁴⁰Maknadebai, Shashai, Sharai, ⁴¹Azarel, and Shelemiah, Shemariah, ⁴²Shallum, Amariah, Joseph.

⁴³From the sons of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jaddai, and Joel, Benaiah.

⁴⁴All of these had lifted foreign women. And there were women among them, and they bore sons.^[4]

10:25 ^[1]

10:29 ^[2]

10:38 ^[3]

10:44 ^[4]

Nehemiah

Chapter 1

¹The words of Nehemiah the son of Hakaliah:

And it happened in the month of Kislev, in year 20, that I myself was in Susa the citadel. ²And Hanani, one of my brothers, came, he and men from Judah. And I asked them about the Jews who escaped, who were left behind from the captivity, and about Jerusalem.

³And they said to me, "The ones left behind, who were left behind from the captivity there in the province, are in great evil and in reproach. And the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."

⁴And it happened that, when I heard these words, I sat down and wept, and I mourned for days. And I was fasting and praying before the face of the God of heaven.

⁵And I said, "Ah! Yahweh, the God of heaven, the great and fearsome God, who keeps the covenant and covenant faithfulness to those who love him and to those who keep his commandments: ⁶Please let your ear be attentive and your eyes opened to listen to the prayer of your servant that I am praying before your face today, day and night, on account of the sons of Israel, your servants. And I am confessing on account of the sins of the sons of Israel that we have sinned against you. Even I and the house of my father, we have sinned. ⁷With extreme corruption we have acted corruptly against you. And we have not kept the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments that you commanded Moses your servant.

⁸Please remember the word that you commanded Moses your servant, saying, 'If you yourselves act unfaithfully, I myself will scatter you among the peoples. ⁹But if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, although your banished ones are at the extremity of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause my name to dwell there.'

¹⁰And they are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand.

¹¹Ah! My Lord, please let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant and to the prayer of your servants, the ones who delight to fear your name. And please cause your servant to succeed today, and give him mercies before the face of this man." Now as for me, I was a cupbearer for the king.

Chapter 2

¹And it happened that, in the month of Nisan, in year 20 of Artaxerxes the king, wine was before his face. And I lifted the wine, and I gave it to the king, and I was not unpleasant before his face.

²And the king said to me, "Why is your face unpleasant? Now as for you, you are not sick. This is nothing except unpleasantness of heart." And I was extremely much afraid.

³And I said to the king, "May the king live to eternity! Why should not my face be unpleasant, when the city, the house of the graves of my fathers, is desolate, and its gates have been consumed by fire."

⁴And the king said to me, "For what is this you are seeking?" And I prayed to the God of heaven.

⁵And I said to the king, "If it is good to the king, and if your servant is good before your face, that you would send me to Judah, to the city of the graves of my fathers, and I will build it."

⁶And the king said to me, with the queen sitting beside him, "Until when will be your journey? And when will you return?" And it was good before the face of the king, and he sent me, and I gave to him a time.

⁷And I said to the king, "If it is good to the king, let letters be given to me for the governors of Beyond-the-River, that they will bring me across as far as where I enter into Judah; ⁸and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the forest that belongs to the king, that he will give to me timbers to lay the beams of the gates of the citadel, which is for the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house into which I will enter."

And the king gave to me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. ⁹And I came to the governors of Beyond-the-River, and I gave to them the letters of the king. And the king sent with me officers of the army and horsemen.

¹⁰And Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah, the servant, the Ammonite, heard. And it was evil to them, a great evil, that someone had come to seek good for the sons of Israel. ¹¹And I came to Jerusalem, and I was there three days.

¹²And I arose in the night, myself and a few men with me, and I did not tell anyone what my God had been giving to my heart to do for Jerusalem. Now there was no animal with me except the animal upon which I was riding.

¹³And I went out at the gate of the valley at night, even to the face of the spring of the dragon, and to the gate of dung. And I was looking intently at the walls of Jerusalem, seeing that they were broken down, and its gates had been consumed by fire.^[1] ¹⁴And I crossed to the gate of the spring and to the pool of the king, but there was no place for the animal under me to pass. ¹⁵And I was going up by the wadi at night, and I was looking intently at the wall. And I turned back, and I came in at the gate of the valley, and I returned.

¹⁶Now the prefects did not know where I had gone or what I was doing. And until this time I had not yet told the Jews, or the priests, or the nobles, or the prefects, or the rest of the doers of the work.

¹⁷And I said to them, "You see the evil that we are in, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates have been burned by fire. Come, and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be a reproach." ¹⁸And I declared to them the hand of my God, that it was good upon me, and also the words of the king that he had spoken to me.

And they said, "We will rise up and build." And they strengthened their hands for good.

¹⁹And Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah, the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian heard, and they mocked us, and they despised us. And they said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"

²⁰And I returned them a word, and I said to them: "The God of heaven, he will cause us to succeed, and we ourselves, his servants, will rise up and build. But for you there is neither share nor right nor memorial in Jerusalem."

2:13 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹And Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they built the gate of sheep. They themselves consecrated it and erected its doors. And they consecrated it as far as the tower of the hundred and as far as the tower of Hananel. ²And the men of Jericho built at his hand.

And Zaccur the son of Imri built at his hand.

³And the sons of Hassenaah built the gate of fish. They themselves laid its beams and erected its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

⁴And Meremoth, the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, strengthened at their hand.

And Meshullam, the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel, strengthened at their hand.

And Zadok the son of Baana strengthened at their hand.

⁵And the Tekoites strengthened at their hand, but their nobles did not bring their necks to the service of their lords.

⁶And Joiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah, strengthened the gate of old. They themselves laid its beams and erected its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

⁷And Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, men of Gibeon and the Mizpah, strengthened at their hand, to the seat of authority of the governor of Beyond-the-River.

⁸Uzziel, the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths, strengthened at his hand.

And Hananiah, a son of the perfumers, strengthened at his hand. And they restored Jerusalem as far as the broad wall.

⁹And Rephaiah, the son of Hur, the administrator for half of the district of Jerusalem, strengthened at their hand.

¹⁰And Jedaiah the son of Harumaph strengthened at their hand, even in front of his house.

And Hattush the son of Hashabneiah strengthened at his hand.

¹¹Malkijah the son of Harim, and Hasshub the son of Pahath-Moab, strengthened a second section along with the tower of ovens.

¹²And Shallum, the son of Hallohesh, the administrator for half of the district of Jerusalem, strengthened at his hand, he and his daughters.

¹³Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah strengthened the gate of the valley. They themselves built it and erected its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and a thousand cubits of the wall as far as the gate of dung.

¹⁴And Malkijah, the son of Recab, the administrator for the district of Beth-Hakkerem, strengthened the gate of dung. He himself was building it and erecting its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

¹⁵And Shallun, the son of Kol-Hozeh, the administrator for the district of the Mizpah, strengthened the gate of the spring. He himself was building it and covering it and erecting its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and the wall of the pool of the Siloam at the garden of the king even as far as the stairs descending from the city of David.^[1]

¹⁶After him, Nehemiah, the son of Azbuk, the administrator for half of the district of Beth-Zur, strengthened as far as in front of the graves of David, and as far as the pool that was made, and as far as the house of the mighty men.

¹⁷After him, the Levites strengthened: Rehum the son of Bani; at his hand, Hashabiah, the administrator for half of the district of Keilah, strengthened for his district;

¹⁸after him, their brothers strengthened, Binnui, the son of Henadad, the administrator for half of the district of Keilah.

¹⁹And at his hand, Ezer, the son of Jeshua, the administrator for the Mizpah, was strengthening a second section opposite the ascent to the armory at the angle.

²⁰After him, Baruch the son of Zabbai burned, and strengthened a second section from the angle as far as the opening of the house of Eliashib the high priest.^[2]

²¹After him, Meremoth, the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, strengthened a second section, from the opening of the house of Eliashib even as far as the end of the house of Eliashib.

²²And after him, the priests, the men of the valley, strengthened.

²³After him, Benjamin and Hasshub strengthened in front of their house.

After him, Azariah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ananiah, strengthened beside his house.

²⁴After him: Binnui the son of Henadad strengthened a second section from the house of Azariah as far as the angle and as far as the corner; ²⁵Palal the son of Uzai, from opposite the angle and the tower projecting from the upper house of the king which is by the court of the guard; after him, Pedaiah the son of Parosh.

²⁶And the Nethinim were dwelling in the Ophel, as far as in front of the gate of water to the east and the projecting tower.

²⁷After him, the Tekoites strengthened a second section from in front of the high projecting tower even as far as the wall of the Ophel.

²⁸The priests strengthened from above the gate of horses, a man to the front of his house.

²⁹After him, Zadok the son of Immer strengthened in front of his house.

And after him, Shemaiah, the son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the gate of the east, strengthened.

³⁰After him, Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, with Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, strengthened a second section.

After him, Meshullam the son of Berechiah strengthened in front of his chamber.^[3]

³¹After him, Malkijah, a son of the goldsmiths, strengthened as far as the house of the Nethinim and the merchants in front of the gate of mustering, even as far as the upper chamber of the corner.^[4]

³²And the goldsmiths and the merchants strengthened between the upper chamber of the corner to the gate of sheep.

3:15 ^[1]

3:20 ^[2]

3:30 ^[3]

3:31 ^[4]

Chapter 4

¹And it happened that, when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, it burned him, and he was very angry. And he mocked at the Jews.

²And he spoke before the face of his brothers and the army of Samaria, and he said, "What are the feeble Jews doing? Will they restore for themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they finish in a day? Will they bring to life the stones from piles of dust, when they have been burned?"

³And Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him. And he said, "Yes, if a fox goes up on what they are building, then he would break down their wall of stones!"

⁴Hear, our God, that we are a contempt, and cause their taunts to return on their heads! And give them for plunder in a land of captivity. ⁵And do not cover over their iniquity, and do not wipe out their sin from before your face, for they have provoked anger before the front of the builders.

⁶So we built the wall, and all the wall was joined together up to half of it. And the heart of the people was for working.

⁷And it happened that, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the health of the walls of Jerusalem was going up and the breaks were beginning to be closed, it burned them extremely. ⁸And all of them together conspired to come to fight against Jerusalem and to make confusion for it. ⁹And we prayed to our God. And we set up a guard on account of them, by day and by night against their faces.

¹⁰And Judah said,

“The strength of the burden-bearers is failing, and there is much rubble.

And as for us, we are not able to build the wall.”

¹¹And our adversaries said, “They will not know, and they will not see until when we come into their midst and kill them. And we will cause the work to stop.”

¹²And it happened that, when the Jews dwelling beside them came, they said to us ten times, “From all the places where you turn, they are on us!”^[1]

¹³And I stationed from the lowest of places behind the wall, in the bare places; and I stationed the people by families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. ¹⁴And I looked, and I rose up, and I said to the nobles, and to the prefects, and to the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of their faces. Remember my great and fearsome Lord! And fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses.”

¹⁵And it happened that, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and God had frustrated their counsels, all of us returned to the wall, a man to his work. ¹⁶And it happened that, from that day, half of my young men were doing the work, and half of them were grasping, even the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the breastplates. And the officials were behind all the house of Judah. ¹⁷Those who were building the wall, and those who were carrying burdens, the loaders, they were doing the work with one of his hands and one grasping weaponry. ¹⁸And the builders: a man girded his sword to his loins and built. And the one who blew the ram’s horn was beside me.

¹⁹And I said to the nobles and to the prefects and to the rest of the people, “The work is great and vast, and we are separated on the wall, a man far from his brother. ²⁰At the place where you hear the sound of the ram’s horn, you shall gather to us there. Our God will fight for us.”

²¹So we were doing the work. And half of them were grasping spears from the rising of the dawn until the coming out of the stars. ²²Also, at that time I said to the people, “Let a man and his young man lodge the night in the midst of Jerusalem, and they will be for us by night a guard and by day a worker.” ²³And neither I, nor my brothers, nor my young men, nor the men of the guard who were behind me, none of us stripped off our clothes, or a man his weapon at the water.^[2]

4:12 ^[1]

4:23 ^[2]

Chapter 5

¹And there was a great outcry of the people and their wives against their brothers, the Jews.

²And there were those who said, “Our sons and our daughters, we are many. And let us take grain, so we can eat, and we can live.”

³And there were those who said, “We are mortgaging our fields and our vineyards and our houses so we can get grain during the famine.”

⁴And there were those who said, “We have borrowed silver for the tribute of the king on our fields and our vineyards. ⁵And now, our flesh is as the flesh of our brothers, our sons are as their sons. And behold, we are

putting our sons and our daughters into bondage as slaves. There are those even of our daughters who have been put into bondage, and there is nothing to God in our hand, for our fields and our vineyards belong to others."

⁶And it burned me extremely when I heard their outcry and these words. ⁷And my heart reigned over me, and I contended with the nobles and with the prefects. And I said to them, "You are lending interest, a man against his brother!" And I put forth a great assembly against them.

⁸And I said to them, "We ourselves, according to our ability, have bought back our brothers, the Jews, the ones who were sold to the nations. But even you yourselves are selling your brothers, and they are being bought back by us!" Then they were silent, and they did not find a word.

⁹And I said, "This thing that you are doing is not good. Should you not walk in the fear of our God, because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies?^[1] ¹⁰Also, even I, my brothers, and my young men are lending against them silver and grain. Please, let us forsake this interest! ¹¹Please, even today, return to them their fields, their vineyards, their olive orchards, and their houses, and a hundred of the silver and the grain, the new wine, and the oil that you are lending against them."

¹²And they said, "We will return, and we will seek nothing from them. Thus we will do according to what you say." And I called the priests, and I caused them to swear to do according to this word.

¹³Also, I shook out my bosom, and I said, "Thus may God shake out from his house and from his labor every man who does not cause this word to stand. And thus may he be shaken out and emptied."

And all the assembly said, "Amen!" And they praised Yahweh, and the people did according to this word.

¹⁴Also, from the day that he appointed me to be their governor in the land of Judah, from year 20 even until year 32 of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, I myself did not eat the bread of the governor, nor did my brothers. ¹⁵But the former governors who were before my face had been heavy on the people, and they took from them bread and wine, after forty silver shekels. Also, their young men had acted dominantly over the people. But I myself did not do thus, from the face of the fear of God. ¹⁶Yes, also I held fast to the work of this wall, and we did not buy a field. And all my young men were gathered there for the work.

¹⁷Now the Jews and the prefects were 150 men at my table, with the ones coming to us from the nations that were around us. ¹⁸And what was made for one day was one bull, six choice sheep, and birds were made for me, and between ten days all kinds of wine in abundance. So with this I did not seek the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy on this people.

¹⁹Remember me, my God, for good, all that I have done for this people.

5:9 ^[1]

Chapter 6

¹And it happened, when it was heard by Sanballat and Tobiah, and by Geshem the Arabian, and by the rest of our enemies, that I had built the wall and a break was not remaining in it (although until that time I had not set up the doors in the gates), ²that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come, and let us appoint a time to meet together among the villages in the valley of Ono." And they were thinking to do evil to me.

³And I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work, and I am not able to go down. Why should the work stop while I abandon it and go down to you?"

⁴And they sent to me according to this word four times, and I turned them back according to this word.

⁵Then Sanballat sent his young man to me a fifth time according to this word, and an opened letter was in his hand. ⁶In it was written, "It is heard among the nations, and Gashmu is saying, that you and the Jews are thinking

to rebel, therefore you are building the wall. And you are becoming a king over them, according to these words.

⁷And also, you have set up prophets to call out concerning you in Jerusalem, saying, 'A king is in Judah!' And now, it will be heard by the king according to these words. So now, come, and let us consult together."

⁸And I sent to him, saying, "No such thing has been done according to these words that you are saying, but you are inventing them out of your own heart."

⁹For all of them were frightening us, saying, "Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done." So now, strengthen my hands.

¹⁰Now as for me, I entered the house of Shemaiah, the son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, and he was confined. And he said, "Let us appoint a time to meet in the house of God, in the midst of the temple. And let us shut the doors of the temple, for they are coming to kill you. Yes, at night they are coming to kill you."

¹¹And I said, "Should a man such as I run away? And who, such as I, is it that could go in to the temple and live? I will not go in!"

¹²And I recognized, and behold, God had not sent him. But he spoke the prophecy against me, for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. ¹³For this purpose he was hired, so that I would be afraid, and I would do thus and sin. And it might become an evil name to them, so that they could reproach me.

¹⁴My God, remember Tobiah, and Sanballat according to these deeds of his, and also Noadiah the prophetess, and the rest of the prophets who are frightening me.

¹⁵And the wall was finished on 25 of Elul, on day 52. ¹⁶And it happened that, when all our enemies heard, all the nations that were around us were afraid, and they fell extremely in their eyes. And they knew that this work was done by our God. ¹⁷Also, in those days, the nobles of Judah were multiplying their letters going to Tobiah, and those belonging to Tobiah were coming to them. ¹⁸For many in Judah were masters of oath to him, because he was the son-in-law of Shecaniah the son of Arah. And Jehohanan his son had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. ¹⁹Also, they were saying his good deeds before my face, and they were taking out my words to him. Tobiah sent letters to frighten me.

Chapter 7

¹And it happened that, when the wall was built and I had set up the doors, the gatekeepers and the ones who sang and the Levites were appointed. ²And I gave Hanani, my brother, and Hananiah, the official for the citadel, charge over Jerusalem. For he was according to a faithful man, and he feared God more than many.

³And I said to them, "Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun becomes hot. And while they are still standing, let them shut the doors, and they must bar them. And set up watches for those who dwell in Jerusalem, a man in his watch, and a man in front of his house."

⁴Now the city was wide on two hands and great, and the people were few in the midst of it. And there were no built houses. ⁵And my God gave to my heart, and I gathered together the nobles and the prefects and the people to be enrolled by genealogy. And I found the book of the genealogy for the ones who came up at the first.

And I found written in it:

⁶"These are the sons of the province, the ones who went up from the captivity of the exiles, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon exiled. And they returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, a man to his city, ⁷the ones 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:

- ⁸The sons of Parosh were 2, 172.
- ⁹The sons of Shephatiah were 372.
- ¹⁰The sons of Arah were 652.
- ¹¹The sons of Pahath-Moab, of the sons of Jeshua and Joab, were 2, 818.
- ¹²The sons of Elam were 1, 254.
- ¹³The sons of Zattu were 845.
- ¹⁴The sons of Zakkai were 760.
- ¹⁵The sons of Binnui were 648.
- ¹⁶The sons of Bebai were 628.
- ¹⁷The sons of Azgad were 2, 322.
- ¹⁸The sons of Adonikam were 667.
- ¹⁹The sons of Bigvai were 2,067.
- ²⁰The sons of Adin were 655.
- ²¹The sons of Ater, of Hezekiah, were 98.
- ²²The sons of Hashum were 328.
- ²³The sons of Bezai were 324.
- ²⁴The sons of Hariph were 112.
- ²⁵The sons of Gibeon were 95.
- ²⁶The men of Bethlehem and Netophah were 188.
- ²⁷The men of Anathoth were 128.
- ²⁸The men of Beth Azmaveth were 42.
- ²⁹The men of Kiriath Jearim, Kephirah, and Beeroth were 743.
- ³⁰The men of Ramah and Geba were 621.
- ³¹The men of Michmas were 122.
- ³²The men of Bethel and Ai were 123.
- ³³The men of the other Nebo were 52.
- ³⁴The sons of the other Elam were 1, 254.
- ³⁵The sons of Harim were 320.
- ³⁶The sons of Jericho were 345.

³⁷The sons of Lod, Hadid, and Ono were 721.

³⁸The sons of Senaah were 3, 930.

³⁹The priests: the sons of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, were 973; ⁴⁰the sons of Immer were 1,052; ⁴¹the sons of Pashhur were 1, 247; ⁴²the sons of Harim were 1,017.

⁴³The Levites: the sons of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, of the sons to Hodevah, were 74.^[1]

⁴⁴The ones who sang: the sons of Asaph were 148.

⁴⁵The 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, were 138.

⁴⁶The Nethinim were: the sons of Ziha, the sons of Hasupha, the sons of Tabbaoth, ⁴⁷the sons of Keros, the sons of Sia, the sons of Padon, ⁴⁸the sons of Lebana, the sons of Hagaba, the sons of Shalmal, ⁴⁹the sons of Hanan, the sons of Giddel, the sons of Gahar, ⁵⁰the sons of Reaiah, the sons of Rezin, the sons of Nekoda, ⁵¹the sons of Gazzam, the sons of Uzza, the sons of Paseah, ⁵²the sons of Besai, the sons of Meunim, the sons of Nephushesim, ⁵³the sons of Bakbuk, the sons of Hakupha, the sons of Harhur, ⁵⁴the sons of Bazluth, the sons of Mehida, the sons of Harsha, ⁵⁵the sons of Barkos, the sons of Sisera, the sons of Temah, ⁵⁶the sons of Neziah, the sons of Hatipha.

⁵⁷The sons of the servants of Solomon were: the sons of Sotai, the sons of Sophereth, the sons of Perida, ⁵⁸the sons of Jaala, the sons of Darkon, the sons of Giddel, ⁵⁹the sons of Shephatiah, the sons of Hattil, the sons of Pochereth Hazzebaim, the sons of Amon.

⁶⁰All the Nethinim and the sons of the servants of Solomon were 392.

⁶¹And these are the ones who went up from Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Kerub, Addon, and Immer, but they were not able to tell the house of their fathers and their seed, whether they were from Israel.

⁶²The sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, were 642.

⁶³And from the priests: the sons of Habaiah; the sons of Hakkoz; the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and he was called by their name.

⁶⁴These ones sought their record among the ones who were enrolled by genealogy, but it was not found. And they were desecrated from the priesthood. ⁶⁵And the Tirshatha said to them that they must not eat from the holiest holy food until the priest stood with Urim and Thummim.

⁶⁶All the assembly, as one, was 42, 360: ⁶⁷apart from their male servants and their female servants, these were 7, 337; and for them, the men who sang and the women who sang were 245.

⁶⁸The horses were 736.

The mules were 245.^[2]

⁶⁹The camels were 435.

The donkeys were 6, 720.

⁷⁰And some from the extremity of the heads of the fathers gave to the work.

The Tirshatha gave to the treasury 1,000 gold darics, 50 basins, 530 tunics of priests.

⁷¹And some from the heads of the fathers gave to the treasury of the work 20,000 gold darics and 2, 200 silver minas.

⁷²And what the remnant of the people gave was 20,000 gold darics, and 2,000 silver minas, and 67 tunics of priests."

⁷³And the priests, and the Levites, and the gatekeepers, and the ones who sang, and some from the people, and the Nethinim, and all Israel dwelt in their cities. And the seventh month came, and the sons of Israel were in their cities.

7:43 ^[1]

7:68 ^[2]

Chapter 8

¹And all the people gathered as one man to the open area that is before the face of the gate of water. And they said to Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which Yahweh had commanded Israel. ²And Ezra the priest brought the law before the face of the assembly of both men and women and all who were understanding to hear, on day one of the seventh month. ³And he read it aloud before the face of the open area that is before the face of the gate of water, from the light until the middle of the day, in front of the men and the women, and the ones who were understanding. And the ears of all the people listened to the book of the law. ⁴And Ezra the scribe stood on a platform of wood that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood: Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Uriah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and from his left, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malkijah, and Hashum, and Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, Meshullam. ⁵And Ezra opened the book before the eyes of all the people, for he was higher than all the people. And as soon as he opened it, all the people stood.

⁶And Ezra blessed Yahweh the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen! Amen!" with their hands uplifted. And they knelt and prostrated themselves to Yahweh, nostrils to the ground. ⁷And Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites were causing the people to understand the law. And the people were in their place. ⁸And they read aloud carefully from the book, from the law of God, and set the interpretation. And they understood the reading.^[1]

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the Tirshatha, and Ezra, the priest, the scribe, and the Levites who were causing the people to understand, said to all the people: "Today is holy; it belongs to Yahweh your God. Do not mourn and do not weep." For all the people were weeping after they heard the words of the law.

¹⁰And he said to them, "Go, eat the fat and drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared, for today is holy, belonging to our Lord. And do not grieve, for, the joy of Yahweh, it is your strength."

¹¹And the Levites caused all the people to be silent, saying, "Hush, for today is holy. And do not grieve."

¹²And all the people went to eat and to drink and to send away portions and to make a great rejoicing, for they understood the words that had been made known to them.

¹³And on the second day, the heads of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites were gathered to Ezra the scribe, even to give attention to the words of the law. ¹⁴And they found written in the law that Yahweh commanded by the hand of Moses: that the sons of Israel should live in huts during the feast in the seventh month; ¹⁵and that they should cause others to hear and cause a sound to pass throughout all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the mountain, and bring branches of olive, and branches of oil trees, and branches of myrtle, and branches of palms, and branches of leafy trees, to make huts, as it is written."

¹⁶And the people went out and brought and made huts for themselves, a man on his roof, and in their courtyards, and in the courtyards of the house of God, and in the open area of the gate of water, and in the open area of the gate of Ephraim. ¹⁷And all the assembly, the ones who returned from the captivity, made huts, and they dwelt in the huts. For the sons of Israel had not done thus from the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day. And there

was extremely great rejoicing. ¹⁸And he read aloud from the book of the law of God, day by day, from the first day to the last day. And they made a seven-days feast, and on the eighth day an assembly, according to the ordinance.

8:8 ^[1]

Chapter 9

¹And on day 24 of this month the sons of Israel were gathered in fasting and in sackcloth, and dust was upon them. ²And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all the sons of a foreigner. And they stood, and they confessed concerning their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. ³And they rose up in their place, and they read aloud the book of the law of Yahweh their God a fourth of the day, and a fourth of the day were confessing and prostrating themselves to Yahweh their God.

⁴And Jeshua rose up on the stairs of the Levites, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, Kenani. And they cried out with a loud voice to Yahweh their God. ⁵And the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, Pethahiah, said:

“Rise up! Bless Yahweh your God from eternity to eternity! And may they bless your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. ⁶You alone are he, Yahweh: you yourself made the heavens, the heavens of the heavens and all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you cause all of them to live; and the host of the heavens prostrates themselves to you.”^{[1][2]}

⁷You are he, Yahweh, the God who chose Abram. Also, you brought him out from Ur of the Chaldees. Also, you made his name ‘Abraham.’ ⁸Also, you found his heart faithful before your face: and cut with him the covenant, to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give to his seed; and you have caused your words to stand, for you are righteous.

⁹And you saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and you heard their cry at the sea of reeds. ¹⁰And you gave signs and wonders to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all the people of his land, because you knew that they were acting presumptuously toward them. And you made for yourself a name, as it is this day. ¹¹And you split open the sea before their face, and they passed through the midst of the sea on the dry land. And you cast their pursuers into the depths, like a stone in mighty waters. ¹²And you led them with a pillar of cloud by day, and with a pillar of fire by night to shine for them on the way in which they should go. ¹³And you came down on the mountain of Sinai and spoke with them from heaven. And you gave to them just judgments and laws of truth, good statutes and commandments. ¹⁴And you made known to them your holy sabbath. And you charged them with commandments, and statutes, and a law, by the hand of Moses your servant. ¹⁵And you gave to them bread from heaven for their hunger, and you brought out for them water from a rock for their thirst. And you said to them to go in to possess the land that you had raised your hand to give to them.

¹⁶But they and our fathers, they acted presumptuously. And they stiffened their neck and did not listen to your commandments. ¹⁷And they refused to hear, and they did not remember your wonderful deeds that you performed with them. And they stiffened their neck and in their rebellion chose a head in order to return to their servitude. But you are a God of forgiveness, gracious and compassionate, long of nostrils and abounding in covenant faithfulness, and you did not forsake them. ¹⁸Even when they made for themselves a calf image and said, ‘This is your God who brought you up from Egypt,’ and they performed great blasphemies, ¹⁹still you, in your great mercies, did not forsake them in the wilderness. He did not take away the pillar of cloud from over them by day to lead them on the way, nor the pillar of fire by night to shine for them and on the way in which they should go. ²⁰And you gave your good spirit to give them insight. And you did not withhold your manna from their mouth, and you gave them water for their thirst. ²¹And you sustained them forty years in the wilderness; they did not lack. Their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell. ²²And you gave to them kingdoms and peoples, and you allocated to them as far as the corners. And they took possession of the land of Sihon, even the land of the

king of Heshbon, and the land of Og, the king of Bashan. ²³And you multiplied their sons like the stars of the heavens. And you brought them to the land that you said to their fathers to enter in order to possess it.

²⁴And the sons went in and possessed the land, and before their face you subdued the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites. And you gave them into their hands, and their kings, and the peoples of the land, to do with them according to their will. ²⁵And they captured fortified cities and fat ground. And they possessed houses full of all good things, hewn cisterns, vineyards, and olive orchards, and food trees in abundance. And they ate and were satisfied and grew fat and reveled in your great goodness.

²⁶And they disobeyed and rebelled against you, and they cast your law behind their back. And they killed your prophets, who testified against them in order to bring them back to you. And they performed great blasphemies.

²⁷And you gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and they harassed them. And in the time of their distress they cried out to you, and you yourself heard from heaven. And, according to your many mercies, you gave to them saviors, and they saved them from the hand of their adversaries.

²⁸And after rest belonged to them, they returned to doing evil before your face. And you left them to the hand of their enemies, and they oppressed them. And they returned and cried out to you, and you yourself heard from heaven and delivered them many times according to your mercies. ²⁹And you testified against them to bring them back to your law. But as for them, they acted presumptuously and did not listen to your commandments. And, concerning your judgments, they sinned against them, which, if a person does, then he will live by them. And they gave a stubborn shoulder, and stiffened their neck, and did not hear.

³⁰And you continued with them many years, and you testified against them with your spirit by the hand of your prophets, but they did not give an ear. And you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. ³¹But, in your many mercies, you did not make a complete end of them, and you did not forsake them. For you are a gracious and merciful God.

³²So now, our God, the great, mighty, and fearsome God, who keeps the covenant and covenant faithfulness, do not let all the hardship be little before your face, that has found us, our kings, our leaders, and our priests, and our prophets, and our fathers, and all your people from the days of the kings of Assyria until this day. ³³And you are righteous concerning all that has come upon us. For you have acted faithfully; but as for us, we have acted wickedly. ³⁴And our kings, our leaders, our priests, and our fathers have not done your law. And they have not attended to your commandments or to your testimonies that you testified against them. ³⁵And as for them, they did not serve you in their kingdom, and in your great goodness that you gave to them, and in the wide and fat land that you gave before their face. And they did not turn away from their evil deeds.

³⁶Behold us today; we are servants. And the land that you gave to our fathers, to eat its fruit and its goodness; behold us, we are servants in it! ³⁷And its great produce belongs to the kings whom you have given to be over us in our sins, and to be ruling over our bodies and over our livestock, according to their will. And we are in great distress. ³⁸And in all of this, we are cutting a faithful covenant, and writing even on a sealed document our leaders, our Levites, our priests."

9:6 ^[1]

9:6 ^[2]

Chapter 10

¹And on the sealed documents were: Nehemiah, the Tirshatha, the son of Hakaliah, and Zedekiah, ²Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah, ³Pashhur, Amariah, Malkijah, ⁴Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluk, ⁵Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah, ⁶Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch, ⁷Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin, ⁸Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah. These were the priests.

⁹And the Levites were: even Jeshua, the son of Azaniah; Binnui, from the sons of Henadad; Kadmiel; ¹⁰also their brothers, Shebaniah, Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan, ¹¹Mika, Rehob, Hashabiah, ¹²Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah, ¹³Hodiah, Bani, Beninu.

¹⁴The heads of the people were: Parosh, Pahath-Moab, Elam, Zattu, Bani, ¹⁵Bunni, Azgad, Bebai, ¹⁶Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin, ¹⁷Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur, ¹⁸Hodiah, Hashum, Bezai, ¹⁹Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai, ^[1] ²⁰Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir, ²¹Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua, ²²Pelathiah, Hanan, Ananiah, ²³Hoshea, Hananiah, Hasshub, ²⁴Hallohesh, Pilha, Shobek, ²⁵Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah, ²⁶Ahiah, Hanan, Anan, ²⁷Malluk, Harim, Baanah.

²⁸And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the ones who sing, the Nethinim, and all the ones who were separating themselves from the peoples of the lands to the law of God, their wives, their sons and their daughters, all who were knowing, being able to understand, ²⁹were clinging to their brothers, their nobles, and were entering into a curse and into an oath: to walk in the law of God, which was given by the hand of Moses the servant of God; and to keep and to do all the commandments of Yahweh our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes; ³⁰and that we would not give our daughters to the peoples of the land, and we would not take their daughters for our sons; ³¹and, on the sabbath or on a holy day, we would not take from the peoples of the land, the ones bringing goods and all kinds of grain to sell on the day of the sabbath; and we would leave alone the seventh year and interest of every hand. ³²Also, we caused to stand for us commandments to give over us a third of a shekel in a year for the service of the house of our God: ³³for the bread in rows and the continual offering, and for the continual burnt offering, the sabbaths, the new moons, for the appointed times, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to cover over for Israel, and all the work of the house of our God.

³⁴And we cast lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people: concerning the offering of pieces of wood, to bring them to the house of our God, for the house of our fathers at the appointed times year by year, for burning on the altar of Yahweh our God as written in the law; ³⁵and to bring the firstfruits of our soil and the firstfruits of all the fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of Yahweh; ³⁶and the firstborns of our sons and our livestock, as written in the law, even the firstborns of our herds and our flocks, to bring them to the house of our God, to the priests, the ones who minister in the house of our God. ³⁷And we will bring: the first of our dough and our offerings, and the fruit of every tree, wine, and oil, for the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and a tithe of our soil for the Levites. And they, the Levites, will be the ones receiving tithes in all the cities of our labor. ³⁸And a priest who is a son of Aaron will be with the Levites when the Levites receive tithes. And the Levites will bring a tithe of the tithe to the house of our God, to the chambers of the house of the treasury. ³⁹For the sons of Israel and the sons of Levi shall bring to the chambers the offerings of grain, wine, and oil. And there shall be the vessels for the sanctuary, and the priests, the ones who are ministering, and the gatekeepers, and the ones who sing. And we shall not neglect the house of our God.

10:19 ^[1]

Chapter 11

¹And the leaders of the people dwelt in Jerusalem. And the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine hands were in the cities. ²And the people blessed all the men, the ones who freely offered to dwell in Jerusalem.

³And these are the heads of the province who dwell in Jerusalem. And in the cities of Judah they dwelt, a man on his property, in their cities: Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the Nethinim, and the sons of the servants of Solomon.

⁴And some from the sons of Judah and from the sons of Benjamin dwelt in Jerusalem. Those from the sons of Judah were: Athaiah, the son of Uziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of

Mahalalel, from the sons of Perez; ⁵and Maaseiah, the son of Baruch, the son of Kol-Hozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, a son of the Shiloni.^[1] ⁶All the sons of Perez, the ones dwelling in Jerusalem, were 468 men of strength. ⁷And these are the sons of Benjamin: Sallu, the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jeshaiiah; ⁸and after him, Gabbai, Sallai, 928. ⁹And Joel the son of Zichri was the overseer for them. And Judah, the son of Hassenuah, was the second over the city.

¹⁰From the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib; Jakin; ¹¹Seraiah, the son of Hilkiyah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the leader of the house of God; ¹²and their brothers, who were doing the work for 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 Pashhur, the son of Malkijah; ¹³and his brothers, the heads of fathers, were 242; and Amashsai, the son of Azarel, the son of Ahzai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer; ¹⁴and their brothers, mighty men of strength, were 128. And Zabdiel the son of Haggadolim was overseer for them.^[2]

¹⁵And from the Levites: Shemaiah, the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni; ¹⁶and Shabbethai and Jozabad, from the heads of the Levites, were over the work outside of the house of God; ¹⁷and Mattaniah, the son of Mika, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, the head of the beginning who offered the thanksgiving prayer; and Bakbukiah, second from his brothers; and Abda, the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.^{[3][4]} ¹⁸All the Levites in the holy city were 284.

¹⁹And the gatekeepers, Akkub, Talmon, and their brothers, the ones who guarded at the gates, were 172.

²⁰And the rest of Israel, the priests, the Levites, were in all the cities of Judah, a man in his inheritance. ²¹And the Nethinim were dwelling in the Ophel, and Ziha and Gishpa were over the Nethinim.

²²And the overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi, the son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Mika, from the sons of Asaph, the ones who sang, who were over the work of the house of God. ²³For the commandment of the king was upon them, that support for the ones who sang was a daily matter in its day. ²⁴And Pethahiah, the son of Meshezabel, from the sons of Zerach, the son of Judah, was at the hand of the king for every matter of the people.

²⁵And for the villages in their fields, some from the sons of Judah dwelt: in Kiriath Arba and its daughters; and in Dibon and its daughters; and in Jekabzeel and its villages; ²⁶and in Jeshua; and in Moladah; and in Beth-Palet; ²⁷and in Hazar-Shual; and in Beersheba and its daughters; ²⁸and in Ziklag; and Mekonah and its daughters; ²⁹and in En-Rimmon; and in Zorah; and in Jarmuth; ³⁰Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages; Lachish and its fields; Azekah and its daughters. And they encamped from Beersheba as far as the valley of Hinnom: ³¹and the sons of Benjamin from Geba, at Mikdash, and Aija, and Bethel and its daughters, ³²Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah, ³³Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim, ³⁴Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat, ³⁵Lod, and Ono, the valley of the craftsmen; ³⁶and some from the Levites, who were divisions of Judah, in Benjamin.

11:5 ^[1]

11:14 ^[2]

11:17 ^[3]

11:17 ^[4]

Chapter 12

¹And these are the priests and the Levites who came up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra, ²Amariah, Malluk, Hattush, ³Shecaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, ⁴Iddo, Ginnethon, Abijah, ⁵Mijamin, Moadiah, Bilgah, ⁶Shemaiah and Joiarib, Jedaiah, ⁷Sallu, Amok, Hilkiyah, Jedaiah. These were the heads of the priests and their brothers in the days of Jeshua.

⁸And the Levites were: Jeshua; Binnui; Kadmiel; Sherebiah; Judah; Mattaniah, he and his brothers were over the thanksgiving songs; ⁹and Bakbukiah and Unni, their brothers, were opposite them in the service watches. ¹⁰And Jeshua fathered Joiakim; and Joiakim fathered Eliashib; and Eliashib, Joiada; ¹¹and Joiada fathered Jonathan; and Jonathan fathered Jaddua.

¹²And in the days of Joiakim priests were the heads of the fathers: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah; ¹³of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan; ¹⁴of Malluk, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph;^[1] ¹⁵of Harim, Adna; of Meremoth, Helkai; ¹⁶of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam; ¹⁷of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai; ¹⁸of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan; ¹⁹of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi; ²⁰of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber; ²¹of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nethanel.

²²In the days of Eliashib, the Levites Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua, were written as heads of fathers: also the priests, during the reign of Darius the Persian.

²³The sons of Levi, the heads of fathers, were written in the book of the events of days even until the days of Johanan, the son of Eliashib. ²⁴And the heads of the Levites were Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua, the son of Kadmiel, with their brothers opposite them, service watch by service watch, to praise and give thanks by the commandment of David, the man of God. ²⁵Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, were guardians, gatekeepers, a guard at the storehouses of the gates. ²⁶These were in the days of Joiakim, the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor and Ezra, the priest, the scribe.

²⁷And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, they sought out the Levites from all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to perform the dedication with rejoicing, and with thanksgivings, and with song, cymbals, lyres, and harps. ²⁸And the sons of the ones who sang gathered themselves, both from the circle around Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophati, ²⁹and from Beth-Gilgal and from the fields of Geba and Azmaveth; for the ones who sang had built villages for themselves around Jerusalem. ³⁰And the priests and the Levites purified themselves. And they purified the people, and the gates, and the wall. ³¹And I caused the officials of Judah to go up on top of the wall. And I caused to stand two great thanksgiving groups, and processions to the right hand on top of the wall toward the gate of dung. ³²And after them went Hoshai with half of the officials of Judah, ³³and Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam, ³⁴Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah. ³⁵And some from the sons of the priests had trumpets: Zechariah, the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph; ³⁶and his brothers, Shemaiah, and Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel and Judah, Hanani, with the instruments of song of David, the man of God. And Ezra the scribe was before their face. ³⁷And by the gate of the spring and opposite them, they went up on the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall on top of the house of David and as far as the gate of water, east. ³⁸And the second thanksgiving group, the one proceeding to the opposite direction, and I after it, with half of the people on top of the wall, on top of the tower of ovens even as far as the broad wall, ³⁹and on top of the gate of Ephraim, and above the gate of old, and above the gate of fish and the tower of Hananel and the tower of the hundred, even as far as the gate of sheep: and they stood in the gate of the guard. ⁴⁰And the two thanksgiving groups stood at the house of God: also I, and half of the prefects with me; ⁴¹and the priests, Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, Hananiah, with trumpets; ⁴²and Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malkijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the ones who sang made themselves heard, with Jezrahiah the overseer. ⁴³And on that day they sacrificed great sacrifices, and they rejoiced, for God had made them glad with great rejoicing. Yes, even the women and the children rejoiced, so the rejoicing of Jerusalem was heard from far away.

⁴⁴And on that day men were appointed over the chambers for the storehouses, for the offerings, for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them from the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and for the Levites. For Judah rejoiced over the priests and over the Levites, the ones who were standing. ⁴⁵And they kept the service watch of their God and the service watch of purification, also the ones who sang and the gatekeepers, according to the commandment of David and Solomon his son. ⁴⁶For in the days of David and Asaph, from ancient time there was a head of the ones who sang, and songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.^[2] ⁴⁷And in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah, all Israel was giving the portions of the ones who sang and the

gatekeepers, as a daily matter in its day. And they were consecrating for the Levites, and the Levites were consecrating for the sons of Aaron.

12:14 ^[1]

12:46 ^[2]

Chapter 13

¹On that day it was read in the book of Moses, in the ears of the people, and it was found written in it, that no Ammonite or Moabite shall enter into the assembly of God until eternity. ²For they did not meet the sons of Israel with bread and with water. And he hired Balaam against them to curse them, but our God overturned the curse to a blessing. ³And it happened that, as soon as they heard the law, they separated all the mixed company from Israel.

⁴Now, before the face of this, Eliashib the priest, nearly-related to Tobiah, was being put in the chamber of the house of our God. ⁵And he made for him a great chamber, and there previously they were putting offerings: the frankincense; and the vessels; and the tithes of the grain, the wine, and the oil, the commandment for the Levites, and the ones who sang, and the gatekeepers; and the offerings of the priests. ⁶And during all this I was not in Jerusalem. For I had gone to the king in year 32 of Artaxerxes, the king of Babylon. And at an end of days I requested leave from the king.

⁷And I came to Jerusalem. And I understood about the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah by making for him a chamber in the courts of the house of God. ⁸And it was extremely evil to me, and I cast out all the things of the house of Tobiah from the storeroom to the outside. ⁹And I spoke, and they purified the chambers. And I returned to there the vessels of the house of God, with the offering and the incense.

¹⁰And I knew that the portions of the Levites had not been given, and the Levites and the ones who sang, who did the work, had fled, a man to his field. ¹¹And I contended with the prefects, and I said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them and caused them to stand at their stations. ¹²And all Judah brought the tithe of the grain, and the wine, and the oil to the treasuries. ¹³And I appointed treasurers over the treasuries: Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah from the Levites; and at their hand was Hanan, the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah. For they were considered faithful, and it was for them to apportion to their brothers.

¹⁴Remember me, my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my faithful kindness that I have done for the house of my God and for its service watches.

¹⁵In those days I saw in Judah ones treading winepresses on the sabbath, and ones bringing in grain-heaps, and ones loading onto donkeys, yes, even wine, grapes, and figs, and all kinds of loads, and ones bringing to Jerusalem on the day of the sabbath. And I protested on the day of their selling provisions. ¹⁶And the Tyrians who dwelt in it were bringing in fish and all kinds of merchandise and were selling them on the sabbath to the sons of Judah, even in Jerusalem. ¹⁷And I contended with the nobles of Judah. And I said to them, "What is this evil thing that you are doing, and profaning the day of the sabbath? ¹⁸Did not your fathers do thus, and our God brought all this evil on us and on this city? And you are increasing wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath."

¹⁹And it happened that, when the gates of Jerusalem grew dark before the face of the sabbath, I spoke, and the doors were shut, and I said that they should not open them until after the sabbath. And I caused some from my young men to stand at the gates; a load could not enter on the day of the sabbath. ²⁰And the ones who traded and the ones who sold all kinds of goods to sell lodged outside of Jerusalem a time or two. ²¹And I testified against them, and I said to them, "Why are you lodging in front of the wall? If you repeat, I will stretch out a hand on you!" From that time, they did not come on the sabbath.

²²And I said to the Levites that they should purify themselves and come keep the gates to consecrate the day of the sabbath.

Remember me concerning this also, my God, and have pity on me according to the greatness of your covenant faithfulness.

²³In those days I also saw Jews who had given a dwelling to Ashdodite, Ammonite, and Moabite women. ²⁴And their sons, half were speaking Ashdodite, and none of them were knowing to speak Hebrew, but according to the tongue of people group by people group. ²⁵And I contended with them, and cursed them, and struck some of their men, and pulled out their hair. And I caused them to swear an oath by God: "If you give your daughters to their sons, or if you lift from their daughters for your sons, or for yourselves! ²⁶Did not Solomon, the king of Israel, sin concerning these things? Yet among many nations there was no king like him: and he was beloved by his God, and God gave him as king over all Israel. The foreign women caused even him to sin. ²⁷Should we then listen to you, to do all this great evil, to act unfaithfully toward our God and give a dwelling to foreign women?"^[1]

²⁸And one from the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son-in-law to Sanballat the Horonite. And I caused him to flee from beside me.

²⁹Remember them, my God, on account of the defiling of the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites.

³⁰And I purified them from everything foreign. And I caused the service watches to stand: for the priests and for the Levites, a man in his work; ³¹and for the offering of pieces of wood at the appointed times; and for the firstfruits.

Remember me, my God, for good.

13:27 ^[1]

Esther

Chapter 1

¹Now it happened in the days of Ahasuerus (he was Ahasuerus, the one who ruled from India even as far as Ethiopia, 127 provinces); ²in those days, as the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his royalty, which was in Susa the citadel: ³in year three of his reign, he made a feast for all his officials and his administrators, the army of Persia and Media, the noblemen, and the officials of the provinces before his face, ⁴when he displayed the wealth of the glory of his kingdom and the splendor of the beauty of his greatness for many days, 180 days.

⁵And when those days were fulfilled, the king made a feast for all the people who were found in Susa the citadel, from the greatest even to the least, for seven days, in the courtyard of the garden of the palace of the king. ⁶Linens cotton and blue were hanging by cords of byssus and purple on rings of silver and pillars of marble. Couches of gold and silver were on the pavement of porphyry and alabaster and pearl and precious stone. ⁷And the serving was in vessels of gold, with vessels differing from other vessels, and the wine of royalty was abundant according to the hand of the king. ⁸And the drinking was according to the law "There is no compulsion," for thus the king had established for every overseer of his house to do according to the desire of man by man. ⁹Also Vashti the queen made a feast of women in the palace of royalty that belonged to the king Ahasuerus.

¹⁰On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was pleased by the wine, he said to Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Karkas (the seven eunuchs who served before the face of the king Ahasuerus), ¹¹to bring Vashti the queen to the face of the king in a crown of royalty in order to show the people and the officials her beauty, for she was pleasing of appearance. ¹²But the queen Vashti refused to come at the word of the king that was by the hand of the eunuchs. Then the king became very angry, and his rage burned within him.

¹³Then the king said to the wise men, who were knowers of the times (for thus was the manner of the king before the face of all those who were knowers of law and judgment, ¹⁴and the ones near to him were Karshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Mersena, Memukan, seven officials of Persia and Media who were seers of the face of the king, the ones who sat first in the kingdom): ¹⁵"According to law, what is to be done with the queen Vashti on account of this, that she did not perform the command of the king Ahasuerus by the hand of the eunuchs?"

¹⁶And Memukan replied before the face of the king and the officials, "Not toward the king alone has Vashti the queen done wrong, but toward all the officials and toward all the peoples who are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus. ¹⁷For the matter of the queen will go out to all the women in order to make their husbands despised in their eyes when they say, 'The king Ahasuerus said to bring Vashti the queen before his face, but she did not come.' ¹⁸Now this day, the noblewomen of Persia and Media who have heard the matter of the queen will speak to all the officials of the king. And there will be contempt and wrath enough! ¹⁹If it is good to the king, let a decree of royalty go out from before his face, and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media (which do not pass away) that Vashti shall never come before the face of the king Ahasuerus. And let the king give her royalty to her female neighbor, the woman who is better than she. ²⁰And the decree of the king will be heard that he will make for all his kingdom, though it is great. Then all the women will give honor to their husbands, from the greatest to the least."

²¹And the word seemed good in the eyes of the king and the officials. And the king acted according to the word of Memukan. ²²And he sent letters to all the provinces of the king, to province by province according to its own writing, and to people by people according to its own tongue: that every man should be ruling in his house and speaking according to the tongue of his people.

Chapter 2

¹After these things, when the rage of the king Ahasuerus subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done, and what had been decided concerning her. ²And the young men of the king who served him said, "Let them seek for the king young women who are virgins and pleasing of appearance. ³And let the king appoint administrators in all the provinces of his kingdom. Then let them gather every young woman who is a virgin and pleasing of appearance to Susa the citadel, to the house of women into the hand of Hegai (the eunuch of the king who is overseer of the women). Then give their ointments. ⁴And let the young woman who is pleasing in the eyes of the king become queen instead of Vashti." And the word was pleasing in the eyes of the king, so he did thus.

⁵A man, a Jew, was in Susa the citadel, and his name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish (a man, a Benjamite, ⁶who had been exiled from Jerusalem with the exiles who had been exiled along with Jeconiah, the king of Judah, who Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had exiled). ⁷And he was fostering Hadassah (she is Esther), the daughter of his uncle, because there was not for her a father or a mother. Now the young woman was beautiful of form and pleasing of appearance. And at the death of her father and her mother, Mordecai had taken her for him as a daughter. ⁸And it happened that, when the decree of the king and his law were heard, and when many young women were gathered to Susa the citadel into the hand of Hegai, Esther was taken to the palace of the king, into the hand of Hegai (who was overseer of the women). ⁹And the young woman was pleasing in his eyes, and she lifted kindness before his face. And he quickly gave her ointments, gave her portions of food, and gave her seven young women chosen from the house of the king. And he transferred her and her young women to the best of the house of women. ¹⁰Esther had not declared her people or her ancestry, for Mordecai had laid a charge upon her that she should not tell it. ¹¹And always, day by day, Mordecai was walking about before the face of the courtyard of the house of women in order to know the peace of Esther and what was being done with her.

¹²Now when the turn came for young woman by young woman to go to the king Ahasuerus, it was after her 12 months, according to the law of women. For thus the days of their beautification would be fulfilled: six months by oil of myrrh, then six months by perfumes and by the ointments of women. ¹³Then at this, the young woman would go to the king. Anything that she said would be given to her, to go with her from the house of women to the house of the king. ¹⁴In the evening she would go, and in the morning she would return to the second house of women, into the hand of Shaashgaz (the eunuch of the king who was overseer of the concubines). She would not go to the king again unless the king had delighted in her and she was called by name.

¹⁵Now when the turn of Esther (the daughter of Abihail, the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for him as a daughter) came to go to the king, she did not seek anything except what Hegai (the eunuch of the king who was overseer of the women) said. And Esther was a lifter of favor in the eyes of everyone who saw her. ¹⁶And Esther was taken to the king Ahasuerus, to the palace of his royalty, in the tenth month (which is the month of Tebeth), in year seven of his reign. ¹⁷And the king loved Esther more than all the women and she lifted favor and kindness before his face more than all the virgins. And he set a crown of royalty on her head, and he made her queen instead of Vashti. ¹⁸And the king made a great feast for all his officials and his servants, the feast of Esther. And he made a holiday for the provinces, and he gave gifts according to the hand of the king.

¹⁹Now when virgins were being gathered a second time, Mordecai was then sitting at the gate of the king. ²⁰Esther had not yet declared her ancestry (that is, her people), according to the charge that Mordecai had laid upon her. And Esther continued to do the command of Mordecai according to how she was with him in her fostering. ²¹In those days, when Mordecai was sitting at the gate of the king, Bigthan and Teresh (two eunuchs of the king who were guardians of the doorway) became angry; and they sought to stretch out a hand against the king Ahasuerus. ²²And the matter was made known to Mordecai, and he declared it to Esther the queen. And Esther spoke to the king in the name of Mordecai. ²³And the matter was sought out and was found out, and the two of them were hanged on a pole. And it was written in the book of the events of days before the face of the king.

Chapter 3

¹After these things, the king Ahasuerus made Haman, the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, great. And he lifted him up and placed his seat of authority from over all the officials who were with him. ²And all the servants of the king who were at the gate of the king were bowing down and prostrating themselves to Haman, for thus the king had commanded concerning him. But Mordecai would neither bow down nor would he prostrate himself. ³And the servants of the king who were at the gate of the king said to Mordecai, "Why are you trespassing the command of the king?" ⁴And it happened that, when they spoke to him day after day, he did not listen to them. So they told Haman to see if the words of Mordecai would stand, for he had told them that he was a Jew.^[1] ⁵And Haman saw that Mordecai would neither bow down nor prostrate himself to him. And Haman was filled with rage. ⁶And it was despised in his eyes to stretch out a hand against Mordecai alone, for they had told him the people of Mordecai. And Haman sought to annihilate all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, who were in all the kingdom of Ahasuerus.

⁷In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in year 12 of the king Ahasuerus, a Pur (which is "the lot") was cast before the face of Haman from day to day and from month to month: the twelfth, which is the month of Adar. ⁸And Haman said to the king Ahasuerus, "He has one people scattered and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom. And their laws are different from every people, and the laws of the king they do not obey. And there is no profit to the king to leave them untouched. ⁹If it is good to the king, let it be written to destroy them, and I will weigh out 10,000 talents of silver into the hands of the doers of the work, to bring into the treasuries of the king." ¹⁰And the king removed his signet ring from on his hand, and he gave it to Haman, the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the adversary of the Jews. ¹¹And the king said to Haman, "The silver is given to you, and the people, to do with them as is good in your eyes."

¹²And the scribes of the king were called in the first month, on day 13 of it, and it was written according to all that Haman commanded: to the satraps of the king, and to the governors who were over province by province, and to the officials of people by people, province by province according to its writing, and people by people according to its tongue. In the name of the king Ahasuerus it was written, and it was sealed with the signet ring of the king.

¹³And letters were sent by the hand of runners to all of the provinces of the king, to annihilate, to slaughter, and to destroy all the Jews from young even to old, children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth of month 12 (which is the month of Adar), and to plunder their spoils. ¹⁴A copy of the writing, to be given as a law in every province by province, was uncovered for all the peoples to be ready for this day. ¹⁵The runners went out, hurrying by decree of the king, and the law was given in Susa the citadel. And the king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was in confusion.

3:4 ^[1]

Chapter 4

¹Now when Mordecai knew about all that had been done, Mordecai tore his garments and put on sackcloth and ashes. And he went out into the midst of the city and cried out a great and bitter outcry. ²And he came only as far as before the face of the gate of the king because no one was to come into the gate of the king while wearing sackcloth. ³And in every province by province, any place where the decree of the king and his law reached, there was great mourning by the Jews, and fasting and weeping and lamenting; sackcloth and ashes were laid out by the multitudes. ⁴When the young female attendants of Esther came with her eunuchs and they told her, even the queen was seized with extreme fear. And she sent garments to clothe Mordecai and to take off his sackcloth from upon him, but he did not accept.

⁵And Esther called for Hathak, from the eunuchs of the king whom he had caused to stand before her face. She commanded him concerning Mordecai to know what this was and on account of what this was. ⁶And Hathak went out to Mordecai, to the open place of the city that was before the face of the gate of the king. ⁷And Mordecai reported to him all that had happened to him, and the exact amount of silver that Haman had said to weigh out

into the treasuries of the king against the Jews to destroy them. ⁸Also he gave to him a copy of the writing of the law that had been given in Susa to annihilate them, in order to show Esther and to inform her and to lay a charge upon her to go to the king to implore his favor and to seek from before his face concerning her people. ⁹And Hathak went and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

¹⁰And Esther spoke to Hathak and commanded him to say to Mordecai: ¹¹"All the servants of the king and the people of the provinces of the king are knowing that for any man or woman who goes to the king, to the inner court, who has not been called, his law is one: to cause to die, apart from when the king holds out to him the scepter of gold; then he will live. But as for me, I have not been called to come to the king these 30 days." ¹²And they told to Mordecai the words of Esther.

¹³And Mordecai said to return to Esther: "Do not think to yourself to escape in the palace of the king, different from all the Jews. ¹⁴For if you indeed remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and the house of your father will perish. And who knows if you have arrived at royalty for such a time as this?"

¹⁵And Esther said to return to Mordecai: ¹⁶"Go, gather all the Jews who are found in Susa. And fast on account of me, neither eating nor drinking for three days, both night and day. Also, I myself and my young female attendants will fast likewise. Then, in such circumstances, I will go to the king, which is not according to the law. And if I perish, I perish." ¹⁷And Mordecai went and did according to the whole charge that Esther had laid upon him.

Chapter 5

¹And it happened on the third day that Esther put on royalty and stood in the inner court of the palace of the king, opposite to the house of the king. Now the king was sitting on the throne of his royalty in the palace of royalty opposite to the entrance of the palace. ²And it happened that, as soon as the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she lifted favor in his eyes. And the king held out to Esther the scepter of gold that was in his hand, so Esther approached and touched the head of the scepter.

³And the king said to her, "What is to you, Esther the queen? And what is your request? As much as half of the kingdom, and let it be given to you." ⁴And Esther said, "If it is good to the king, let the king come with Haman today to the banquet that I have made for him." ⁵And the king said, "Bring Haman quickly in order to do the word of Esther." And the king came with Haman to the banquet that Esther had made.

⁶And the king said to Esther during the banquet of wine, "What is your petition? And let it be given to you. And what is your request? As much as half of the kingdom, and let it be done." ⁷And Esther answered and said, "My petition and my request: ⁸if I have found favor in the eyes of the king, and if it is good to the king to grant my petition and to perform my request, let the king come with Haman to the banquet that I will make for them, and tomorrow I will do according to the word of the king."

⁹And Haman went out that day joyful and pleased of heart. But as soon as Haman saw Mordecai at the gate of the king, that he neither rose up nor trembled from him, then Haman was filled with rage on account of Mordecai.

¹⁰But Haman restrained himself and went to his house. Then he sent and brought his friends and Zeresh his wife.

¹¹And Haman recounted to them the glory of his wealth and the multitude of his sons and all about how the king had made him great and how he had lifted him over the officials and administrators of the king. ¹²And Haman said, "In addition, Esther the queen did not bring anyone with the king to the banquet that she had made except me. And also for tomorrow, I am called by her with the king. ¹³But all of this is not equal for me to every time that I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the gate of the king." ¹⁴And Zeresh his wife, with all of his friends, said to him, "Let them make a pole 50 cubits high. And in the morning speak to the king, and let them hang Mordecai on it. Then go with the king to the banquet joyful." And the word was good before the face of Haman, and he made the pole.

Chapter 6

¹That night the sleep of the king fled away. And he said to bring the book of records of the events of days, and they were being called out before the face of the king. ²And it was found written that Mordecai had told about Bigthana and Teresh, two of the eunuchs of the king who were from the guardians of the doorway, that they had sought to stretch out a hand against the king Ahasuerus.

³And the king said, "What honor or greatness was done for Mordecai on account of this?" And the young men of the king who served him said, "Not a thing has been done with him." ⁴And the king asked, "Who is in the court?" Now Haman had come into the outer court of the house of the king to say to the king to hang Mordecai on the pole that he had prepared for him. ⁵And the young men of the king said to him, "Behold, Haman is standing in the courtyard." And the king said, "Let him come."

⁶And Haman came, and the king said to him, "What is one to do for the man in whose honor the king is delighted?" Then Haman said in his heart, "For whom would the king delight to do honor more than me?" ⁷And Haman said to the king, "For a man whom the king delights to honor: ⁸let them bring a garment of royalty with which the king has clothed himself, and a horse on which the king has ridden and which has been given a crown of royalty for its head. ⁹And give this garment and this horse into the hand of a man from the most noble officials of the king. And let them clothe the man whom the king delights to honor, and cause him to ride on the horse in the open square of the city, and proclaim before his face, 'Thus shall it be done for the man whom the king delights to honor!'" ¹⁰And the king said to Haman, "Hurry, take the garment and the horse, according to how you have spoken, and do thus for Mordecai the Jew, the man who sits at the gate of the king. Do not allow a word to fall of all that you have spoken."

¹¹And Haman took the garment and the horse, and he clothed Mordecai and caused him to ride in the open place of the city and called out before his face, "Thus shall it be done for the man whom the king delights to honor!"

¹²And Mordecai returned to the gate of the king, but Haman hurried to his house, mourning with a covering of head. ¹³And Haman recounted to Zeresh his wife and to all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and Zeresh his wife said to him, "If Mordecai, before whose face you have begun to fall, is from the seed of the Jews, then you will not prevail against him, but you will surely fall before his face." ¹⁴They were still speaking with him when the eunuchs of the king arrived. And they hurried to bring Haman to the banquet that Esther had made.

Chapter 7

¹And the king came with Haman to drink with Esther the queen. ²And the king said to Esther again on the second day during the banquet of wine, "What is your petition, Esther the queen? And let it be given to you. And what is your request? As much as half of the kingdom, and let it be done." ³And Esther the queen answered and said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, O king, and if it is good to the king, let my life be given to me at my petition and my people at my request. ⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, for annihilation, for slaughter, and for destruction. Now if we had been sold as slaves and female servants, I would have kept silent, because the distress would not have been equal to a burden of the king."

⁵And the king Ahasuerus spoke and said to Esther the queen, "Who is he, this man? Where is this man, he whose heart is full to do thus?" ⁶Esther answered, "A man, an adversary, and an enemy—this evil Haman!" Then Haman was terrified from before the face of the king and the queen. ⁷And the king rose up in his rage from the banquet of wine to the garden of the palace. But Haman remained in order to seek for his life from Esther the queen, for he saw that evil was determined against him by the king. ⁸Now when the king returned from the garden of the palace to the house of the banquet of wine, Haman was fallen on the couch on which Esther was. And the king said, "Is it also to subdue the queen with me in the house?" The word was going out from the mouth of the king when they covered the face of Haman.

⁹And Harbona, one from the eunuchs before the face of the king, said, "Also, behold, the pole that Haman made for Mordecai, who spoke good for the king, is standing at the house of Haman 50 cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on it." ¹⁰And they hanged Haman on the pole that he had prepared for Mordecai, and the rage of the king subsided.

Chapter 8

¹On that day, the king Ahasuerus gave to Esther the queen the house of Haman, the adversary of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the face of the king because Esther told what he was to her. ²And the king removed his signet ring, which he had caused to pass from Haman, and he gave it to Mordecai. And Esther placed Mordecai over the house of Haman.

³And Esther repeated her action, and she spoke before the face of the king. She fell before the face of his feet and wept and implored favor from him to take away the evil of Haman the Agagite and his plot that he had plotted against the Jews. ⁴And the king held out to Esther the scepter of gold, so Esther rose up and stood before the face of the king. ⁵And she said, "If it is good to the king, and if I have found favor before his face, and the word is proper before the face of the king, and I am good in his eyes, let it be written to bring back the letters, the plot of Haman, the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all the provinces of the king. ⁶For how could I bear to see the evil that my people would find? And how could I bear seeing the destruction of my kindred?"

⁷And the king Ahasuerus said to Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, "Behold, I have given the house of Haman to Esther, and they have hanged him on the pole on account of this, that he stretched out his hand against the Jews. ⁸So, in the name of the king, you write for the Jews as is good in your eyes, and seal it with the signet ring of the king. For there is none to take back a writing that has been written in the name of the king and has been sealed with the signet ring of the king."

⁹And the scribes of the king were called at that time, in the third month, which is the month of Sivan, on the twenty-third of it. And according to all that Mordecai commanded, it was written to the Jews, and to the satraps, and the governors and officials of the provinces that were from India even as far as Ethiopia: 127 provinces, province by province according to its writing, and people by people according to its tongue, and to the Jews according to their writing and according to their tongue. ¹⁰And he wrote in the name of the king Ahasuerus, and he sealed with the signet ring of the king. And he sent letters (by the hand of runners on horses, riders of the royal pack horses, sons of the mares) ¹¹that the king gave to the Jews who were in every city, city by city: to gather and to stand for their life, to annihilate, and to slaughter, and to destroy any strength of a people or province that would attack them, children and women, and plunder their spoil; ¹²on one day in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth of month 12, which is the month of Adar. ¹³A copy of the writing was to be given as a law in every province by province, being uncovered for all the peoples, and for the Jews to be prepared for that day to take revenge from their enemies. ¹⁴The runners, the riders of the royal pack horses, went out hastened and hurried by the word of the king. And the law was given in Susa the citadel.

¹⁵And Mordecai went out from before the face of the king in a garment of royalty of blue and white, with a great crown of gold and a robe of fine linen and purple, and the city of Susa cheered and rejoiced. ¹⁶For the Jews there was light and joy and rejoicing and honor. ¹⁷In every province by province and in every city by city, any place where the word of the king and his law came, there was joy and rejoicing for the Jews, a feast and a good day. And many from the peoples of the land became Jews because dread of the Jews had fallen upon them.

Chapter 9

¹Now in month 12, which is the month of Adar, on day 13 of it, when the word of the king and his law had reached the time to be done, on the day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to dominate them: but being overturned, it

happened that the Jews themselves dominated those who hated them. ²The Jews assembled themselves in their cities in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus to stretch out a hand against those seeking their evil. But a man did not stand to their face, for sudden fear of them had fallen on all the peoples. ³And all the officials of the provinces, and the satraps and the governors and those doing the work that was for the king were lifting up the Jews, for dread of Mordecai had fallen on them. ⁴For Mordecai was great in the palace of the king, and the report of him was going out into all the provinces, for the man Mordecai was progressing and becoming great.

⁵And the Jews struck to all their enemies a strike of sword and slaughter and destruction. And they did to those who hated them according to their pleasure. ⁶And in Susa the citadel the Jews slaughtered and destroyed 500 men. ⁷And Parshandatha and Dalphon and Aspatha ⁸and Poratha and Adalia and Aridatha ⁹and Parmashta and Arisai and Aridai and Vaizatha, ¹⁰the ten sons of Haman, the son of Hammedatha, the adversary of the Jews, they slaughtered. But they did not stretch out their hand to the plunder. ¹¹On that day, the report of the number of those who were killed in Susa the citadel came to the face of the king.

¹²And the king said to Esther the queen, "In Susa the citadel the Jews have slaughtered and destroyed 500 men, with the ten sons of Haman. In the rest of the provinces of the king, what have they done? Now what is your petition? And it will be given to you. And what is your request? Again, and it will be done." ¹³And Esther said, "If it is good to the king, let it be given also tomorrow to the Jews who are in Susa to do according to the law of today, and let the ten sons of Haman hang on the pole." ¹⁴And the king said for this to be done. And a law was given in Susa, and they hanged the ten sons of Haman. ¹⁵And the Jews who were in Susa assembled themselves also on day 14 of the month of Adar, and they killed 300 men in Susa. But they did not stretch out their hand to the plunder.

¹⁶And the rest of the Jews who were in the provinces of the king assembled themselves and stood for their lives, and they rested from their enemies, and they slaughtered 75,000 of those who hated them. But they did not stretch out their hand to the plunder. ¹⁷On day 13 of the month of Adar, then they rested. On the fourteenth of it, then they made it a day of feasting and rejoicing. ¹⁸But the Jews who were in Susa assembled themselves on the thirteenth of it and on the fourteenth of it. And they rested on the fifteenth of it, and they made it a day of feasting and rejoicing. ¹⁹Therefore, the Jews, the ones of the open country, the ones who dwell in the cities of the open areas, make day 14 of the month of Adar for rejoicing and for feasting and a good day and for the sending of gifts, a man to his friend.

²⁰And Mordecai wrote these things. And he sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, the near ones and the far ones, ²¹to set up for them to be making day 14 of the month of Adar and day 15 of it, every year by year, ²²as the days when the Jews rested on them from their enemies and as the month when it had turned for them from sorrow into joy and from mourning into a good day, in order to make them days of feasting and rejoicing and sending of gifts, a man to his friend and gifts to the needy. ²³And the Jews accepted what they had begun to do and what Mordecai had written to them.

²⁴For Haman, the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the adversary of all the Jews, had plotted concerning the Jews to annihilate them. And he had cast a Pur (which is "the lot") to vex them and to destroy them. ²⁵But when she came to the face of the king, he said with the letter, "Let his evil plot that he plotted concerning the Jews return on his head, and let them hang him and his sons on the pole." ²⁶Therefore, they called these days "Purim," on account of the name of Pur. Therefore, on account of all the words of this letter and what they had seen concerning this and what had come upon them, ²⁷the Jews set up and accepted for themselves and for their seed and for all those who unite themselves to them (and it will not pass away) to be making these two days according to their writing and according to their appointed time every year by year. ²⁸And these days are remembered and are made in every generation by generation, family by family, province by province, and city by city. And these days of Purim will not pass away from the midst of the Jews, and their remembrance will not come to an end from their seed.

²⁹And Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew wrote with all power to set up this second letter of Purim. ³⁰And he sent letters to all the Jews, to 127 provinces, the kingdom of Ahasuerus, words of peace and truth ³¹to set up these days of Purim at their appointed times according to what Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had set up for them and according to what they had set up concerning their lives and concerning their

seed, the matters of the fasts and their outcry. ³²And the decree of Esther set up these matters of Purim, and it was written in the book.

Chapter 10

¹And the king Ahasuerus set a tribute on the land and the islands of the sea. ²And all the deeds of his power and his might, with the full account of the greatness of Mordecai to which the king had made him great, are they not written in the book of the events of days for the kings of Media and Persia? ³For Mordecai the Jew was second to the king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and favored by the multitude of his brothers, seeking good for his people and speaking peace to all its seed.

Job

Chapter 1

¹There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and Job was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned from evil. ²There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. ³He possessed seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred pairs of oxen, and five hundred donkeys and a great many servants. He was the man who was the greatest of all the people of the East. ⁴On each son's assigned day, he would give a feast in his house. They would send and call for their three sisters to eat and drink with them. ⁵When the days of the feast were over, Job would send for them and he would consecrate them. He would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings for each of his children, for he would say, "It may be that my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Job always did this.

⁶Then it was the day when the sons of God came to present themselves before Yahweh. Satan also came with them. ⁷Yahweh said to Satan, "From where have you come?" Then Satan answered Yahweh and said, "From wandering on the earth, from going back and forth on it." ⁸Yahweh said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and turns from evil." ⁹Then Satan answered Yahweh and said, "Does Job fear God without reason? ¹⁰Have you not put a barrier around him, around his house, and around all that is his from every side? You have blessed the deeds of his hands, and his cattle have burst forth in the land. ¹¹But now stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and see if he does not curse you to your face." ¹²Yahweh said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him himself do not stretch out your hand." Then Satan went away from the presence of Yahweh.

¹³It came about that on a certain day, his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house. ¹⁴A messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were feeding beside them. ¹⁵Then the Sabeans fell on them and took them away. As for the servants, they have struck them with the edge of the sword. I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁶While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants. I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁷While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three groups, attacked the camels, and have taken them away. As for the servants, they have struck them with the edge of the sword. I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁸While he was yet speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house. ¹⁹A strong wind came from the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house. It fell on the young people, and they died. I alone have escaped to tell you."

²⁰Then Job rose, tore his robe, shaved his head, lay facedown on the ground, and worshiped God. ²¹He said, "I was naked when I came out of my mother's womb, and I will be naked when I will return there. It is Yahweh who gave, and it is Yahweh who has taken away. May the name of Yahweh be blessed." ²²In all this matter, Job did not sin, nor did he accuse God of wrongdoing.

Chapter 2

¹Then it was the day when the sons of God came to present themselves before Yahweh. Satan also came with them to present himself before Yahweh. ²Yahweh said to Satan, "From where have you come?" Then Satan answered Yahweh and said, "From wandering on the earth, from going back and forth on it." ³Yahweh said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and turns away from evil. He still holds fast to his integrity, although you misled me against him, to destroy him without cause." ⁴Satan answered Yahweh and said, "Skin for skin, indeed; a man will give all he has for

his life. ⁵But stretch out your hand now and touch his bones and his flesh, and see if he does not curse you to your face." ⁶Yahweh said to Satan, "See, he is in your hand; it is only his life that you must spare."

⁷Then Satan went away from the presence of Yahweh. He struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his feet to his head. ⁸Job took a piece of broken pottery to scrape himself with, and he sat down in the middle of ashes. ⁹Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die." ¹⁰But he said to her, "You talk as a foolish woman talks. Should we receive the good from God and not receive the bad?" In all this matter, Job did not sin with his lips.

¹¹Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that had come on him, each of them came from his own place: Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They set a time to come to mourn with him and to comfort him. ¹²When they lifted up their eyes at a distance, they did not recognize him. They raised their voices and wept; each tore his robe and threw dust into the air and upon his own head. ¹³Then they sat with him on the ground for seven days and seven nights. No one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his grief was very great.

Chapter 3

¹After this, Job opened his mouth and cursed the day he was born.

²He said,

³"May the day on which I was born perish,
the night that said, 'A boy has been conceived.'

⁴May that day be dark;
may not God from above call it to mind,
neither may the sun shine on it.

⁵May darkness and the shadow of death claim it for their own.
May a cloud live over it;
may everything that makes the day black truly terrify it.

⁶As for that night, may thick darkness seize it.
May it not rejoice among the days of the year;
may it not come into the number of the months.

⁷See, may that night be barren;
may no joyful voice come into it.

⁸May they curse that day,
those who know how to wake up Leviathan.

⁹May the stars of that day's dawn be dark.
May that day look for light, but find none;
neither may it see the eyelids of the dawn,

10because it did not shut up the doors of my mother's womb,
and because it did not hide trouble from my eyes.

11Why did I not die when I came out from the womb?
Why did I not give up my spirit when my mother bore me?

12Why did her knees welcome me?
Why did her breasts receive me so that I should suck?

13For now I would have been lying down quietly.
I would have slept and been at rest

14with kings and counselors of the earth,
who built up tombs for themselves that are now in ruins.

15Or I would have been lying with princes who once had gold,
who had filled their houses with silver.

16Or perhaps I would have been stillborn,
like infants that never see the light.

17There the wicked cease from trouble;
there the weary are at rest.

18There the prisoners are at ease together;
they do not hear the voice of the slave driver.

19Both small and great people are there;
the servant is free from his master there.

20Why is light given to him who is in misery?
Why is life given to the one who is bitter in soul,

21to one who longs for death without it coming;
to one who digs for death more than for hidden treasure?

22Why is light given to one who rejoices very much
and is glad when he finds the grave?

23Why is light given to a man whose way is hidden,
a man whom God has hedged in?

24For my sighing happens instead of eating;
my groaning is poured out like water.

25For the thing that I feared has come on me;

what I was afraid of has come to me.

²⁶I am not at ease, I am not quiet, and I have no rest;
trouble comes instead.”

Chapter 4

¹Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,

²If anyone tries to speak with you, will you be impatient?
But who can stop himself from speaking?

³See, you have instructed many;
you have strengthened weak hands.

⁴Your words have supported him who was falling;
you have made feeble knees firm.

⁵But now trouble has come to you, and you are weary;
it touches you, and you are troubled.

⁶Is not your fear your confidence,
and the integrity of your ways your hope?

⁷Think about this, please: Who has ever perished when innocent?
Or when were the upright people ever cut off?

⁸According to what I have seen, those who plow iniquity
and sow trouble reap it.

⁹By the breath of God they perish;
by the blast of his anger they are consumed.

¹⁰The roaring of the lion, the voice of the fierce lion,
the teeth of the young lions—they are broken.

¹¹The old lion perishes for lack of victims;
the cubs of the lioness are scattered everywhere.

¹²Now a certain matter was secretly brought to me,
and my ear received a whisper about it.

¹³Then came thoughts from visions in the night,
when deep sleep falls on people.

¹⁴It was at night when fear and trembling came upon me,

and all my bones shook.

¹⁵Then a spirit passed before my face,
and the hair of my flesh stood up.

¹⁶The spirit stood still, but I could not discern its appearance.

A form was before my eyes;
there was silence, and I heard a voice that said,

¹⁷"Can a mortal man be more righteous than God?
Can a man be more pure than his Maker?

¹⁸See, if God puts no trust in his servants;
if he accuses his angels of folly,

¹⁹how much more is this true of those who live in houses of clay,
whose foundation is in the dust,
who are crushed sooner than a moth?

²⁰Between morning and evening they are destroyed;
they perish forever without anyone noticing them.

²¹Are not their tent cords plucked up among them?
They die; they die without wisdom.

Chapter 5

¹Call out now; is there anyone who will answer you?
To which of the holy ones will you turn?

²For anger kills the foolish man;
jealousy kills the silly one.

³I have seen a foolish person taking root,
but suddenly I cursed his home.

⁴His children are far from safety;
they are crushed in the city gate.
There is no one to rescue them.

⁵The hungry eat up their harvest;
they even take it from among the thorns.
The thirsty pant for their wealth.

⁶For difficulties do not come out from the soil;
neither does trouble sprout from the ground.

⁷Instead, mankind is born for trouble,
just as sparks fly upward.

⁸But as for me, I would turn to God himself;
to him I would commit my cause—

⁹he who does great and unsearchable things,
marvelous things without number.

¹⁰He gives rain on the earth,
and sends water on the fields.

¹¹He does this in order to set up on high those who are low;
to raise to safety those who mourn.

¹²He breaks the plans of the crafty people,
so that their hands cannot achieve success.

¹³He traps wise people in their own crafty actions;
the plans of twisted people are hurried to their end.

¹⁴They encounter darkness in the daytime,
and grope at noonday as if it were night.

¹⁵But he saves the poor person from the sword in their mouths
and the needy person from the hand of mighty people.

¹⁶So the poor person has hope,
and injustice shuts her own mouth.

¹⁷See, blessed is the man whom God corrects;
therefore, do not despise the chastening of the Almighty.

¹⁸For he wounds and then binds up;
he wounds and then his hands heal.

¹⁹He will rescue you out of six troubles;
indeed, in seven troubles, no evil will touch you.

²⁰In famine he will ransom you from death,
and in war from the hands of the sword.

²¹You will be hidden from the scourge of the tongue;

and you will not be afraid of destruction when it comes.

²²You will laugh at destruction and famine,

and you will not be afraid of beasts of the earth.

²³For you will have a covenant with the stones in your field,

and the beasts of the field will be at peace with you.

²⁴You will know that your tent is in safety;

you will visit your sheepfold and you will not miss anything.

²⁵You will also know that your seed will be great,

that your offspring will be like the grass on the ground.

²⁶You will come to your grave at a full age,

like a stack of grain bundles that goes up at its time.

²⁷See, we have examined this matter; it is like this;

listen to it, and know it for yourself."

Chapter 6

¹Then Job answered and said,

²"Oh, if only my anguish were weighed;

if only all my calamity were laid in the balance!

³For now it would be heavier than the sand of the seas.

That is why my words were reckless.

⁴For the arrows of the Almighty are in me,

my spirit drinks up the poison;

the terrors of God have arranged themselves in array against me.

⁵Does the wild donkey bray in despair when he has grass?

Or does the ox low in hunger when it has fodder?

⁶Can that which has no taste be eaten without salt?

Or is there any taste in the white of an egg?

⁷I refuse to touch them;

they are like disgusting food to me.

⁸Oh, that I might have my request;

oh, that God would grant me the thing I long for:

⁹that it would please God to crush me once,
that he would let loose his hand and cut me off from this life!

¹⁰May this still be my consolation—
even if I exult in pain that does not lessen:
that I have not denied the words of the Holy One.

¹¹What is my strength, that I should try to wait?
What is my end, that I should prolong my life?

¹²Is my strength the strength of stones?
Or is my flesh made of bronze?

¹³Is it not true that I have no help in myself,
and that wisdom has been driven out of me?

¹⁴To the person who is about to faint, faithfulness should be shown by his friend;
even to him who forsakes the fear of the Almighty.

¹⁵But my brothers have been as faithful to me as a desert streambed,
as channels of water that pass away to nothing,
¹⁶which are darkened because of ice over them,
and because of the snow that hides itself in them.

¹⁷When they thaw out, they vanish;
when it is hot, they melt out of their place.

¹⁸The caravans that travel by their way turn aside for water;
they wander into barren land and then perish.

¹⁹Caravans from Tema looked there,
while companies of Sheba hoped in them.

²⁰They were disappointed because they had been confident of finding water.
They went there, but they were deceived.

²¹For now you friends are nothing to me;
you see my dreadful situation and are afraid.

²²Did I say to you, 'Give something to me'
or, 'Offer me a gift from your wealth'

²³or, 'Save me from my adversary's hand'
or, 'Ransom me from the hand of my oppressors'?

²⁴Teach me, and I will hold my peace;
make me understand where I have been wrong.

²⁵How painful are truthful words!
But your arguments, how do they actually rebuke me?

²⁶Do you plan to ignore my words,
treating the words of a desperate man like the wind?

²⁷Indeed, you cast lots for a fatherless child,
and haggle over your friend like merchandise.

²⁸Now, therefore, please look at me,
for surely I would not lie to your face.

²⁹Relent, I beg you; let there be no injustice with you;
Indeed, relent, for my cause is just.

³⁰Is there evil on my tongue?
Cannot my mouth detect malicious things?

Chapter 7

¹Does not man have hard labor on earth?
Are not his days like the days of a hired man?

²Like a slave earnestly desires the shadows of evening,
like a hired man looks for his wages—

³so I have been made to endure months of misery;
I have been given trouble-filled nights.

⁴When I lie down, I say to myself,
‘When will I get up and when will the night be gone?’
I am full of tossing to and fro until the day’s dawning.

⁵My flesh is clothed with worms and clods of dust;
the sores in my skin harden up and then dissolve and run afresh.

⁶My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle;
they pass without hope.

⁷God, call to mind that my life is only a breath;
my eye will no more see good.

⁸The eye of God, who sees me, will see me no more;
God's eyes will be on me, but I will not exist.

⁹As a cloud is consumed and vanishes away,
so he who goes down to Sheol will come up no more.

¹⁰He will return no more to his house;
neither will his place know him again.

¹¹Therefore I will not restrain my mouth;
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

¹²Am I the sea or a sea monster
that you place a guard over me?

¹³When I say, 'My bed will comfort me,
and my couch will ease my complaint,'

¹⁴then you scare me with dreams
and terrify me through visions,

¹⁵so that I would choose strangling
and death rather than preserving these bones of mine.

¹⁶I loathe my life; I would not wish to always be alive;
let me alone for my days are useless.

¹⁷What is man that you should pay attention to him,
that you should set your mind on him,

¹⁸that you should observe him every morning
and test him every moment?

¹⁹How long will it be before you look away from me,
before you let me alone long enough for me to swallow down my own saliva?

²⁰Even if I have sinned, what would that do to you, you who watch men?
Why have you made a target of me,
so that I am a burden for you?

²¹Why do you not pardon my transgression and take away my iniquity?
For now will I lie down in the dust;
you will seek me carefully, but I will not exist."

Chapter 8

¹Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said,

²"How long will you say these things?

How long will the words of your mouth be a mighty wind?

³Does God pervert justice?

Does the Almighty pervert righteousness?

⁴Your children have sinned against him;

we know this, for he gave them into the hand of their sins.

⁵But suppose you diligently sought God

and presented your request to the Almighty.

⁶If you are pure and upright,

then he would surely stir himself on your behalf

and restore you to your rightful place.

⁷Even though your beginning was small,

still your final condition would be much greater.

⁸Please ask the former generations,

and give your attention to what our ancestors learned.

⁹(We were only born yesterday and know nothing

because our days on earth are a shadow.)

¹⁰Will they not teach you and tell you?

Will they not speak words from their hearts?

¹¹Can papyrus grow without a marsh?

Can reeds grow without water?

¹²While they are still green and not cut down,

they wither before any other plant.

¹³So also are the paths of all who forget God;

the hope of the godless will perish.

¹⁴His confidence will break apart,

and his trust is as weak as a spider's web.

¹⁵He leans on his house, but it will not support him;

he takes hold of it, but it does not stand.

¹⁶Under the sun he is green,
and his shoots go out over his entire garden.

¹⁷His roots are wrapped about the heaps of stone;
they look for good places among the rocks.

¹⁸But if this person is destroyed out of his place,
then that place will deny him and say, 'I never saw you.'

¹⁹See, this is the "joy" of such a person's behavior;
other plants will sprout out of the same soil in his place.

²⁰See, God will not cast away an innocent man;
neither will he take the hand of evildoers.

²¹He will yet fill your mouth with laughter,
your lips with shouting.

²²Those who hate you will be clothed with shame;
the tent of the wicked will be no more."

Chapter 9

¹Then Job answered and said,

²"I truly know that this is so.

But how can a person be in the right with God?

³If he wants to argue with God,
he cannot answer him once in a thousand times.

⁴God is wise in heart and mighty in strength;
who has ever hardened himself against him and succeeded?—

⁵he who removes the mountains without warning anyone
when he overturns them in his anger—

⁶he who shakes the earth out of its place
and sets its supports trembling.

⁷It is the same God who tells the sun not to rise, and it does not,
and who covers up the stars,

⁸who by himself stretches out the heavens

and tramples down the waves of the sea,

⁹who makes the Bear, Orion, the Pleiades,
and the constellations of the south.

¹⁰He does great and unsearchable things,
and wonderful things that cannot be counted.

¹¹See, he goes by me, and I do not see him;
he passes on also, but I do not perceive him.

¹²If he takes something away, who can stop him?
Who can say to him, 'What are you doing?'

¹³God will not withdraw his anger;
the helpers of Rahab bow beneath him.

¹⁴How much less could I answer him,
could I choose words to reason with him?

¹⁵Even if I were righteous, I could not answer him;
I could only plead for mercy with my judge.

¹⁶Even if I called and he answered me,
I would not believe that he was listening to my voice.

¹⁷For he breaks me with a tempest
and multiplies my wounds without cause.

¹⁸He does not allow me to regain my breath;
but he fills me with bitterness.

¹⁹If it is a matter of strength, behold, he is mighty!
If it is a matter of justice, who can summon him?

²⁰Though I am in the right, my own mouth would condemn me;
and though I am blameless, my words would prove me to be guilty.

²¹I am blameless, but I do not care any more about myself;
I despise my own life.

²²It makes no difference, which is why I say
that he destroys blameless people and wicked people together.

²³When a whip suddenly kills,
he mocks the despair of the innocent.

²⁴The earth is given into the hand of wicked people;
God covers the faces of its judges.

If it is not he who does it, then who is it?

²⁵My days are swifter than a running messenger;
my days flee away; they see no good anywhere.

²⁶They are as fast as papyrus reed boats,
and as fast as the eagle that swoops down on its victim.

²⁷If I said that I would forget about my complaints,
that I would take off my sad face and be happy,

²⁸I would be afraid of all my sorrows
because I know that you will not consider me innocent.

²⁹I will be condemned;
why, then, should I try in vain?

³⁰If I washed myself with snow water
and made my hands ever so clean,

³¹God would plunge me in a ditch,
and my own clothes would be disgusted with me.

³²For God is not a man, as I am, that I could answer him,
that we could come together in court.

³³There is no judge between us
who might lay his hand upon us both.

³⁴There is no other judge who could take God's rod off me,
who could keep his terror from frightening me.

³⁵Then would I speak up and not fear him.
But as things are now, I cannot do that.

Chapter 10

¹I am weary of my life;
I will give free expression to my complaint;
I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

²I will say to God, 'Do not merely condemn me;

show me why you accuse me.

³Is it good to you that you should oppress me,

to despise the work of your hands

while you smile on the plans of the wicked?

⁴Do you have eyes of flesh?

Do you see like a man sees?

⁵Are your days like the days of mankind

or your years like the years of people,

⁶that you inquire after my iniquity

and search after my sin,

⁷although you know I am not guilty

and there is no one who can rescue me from your hand?

⁸Your hands have framed and fashioned me

together round about, yet you are destroying me.

⁹Call to mind, I beg you, that you have fashioned me like clay;

will you bring me into dust again?

¹⁰Have you not poured me out like milk

and curdled me like cheese?

¹¹You have clothed me with skin and flesh

and knit me together with bones and sinews.

¹²You have granted me life and covenant faithfulness;

your help has guarded my spirit.

¹³Yet these things you hid in your heart—

I know that this is what you were thinking:

¹⁴that if I sinned, you would notice it;

you would not acquit me of my iniquity.

¹⁵If I have acted wickedly, woe to me;

and even if I acted righteously,

I could not lift up my head,

since I am filled with disgrace—

see my affliction! ¹⁶If my head were lifted up,

you would stalk me like a lion;
and again you would show yourself with marvellous acts of power against me.

¹⁷You bring new witnesses against me
and increase your anger against me;
you attack me with fresh armies.

¹⁸Why, then, have you brought me out of the womb?
I wish I had given up my spirit and that no eye had ever seen me.

¹⁹I would have been as though I had never existed;
I would have been carried from the womb to the grave.

²⁰Are not my days only a few? Stop then,
let me alone, so that I may have a little rest

²¹before I go from where I will not return,
to the land of darkness and of the shadow of death,

²²the land that is as dark as midnight,
the land of the shadow of death, without any order,
where the light is like midnight.”

Chapter 11

¹Then Zophar the Naamathite answered and said,

²“Should not such a multitude of words be answered?
Should this man, so full of talk, be believed?

³Should your boasting make others remain silent?
When you mock, will no one make you feel ashamed?

⁴For you say to God, ‘My beliefs are pure,
I am blameless in your eyes.’

⁵But, oh, that God would speak
and open his lips against you;

⁶that he would show you the secrets of wisdom!
For he is great in understanding.

Know then that God demands from you less than your iniquity deserves.

⁷Can you understand God by searching for him?

Can you comprehend the Almighty perfectly?

⁸The matter is as high as heaven; what can you do?

It is deeper than Sheol; what can you know?

⁹Its measure is longer than the earth,

and wider than the sea.

¹⁰If he passes through and shuts anyone up,

if he calls anyone to judgment, then who can stop him?

¹¹For he knows false people;

when he sees iniquity, does he not notice it?

¹²But foolish people have no understanding;

they will get it when a wild donkey gives birth to a man.

¹³But suppose that you had set your heart right

and had reached out with your hands toward God;

¹⁴suppose that iniquity were in your hand, but that then you put it far away from you,

and did not let unrighteousness live in your tents.

¹⁵Then you would certainly lift up your face without a sign of shame;

indeed, you would be steadfast and would not fear.

¹⁶You would forget your misery;

you would remember it only like waters that have flowed away.

¹⁷Your life would be brighter than the noonday;

though there were darkness, it would become like the morning.

¹⁸You would be secure because there is hope;

indeed, you would find safety about you and would take your rest in safety.

¹⁹Also you would lie down in rest, and none would make you afraid;

indeed, many would seek your favor.

²⁰But the eyes of wicked people will fail;

they will have no way to flee;

their only hope will be a last gasp of life."

Chapter 12

¹Then Job answered and said,

²No doubt you are the people;
wisdom will die with you.

³But I have understanding as well as you;
I am not inferior to you.

Indeed, who does not know such things as these?

⁴I am something for my neighbor to laugh at—
I, one who called on God and who was answered by him!
I, a just and blameless man—I am now something to laugh at.

⁵In the thought of someone who is at ease, there is contempt for misfortune;
he thinks in a way that brings more misfortune to those whose foot is slipping.

⁶The tents of robbers prosper,
and those who provoke God feel secure;
their own hands are their gods.

⁷But now ask the beasts, and they will teach you;
ask the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you.

⁸Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you;
the fish of the sea will declare to you.

⁹Which animal among all these does not know
that the hand of Yahweh has done this?

¹⁰In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of all mankind.

¹¹Does not the ear test words
just as the palate tastes its food?

¹²With aged men is wisdom;
in length of days is understanding.

¹³With God are wisdom and might;
he has counsel and understanding.

¹⁴See, he breaks down, and it cannot be built again;
if he imprisons someone, there can be no release.

¹⁵See, if he withholds the waters, they dry up;
and if he sends them out, they overwhelm the land.

¹⁶With him are strength and wisdom;
people who are deceived and the deceiver are both in his power.

¹⁷He leads counselors away barefoot in sorrow;
he turns judges into fools.

¹⁸He takes off the chain of authority from kings;
he wraps a cloth about their waists.

¹⁹He leads priests away barefoot in sorrow
and overthrows mighty people.

²⁰He removes the speech of those who had been trusted
and takes away the understanding of the elders.

²¹He pours contempt upon princes
and unfastens the belt of strong people.

²²He reveals the deep things of darkness
and brings deep shadows into the light.

²³He makes nations strong, and he also destroys them;
He enlarges nations, and he also leads them along as prisoners.

²⁴He takes away understanding from the leaders of the people of the earth;
he causes them to wander in a wilderness where there is no path.

²⁵They grope in the dark without light;
he makes them stagger like a drunk man.

Chapter 13

¹See, my eye has seen all this;
my ear has heard and understood it.

²What you know, the same I also know;
I am not inferior to you.

³However, I would rather speak with the Almighty;
I wish to reason with God.

⁴But you whitewash the truth with lies;
you are all physicians of no value.

⁵Oh, that you would altogether hold your peace!

That would be your wisdom.

⁶Hear now my own reasoning;

listen to the pleading of my own lips.

⁷Will you speak unrighteously for God,

and will you talk deceitfully for him?

⁸Will you show him partiality?

Will you argue the case for God?

⁹Will it be good for you when he searches you out?

Could you deceive him as you might deceive men?

¹⁰He would surely reprove you

if in secret you showed partiality.

¹¹Will not his majesty terrify you,

and the dread of him fall upon you?

¹²Your memorable sayings are proverbs made of ashes;

your defenses are defenses made of clay.

¹³Hold your peace, let me alone, so that I may speak,

let come what may on me.

¹⁴I will take my own flesh in my teeth;

I will take my life in my hands.

¹⁵See, if he kills me, I will have no hope left;

nevertheless, I will defend my ways before him.

¹⁶This will be the reason for my deliverance,

for no godless person would come before him.

¹⁷God, listen carefully to my speech;

let my declaration come to your ears.

¹⁸See now, I have set my defense in order;

I know that I am innocent.

¹⁹Who is the one who would argue against me in court?

If you came to do so, and if I were proved wrong, then I would be silent and give up my life.

²⁰God, do only two things for me,

and then I will not hide myself from your face:

²¹withdraw your oppressive hand from me,
and do not let your terrors make me afraid.

²²Then call me, and I will answer;
or let me speak to you, and you answer me.

²³How many are my iniquities and sins?
Let me know my transgression and my sin.

²⁴Why do you hide your face from me
and treat me like your enemy?

²⁵Will you persecute a driven leaf?
Will you pursue dry stubble?

²⁶For you write down bitter things against me;
you make me inherit the iniquities of my youth.

²⁷You also put my feet in the stocks;
you closely watch all my paths;
you examine the ground where the soles of my feet have walked

²⁸although I am like a rotten thing that wastes away,
like a garment that moths have eaten.

Chapter 14

¹Man, who is born of woman,
lives only a few days and is full of trouble.

²He sprouts from the ground like a flower and is cut down;
he flees like a shadow and does not last.

³Do you look at any of these?
Do you bring me into judgment with you?

⁴Who can bring something clean out of something unclean? No one.

⁵Man's days are determined.
The number of his months is with you;
you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass.

⁶Look away from him that he may rest,
so that he may enjoy his day like a hired man if he can do so.

⁷There can be hope for a tree;
if it is cut down, it might sprout again,
so that its tender stalk does not disappear.

⁸Though its root grows old in the earth,
and its stump dies in the ground,

⁹yet even if it only smells water, it will bud
and send out branches like a plant.

¹⁰But man dies; he becomes weak;
indeed, man stops breathing, and then where is he?

¹¹As water disappears from a lake,
and as a river loses water and dries up,

¹²so people lie down and do not rise again.
Until the heavens are no more, they will not awake
nor be roused out of their sleep.

¹³Oh, that you would hide me away in Sheol away from troubles,
and that you would keep me in private until your wrath is over,
that you would set me a fixed time to stay there and then call me to mind!

¹⁴If a man dies, will he live again?
If so, I would wish to wait all my weary time there
until my release should come.

¹⁵You would call, and I would answer you.
You would have a desire for the work of your hands.

¹⁶You would number and care for my footsteps;
you would not keep track of my sin.

¹⁷My transgression would be sealed up in a bag;
you would cover up my iniquity.

¹⁸But even mountains fall and come to nothing;
even rocks are moved out of their place;

¹⁹the waters wear down the stones;
their flooding washes away the dust of the earth.

Like this, you destroy the hope of man.

²⁰You always defeat him, and he passes away;
you change his face and send him away to die.

²¹If his sons are honored, he does not know it;
and if they are brought low, he does not see it.

²²He feels only the pain of his own body,
and he mourns for himself.

Chapter 15

¹Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,

²“Should a wise man answer with useless knowledge
and fill himself with the east wind?

³Should he reason with unprofitable talk
or with speeches with which he can do no good?

⁴Indeed, you diminish respect for God;
you obstruct devotion to him,

⁵for your iniquity teaches your mouth;
you choose to have the tongue of a crafty man.

⁶Your own mouth condemns you, not mine;
indeed, your own lips testify against you.

⁷Are you the first man that was born?
Were you brought into existence before the hills?

⁸Have you heard the secret knowledge of God?
Do you limit wisdom to yourself?

⁹What do you know that we do not know?
What do you understand that is not also in us?

¹⁰With us are both the gray-headed and the very aged men
who are much older than your father.

¹¹Are the consolations of God too small for you,
the words that are gentle toward you?

¹²Why does your heart carry you away?
Why do your eyes flash,

¹³so that you turn your spirit against God
and bring out such words from your mouth?

¹⁴What is man that he should be clean?
What is he who is born of a woman that he should be righteous?

¹⁵See, God puts no trust even in his holy ones;
indeed, the heavens are not clean in his sight;

¹⁶how much less clean is one who is abominable and corrupt,
a man who drinks iniquity like water!

¹⁷I will show you; listen to me;
I will announce to you the things I have seen,

¹⁸the things that wise men have passed down from their fathers,
the things that their ancestors did not hide.

¹⁹These were their ancestors, to whom alone the land was given,
and among whom no stranger ever passed.

²⁰The wicked man twists in pain all his days,
the number of years that are laid up for the oppressor to suffer.

²¹A sound of terrors is in his ears;
while he is in prosperity, the destroyer will come upon him.

²²He does not think that he will return out of darkness;
the sword waits for him.

²³He goes to various places for bread, saying, 'Where is it?'
He knows that the day of darkness is at hand.

²⁴Distress and anguish make him afraid;
they prevail against him, as a king ready for battle.

²⁵Because he has reached out with his hand against God
and has behaved proudly against the Almighty,

²⁶this wicked man runs at God with a stiff neck,
with a thick shield.

²⁷This is true, even though he has covered his face with his fat
and gathered fat on his loins,

²⁸and has lived in desolate cities;

in houses which no man inhabits now
and which were ready to become heaps.

²⁹He will not be rich; his wealth will not last
and his possessions will not spread over the land.

³⁰He will not depart out of darkness;^[1]
a flame will dry up his stalks;
at the breath of God's mouth he will go away.^[2]

³¹Let him not trust in useless things, deceiving himself;
for uselessness will be his reward.

³²It will happen before his time should come to die;
his branch will not be green.

³³He will drop his unripe grapes like a grapevine;
he will cast off his flowers like the olive tree.

³⁴For the company of godless people will be barren;
fire will consume their tents of bribery.

³⁵They conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity;
their womb conceives deceit."

15:30 ^[1], because they believe that this expression was mistakenly copied from 15:22.

15:30 ^[2], which some modern versions, including the ULT and UST, interpret as meaning the breath of God's mouth. However, other modern versions follow an ancient Greek reading, .

Chapter 16

¹Then Job answered and said,

²"I have heard many such things;
you are all miserable comforters.

³Will useless words ever have an end?

What is wrong with you that you answer like this?

⁴I also could speak as you do,

if you were in my place;

I could collect and join words together against you
and shake my head at you in mockery.

⁵I would strengthen you with my mouth,

and the quivering of my lips will bring you relief!

⁶If I speak, my grief is not lessened;
if I keep from speaking, how am I helped?

⁷But now, God, you have made me weary;
you have made all my family desolate.

⁸You have made me dry up, which itself is a witness against me;
the leanness of my body rises up against me,
and it testifies against my face.

⁹God has torn me in his wrath and persecuted me;
He grinds his teeth in rage;
my enemy fastens his eyes on me as he tears me apart.

¹⁰People have gaped with open mouth at me;
they have hit me reproachfully on the cheek;
they have gathered together against me.

¹¹God hands me over to ungodly people,
and throws me into the hands of wicked people.

¹²I was at ease, and he broke me apart.
Indeed, he has taken me by the neck and dashed me to pieces;
he has also set me up as his target.

¹³His archers surround me all around;
God pierces my kidneys and does not spare me;
he pours out my bile on the ground.

¹⁴He smashes through my wall again and again;
he runs upon me like a warrior.

¹⁵I have sewn sackcloth on my skin;
I have thrust my horn into the ground.

¹⁶My face is red with weeping;
on my eyelids is the shadow of death

¹⁷although there is no violence in my hands,
and my prayer is pure.

¹⁸Earth, do not cover up my blood;

let my cry have no resting place.

¹⁹Even now, see, my witness is in heaven;

he who vouches for me is on high.

²⁰My friends scoff at me,

but my eye pours out tears to God.

²¹I ask for that witness in heaven to argue for this man with God
as a man does with his neighbor!

²²For when a few years have passed,

I will go to a place from where I will not return.

Chapter 17

¹My spirit is consumed, and my days are over;

the grave is ready for me.

²Surely there are mockers with me;

my eye must always see their provocation.

³Give now a pledge, be a guarantee for me with yourself;

who else is there who will help me?

⁴For you, God, have kept their hearts from understanding;

therefore, you will not exalt them over me.

⁵He who denounces his friends for a reward,

the eyes of his children will fail.

⁶But he has made me a byword of the people;

they spit in my face.

⁷My eye is also dim because of sorrow;

all my body parts are as thin as shadows.

⁸Upright men will be stunned by this;

the innocent man will stir himself up against godless men.

⁹The righteous man will keep to his way;

he who has clean hands will grow stronger and stronger.

¹⁰But as for you all, come on now;

I will not find a wise man among you.

¹¹My days are past; my plans are shattered,
and so are the desires of my heart.^[1]

¹²These people, these mockers, change the night into day;
light is near to darkness.

¹³If the only home I hope for is Sheol;
and if I have spread my couch in the darkness;

¹⁴and if I have said to the pit, 'You are my father,'
and to the worm, 'You are my mother or my sister,'

¹⁵where then is my hope?

As for my hope, who can see any?

¹⁶Will hope go down with me to the gates of Sheol
when we descend to the dust?"

17:11 ^[1] or . Others have

Chapter 18

¹Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said,

²"When will you stop your talk?

Consider, and afterwards we will speak.

³Why are we regarded as beasts, stupid in your sight?

⁴You who tear at yourself in your anger,

should the earth be forsaken for you

or should the rocks be removed out of their places?

⁵Indeed, the light of the wicked person will be put out;

the spark of his fire will not shine.

⁶The light will be dark in his tent;

his lamp above him will be put out.

⁷The steps of his strength will be made short;

his own plans will cast him down.

⁸For he will be thrown into a net by his own feet;

he will walk into a pitfall.

⁹A trap will take him by the heel;

a snare will lay hold on him.

¹⁰A noose is hidden for him on the ground;
and a trap for him in the way.

¹¹Terrors will make him afraid on every side;
they will chase him at his heels.

¹²His wealth will turn into hunger,
and calamity will be ready at his side.

¹³The parts of his body will be devoured;
indeed, the firstborn of death will devour his parts.

¹⁴He is torn from the safety of his tent
and marched off to the king of terrors.

¹⁵People not his own will live in his tent
after they see that sulfur is scattered within his home.

¹⁶His roots will be dried up beneath;
above will his branch be cut off.

¹⁷His memory will perish from the earth;
he will have no name in the street.

¹⁸He will be driven from light into darkness
and be chased out of this world.

¹⁹He will have no son or son's son among his people,
nor any remaining kinfolk where he had stayed.

²⁰Those who live in the west will be horrified at what happens to him one day;
those who live in the east will be frightened by it.

²¹Surely such are the homes of unrighteous people,
the places of those who do not know God."

Chapter 19

¹Then Job answered and said,

²"How long will you make me suffer
and break me into pieces with words?

³These ten times you have reproached me;

you are not ashamed that you have treated me harshly.

⁴If it is indeed true that I have erred,
my error remains my own concern.

⁵If indeed you will exalt yourselves above me
and use my humiliation against me,

⁶then you should know that God has done wrong to me
and has caught me in his net.

⁷See, I cry out, "Violence!" but I get no answer.
I call out for help, but there is no justice.

⁸He has walled up my way so that I cannot pass,
and he has set darkness in my path.

⁹He has stripped me of my glory,
and he has taken the crown from my head.

¹⁰He has broken me down on every side, and I am gone;
he has pulled up my hope like a tree.

¹¹He has also kindled his wrath against me;
he regards me as one of his adversaries.

¹²His troops come on together;
they cast up siege mounds against me
and encamp around my tent.

¹³He has put my brothers far from me;
my acquaintances are wholly alienated from me.

¹⁴My kinsfolk have failed me;
my close friends have forgotten me.

¹⁵Those who once stayed as guests in my house and my female servants regard me as a stranger;
I am an alien in their sight.

¹⁶I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer
although I entreat him with my mouth.

¹⁷My breath is offensive to my wife;
I am even disgusting to those who were born from my mother's womb.

¹⁸Even young children despise me;

if I rise to speak, they speak against me.

¹⁹All my familiar friends abhor me;

those whom I love have turned against me.

²⁰My bones cling to my skin and to my flesh;

I survive only by the skin of my teeth.

²¹Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, my friends,

for the hand of God has touched me.

²²Why do you pursue me like God does?

Will you ever be satisfied with my flesh?

²³Oh, that my words were now written down!

Oh, that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴Oh, that with an iron pen and lead

they were engraved in the rock forever!

²⁵But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives,

and that at last he will stand on the earth;

²⁶after my skin, that is, this body, is destroyed,

then in my flesh I will see God.

²⁷I will see him with my own eyes—I, and not someone else.

My heart fails within me.

²⁸If you say, 'How we will persecute him!

The root of his troubles lies in him,'

²⁹then be afraid of the sword,

because wrath brings the punishment of the sword,

so that you may know there is a judgment."

Chapter 20

¹Then Zophar the Naamathite answered and said,

²"My thoughts make me answer quickly

because of the worry that is in me.

³I hear a rebuke that dishonors me,

but a spirit from my understanding answers me.

⁴Do you not know this fact from ancient times,
when God placed man on earth:
⁵the triumph of a wicked man is short,
and the joy of a godless man lasts only for a moment?
⁶Though his height reaches up to the heavens,
and his head reaches to the clouds,
⁷yet such a person will perish permanently like his own feces;
those who have seen him will say, 'Where is he?'
⁸He will fly away like a dream and will not be found;
indeed, he will be chased away like a vision of the night.
⁹The eye that saw him will see him no more;
his place will see him no longer.
¹⁰His children will apologize to poor people;
his hands will have to give back his wealth.
¹¹His bones are full of youthful strength,
but it will lie down with him in the dust.
¹²Although wickedness is sweet in his mouth,
although he hides it under his tongue,
¹³although he holds it there and does not let it go
but keeps it still in his mouth—
¹⁴the food in his intestines turns bitter;
it becomes the poison of asps inside him.
¹⁵He swallows down riches, but he will vomit them up again;
God will cast them out of his stomach.
¹⁶He will suck the poison of asps;
the viper's tongue will kill him.
¹⁷He will not enjoy the streams,
the torrents of honey and butter.
¹⁸He will give back the fruit of his labor and will not be able to eat it;
he will not enjoy the wealth earned by his commerce.
¹⁹For he has oppressed and neglected poor people;

he has violently taken away houses that he did not build.

²⁰Because he has known no satisfaction himself,
he will not be able to save anything in which he takes pleasure.

²¹There is nothing left that he did not devour;
therefore his prosperity will not be permanent.

²²In the abundance of his wealth he will fall into trouble;
the hand of everyone who is in poverty will come against him.

²³When he is about to fill his stomach, God will throw the fierceness of his wrath on him;
God will rain it down on him while he is eating.

²⁴Although that man will flee from the iron weapon,
a bow of bronze will shoot him.

²⁵He pulls it out of his back
and the gleaming point comes out of his liver.
Terrors come over him.

²⁶Complete darkness is reserved for his treasures;
a fire not fanned will devour him;
it will consume what is left in his tent.

²⁷The heavens will reveal his iniquity,
and the earth will rise up against him as a witness.

²⁸The wealth of his house will vanish;
his goods will flow away on the day of God's wrath.

²⁹This is the wicked man's portion from God,
the heritage reserved for him by God."

Chapter 21

¹Then Job answered and said,

²"Listen carefully to my words,
and let this be the comfort you offer to me.

³Put up with me, and I also will speak;
after I have spoken, mock on.

⁴As for me, is my complaint to a person?

Why should I not be impatient?

⁵Look at me and be astonished,
and lay your hand upon your mouth.

⁶When I think about my sufferings, I am terrified,
and trembling seizes my body.

⁷Why do wicked people continue to live,
become old, and grow mighty in power?

⁸Their descendants are established with them in their sight,
and their offspring are established before their eyes.

⁹Their houses are safe from fear;
neither is the rod of God on them.

¹⁰Their bull breeds; it does not fail to do so;
their cow gives birth and does not lose her calf prematurely.

¹¹They send out their little ones like a flock,
and their children dance.

¹²They sing to the tambourine and harp
and rejoice with the music of the flute.

¹³They spend their days in prosperity,
and they go down quietly to Sheol.

¹⁴They say to God, 'Depart from us
for we do not wish any knowledge of your ways.

¹⁵What is the Almighty, that we should worship him?
What advantage would we get if we prayed to him?'

¹⁶See, is not their prosperity in their own hands?
I have nothing to do with the advice of wicked people.

¹⁷How often is it that the lamp of wicked people is put out,
or that their calamity comes upon them?
How often does it happen that God distributes sorrows to them in his anger?

¹⁸How often is it that they become like stubble before the wind
or like chaff that the storm carries away?

¹⁹You say, 'God lays up one's guilt for his children to pay.'

Let him pay it himself, so that he might know his guilt.

²⁰Let his eyes see his own destruction,
and let him drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

²¹For what does he care about his family after him
when the number of his months is cut off?

²²Can anyone teach God knowledge
since he judges even those who are high?

²³One man dies in his full strength,
being completely quiet and at ease.

²⁴His body is full of milk,
and the marrow of his bones is moist.

²⁵Another man dies in bitterness of soul,
one who has never experienced anything good.

²⁶They lie down alike in the dust;
the worms cover them both.

²⁷See, I know your thoughts,
and the ways in which you wish to wrong me.

²⁸For you say, 'Where now is the house of the prince?
Where is the tent in which the wicked man once lived?'

²⁹Have you never asked traveling people?
Do you not know the evidence they can tell,

³⁰that the wicked man is kept from the day of calamity,
and that he is led away from the day of wrath?

³¹Who will condemn the wicked man's way to his face?
Who will repay him for what he has done?

³²Yet he will be borne to the grave;
men will keep watch over his tomb.

³³The clods of the valley will be sweet to him;
all people will follow after him,
as there were innumerable people before him.

³⁴How then do you comfort me with nonsense,

since in your answers there is nothing but falsehood?"

Chapter 22

¹Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,

²"Can a man be useful to God?

Can a wise man be useful to him?

³Is it any pleasure to the Almighty if you are righteous?

Is it gain to him if you make your ways blameless?

⁴Is it because of your reverence for him that he rebukes you
and takes you to judgment?

⁵Is not your wickedness great?

Is there no end to your iniquities?

⁶For you have demanded guarantee of a loan from your brother for no reason,
and you have stripped away clothing from the naked.

⁷You have not given water to weary people to drink;
you have withheld bread from hungry people

⁸although you, a mighty man, possessed the earth,
although you, an honored man, lived in it.

⁹You have sent widows away empty;
the arms of the fatherless have been broken.

¹⁰Therefore, snares are all around you,
and sudden fear troubles you.

¹¹There is darkness, so that you cannot see;
an abundance of waters covers you.

¹²Is not God in the heights of heaven?
Look at the height of the stars, how high they are!

¹³You say, 'What does God know?
Can he judge through the thick darkness?

¹⁴Thick clouds are a covering to him, so that he does not see us;
he walks on the vault of heaven.'

¹⁵Will you keep the old way

that wicked men have walked—

16those who were snatched away before their time,
those whose foundations have washed away like a river,

17those who said to God, 'Depart from us';
those who said, 'What can the Almighty do to us?'

18Yet he filled their houses with good things;
the plans of wicked people are far from me.

19Righteous people see their fate and are glad;
innocent people laugh them to scorn.

20They say, 'Surely those who rose up against us are cut off;
fire has consumed their possessions.'

21Now agree with God and be at peace with him;
in that way, good will come to you.

22Receive, I beg you, instruction from his mouth;
store up his words in your heart.

23If you return to the Almighty, you will be built up,
if you put unrighteousness far away from your tents.

24Lay your treasure down in the dust,
the gold of Ophir among the stones of the brooks,

25and the Almighty will be your treasure,
precious silver to you.

26For then you will take pleasure in the Almighty;
you will lift up your face to God.

27You will make your prayer to him, and he will hear you;
you will pay your vows to him.

28You will also decree anything, and it will be confirmed for you;
light will shine on your paths.

29God humbles a proud man,
and he saves the one with lowered eyes.

30He will rescue even the man who is not innocent;
who will be rescued through the cleanness of your hands."

Chapter 23

¹Then Job answered and said,

²“Even today my complaint is bitter;
my hand^[1] is heavy because of my groaning.

³Oh, that I knew where I might find him!
Oh, that I might come to his place!

⁴I would lay my case in order before him
and fill my mouth with arguments.

⁵I would learn the words with which he would answer me
and would understand what he would say to me.

⁶Would he argue against me in the greatness of his power?
No, he would pay attention to me.

⁷There the upright person might argue with him.
In this way I would be acquitted forever by my judge.

⁸See, I go eastward, but he is not there,
and westward, but I cannot perceive him.

⁹To the north, where he is at work, but I cannot see him,
and to the south, where he hides himself so that I cannot see him.

¹⁰But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tested me, I will come out like gold.

¹¹My foot has held fast to his steps;
I have kept to his way and turned not aside.

¹²I have not gone back from the commandment of his lips;
I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food.

¹³But he is one of a kind, who can turn him back?
What he desires, he does.

¹⁴For he carries out his decree against me;
there are many like them.

¹⁵Therefore, I am terrified in his presence;
when I think about him, I am afraid of him.

¹⁶For God has made my heart weak;
the Almighty has terrified me.

¹⁷I have not been brought to an end by darkness,
because of the thick darkness that covers the gloom of my face.

23:2 ^[1]

Chapter 24

¹Why are times for judging wicked people not set by the Almighty?
Why do not those who are faithful to God see his days of judgment come?

²There are wicked people who remove boundary markers;
there are wicked people who take away flocks by force and put them in their own pastures.

³They drive away the donkey of those without fathers;
they take the widow's ox as security.

⁴They force needy people out of their path;
poor people of the earth all hide themselves from them.

⁵See, these poor people go out to their work
like wild donkeys in the wilderness, looking carefully for food;
perhaps the Arabah will provide them food for their children.

⁶Poor people reap in the night in other people's fields;
they glean grapes from the harvest of those wicked people.

⁷They lie naked all night without clothing;
they have no covering in the cold.

⁸They are wet with the showers of the mountains;
they lie next to large rocks because they have no shelter.

⁹There are wicked people who pluck orphans from their mothers' breast,
and wicked people who take children as security from poor people.

¹⁰But the poor people go about naked without clothing;
although they go hungry, they carry bundles of grain belonging to other people.

¹¹The poor people make oil within the walls of those wicked men;
they tread the wicked men's winepresses, but they themselves suffer thirst.

¹²From out of the city the dying groan,

and the throat of the wounded cries out for help.

But God does not ascribe blame

¹³Some of these wicked people rebel against the light;

they know not its ways,

nor do they stay in its paths.

¹⁴Before daylight the murderer rises

and he kills poor and needy people;

in the night he is like a thief.

¹⁵Also, the eye of the adulterer waits for the twilight;

he says, 'No eye will see me.'

He disguises his face.

¹⁶In the darkness wicked people dig into houses;

but they shut themselves up in the daytime;

they do not care for the light.

¹⁷For all of them, thick darkness is like the morning;

for they are friends with the terrors of thick darkness.

¹⁸Swiftly they pass away, however, like foam on the surface of the waters;

their portion of the land is cursed;

no one goes to work in their vineyards.

¹⁹As drought and heat melt away the snow into waters,

so Sheol takes away those who have sinned.

²⁰The womb that bore him will forget him;

the worm will feed sweetly on him;

he will be remembered no more;

in this way, wickedness will be broken like a tree.

²¹The wicked one devours the barren women who have not borne children;

he does no good to the widow.

²²Yet God drags away the mighty people by his power;

he rises up and does not strengthen them in life.

²³God allows them to think they are secure, and they are happy about that,

but his eyes are on their ways.

²⁴These people are exalted; still, in only a little while, they will be gone;
indeed, they will be brought low; they will be gathered up like all the others;
they will be cut off like the tops of ears of grain.

²⁵If it is not so, who can prove me to be a liar;
who can make my speech worth nothing?"

Chapter 25

¹Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said,

²"Dominion and fear are with him;
he makes order in his high places of heaven.

³Is there any end to the number of his armies?

Upon whom does his light not shine?

⁴How then can man be righteous with God?

How can he who is born of a woman be clean, acceptable to him?

⁵See, even the moon has no brightness to him;
the stars are not pure in his sight.

⁶How much less man, who is a worm—
a son of man, who is a worm!"

Chapter 26

¹Then Job answered and said,

²"How you have helped one who has no power!
How you have saved the arm that has no strength!

³How you have advised one who has no wisdom
and announced to him sound knowledge!

⁴With whose help have you spoken these words?
Whose spirit was it that came out from you?

⁵The dead are made to tremble,
those who are beneath the waters
and all who dwell in them.

⁶Sheol is naked before God;

destruction itself has no covering against him.

⁷He stretches out the northern skies

over the empty space,

and he hangs the earth over nothing.

⁸He binds up the waters in his thick clouds,

but the clouds are not torn under them.

⁹He covers the surface of the moon

and spreads his clouds on it.

¹⁰He has engraved a circular boundary on the surface of the waters

as the line between light and darkness.

¹¹The pillars of heaven tremble

and are astonished at his rebuke.

¹²He calmed the sea with his power;

by his understanding he shattered Rahab.

¹³By his breath he made the skies clear;

his hand pierced the fleeing serpent.

¹⁴See, these are but the fringes of his ways;

how small a whisper do we hear of him!

Who can understand the thunder of his power?"

Chapter 27

¹Job resumed speaking and he said,

²"As surely as God lives, who has taken away my justice,

the Almighty, who made my life bitter,

³while my life is yet in me,

and the breath from God is in my nostrils,

this is what I will do.

⁴My lips will not speak wickedness,

neither will my tongue speak deceit; ⁵I will never admit that you three are right;

until I die I will never deny my integrity.

⁶I hold fast to my righteousness and will not let it go;

my thoughts will not reproach me so long as I live.

⁷Let my enemy be like a wicked man;

let him who rises up against me be like an unrighteous man.

⁸For what is the hope of a godless man when God cuts him off,

when God takes away his life?

⁹Will God hear his cry

when trouble comes upon him?

¹⁰Will he delight himself in the Almighty

and call upon God at all times?

¹¹I will teach you concerning the hand of God;

I will not conceal the thoughts of the Almighty.

¹²See, all of you have seen this yourselves;

why then have you spoken all this nonsense?

¹³This is the portion of a wicked man with God,

the heritage of the oppressor that he receives from the Almighty:

¹⁴If his children multiply, it is for the sword;

his offspring will never have enough food.

¹⁵Those who survive him will be buried by plague,

and their widows will make no lament for them.

¹⁶Though the wicked man heaps up silver like the dust,

and heaps up clothing like clay,

¹⁷he may heap up clothing, but righteous people will put it on,

and innocent people will divide up the silver among themselves.

¹⁸He builds his house like a spider,

like a hut that a guard makes.

¹⁹He lies down in bed rich, but he will not keep doing so;

he opens his eyes, and everything is gone.

²⁰Terrors overtake him like waters;

a storm takes him away in the night.

²¹The east wind carries him away, and he leaves;

it sweeps him out of his place.

²²It throws itself at him and does not stop;
he tries to flee out of its hand.

²³It claps its hands at him
and hisses him from his place.

Chapter 28

¹Surely there is a mine for silver,
a place where they refine gold.

²Iron is taken out of the earth;
copper is smelted out of the stone.

³A man sets an end to darkness
and searches out, to the farthest limit,
the stones in obscurity and thick darkness.

⁴He breaks open a shaft away from where people live,
places that are forgotten by anyone's foot.
He hangs far away from people; he swings to and fro.

⁵As for the earth, out of which comes bread,
it is turned up below as if by fire.

⁶Its stones are the place where sapphires are found,
and its dust contains gold.

⁷No bird of prey knows the path to it,
nor has the falcon's eye seen it.

⁸The proud animals have not walked such a path,
nor has the fierce lion passed there.

⁹A man lays his hand on the flinty rock;
he overturns mountains by their roots.

¹⁰He cuts out channels among the rocks;
his eye sees every valuable thing there.

¹¹He ties up the streams so they do not run;
what is hidden there he brings out to the light.

¹²Where will wisdom be found?

Where is the place of understanding?

¹³Man does not know its price;
neither is it found in the land of the living.

¹⁴The deep waters under the earth say, 'It is not in me';
the sea says, 'It is not with me.'

¹⁵It cannot be gotten for gold;
neither can silver be weighed as its price.

¹⁶It cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir,
with precious onyx or sapphire.

¹⁷Gold and crystal cannot equal it in worth;
neither can it be exchanged for jewels of fine gold.

¹⁸No mention is worth making of coral or jasper;
indeed, the price of wisdom is more than rubies.

¹⁹The topaz of Cush does not equal it;
neither can it be valued in terms of pure gold.

²⁰From where, then, comes wisdom?
Where is the place of understanding?

²¹Wisdom is hidden from the eyes of all living things
and is kept hidden from the birds of the heavens.

²²Destruction and Death say,
'We have heard just a rumor about it with our ears.'

²³God understands the way to it;
he knows its place.

²⁴For he looks to the very ends of the earth
and sees under all the heavens.

²⁵He made the force of the wind
and parceled out the waters by measure.

²⁶He made a decree for the rain
and a path for the thunder.

²⁷Then he saw wisdom and announced it;
he established it, indeed, and he examined it.

²⁸To people he said,
'See, the fear of the Lord—that is wisdom;
to depart from evil is understanding.'"

Chapter 29

¹Job resumed speaking and said,
²"Oh, that I were as I was in the past months
when God cared for me,
³when his lamp shined on my head,
and when I walked through darkness by his light.
⁴Oh, that I were as I was in the ripeness of my days
when the friendship of God was on my tent,
⁵when the Almighty was yet with me,
and my children were around me,
⁶when my way was covered with cream,
and the rock poured out for me streams of oil!
⁷When I went out to the city gate,
when I sat in my place in the city square,
⁸the young men saw me and kept their distance from me in respect,
and the aged people rose and stood for me.
⁹The princes used to refrain from talking when I came;
they would lay their hand on their mouths.
¹⁰The voices of the noblemen were hushed,
and their tongue clung to the roof of their mouths.
¹¹For after their ears heard me, they would then bless me;
after their eyes saw me, they would then give witness to me and approve of me
¹²because I rescued the one who was poor when he cried out,
and the one who had no father when he had no one to help him.
¹³The blessing of him who was about to perish came on me;
I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.
¹⁴I put on righteousness, and it clothed me;

my justice was like a robe and a turban.

¹⁵I was eyes to blind people;

I was feet to lame people.

¹⁶I was a father to needy people;

I would examine the case even of one whom I did not know.

¹⁷I broke the jaws of the unrighteous man;

I plucked the victim out from between his teeth.

¹⁸Then I said, 'I will die in my nest;

I will multiply my days like the grains of sand.

¹⁹My roots are spread out to the waters,

and dew lies all night on my branches.

²⁰The honor in me is always fresh,

and the bow of my strength is always new in my hand.'

²¹To me men listened; they waited for me;

they stayed silent to hear my advice.

²²After my words were done, they did not speak again;

my speech dropped like water on them.

²³They always waited for me as they waited for rain;

they opened their mouth wide to drink in my words,

as they would do for the latter rain.

²⁴I smiled on them when they did not expect it;

they did not reject the light of my face.

²⁵I selected their way and sat as their chief;

I lived like a king in his army,

like one who comforts mourners.

Chapter 30

¹Now those who are younger than I have nothing but mockery for me—

these young men whose fathers I would have refused to allow to work beside the dogs of my flock.

²Indeed, the strength of their fathers' hands, how could it have helped me—

men in whom the strength of their mature age had perished?

³They were thin from poverty and hunger;
they gnawed at the dry ground in the darkness of wilderness and desolation.

⁴They plucked saltwort and bushes' leaves;
the roots of the broom tree were their food.

⁵They were driven out from among people
who shouted after them as one would shout after a thief.

⁶So they had to live in river valleys,
in holes of the earth and of the rocks.

⁷Among the bushes they brayed like donkeys
and they gathered together under the nettles.

⁸They were the sons of fools, indeed, sons of nameless people!
They were driven out of the land with whips.

⁹But now I have become the subject of their taunting song;
I have become a byword for them.

¹⁰They abhor me and stand far off from me;
they do not refrain from spitting in my face.

¹¹For God has unstrung the string to my bow and afflicted me,
and those who taunt me cast off restraint before my face.

¹²Upon my right hand rise the rabble;
they drive me away and
pile up against me their siege mounds.

¹³They destroy my path;
they push forward disaster for me,
men who have no one to hold them back.

¹⁴They come against me like an army through a wide hole in a city wall;
in the midst of the destruction they roll themselves in on me.

¹⁵Terrors are turned upon me;
my honor is driven away as if by the wind;
my prosperity passes away as a cloud.

¹⁶Now my life is pouring out from within me;
many days of suffering have laid hold on me.

17In the night my bones in me are pierced;
the pains that gnaw at me take no rest.

18God's great force has seized my clothing;
it wraps around me like the collar of my tunic.

19He has thrown me into the mud;
I have become like dust and ashes.

20I cry to you, God, but you do not answer me;
I stand up, and you merely look at me.

21You have changed and become cruel to me;
with the strength of your hand you persecute me.

22You lift me up to the wind and cause it to drive me along;
you throw me back and forth in a storm.^[1]

23For I know that you will bring me to death,
to the house appointed for all the living.

24However, does no one reach out with his hand to beg for help when he falls?
Does no one in trouble call out for help?

25Did not I weep for him who was in trouble?
Did I not grieve for the needy man?

26When I hoped for good, then evil came;
when I waited for light, darkness came instead.

27My heart is troubled and does not rest;
days of affliction have come on me.

28I have gone about like one who was living in the dark,
but not because of the sun;
I stand up in the assembly and cry for help.

29I am a brother to jackals,
a companion of ostriches.

30My skin is black and falls away from me;
my bones are burned with heat.

31Therefore my harp is tuned for songs of mourning,
my flute for the singing of those who wail.

30:22 ^[1] .

Chapter 31

- ¹I have made a covenant with my eyes;
how then should I look with desire on a virgin?
- ²For what is the portion from God above,
the inheritance from the Almighty on high?
- ³I used to think that calamity is for unrighteous people,
and that disaster is for doers of wickedness.
- ⁴Does not God see my ways
and count all my steps?
- ⁵If I have walked with falsehood,
if my foot has hurried to deceit,
- ⁶let me be weighed in an even balance
so that God will know my integrity.
- ⁷If my step has turned aside from the way,
if my heart has gone after my eyes,
if any spot has stuck to my hands,
- ⁸then let me sow, and let another eat,
and let my crops be uprooted.
- ⁹If my heart has been deceived by a woman,
if I have lain in wait at my neighbor's door,
- ¹⁰then let my wife grind grain for another,
and let others bow down on her.
- ¹¹For that would be a terrible crime;
indeed, it would be a crime to be punished by judges.
- ¹²For that is a fire that consumes as far as Abaddon,
and it would burn all my harvest to the root.
- ¹³If I ignored the plea for justice from my male or female servant
when they argued with me,
- ¹⁴what then would I do when God rises up to accuse me?

When he comes to judge me, how would I answer him?

¹⁵Did the one who made me in the womb not make them also?

Did not the same one mold us all in the womb?

¹⁶If I have withheld poor people from their desire,
or if I have caused the eyes of the widow to grow dim from crying,

¹⁷or if I have eaten my morsel alone
and not allowed those without fathers to eat it also—

¹⁸because from my youth the orphan grew up with me as with a father,
and I have guided his mother, a widow, from my own mother's womb.

¹⁹If I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing,
or if I have seen that a needy man had no clothing;

²⁰if his heart has not blessed me
because he has not been warmed with the wool of my sheep,

²¹if I have lifted up my hand against fatherless people
because I saw my support in the city gate,
then bring charges against me!

²²If I have done these things, then let my shoulder fall from the shoulder blade,
and let my arm be broken from its joint.

²³For I dreaded destruction from God;
because of his majesty, I was not able to do those things.

²⁴If I have made gold my hope,
and if I have said to fine gold, 'You are what I am confident in';

²⁵if I have rejoiced because my wealth was great,
because my hand had gotten many possessions,
then bring charges against me!

²⁶If I have seen the sun when it shone,
or the moon walking in its brightness,

²⁷and if my heart has been secretly attracted,
so that my mouth has kissed my hand in worship of them—

²⁸this also would be a crime to be punished by judges,
for I would have denied the God who is above.

²⁹If I have rejoiced at the destruction of anyone who hated me
or congratulated myself when disaster overtook him,
then bring charges against me!

³⁰Indeed, I have not even allowed my mouth to sin
by asking for his life with a curse.

³¹If the men of my tent have never said,
'Who can find one who has not been filled with Job's food?'

³²(even the foreigner has never had to stay in the city square,
because I have always opened my doors to the traveler),
and if that is not so, then bring charges against me!

³³If, like mankind, I have hidden my sins
by hiding my guilt inside my tunic

³⁴(because I feared the great multitude,
because the contempt of families terrified me,
so that I kept silent and would not go outside),
then bring charges against me!

³⁵Oh, if only I had someone to hear me!
See, here is my signature; let the Almighty answer me!
If only I had the indictment that my opponent has written!

³⁶Surely I would carry it openly on my shoulder;
I would put it on like a crown.

³⁷I would declare to him an accounting for my steps;
as a confident prince I would go up to him.

³⁸If my land ever cries out against me,
and its furrows weep together,

³⁹if I have eaten its harvest without paying for it
or have caused its owners to lose their lives,

⁴⁰then let thorns grow instead of wheat
and weeds instead of barley."

The words of Job are finished.

Chapter 32

¹So these three men stopped answering Job because he was righteous in his own eyes. ²Then was kindled the anger of Elihu son of Barakel the Buzite, of the family of Ram; it was kindled against Job because he justified himself rather than God. ³Elihu's anger was also kindled against his three friends because they had found no answer to Job, and yet they had condemned Job. ⁴Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job because the other men were older than he. ⁵However, when Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouths of these three men, his anger was kindled.

⁶Then Elihu son of Barakel the Buzite spoke up and said,

"I am young, and you are very old.

That is why I held back and did not dare to tell you my own opinion.

⁷I said, "Length of days should speak;

a multitude of years should teach wisdom.

⁸But there is a spirit in a man;

the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.

⁹It is not only the great people who are wise,

nor the aged people alone who understand justice.

¹⁰Therefore I say to you, 'Listen to me;

I will also tell you my knowledge.'

¹¹See, I waited for your words;

I listened to your arguments

while you were thinking about what to say.

¹²Indeed, I paid attention to you,

but, see, there was not one of you who could convince Job

or who could respond to his words.

¹³Be careful not to say, 'We have found wisdom!'

God will have to defeat Job; mere man cannot do it.

¹⁴For Job has not directed his words against me,

so I will not answer him with your words.

¹⁵These three men are dumbfounded; they can answer Job no longer;

they have not a word more to say.

¹⁶Should I wait because they are not speaking,

because they stand there silent and answer no more?

¹⁷No, I also will answer on my part;

I will also tell them my knowledge.

¹⁸For I am full of words;

the spirit in me compels me.

¹⁹See, my breast is like fermenting wine that has no vent;

like new wineskins, it is ready to burst.

²⁰I will speak so that I may be refreshed;

I will open my lips and answer.

²¹I will not show favoritism;

neither will I give honorific titles to any man.

²²For I do not know how to give such titles;

if I did so, my Maker would soon take me away.

Chapter 33

¹So now, Job, I beg you, hear my speech;

listen to all my words.

²See now, I have opened my mouth;

my tongue has spoken in my mouth.

³My words come from the uprightness of my heart;

my lips speak pure knowledge.

⁴The Spirit of God has made me;

the breath of the Almighty has given me life.

⁵If you can, answer me;

set your words in order before me and stand up.

⁶See, I am just as you are in God's sight;

I also have been formed out of the clay.

⁷See, terror of me will not make you afraid;

neither will my pressure be heavy upon you.

⁸You have certainly spoken in my hearing;

I have heard the sound of your words saying,

⁹I am clean and without transgression;

I am innocent, and there is no sin in me.

¹⁰See, God finds opportunities to attack me;
he regards me as his enemy.

¹¹He puts my feet in stocks;
he watches all my paths.'

¹²See, in this you are not right—I will answer you,
for God is greater than man.

¹³Why do you struggle against him?
He does not account for any of his doings.

¹⁴For God speaks once—
yes, twice, though man does not notice it.

¹⁵In a dream, in a vision of the night,
when deep sleep falls upon men,
in slumber on the bed—

¹⁶then God opens the ears of men,
and frightens them with threats,

¹⁷in order to pull man back from his sinful purposes,
and keep pride from him.

¹⁸God keeps man's life back from the pit,
his life from crossing over to death.

¹⁹Man is punished also with pain on his bed,
with constant agony in his bones,

²⁰so that his life abhors food,
and his soul abhors delicacies.

²¹His flesh is consumed away so that it cannot be seen;
his bones, once not seen, now stick out.

²²Indeed, his soul draws close to the pit,
his life to those who wish to destroy it.

²³But if there is an angel who can be a mediator for him,
one out of a thousand,
to tell a man what is right for him,

²⁴to be gracious to him and say,
'Save this person from going down to the pit;
I have found a ransom for him.'
²⁵Then his flesh will become fresher than a child's;
it is restored to the days of his youth.
²⁶He will pray to God, and God will be kind to him,
so that he sees God's face with joy.
God will give the person his triumph.
²⁷Then that person will sing in front of other people and say,
'I sinned and perverted that which was right,
but my sin was not punished.
²⁸God has rescued my soul from going down into the pit;
my life will continue to see light.'
²⁹See, God does all these things with a person,
twice, yes, even three times,
³⁰to bring his soul back from the pit,
so that he may be enlightened with the light of life.
³¹Pay attention, Job, and listen to me;
be silent and I will speak.
³²If you have anything to say, answer me;
speak, for I wish to prove that you are in the right.
³³If not, then listen to me;
remain silent, and I will teach you wisdom."

Chapter 34

¹Moreover, Elihu continued to speak:
²"Listen to my words, you wise men;
hear me, you who have knowledge.
³For the ear tries words
as the palate tastes food.
⁴Let us choose for ourselves what is just:

let us discover among ourselves what is good.

⁵For Job has said, 'I am righteous,
but God has taken away my rights.

⁶Regardless of my rights, I am considered to be a liar.
My wound is incurable, although I am without sin.'

⁷What man is like Job,
who drinks up mockery like water,

⁸who goes around in the company of those who do evil,
and who walks with wicked men?

⁹For he has said, 'It is no use to a person
to take pleasure in doing what God wants.'

¹⁰So listen to me, you men of understanding:
far be it from God that he should do wickedness;
far be it from the Almighty that he should commit sin.

¹¹For he pays back a person's work;
he makes every man come upon the reward of his own ways.

¹²Indeed, God does nothing wicked,
nor does the Almighty ever pervert justice.

¹³Who put him in charge over the earth?
Who put the whole world under him?

¹⁴If he ever set his intentions only on himself,
and if he ever gathered back to himself his spirit and his breath,

¹⁵then all flesh would perish together;
mankind would return to dust again.

¹⁶If now you have understanding, listen to this;
listen to the sound of my words.

¹⁷Can one who hates justice govern?
Will you condemn God, who is righteous and mighty?

¹⁸God, who says to a king, 'You are vile,'
or says to nobles, 'You are wicked'?

¹⁹God, who does not show favoritism to leaders

and does not acknowledge rich people more than poor,
for they all are the work of his hands.

²⁰In a moment they will die;
at midnight people will be shaken and will pass away;
mighty people will be taken away, but not by human hands.

²¹For God's eyes are upon a person's ways;
he sees all his steps.

²²There is no darkness, no thick gloom
where the doers of iniquity may hide themselves.

²³For God does not need to examine a person further;
there is no need for any person to go before him in judgment.

²⁴He breaks mighty men into pieces for their ways that need no further investigation;
he puts others in their places.

²⁵In this way he has knowledge of their deeds;
he overthrows these people in the night; they are destroyed.

²⁶In the open sight of others, he kills them for their wicked deeds like criminals

²⁷because they turned away from following him
and refused to acknowledge any of his ways.

²⁸In this way, they made the cry of poor people come to him;
he heard the cry of afflicted people.

²⁹When he stays silent, who can condemn him?
If he hides his face, who can perceive him?
He rules over nation and individual alike,

³⁰so that a godless man may not rule,
so that there may be no one to entrap people.

³¹Suppose someone says to God,
'I am certainly guilty, but I will not sin any longer;

³²teach me what I cannot see;
I have committed sin, but I will do it no longer.'

³³Do you think that God will punish that person's sin, since you dislike what God does?
You must choose, not I.

So say what it is that you know.

³⁴Men of understanding will say to me—
indeed, every wise man who hears me will say,

³⁵‘Job speaks without knowledge;
his words are without wisdom.’

³⁶If only Job were put on trial in the smallest details of his case
because of his talking like wicked men.

³⁷For he adds rebellion to his sin;
he claps his hands in mockery in our midst;
he piles up words against God.”

Chapter 35

¹Moreover Elihu continued, saying,

²“Do you think this is just
when you say, ‘My right before God’?

³For you ask, ‘What use is it to me?’
and, ‘Would I be better off if I had sinned?’

⁴I will answer you,
both you and your friends.

⁵Look up at the sky, and see it;
see the sky, which is higher than you.

⁶If you have sinned, what harm do you do to God?
If your transgressions pile up high, what do you do to him?

⁷If you are righteous, what can you give to him?
What will he receive from your hand?

⁸Your wickedness may hurt a man, as you are a man,
and your righteousness might benefit another son of man.

⁹Because of many acts of oppression, people cry out;
they call for help from the arms of mighty men.

¹⁰But no one says, ‘Where is God my Maker,
who gives songs in the night,

¹¹who teaches us more than he teaches the beasts of the earth,
and who makes us wiser than the birds of the sky?

¹²There they cry out, but God gives no answer
because of the pride of evil men.

¹³God will certainly not hear a foolish cry;
the Almighty will pay no attention to it.

¹⁴How much less will he answer you if you say that you do not see him,
that your case is before him, and that you are waiting for him!

¹⁵Now you say that his anger does not punish,
and he does not take even a little notice of transgression.

¹⁶So Job opens his mouth only to speak foolishness;
he piles up words without knowledge."

Chapter 36

¹Elihu continued on and said,

²"Permit me to speak a little longer, and I will show you some things
because I have a little more to say in defense of God.

³I will obtain my knowledge from far off;
I will acknowledge that righteousness belongs to my Maker.

⁴For indeed, my words will not be false;
someone who is mature in knowledge is with you.

⁵See, God is mighty, and despises no one;
he is mighty in strength of understanding.

⁶He does not preserve the life of wicked people
but instead does what is right for those who suffer.

⁷He does not withdraw his eyes from righteous people
but instead sets them on thrones like kings forever,
and they are lifted up.

⁸If they are bound in chains
and trapped in cords of suffering,

⁹then he reveals to them what they have done,

and their transgressions and their pride.

¹⁰He also opens their ears to his instruction,
and commands them to turn back from iniquity.

¹¹If they listen to him and worship him,
they will spend their days in prosperity,
their years in contentment.

¹²However, if they do not listen, they will perish by the sword;
they will die because they have no knowledge.

¹³Those who are godless in heart store up their anger;
they do not cry out for help even when God ties them up.

¹⁴They die in their youth;
their lives end among the cultic prostitutes.

¹⁵God rescues afflicted people by means of their afflictions;
he opens their ears by means of their oppression.

¹⁶Indeed, he would like to draw you out of distress
into a broad place where there is no hardship
and where your table would be set with food full of fatness.

¹⁷But you are full of judgment on wicked people;
judgment and justice have laid hold of you.

¹⁸Do not let your anger entice you to mockery,
or the greatness of a ransom to turn you aside.

¹⁹Can your wealth benefit you, so that you will not be in distress,
or can all the force of your strength help you?

²⁰Do not desire the night, to commit sin against others,
when peoples are cut off in their place.

²¹Be careful that you do not turn to sin
because you are being tested by suffering so that you will stay away from sinning.

²²See, God is exalted in his power;
who is a teacher like him?

²³Who has ever instructed him about his way?
Who can ever say to him, 'You have committed unrighteousness?'

²⁴Remember to praise his deeds,
of which people have sung.

²⁵All people have looked on those deeds,
but they see those deeds only from far away.

²⁶See, God is great, but we do not understand him well;
the number of his years is incalculable.

²⁷For he draws up the drops of water
that he distills as rain from his vapor,^[1]

²⁸which the clouds pour down
and drop in abundance on mankind.

²⁹Indeed, can anyone understand the extensive spread of the clouds
and the thunder from his hut?

³⁰See, he spreads his lightning around him
and covers the roots of the sea.

³¹In this way he judges the peoples
and gives food in abundance.

³²He fills his hands with the lightning
until he commands it to strike its mark.

³³Its thunder warns of the storm,
the cattle can also hear it is coming.

36:27 ^[1] .

Chapter 37

¹Indeed, my heart trembles at this;
it is moved out of its place.

²Hear, oh, hear the noise of his voice,
the sound that goes out from his mouth.

³He sends it out under the whole sky,
and he sends out his lightning to the edges of the earth.

⁴A voice roars after it;
he thunders with the voice of his majesty;

he does not restrain the lightning bolts when his voice is heard.

⁵God thunders marvelously with his voice;
he does great things that we cannot comprehend.

⁶For he says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth';
likewise to the rain shower,
'Become a great shower of rain.'

⁷He stops the hand of every man from working,
so that all people whom he has made may see his deeds.

⁸Then the beasts go into hiding
and stay in their dens.

⁹The storm comes from its chamber in the south
and the cold from the scattering winds in the north.

¹⁰By the breath of God ice is given;
the expanse of the waters is frozen like metal.

¹¹Indeed, he weighs down the thick cloud with moisture;
he scatters his lightning through the clouds.

¹²He swirls the clouds around by his guidance,
so that they may do whatever he commands them
above the surface of the whole world.

¹³He makes all of this happen; sometimes it happens for correction, sometimes for his land,
and sometimes as acts of covenant faithfulness.

¹⁴Listen to this, Job;
stop and think about God's marvelous deeds.

¹⁵Do you know how God establishes the clouds
and makes the lightning bolts to flash in them?

¹⁶Do you understand the floating of the clouds,
the marvelous deeds of God, who is perfect in knowledge?

¹⁷Do you understand how your garments become hot
when the land is still because the wind comes from the south?

¹⁸Can you spread out the sky as he can—
the sky, which is as strong as a mirror of cast metal?

¹⁹Teach us what we should say to him,
for we cannot lay out our arguments in order because of the darkness of our minds.

²⁰Should he be told that I wish to speak with him?
Would a person wish to be swallowed up?

²¹Now, people cannot look at the sun when it is bright in the sky
after the wind has passed through and has cleared it of its clouds.

²²Out of the north comes golden splendor—
over God is fearsome majesty.

²³As for the Almighty, we cannot find him!
He is great in power;
he does not oppress justice and abundant righteousness.

²⁴Therefore, people fear him.
He does not pay any attention to those who are wise in their own minds.”

Chapter 38

¹Then Yahweh called to Job out of a fierce storm and said,

²“Who is this who brings darkness to plans
by means of words without knowledge?

³Now gird up your loins like a man
for I will ask you questions, and you must answer me.

⁴Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundations?
Tell me, if you have so much understanding.

⁵Who determined its dimensions? Tell me, if you know.
Who stretched the measuring line over it?

⁶On what were its foundations laid?
Who laid its cornerstone

⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

⁸Who shut up the sea with doors
when it burst out, as if it had come out of the womb—

⁹when I made clouds its clothing,

and thick darkness its swaddling bands?

¹⁰That was when I marked out for the sea my boundary,
and when I placed its bars and doors,

¹¹and when I said to it, 'You may come this far, but no farther;
here is where I will put a boundary to the pride of your waves.'

¹²Have you given orders to the morning,
or caused the dawn to know its place,

¹³so that it might take hold of the edges of the earth
and shake the wicked out of it?

¹⁴The earth is changed in appearance like clay changes under a seal;
all things on it stand out clearly like the folds of a piece of clothing.

¹⁵From wicked people their 'light' is taken away;
their uplifted arm is broken.

¹⁶Have you gone to the sources of the waters of the sea?
Have you walked in the lowest parts of the deep?

¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you?
Have you seen the gates of the shadow of death?

¹⁸Have you understood the earth in its expanse?
Tell me, if you know it all.

¹⁹Where is the way to the resting place of light—
as for darkness, where is its place?

²⁰Can you lead light and darkness to their places of work?
Can you find the way back to their houses for them?

²¹Undoubtedly you know, for you were born then;
the number of your days is so large!

²²Have you entered the storehouses for the snow,
or have you seen the storehouses for the hail,

²³these things that I have kept for times of trouble,
for days of battle and war?

²⁴What is the path to where the lightning bolts are distributed
or to where the winds are scattered from the east over the earth?

²⁵Who has created the channels for the floods of rain,
or who has made a path for the thunder,
²⁶to cause it to rain on lands where no person exists,
and on the wilderness, in which there is no one,
²⁷to satisfy the devastated and desolate places,
and to make the ground sprout with grass?
²⁸Does the rain have a father,
or, who fathers the drops of dew?
²⁹Out of whose womb did the ice come?
Who bore the white frost out of the sky?
³⁰The waters hide themselves and become like stone;
the surface of the deep becomes frozen.
³¹Can you fasten chains on the Pleiades,
or undo the cords of Orion?
³²Can you lead the constellations to appear at their proper times?
Can you guide the Bear with its children?
³³Do you know the regulations of the sky?
Could you set in place the sky's rule over the earth?
³⁴Can you raise your voice up to the clouds,
so that an abundance of rainwater may cover you?
³⁵Can you send out bolts of lightning that they may go out,
that they say to you, 'Here we are'?
³⁶Who has put wisdom in the clouds
or has given understanding to the mists?
³⁷Who can number the clouds by his skill?
Who can pour out the water skins of the sky
³⁸when the dust runs into a hard mass
and the clods of earth clump tightly together?
³⁹Can you hunt down a victim for a lioness
or satisfy the appetite of her young lion cubs
⁴⁰when they are crouching in their dens

and sheltering in hiding to lie in wait?

⁴¹Who provides victims for the ravens
when their young ones cry out to God
and stagger about for lack of food?

Chapter 39

¹Do you know at what time the wild goats in the rocks bear their young?

Can you watch when the deer are having their fawns?

²Can you count the months that they gestate?

Do you know the time when they bear their young?

³They crouch down and birth their young,
and then they finish their labor pains.

⁴Their young ones become strong and grow up in the open fields;
they go out and do not come back again.

⁵Who let the wild donkey go free?
Who has untied the bonds of the swift donkey,

⁶whose home I have made in the Arabah,
his house in the salt land?

⁷He laughs in scorn at the noises in the city;
he does not hear the driver's shouts.

⁸He roams over the mountains as his pastures;
there he looks for every green plant to eat.

⁹Will the wild ox be happy to serve you?
Will he consent to stay by your manger?

¹⁰Can you use ropes to hold the wild ox in the furrows?
Will he harrow the valleys as he follows after you?

¹¹Will you trust him because his strength is great?
Will you leave your work to him to do?

¹²Will you depend on him to bring your grain home,
to gather the grain for your threshing floor?

¹³The wings of the ostrich wave proudly,

but are they the pinions and plumage of love?

¹⁴For she leaves her eggs on the earth,
and she lets them keep warm in the dust;

¹⁵she forgets that a foot might crush them
or that a wild beast might trample them.

¹⁶She deals roughly with her young ones as if they were not hers;
she does not fear that her labor might have been in vain,

¹⁷because God has deprived her of wisdom
and has not given her any understanding.

¹⁸When she runs swiftly,
she laughs in scorn at the horse and its rider.

¹⁹Have you given the horse his strength?
Did you clothe his neck with his flowing mane?

²⁰Have you ever made him jump like a locust?
The majesty of his snorting is fearsome.

²¹He paws in might and rejoices in his strength;
he rushes out to meet the weapons.

²²He mocks fear and is not dismayed;
he does not turn back from the sword.

²³The quiver rattles against his flank,
along with the flashing spear and the javelin.

²⁴He swallows up ground with fierceness and rage;
at the trumpet's sound, he cannot stand in one place.

²⁵Whenever the trumpet sounds, he says, 'Aha!'
He smells the battle from far away—
the thunderous shouts of the commanders and the outcries.

²⁶Is it by your wisdom that the hawk soars,
that he stretches out his wings for the south?

²⁷Is it at your orders that the eagle mounts up
and makes his nest in high places?

²⁸He lives on cliffs and makes his home

on the peaks of cliffs, a stronghold.

²⁹From there he searches for victims;
his eyes see them from very far away.

³⁰His young also drink up blood;
where killed people are, there he is."

Chapter 40

¹Yahweh continued to speak to Job; he said,

²"Should anyone who wishes to criticize try to correct the Almighty?
He who argues with God, let him answer."

³Then Job answered Yahweh and said,

⁴"See, I am insignificant; how can I answer you?
I put my hand over my mouth.

⁵I spoke once, and I will not answer;
indeed, twice, but I will proceed no further."

⁶Then Yahweh answered Job out of a fierce storm and said,

⁷"Now gird up your loins like a man,
for I will ask you questions, and you must answer me.

⁸Will you actually say that I am unjust?
Will you condemn me so you may claim you are right?

⁹Do you have an arm like God's?
Can you thunder with a voice like him?

¹⁰Now clothe yourself in glory and dignity;
array yourself in honor and majesty.

¹¹Scatter around the excess of your anger;
look at everyone who is proud and bring him down.

¹²Look at everyone who is proud and bring him low;
trample down wicked people where they stand.

¹³Bury them in the earth together;
imprison their faces in the hidden place.

¹⁴Then will I also acknowledge about you

that your own right hand can save you.

¹⁵Look now at the behemoth, which I made when I made you;
he eats grass like an ox.

¹⁶See now, his strength is in his loins;
his power is in his belly's muscles.

¹⁷He makes his tail like a cedar;
the sinews of his thighs are joined together.

¹⁸His bones are like tubes of bronze;
his legs are like bars of iron.

¹⁹He is the chief of the creatures of God.
Only God, who made him, can defeat him.

²⁰For the hills provide him with food;
the beasts of the field play nearby.

²¹He lies under the lotus plants
in the shelter of the reeds, in the marshes.

²²The lotus plants cover him with their shade;
the willows of the brook are all around him.

²³See, if a river floods its banks, he does not tremble;
he is confident, though the Jordan should surge up to his mouth.

²⁴Can anyone capture him with a hook,
or pierce his nose through with a snare?

Chapter 41

¹Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook?
Or tie up his jaws with a cord?

²Can you put a rope into his nose,
or pierce his jaw through with a hook?

³Will he make many pleas to you?
Will he speak soft words to you?

⁴Will he make a covenant with you,
that you should take him for a servant forever?

⁵Will you play with him as you would with a bird?

Will you tie him up for your servant girls?

⁶Will the groups of fishermen bargain for him?

Will they divide him up to trade among the merchants?

⁷Can you fill his hide with harpoons

or his head with fishing spears?

⁸Put your hand on him just once,

and you will remember the battle and do it no more.

⁹See, the hope of anyone who does that is a lie;

will not anyone be thrown down to the ground just by the sight of him?

¹⁰None is so fierce that he dare stir Leviathan up;

who, then, is he who can stand before me?

¹¹Who has first given anything to me in order that I should repay him?

Whatever is under the whole sky is mine.

¹²I will not keep silent concerning Leviathan's legs,

nor about the matter of his strength, nor about his graceful form.

¹³Who can strip off his outer covering?

Who can penetrate his double armor?

¹⁴Who can open the doors of his face—

ringed with his teeth, which are a terror?

¹⁵his back is made up of rows of shields,

tight together as with a close seal.

¹⁶One is so near to another

that no air can come between them.

¹⁷They are joined to each other;

they stick together, so that they cannot be pulled apart.

¹⁸Light flashes out from his snorting;

his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning dawn.

¹⁹Out of his mouth go burning torches,

sparks of fire leap out.

²⁰Out of his nostrils goes smoke

like a boiling pot on a fire that has been fanned to be very hot.

²¹His breath kindles coals into flame;
fires go out from his mouth.

²²In his neck is strength,
and terror dances in front of him.

²³The folds of his flesh are joined together;
they are firm on him; they cannot be moved.

²⁴His heart is as hard as a stone—
indeed, as hard as a lower millstone.

²⁵When he raises himself up, even the gods become afraid;
because of fear, they draw back.

²⁶If a sword strikes him, it does nothing—
and neither does a spear, an arrow, or any other pointed weapon.

²⁷He thinks of iron as if it were straw,
and of bronze as if it were rotten wood.

²⁸An arrow cannot make him flee;
to him sling stones become chaff.

²⁹Clubs are regarded as straw;
he laughs at the whirring flight of a spear.

³⁰His lower parts are like sharp pieces of broken pottery;
he leaves a spreading trail in the mud as if he were a threshing sledge.

³¹He makes the deep to foam up like a pot of boiling water;
he makes the sea like a pot of ointment.

³²He makes a shining wake behind him;
one would think the deep had gray hair.

³³On earth there is no equal to him,
who has been made to live without fear.

³⁴He sees everything that is proud;
he is king over all the sons of pride.”

Chapter 42

¹Then Job answered Yahweh and said,

²"I know that you can do all things,
that no purpose of yours can be stopped.

³"Who is this who without knowledge conceals plans?
Indeed, I have spoken things that I did not understand,
things too difficult for me to understand, which I did not know about.

⁴You said to me, 'Listen, now, and I will speak;
I will ask you things, and you will tell me.'

⁵I had heard about you by my ear's hearing,
but now my eye sees you.

⁶So I despise myself;
I repent in dust and ashes."

⁷It came about that after he had said these words to Job, Yahweh said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has done. ⁸Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer, so that I may not deal with you after your folly. You have not said what is right about me, as my servant Job has done." ⁹So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite went and did as Yahweh had commanded them, and Yahweh accepted Job.

¹⁰When Job prayed for his friends, Yahweh restored his fortunes. Yahweh gave him twice as much as he had possessed before. ¹¹Then all Job's brothers, and all his sisters, and all who knew him before, came to him and ate food with him in his house. They showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the disasters that Yahweh had brought upon him, and each of them gave Job a piece of silver and a ring of gold. ¹²Yahweh blessed the final end of Job's life more than the first; he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. ¹³He also had seven sons and three daughters. ¹⁴He named the first daughter Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-Happuch. ¹⁵In all the land no women were found as beautiful as Job's daughters. Their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. ¹⁶After this, Job lived 140 years; he saw his sons and his sons' sons, up to four generations. ¹⁷Then Job died, being old and full of days.

Psalms

Book One

Psalm 1

¹Blessed is the man who does not walk in the advice of the wicked,

or stand in the pathway with sinners,

or sit in the assembly of mockers.

²But his delight is in the law of Yahweh,

and on his law he meditates day and night.

³He will be like a tree planted by the streams of water

that produces its fruit in its season,

whose leaves do not wither;

whatever he does will prosper.

⁴The wicked are not so,

but are instead like the chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵So the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

⁶For Yahweh approves of the way of the righteous,

but the way of the wicked will perish.

Psalm 2

¹Why are the nations in turmoil,

and why do the peoples make plots that will fail?

²The kings of the earth take their stand together

and the rulers conspire together

against Yahweh and against his Messiah, saying,

³"Let us tear off the shackles they put on us

and throw off their chains."

⁴He who sits in the heavens will sneer at them;

the Lord mocks them.

⁵Then he will speak to them in his anger
and terrify them in his rage, saying,

⁶"I myself have anointed my king
on Zion, my holy mountain."

⁷I will announce a decree of Yahweh.
He said to me, "You are my son!
This day I have become your father.

⁸Ask me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the farthestmost regions of the earth for your possession.

⁹You will break them with an iron rod;
like a jar of a potter, you will smash them to pieces."

¹⁰So now, you kings, be warned;
be corrected, you rulers of the earth.

¹¹Worship Yahweh in fear
and rejoice with trembling.

¹²Kiss the son or he will be angry with you,
and you will die in the way when his anger burns for just a moment.
How blessed are all those who seek refuge in him.

Psalm 3

A psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

¹Yahweh, how many are my enemies!
Many have risen against me.

²Many say about me,
"There is no help for him from God." *Selah*

³But you, Yahweh, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.

⁴I lift up my voice to Yahweh,
and he answers me from his holy hill. *Selah*

⁵I lay down and slept;

I awoke, for Yahweh protected me.

⁶I will not be afraid of the multitudes of people
who have set themselves against me on every side.

⁷Rise up, Yahweh! Save me, my God!
For you will hit all my enemies on the jaw;
you will break the teeth of the wicked.

⁸Salvation comes from Yahweh.
May your blessings be on your people. *Selah*

Psalm 4

For the chief musician; on stringed instruments. A psalm of David.

¹Answer me when I call, God of my righteousness;
give me room when I am hemmed in.
Have mercy on me and listen to my prayer.

²You people, how long will you turn my honor into shame?
How long will you love that which is worthless and seek after lies? *Selah*

³But know that Yahweh has set apart the faithful ones for himself.
Yahweh will hear when I call to him.

⁴Tremble in fear, but do not sin!
Meditate in your heart on your bed and be silent. *Selah*

⁵Offer the sacrifices of righteousness
and put your trust in Yahweh.

⁶Many say, "Who will show us anything good?"
Yahweh, lift up the light of your face on us.

⁷You have given my heart more gladness
than others have when their grain and new wine abound.

⁸It is in peace that I will lie down and sleep,
for you alone, Yahweh, make me safe and secure.

Psalm 5

For the chief musician; with wind instruments. A psalm of David.

¹Listen to my call to you, Yahweh;
think about my groanings.

²Listen to the sound of my call, my King and my God,
for it is to you that I pray.

³Yahweh, in the morning you hear my cry;
in the morning I will bring my petition to you and wait expectantly.

⁴Certainly you are not a God who approves of evil;
evil people will not be your guests.

⁵The arrogant will not stand in your presence;
you hate all who behave wickedly.

⁶You will destroy liars;
Yahweh despises violent and deceitful men.

⁷But as for me, because of your great covenant faithfulness, I will come into your house;
in reverence I will bow down toward your holy temple.

⁸Oh Lord, lead me in your righteousness because of my enemies;
make your path straight before me.

⁹For there is no truth in their mouth;
their inward being is wicked;
their throat is an open tomb;
they flatter with their tongue.

¹⁰Declare them guilty, God;
may their schemes be their downfall!
Drive them out for their many transgressions,
for they have rebelled against you.

¹¹But may all those who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them always shout for joy because you defend them;
let them be joyful in you, those who love your name.

¹²For you will bless the righteous, Yahweh;
you will surround them with favor as with a shield.

Psalm 6

For the chief musician; on stringed instruments, set to the Sheminith style. A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.

²Have mercy on me, Yahweh, for I am frail;
heal me, Yahweh, for my bones are shaking.

³My soul also is very troubled.
But you, Yahweh—how long will this continue?

⁴Return, Yahweh! rescue me.
Save me because of your covenant faithfulness!

⁵For in death there is no remembrance of you.
In Sheol who will give you thanks?

⁶I am weary with my groaning.
All night I drench my bed with tears;
I wash my couch away with my tears.

⁷My eyes grow dim from grief;
they grow weak because of all my adversaries.

⁸Get away from me, all you who practice iniquity;
for Yahweh has heard the sound of my weeping.

⁹Yahweh has heard my appeal for mercy;
Yahweh has accepted my prayer.

¹⁰All my enemies will be ashamed and greatly troubled.
They will turn back and be suddenly humiliated.

Psalm 7

A musical composition of David, which he sang to Yahweh concerning the words of Cush the Benjamite.

¹Yahweh my God, I take refuge in you!
Save me from all who chase me, and rescue me.

²Otherwise, they will rip me apart like a lion,
tearing me in pieces with no one else able to bring me to safety.

³Yahweh my God, if I have done this,
and there is guilt on my hands—

⁴If I have done evil to him who was at peace with me,
or senselessly harmed my enemy without cause, then hear my words.

⁵Then let my enemy pursue my life and overtake me;
let him trample my life to the ground
and lay my honor in the dust. *Selah*

⁶Arise, Yahweh, in your anger;
stand up against the rage of my enemies;
wake up for my sake and carry out the righteous decrees that you have commanded for them.

⁷The countries are assembled all around you;
take once more your rightful place over them.

⁸Yahweh, judge the nations;
vindicate me, Yahweh, because I am righteous and innocent, Most High.

⁹May the evil deeds of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous people,
righteous God, you who examine hearts and minds.

¹⁰My shield comes from God,
the one who saves the upright in heart.

¹¹God is a righteous judge,
a God who is indignant each day.

¹²If a person does not repent, God will sharpen his sword
and will prepare his bow for battle.

¹³He prepares to use weapons against him;
he makes his arrows flaming shafts.

¹⁴Think about the one who is pregnant with wickedness,
who conceives destructive plans, who gives birth to harmful lies.

¹⁵He digs a pit and hollows it out
and then falls into the hole he has made.

¹⁶His own destructive plans return to his own head,
for his violence comes down on his own head.

¹⁷I will give thanks to Yahweh for his justice;
I will sing praise to Yahweh Most High.

Psalm 8

For the chief musician; set to the gittith style. A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh our Lord, how magnificent is your name in all the earth,
you who reveal your glory in the heavens above.

²Out of the mouth of babies and infants you have established praise^[1]
because of your enemies,
so that you might silence both the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look up at your heavens, which your fingers have made,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴Of what importance is the human race that you notice them,
or mankind that you pay attention to them?

⁵Yet you have made them only a little lower than the heavenly beings
and have crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶You make him to rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet:

⁷all sheep and oxen,
and even the animals of the field,

⁸the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
everything that passes through the currents of the seas.

⁹Yahweh our Lord,
how magnificent is your name in all the earth!

8:2 ^[1] or, .

Psalm 9

For the chief musician; set to Muth Labben style. A psalm of David.

¹I will give thanks to Yahweh with my whole heart;
I will tell about all your marvelous deeds.

²I will be glad and rejoice in you;
I will sing praise to your name, Most High!

³When my enemies turn back,
they stumble and perish before you.

⁴For you have defended my just cause;
you sit on your throne, a righteous judge!

⁵You rebuked the nations;
you have destroyed the wicked;
you have blotted out their name forever and ever.

⁶The enemy crumbled like ruins
when you overthrew their cities.
All remembrance of them has perished.

⁷But Yahweh remains forever;
he has established his throne for justice.

⁸He will judge the world with righteousness,
and he will execute judgment for the nations with fairness.

⁹Yahweh also will be a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.

¹⁰Those who know your name trust in you,
for you, Yahweh, do not abandon those who seek you.

¹¹Sing praises to Yahweh, who rules in Zion;
tell the nations what he has done.

¹²For the God who avenges bloodshed remembers;
he does not forget the cry of the oppressed.

¹³Have mercy on me, Yahweh; see how I am oppressed by those who hate me,
you who can snatch me from the gates of death.

¹⁴Oh, that I might proclaim all your praise.
In the gates of the daughter of Zion
I will rejoice in your salvation!

¹⁵The nations have sunk down into the pit that they made;
their feet are caught in the net that they hid.

¹⁶Yahweh has made himself known; he has executed judgment;
the wicked is ensnared by his own actions. *Selah*

¹⁷The wicked are turned back and sent to Sheol,
all the nations that forget God.

¹⁸For the needy will not always be forgotten,
nor will the hope of the oppressed be forever dashed.

¹⁹Arise, Yahweh; do not let man win against you;
may the nations be judged in your sight.

²⁰Terrify them, Yahweh;
may the nations know that they are mere men. *Selah*

Psalm 10

¹Why, Yahweh, do you stand far off?

Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

²Because of their arrogance, wicked people chase the oppressed;
but please let the wicked be trapped by their own schemes that they have devised.

³For the wicked person boasts of his deepest desires;
he blesses the greedy and insults Yahweh.

⁴The wicked man has a raised face; he does not seek God.
He never thinks about God because he does not care at all about him.

⁵He is secure at all times,
but your righteous decrees are too high for him;
he snorts at all his enemies.

⁶He says in his heart, "I will never fail;
throughout all generations I will not meet adversity."

⁷His mouth is full of curses and lies and oppression;
under his tongue are mischief and evil.

⁸He waits in ambush near the villages;
in the secret places he murders the innocent;
his eyes look for some helpless victim.

⁹He lurks in secret like a lion in the thicket;
he lies in wait to catch the oppressed.
He catches the oppressed when he pulls in his net.

¹⁰His victims are crushed and beaten down;
they fall into his strong nets.

¹¹He says in his heart, "God has forgotten;
he covers his face; he will not bother to look."

¹²Arise, Yahweh! Lift up your hand, God!
Do not forget the oppressed.

¹³Why does the wicked man reject God
and say in his heart, "You will not hold me accountable"?

¹⁴You have taken notice, for you always see the one who inflicts the misery and sorrow.
The helpless entrusts himself to you;
you rescue the fatherless.

¹⁵Break the arm of the wicked and evil man.
Make him account for his evil deeds,
which he thought you would not discover.

¹⁶Yahweh is King forever and ever;
the nations are driven out of his land.

¹⁷Yahweh, you have heard the needs of the oppressed;
you strengthen their heart, you listen to their prayer;

¹⁸You defend the fatherless and the oppressed
so that no man on the earth will cause terror again.

Psalm 11

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹I take refuge in Yahweh;
how will you say to me,
"Flee like a bird to the mountain"?

²For see! The wicked prepare their bows.
They make ready their arrows on the strings
to shoot in the darkness at the upright in heart.

³For if the foundations are ruined,
what can the righteous do?

⁴Yahweh is in his holy temple;
his eyes watch, his eyes examine the children of mankind.

⁵Yahweh examines both the righteous and the wicked,
but he hates those who love to do violence.

⁶He rains burning coals and brimstone upon the wicked;
a scorching wind will be their portion from his cup!

⁷For Yahweh is righteous, and he loves righteousness;
the upright will see his face.

Psalm 12

For the chief musician; set to the Sheminith. A psalm of David.

¹Help, Yahweh, for the faithful ones have disappeared;
those who have integrity have vanished from the children of men.

²Everyone says empty words to his neighbor;
everyone speaks with flattering lips and a double heart.

³Yahweh, cut off all flattering lips,
every tongue declaring great things.

⁴These are those who have said, "With our tongues will we prevail.
When our lips speak, who can be master over us?"

⁵"Because of violence against the poor, because of the groans of the needy,
I will arise," says Yahweh.

"I will provide the safety for which they long."

⁶The words of Yahweh are pure words,
like silver purified in a furnace on the earth,
refined seven times.

⁷You are Yahweh! You keep them.
You preserve the godly people from this wicked generation and forever.

⁸The wicked walk on every side
when evil is exalted among the children of mankind.

Psalm 13

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹How long, Yahweh, will you keep forgetting about me?

How long will you hide your face from me?

²How long must I worry

and have grief in my heart all day?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

³Look at me and answer me, Yahweh my God!

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death.

⁴Do not let my enemy say, "I have defeated him,"

so that my enemy may not say, "I have prevailed over my adversary"; otherwise, my enemies will rejoice when I am brought down.

⁵But I have trusted in your covenant faithfulness;

my heart rejoices in your salvation.

⁶I will sing to Yahweh

because he has treated me very generously.

Psalm 14

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹A fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

They are corrupt and have done abominable iniquity;

there is no one who does good.

²Yahweh looks down from heaven on the children of mankind

to see if there are any who understand,

who seek after him.

³They have all turned away. Together they have become corrupt.

There is no one who does good, no, not one.

⁴Do they not know anything, those who commit iniquity,

those who eat up my people as they eat bread,

but who do not call on Yahweh?

⁵They tremble with dread,

for God is with the righteous assembly!

⁶You want to humiliate the poor person

even though Yahweh is his refuge.

⁷Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come from Zion!
When Yahweh brings back his people from the captivity,
then Jacob will rejoice and Israel will be glad!

Psalm 15

A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh, who may stay in your tabernacle?

Who may live on your holy hill?

²Whoever walks blamelessly, does what is right
and speaks truth from his heart.

³He does not slander with his tongue,
he does not harm others,
and he does not insult his neighbor.

⁴The worthless person is despised in his eyes,
but he honors those who fear Yahweh.

He swears to his own disadvantage and does not take back his promises.

⁵He does not charge interest when he lends money.
He does not take bribes to testify against the innocent.
He who does these things will never be shaken.

Psalm 16

A michtam of David.

¹Protect me, God, for I take refuge in you.

²I say to Yahweh, "You are my Lord; my goodness is nothing apart from you.

³As for the holy people who are on the earth, they are noble people; all my delight is in them.

⁴Their troubles will be increased, those who seek out other gods. I will not pour out drink offerings of blood to their gods

or lift up their names with my lips.

⁵Yahweh, you are my chosen portion and my cup. You hold onto my lot.

⁶Measuring lines have been laid for me in pleasant places; surely a pleasing inheritance is mine.

⁷I will bless Yahweh, who counsels me; even at night my mind instructs me.

⁸I set Yahweh before me at all times, so I will not be shaken from his right hand!

⁹Therefore my heart is glad; my glory is rejoicing. Surely I will live in security.

¹⁰For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol. You will not let your faithful one see the pit.

¹¹You teach me the path of life; abundant joy resides in your presence; delights abide in your right hand forever!"

Psalm 17

A prayer of David.

¹Listen to my plea for justice, Yahweh; pay attention to my call for help!

Give ear to my prayer from lips without deceit.

²Let my vindication come from your presence; let your eyes see what is right!

³If you test my heart, if you come to me in the night,

you will purify me and will not find any evil plans; my mouth will not transgress.

⁴As for the deeds of mankind, it is at the word of your lips that I have kept myself from the ways of the lawless.

⁵My steps have held firmly to your tracks; my feet have not slipped.

⁶I call to you, for you answer me, God; turn your ear to me and listen when I speak.

⁷Show your covenant faithfulness in a wonderful way, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their enemies!

⁸Protect me like the apple of your eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings

⁹from the presence of the wicked ones who assault me, my enemies who surround me.

¹⁰They have no mercy on anyone; their mouths speak with pride.

¹¹They have surrounded my steps. They set their eyes to strike me to the ground.

¹²They are like a lion eager for a victim, like a young lion crouching in hidden places.

¹³Arise, Yahweh! Attack them! Throw them down on their faces! Rescue my life from the wicked by your sword!

¹⁴Rescue me from men by your hand, Yahweh, from men of this world whose prosperity is in this life alone!

You will fill the bellies of your treasured ones with riches; they will have many children and will leave their wealth to their children.

¹⁵As for me, I will see your face in righteousness; I will be satisfied, when I awake, with a sight of you.

Psalm 18

For the chief musician. A psalm of David, the servant of Yahweh, when he sang to Yahweh the words of this song on the day that Yahweh rescued him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He sang:

¹I love you, Yahweh, my strength.

²Yahweh is my rock, my fortress, the one who brings me to safety; he is my God, my rock; I take refuge in him.
He is my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my stronghold.

³I will call on Yahweh who is worthy to be praised, and I will be saved from my enemies.

⁴The cords of death surrounded me, and the rushing waters of worthlessness overwhelmed me.

⁵The cords of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death trapped me.

⁶In my distress I called to Yahweh; I called for help to my God. He heard my voice from his temple;
my call for help went into his presence; it went into his ears.

⁷Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the mountains also trembled
and were shaken because God was angry.

⁸Smoke went up from out of his nostrils, and blazing fire came out of his mouth. Coals were ignited by it.

⁹He opened the heavens and came down, and thick darkness was under his feet.

¹⁰He rode on a cherub and flew; he glided on the wings of the wind.

¹¹He made darkness a tent around him, heavy rainclouds in the skies.

¹²Hailstones and coals of fire fell from the lightning before him.

¹³Yahweh thundered in the heavens! The voice of the Most High shouted.^[1]

¹⁴He shot his arrows and scattered his enemies; many lightning bolts dispersed them.

¹⁵Then the water channels appeared;
the foundations of the world were laid bare
at your rebuke, Yahweh,
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.

¹⁶He reached down from above; he took hold of me! He pulled me out of the surging water.

¹⁷He rescued me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me, for they were too strong for me.

¹⁸They came against me on the day of my distress but Yahweh was my support!

¹⁹He set me free in a wide open place; he saved me because he was pleased with me.

²⁰Yahweh has rewarded me because of my righteousness; he has restored me because my hands were clean.

²¹For I have kept the ways of Yahweh and have not wickedly turned away from my God.

²²For all his righteous decrees have been before me; as for his statutes, I have not turned away from them.

²³I have also been innocent before him, and I have kept myself from sin.

²⁴Therefore Yahweh has restored me because of my righteousness, because my hands were clean before his eyes.

²⁵To the one who is faithful, you show yourself to be faithful;

to a man who is blameless, you show yourself to be blameless.

²⁶To anyone who is pure, you show yourself pure; but you are clever toward anyone who is twisted.

²⁷For you save afflicted people, but you bring down those with proud, uplifted eyes!

²⁸For you give light to my lamp; Yahweh my God lights up my darkness.

²⁹For by you I can run over a barricade; by my God I can leap over a wall.

³⁰As for God—his way is perfect! The word of Yahweh is pure!

He is a shield to everyone who takes refuge in him.

³¹For who is God except Yahweh? Who is a rock except our God?

³²It is God who puts strength on me like a belt, who places the blameless person on his path.

³³He makes my feet swift like a deer and places me on the heights!

³⁴He trains my hands for war and my arms to bend a bow of bronze.

³⁵You have given me the shield of your salvation. Your right hand has supported me, and your favor has made me great.

³⁶You have made a wide place for my feet beneath me so that my feet have not slipped.

³⁷I pursued my enemies and caught them; I did not turn back until they were destroyed.

³⁸I smashed them so that they were unable to rise; they have fallen under my feet.

³⁹For you put strength on me like a belt for battle; you put under me those who rise up against me.

⁴⁰You gave me the back of my enemies' necks; I annihilated those who hated me.

⁴¹They called for help, but no one saved them; they called out to Yahweh, but he did not answer them.

⁴²I beat them into fine pieces like dust before the wind; I threw them out like mud in the streets.

⁴³You rescued me from the disputes of people. You have made me the head over nations. People that I have not known serve me.

⁴⁴As soon as they heard of me, they obeyed me; foreigners were forced to bow to me.

⁴⁵The foreigners came trembling out of their strongholds.

⁴⁶Yahweh lives; may my rock be praised. May the God of my salvation be exalted.

⁴⁷He is the God who executes vengeance for me, who subdues the nations under me.

⁴⁸I am set free from my enemies! Indeed, you lifted me above the ones who rose against me! You rescued me from violent men.

⁴⁹Therefore I will give thanks to you, Yahweh, among the nations; I will sing praises to your name!

⁵⁰God gives great victory to his king, and he shows his covenant loyalty to his anointed one, to David and to his descendants forever.

18:13 ^[1] this expression may be an accidental repetition from the previous verse.

Psalm 19

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the skies make his handiwork known!

²Day after day speech pours out;
night after night it reveals knowledge.

³There is no speech or spoken words;
their voice is not heard.

⁴Yet their words go out over all the earth,
and their speech to the end of the world.

He has pitched a tent for the sun among them.

⁵The sun is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber
and like a strong man who rejoices when he runs his race.

⁶The sun rises from the one horizon
and crosses the sky to the other;
nothing escapes its heat.

⁷The law of Yahweh is perfect, restoring the soul;
the testimony of Yahweh is reliable, making the simple wise.

⁸The instructions of Yahweh are right, making the heart glad;
the commandment of Yahweh is pure, bringing light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of Yahweh is pure, enduring forever;
the righteous decrees of Yahweh are true and altogether right!

¹⁰They are of greater value than gold, even more than much fine gold;
they are sweeter than honey and the dripping honey from the honeycomb.

¹¹Yes, by them your servant is warned;
in obeying them there is great reward.

¹²Who can discern all his own errors?
Cleanse me from hidden faults.

¹³Keep your servant also from arrogant sins;

let them not rule over me.

Then I will be perfect,

and I will be innocent from many transgressions.

¹⁴May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart

be acceptable in your sight,

Yahweh, my rock and my redeemer.

Psalm 20

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹May Yahweh help you in the day of trouble;

may the name of the God of Jacob protect you

²and send help from the holy place

to support you from Zion.

³May he call to mind all your offerings

and accept your burnt sacrifice. *Selah*

⁴May he grant you your heart's desire

and fulfill all your plans.

⁵Then we will rejoice in your victory,

and, in the name of our God, we will raise banners.

May Yahweh grant all your petitions.

⁶Now I know that Yahweh will rescue his anointed one;

he will answer him from his holy heaven

with the strength of his right hand that can rescue him.

⁷Some trust in chariots and others in horses,

but we call on Yahweh our God.

⁸They will be brought down and fall,

but we will rise and stand upright!

⁹Yahweh, rescue the king;

help us when we call.

Psalm 21

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹The king rejoices in your strength, Yahweh!

How greatly he rejoices in the salvation you provide!

²You have given him his heart's desire

and have not held back the request of his lips. *Selah*

³For you bring him rich blessings;

you placed on his head a crown of purest gold.

⁴He asked you for life; you gave it to him;

you gave him the length of his days forever and ever.

⁵His glory is great because of your victory;

you have bestowed on him splendor and majesty.

⁶For you grant him lasting blessings;

you make him glad with the joy of your presence.

⁷For the king trusts in Yahweh;

through the covenant faithfulness of the Most High he will not be moved.

⁸Your hand will seize all your enemies;

your right hand will seize those who hate you.

⁹At the time of your anger, you will burn them up as in a fiery furnace.

Yahweh will consume them in his wrath,

and the fire will devour them.

¹⁰You will destroy their offspring from the earth

and their descendants from among the human race.

¹¹For they intended evil against you;

they conceived a plot with which they will not succeed!

¹²For you will turn them back;

you will draw your bow before them.

¹³Be exalted, Yahweh, in your strength;

we will sing and praise your power.

Psalm 22

For the chief musician; set to "The rhythm of the deer." A psalm of David.

¹My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Why are you so far from saving me and far from the words of my anguish?

²My God, I cry out in the daytime, but you do not answer,
and at night I am not silent!

³Yet you are holy;
you sit as king with the praises of Israel.

⁴Our ancestors trusted in you;
they trusted in you, and you rescued them.

⁵They cried to you and they were rescued.
They trusted in you and were not disappointed.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man,
a disgrace to humanity and despised by the people.

⁷All those who see me taunt me;
they mock me; they shake their heads at me.

⁸They say, "He trusts in Yahweh;
let Yahweh rescue him.
Let him rescue him, for he delights in him."

⁹For you brought me from the womb;
you made me trust you when I was on my mother's breasts.

¹⁰I have been thrown on you from the womb;
you are my God since I was in my mother's womb!

¹¹Do not be far away from me, for trouble is near;
there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls surround me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

¹³They open their mouths wide against me
like a roaring lion ripping its victim.

¹⁴I am being poured out like water,
and all my bones are dislocated.

My heart is like wax;
it melts away within my inner parts.

¹⁵My strength has dried up like a piece of pottery;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.
You have laid me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs have surrounded me;
a company of evildoers has encircled me;
they have pierced my hands and my feet.

¹⁷I can count all my bones.
They look and stare at me.

¹⁸They divide my garments among themselves,
they cast lots for my clothes.

¹⁹Do not be far away, Yahweh;
please hurry to help me, my strength!

²⁰Rescue my soul from the sword,
my only life from the claws of wild dogs.

²¹Save me from the lion's mouth;
rescue me from the horns of the wild oxen.

²²I will declare your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

²³You who fear Yahweh, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!
Stand in awe of him, all you descendants of Israel!

²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the suffering of the afflicted one;
Yahweh has not hidden his face from him;
when the afflicted one cried to him, he heard.

²⁵My praise will be because of you in the great assembly;
I will fulfill my vows before those who fear him.

²⁶The oppressed will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek Yahweh will praise him.
May your hearts live forever.

²⁷All the peoples of the earth will remember and turn to Yahweh;
all the families of the nations will bow down before you.

²⁸For the kingdom is Yahweh's;
he is the ruler over the nations.

²⁹All the prosperous people of the earth will feast and will worship;
all those who are descending into the dust will bow before him,
those who cannot preserve their own lives.

³⁰A generation to come will serve him;
they will tell the next generation of the Lord.

³¹They will come and tell of his righteousness;
they will tell to a people not yet born what he has done!

Psalm 23

A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh is my shepherd; I will lack nothing.

²He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside tranquil water.

³He brings back my life;
he guides me along right paths for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through a valley of darkest shadow,
I will not fear harm since you are with me;
your rod and your staff comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you have anointed my head with oil;
my cup runs over.

⁶Surely goodness and covenant faithfulness will pursue me all the days of my life;
and I will live in the house of Yahweh for the length of my days!

Psalm 24

A psalm of David.

¹The earth is Yahweh's, and its fullness,
the world, and all who live in it.

²For he has founded it upon the seas

and established it on the rivers.

³Who will ascend the mountain of Yahweh?

Who will stand in his holy place?

⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart;

who has not lifted up a falsehood,

and has not sworn an oath in order to deceive.

⁵He will receive a blessing from Yahweh

and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,

those who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah*

⁷Lift up your heads, you gates;

be lifted up, everlasting doors,

so that the King of glory may come in!

⁸Who is this King of glory?

Yahweh, strong and mighty; Yahweh, mighty in battle.

⁹Lift up your heads, you gates;

be lifted up, everlasting doors,

so that the King of glory may come in!

¹⁰Who is this King of glory?

Yahweh of hosts,

he is the King of glory. *Selah*

Psalm 25

A psalm of David.

¹To you, Yahweh, I lift up my life!

²My God, I trust in you.

Do not let me be humiliated;

do not let my enemies rejoice triumphantly over me.

³May no one who hopes in you be disgraced

may those who act treacherously without cause be ashamed!

⁴Make known to me your ways, Yahweh;

teach me your paths.

⁵Guide me into your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

I hope in you all day long.

⁶Call to mind, Yahweh, your acts of compassion and of covenant faithfulness;

for they have always existed.

⁷Do not think about the sins of my youth or my rebelliousness;

Call me to mind with covenant faithfulness because of your goodness, Yahweh!

⁸Yahweh is good and upright;

therefore he teaches sinners the way.

⁹He guides the humble in what is right

and he teaches them his way.

¹⁰All the paths of Yahweh are steadfast love and faithfulness

to those who keep his covenant and his solemn commands.

¹¹For your name's sake, Yahweh,

pardon my sin, for it is great.

¹²Who is the man who fears Yahweh?

The Lord will instruct him in the way that he should choose.

¹³His life will go along in goodness;

and his descendants will inherit the land.

¹⁴The friendship of Yahweh is for those who honor him,

and he makes his covenant known to them.

¹⁵My eyes are always on Yahweh,

for he will free my feet from the net.

¹⁶Turn toward me and have mercy on me;

for I am alone and afflicted.

¹⁷The troubles of my heart are enlarged;

draw me out from my distress!

¹⁸See my affliction and my toils;

forgive all my sins.

¹⁹See my enemies, for they are many;

they hate me with cruel hatred.

²⁰Protect my life and rescue me;

do not let me be humiliated, for I take refuge in you!

²¹May integrity and uprightness preserve me,

for I hope in you.

²²Rescue Israel, God,

from all of his troubles!

Psalm 26

A psalm of David.

¹Judge me, Yahweh, for I have walked with integrity;

I have trusted in Yahweh without wavering.

²Examine me, Yahweh, and test me;

test the purity of my inner parts and my heart!

³For your covenant faithfulness is before my eyes,

and I walk about in your faithfulness.

⁴I do not associate with deceitful people,

nor do I mingle with dishonest people.

⁵I hate the assembly of evildoers,

and I do not live with the wicked.

⁶I wash my hands in innocence,

and I go around your altar, Yahweh,

⁷to sing a loud song of praise

and report all your wonderful deeds.

⁸Yahweh, I love the house where you live,

the place where your glory lives!

⁹Do not sweep me away with sinners,

or my life with people who are bloodthirsty,

¹⁰in whose hands there is a plot,

and whose right hand is full of bribes.

¹¹But as for me, I will walk in integrity;

redeem me and have mercy on me.

¹²My foot stands on level ground;
in the assemblies will I bless Yahweh!

Psalm 27

A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?

Yahweh is my life's refuge;
whom should I dread?

²When evildoers approached me to devour my flesh,
my adversaries and my enemies stumbled and fell.

³Though an army encamps against me,
my heart will not fear;
though war rises up against me,
even then I will remain confident.

⁴One thing have I asked of Yahweh, and I will seek that:
that I may live in the house of Yahweh all the days of my life,
to see the beauty of Yahweh
and to meditate in his temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble he will hide me in his shelter;
in the cover of his tent he will conceal me.
He will lift me high on a rock!

⁶Then my head will be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer sacrifices of joy in his tent!

I will sing and make songs to Yahweh!

⁷Hear, Yahweh, my voice when I cry out!
Have mercy on me, and answer me!

⁸My heart says about you,
"Seek his face!" I seek your face, Yahweh!

⁹Do not hide your face from me;

do not turn your servant away in anger!

You have been my helper;

do not forsake me or abandon me, God of my salvation!

¹⁰Even if my father and my mother forsake me,

Yahweh will take me in.

¹¹Teach me your way, Yahweh!

Lead me on a level path

because of my enemies.

¹²Do not give me up to the desires of my enemies,

for false witnesses have risen up against me,

and they breathe out violence!

¹³What would have happened to me if I had not believed that I would see the goodness of Yahweh in the land of the living?

¹⁴Wait for Yahweh;

be strong, and let your heart be courageous!

Wait for Yahweh!

Psalm 28

A psalm of David.

¹To you, Yahweh, I cry out; my rock, do not ignore me.

If you do not respond to me, I will join those who go down to the grave.

²Hear the sound of my pleading when I call for help from you,

when I lift up my hands toward your most holy place!

³Do not drag me away with the wicked, those who do iniquity,

who speak peace with their neighbors but have evil in their hearts.

⁴Give them what their deeds deserve and repay them what their wickedness demands,

repay them for the work of their hands and render to them their due.

⁵Because they do not understand the deeds of Yahweh or the work of his hands,

he will tear them down and never rebuild them.

⁶Blessed be Yahweh

because he has heard the sound of my pleading!

⁷Yahweh is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.
Therefore my heart greatly rejoices,
and I will praise him with singing.

⁸Yahweh is the strength of his people,
and he is the saving refuge of his anointed one.

⁹Save your people and bless your inheritance.
Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Psalm 29

A psalm of David.

¹Ascribe to Yahweh, you sons of God,
ascribe to Yahweh glory and strength!

²Ascribe to Yahweh the glory his name deserves.
Bow down to Yahweh in the splendor of holiness!

³The voice of Yahweh is heard over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
Yahweh thunders over many waters.

⁴The voice of Yahweh is powerful;
the voice of Yahweh is majestic.

⁵The voice of Yahweh breaks the cedars;
Yahweh breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young ox.

⁷The voice of Yahweh sends out flames of fire.

⁸The voice of Yahweh shakes the wilderness;
Yahweh shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of Yahweh causes the oaks to twist
and strips the forests bare.

Everyone in his temple says, "Glory!"

¹⁰Yahweh sits as king over the flood;

Yahweh sits as king forever.

¹¹Yahweh gives strength to his people;

Yahweh blesses his people with peace.

Psalm 30

A psalm; a song at the dedication of the temple. A psalm of David.

¹I will exalt you, Yahweh, for you have raised me up and have not allowed my enemies to rejoice over me.

²Yahweh my God, I cried to you for help, and you healed me.

³Yahweh, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you have kept me alive from going down to the grave.

⁴Sing praises to Yahweh, you his faithful ones! Give thanks when you remember his holiness.

⁵For his anger is only for a moment; but his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping comes for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶In confidence I said, "I will never be shaken."

⁷Yahweh, by your favor you established me as a strong mountain; but when you hid your face, I was troubled.

⁸I cried to you, Yahweh, and sought favor from my Lord!

⁹What advantage is there in my death, if I go down to the grave? Will the dust praise you? Will it declare your trustworthiness?

¹⁰Hear, Yahweh, and have mercy on me! Yahweh, be my helper.

¹¹You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have removed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.

¹²So now my glory will sing praise to you and not be silent; Yahweh my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

Psalm 31

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹In you, Yahweh, I take refuge;

never let me be humiliated.

Rescue me in your righteousness.

²Listen to me; rescue me quickly;

be my rock of refuge,

a stronghold to save me.

³For you are my rock and my fortress;

therefore for your name's sake, lead and guide me.

⁴Pluck me out of the net that they have hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.

⁵Into your hands I entrust my spirit;
you will redeem me, Yahweh, God of trustworthiness.

⁶I hate those who serve worthless idols,
but I trust in Yahweh.

⁷I will be glad and rejoice in your covenant faithfulness,
for you saw my affliction;
you knew the distress of my soul.

⁸You have not given me into the hand of my enemy.
You have set my feet in a wide open place.

⁹Have mercy upon me, Yahweh, for I am in distress;
my eyes grow weary with grief with my soul and my body.

¹⁰For my life is weary with sorrow
and my years with groaning.
My strength fails because of my sin,
and my bones are wasting away.

¹¹Because of all my enemies, people disdain me;
my neighbors are appalled at my situation,
and those who know me are horrified.
Those who see me in the street run from me.

¹²I am forgotten as a dead man whom no one thinks about.
I am like a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of many,
terrifying news from every side
as they plot together against me.
They plot to take away my life.

¹⁴But I trust in you, Yahweh;
I say, "You are my God."

¹⁵My times are in your hand.
Rescue me from the hands of my enemies and from those who pursue me.

¹⁶Make your face shine on your servant;
save me in your covenant faithfulness.

¹⁷Do not let me be humiliated, Yahweh; for I call out to you!
May the wicked be humiliated! May they be silent in Sheol.

¹⁸May lying lips be silenced
that speak against the righteous defiantly
with arrogance and contempt.

¹⁹How great is your goodness
that you have stored up for those who revere you,
that you perform for those who take refuge in you
before all the children of mankind!

²⁰In the shelter of your presence, you hide them from the plots of men.
You hide them in a shelter from the violence of tongues.

²¹Blessed be Yahweh,
for he showed me his marvelous covenant faithfulness when I was in a besieged city.

²²Though I said in my haste,
"I am cut off from your eyes,"
yet you heard my plea for help
when I cried to you.

²³Love Yahweh, all you faithful ones.
Yahweh protects the faithful,
but he pays back the arrogant in full.

²⁴Be strong and confident,
all you who trust in Yahweh for help.

Psalm 32

A psalm of David. A maschil.

¹Blessed is the person whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

²Blessed is the man to whom Yahweh reckons no guilt
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³When I remained silent, my bones were wasting away
while I groaned all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me.
My strength withered as in summer drought. *Selah*

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I no longer hid my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to Yahweh,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

⁶For this reason every one of your faithful followers should pray to you at a time of great distress.
When the surging waters overflow, the waters will not reach them.

⁷You are my hiding place; you will guard me from trouble.
You will surround me with the songs of victory. *Selah*

⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go.
I will instruct you with my eye upon you.

⁹Do not be like a horse or like a mule, which have no understanding;
it is only with bridle and bit to control them
that they will go where you want them to.

¹⁰The wicked have many sorrows,
but Yahweh's covenant faithfulness will surround the one who trusts in him.

¹¹Be glad in Yahweh, and rejoice, you righteous;
shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

Psalm 33

¹Rejoice in Yahweh, you righteous;
praise is appropriate for the upright.

²Give thanks to Yahweh with the harp;
sing praises to him with the harp of ten strings.

³Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully and sing with joy.

⁴For Yahweh's word is upright,
and everything he does is fair.

⁵He loves righteousness and justice.

The earth is full of Yahweh's covenant faithfulness.

⁶By the word of Yahweh the heavens were made,
and all the stars were made by the breath of his mouth.

⁷He gathers the waters of the sea together like a heap;
he puts the oceans in storehouses.

⁸Let the whole earth fear Yahweh;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

⁹For he spoke, and it was done;
he commanded, and it stood in place.

¹⁰Yahweh frustrates the alliances of nations;
he overrules the plans of the peoples.

¹¹The plans of Yahweh stand forever,
the plans of his heart for all generations.

¹²Blessed is the nation whose God is Yahweh,
the people whom he has chosen as his own inheritance.

¹³Yahweh looks from heaven;
he sees all the people.

¹⁴From the place where he lives,
he looks down on all who live on the earth.

¹⁵He who shapes the hearts of them all
observes all their deeds.

¹⁶No king is saved by a vast army;
a warrior is not saved by his great strength.

¹⁷A horse is a false hope for victory;
in spite of his great strength, he cannot rescue.

¹⁸See, Yahweh's eye is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his covenant faithfulness

¹⁹to deliver their lives from death
and to keep them alive in times of famine.

²⁰We wait for Yahweh;

he is our help and our shield.

²¹Our hearts rejoice in him,
for we trust in his holy name.

²²Let your covenant faithfulness, Yahweh, be with us
as we put our hope in you.

Psalm 34

A psalm of David; when he pretended to be insane before Abimelech, who drove him out.

¹I will praise Yahweh at all times,
his praise will always be in my mouth.

²I will praise Yahweh!
May the oppressed hear and rejoice.

³Praise Yahweh with me,
let us lift up his name together.

⁴I sought Yahweh and he answered me,
and he gave me victory over all my fears.

⁵Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces are not ashamed.

⁶This oppressed man cried and Yahweh heard him
and saved him from all his troubles.

⁷The angel of Yahweh camps around those who fear him
and rescues them.

⁸Taste and see that Yahweh is good.
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

⁹Fear Yahweh, you his holy people.
There is no lack for those who fear him.

¹⁰The young lions sometimes lack food and suffer hunger,
but those who seek Yahweh will not lack anything good.

¹¹Come, sons, listen to me.
I will teach you the fear of Yahweh.

¹²What man is there who desires life

and loves many days,
that he may see good?

¹³Then keep your tongue from evil
and keep your lips from speaking lies.

¹⁴Turn away from evil and do good.
Seek peace and go after it.

¹⁵The eyes of Yahweh are on the righteous
and his ears are directed toward their cry.

¹⁶The face of Yahweh is against those who do evil,
to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

¹⁷The righteous cry out and Yahweh hears
and he rescues them from all their troubles.

¹⁸Yahweh is close to the brokenhearted,
and he saves those who are crushed in spirit.

¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but Yahweh delivers them out of them all.

²⁰He keeps all his bones,
not one of them will be broken.

²¹Evil will kill the wicked.
Those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

²²Yahweh rescues the lives of his servants.
None of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Psalm 35

A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh, work against those who work against me;
fight against those who fight against me.

²Grab your small shield and large shield;
rise up and help me.

³Use your spear and battle ax against those who chase me;
say to my soul, "I am your salvation."

⁴May those who seek my life be shamed and dishonored.
May those who plan to harm me be turned back and confounded.

⁵May they be as chaff before the wind,
as the angel of Yahweh drives them away.

⁶May their way be dark and slippery,
as the angel of Yahweh chases them.

⁷Without cause they set their net for me;
without cause they dug a pit for my life.

⁸Let destruction overtake them by surprise.
Let the net that they have set catch them.
Let them fall into it, to their destruction.

⁹But I will be joyful in Yahweh
and rejoice in his salvation.

¹⁰All my bones will say, "Yahweh, who is like you,
who rescues the oppressed from those who are too strong for them
and the poor and needy from those who try to rob them?"

¹¹Unrighteous witnesses rise up;
they accuse me falsely.

¹²They repay me evil for good.
I am sorrowful.

¹³But, when they were sick, I wore sackcloth;
I fasted for them
with my head bowed on my chest.

¹⁴I went about in grief as for my brother;
I bent down in mourning as for my mother.

¹⁵But when I stumbled, they rejoiced and gathered together;
they gathered together against me, and I was surprised by them.
They tore at me without stopping.

¹⁶With no respect at all they mocked me;
they grind their teeth at me in rage.

¹⁷Lord, how long will you look on?

Rescue my soul from their destructive attacks,
my life from the lions.

¹⁸Then I will thank you in the great assembly;

I will praise you among many people.

¹⁹Do not let my deceitful enemies rejoice over me;

do not let them carry out their wicked schemes.

²⁰For they do not speak peace,

but they devise deceitful words against those in our land who live in peace.

²¹They open their mouths wide against me;

they said, "Aha, Aha, our eyes have seen it."

²²You have seen it, Yahweh, do not be silent;

Lord, do not be far from me.

²³Arouse yourself and awake to my defense;

My God and my Lord, defend my cause.

²⁴Defend me, Yahweh my God, because of your righteousness;

do not let them rejoice over me.

²⁵Do not let them say in their heart, "Aha, we have what we wanted."

Do not let them say, "We have devoured him."

²⁶May they be put to shame and may they be confounded who rejoice at my distress.

May those who exalt themselves over me be clothed with shame and dishonor.

²⁷Let those who desire my vindication shout for joy and be glad;

may they say continually, "Yahweh be praised,

he who delights in the welfare of his servant."

²⁸Then I will tell of your justice

and praise you all day long.

Psalm 36

For the chief musician. A psalm of David the servant of Yahweh.

¹An evil man speaks of his transgression from deep in his heart,
there is no fear of God in his eyes.

²For he comforts himself,

thinking that his sin will not be discovered and be hated.

³His words are sinful and deceitful;

he does not want to be wise and do good.

⁴While he lies in bed, he plans ways to sin;

he sets out on an evil way;

he does not reject evil.

⁵Your covenant faithfulness, Yahweh, reaches to the heavens;

your loyalty reaches to the clouds.

⁶Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;

your judgments are like the great deep.

Yahweh, you preserve both mankind and the animals.

⁷How precious is your covenant faithfulness, God!

Humanity takes refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸They feast upon the abundance of your house;

you let them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹For with you is the fountain of life;

in your light we will see light.

¹⁰Extend your covenant faithfulness fully to those who know you,

your defense to the upright of heart.

¹¹Do not let the foot of the arrogant man come near to me.

Do not let the hand of the wicked drive me away.

¹²Over there the evildoers have fallen;

they are knocked down and are not able to get up.

Psalm 37

A psalm of David.

¹Do not be irritated because of evildoers;

do not be envious of those who act unrighteously.

²For they will soon dry up as the grass

and wither as the green plants.

³Trust in Yahweh and do what is good;

settle in the land and graze in faithfulness.

⁴Then delight yourself in Yahweh,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵Give your ways to Yahweh;
trust in him, and he will act on your behalf.

⁶He will display your justice like the daylight
and your innocence like the day at noon.

⁷Be still before Yahweh and wait patiently for him.
Do not be angry if someone succeeds in what he does,
or when he makes evil plots.

⁸Do not be angry and frustrated.
Do not worry. This only makes trouble.

⁹Evildoers will be cut off,
but those who wait for Yahweh will inherit the land.

¹⁰In a little while the evil man will disappear;
you will look at his place, but he will be gone.

¹¹But the meek will inherit the land
and will delight in great prosperity.

¹²The wicked man plots against the righteous
and he grinds his teeth in rage against him.

¹³The Lord laughs at him,
for he sees that his day is coming.

¹⁴The wicked have drawn out their swords and have bent their bows
to cast down the oppressed and needy,
to kill those who are upright.

¹⁵Their swords will pierce their own hearts,
and their bows will be broken.

¹⁶Better is the little that the righteous has
than the abundance of many wicked people.

¹⁷For the arms of the wicked people will be broken,
but Yahweh supports the righteous people.

18Yahweh watches over the blameless day by day,
and their heritage will be forever.

19They will not be ashamed when times are bad.
When famine comes, they will have enough to eat.

20But evil men will perish.
Yahweh's enemies will be like the glory of the pastures;
they will be consumed and disappear in the smoke.

21The wicked person borrows but does not repay,
but the righteous person is generous and gives.

22Those who are blessed by God will inherit the land;
those who are cursed by him will be cut off.

23It is by Yahweh that a man's steps are established,
the man whose way is commendable in God's sight.

24Though he stumbles, he will not fall down,
for Yahweh is holding him with his hand.

25I was young and now am old;
I have never seen the righteous person abandoned
or his children begging for bread.

26All the day long he is gracious and lends,
and his children become a blessing.

27Turn away from evil and do what is right;
then you will be safe forever.

28For Yahweh loves justice
and does not abandon his faithful ones.
They are preserved forever,
but the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

29The righteous will inherit the land
and live there forever.

30The mouth of the righteous person speaks wisdom
and increases justice.

31The law of his God is in his heart;

his feet will not slip.

³²The wicked person watches the righteous person
and seeks to kill him.

³³Yahweh will not abandon him into the evil person's hand
or condemn him when he is judged.

³⁴Wait for Yahweh and keep his way,
and he will raise you up to possess the land.
You will see when the wicked are cut off.

³⁵I have seen the wicked and terrifying person
spread out like a green tree in its native soil.

³⁶But when I passed by again, he was not there.
I looked for him, but he could not be found.

³⁷Observe the man of integrity, and mark the upright;
there is a good future for a man of peace.

³⁸Sinners will be totally destroyed;
the future for the wicked man is cut off.

³⁹Salvation of the righteous comes from Yahweh;
he protects them in the times of trouble.

⁴⁰Yahweh helps them and rescues them.
He rescues them from evil men and saves them
because they have taken refuge in him.

Psalm 38

A psalm of David, to bring to remembrance.

¹Yahweh, do not rebuke me in your anger;
do not punish me in your wrath.

²For your arrows pierce me,
and your hand presses me down.

³My whole body is sick because of your anger;
there is no health in my bones because of my sin.

⁴For my iniquities overwhelm me;

they are a burden too heavy for me.

⁵My wounds are infected and smell
because of my foolish sins.

⁶I am stooped over and humiliated every day;
I go about mourning all day long.

⁷For within me, I am filled with burning;
there is no health in my flesh.

⁸I am numb and utterly crushed;
I groan because of the anguish of my heart.

⁹Lord, you understand my heart's deepest yearnings,
and my groanings are not hidden from you.

¹⁰My heart pounds, my strength fades,
and my eyesight dims.

¹¹My friends and companions shun me because of my condition;
my neighbors stand far off.

¹²Those who seek my life lay snares for me.
They who seek my harm speak destructive words
and say deceitful words all day long.

¹³But I, I am like a deaf man and hear nothing;
I am like a mute man who says nothing.

¹⁴I am like a man who does not hear
and who has no reply.

¹⁵Surely I wait for you, Yahweh;
you will answer, Lord my God.

¹⁶I say this so that my enemies will not gloat over me.
If my foot slips, they will do terrible things to me.

¹⁷For I am about to stumble,
and I am in constant pain.

¹⁸I confess my guilt;
I am concerned about my sin.

¹⁹But my enemies are numerous;

those who hate me wrongfully are many.

²⁰They repay me evil for good;

they hurl accusations at me although I have pursued what is good.

²¹Do not abandon me, Yahweh;

my God, do not stay far away from me.

²²Come quickly to help me,

Lord, my salvation.

Psalm 39

For the chief musician, for Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

¹I decided, "I will watch what I say

so that I do not sin with my tongue.

I will muzzle my mouth

while in the presence of an evil man."

²I kept silent; I kept back my words even from saying anything good,

and my pain grew worse.

³My heart became hot;

when I thought about these things, it burned like a fire.

Then finally I spoke.

⁴"Yahweh, make me know when will be the end of my life

and the extent of my days.

Show me how transient I am.

⁵See, you have made my days only the width of my hand,

and my lifetime is like nothing before you.

Surely every man is a single breath. *Selah*

⁶Surely every man walks about like a shadow.

Surely everyone hurries about

to accumulate riches although they do not know who will receive them.

⁷Now, Lord, for what am I waiting?

You are my only hope.

⁸Rescue me from my sins;

do not make me the reproach of fools.

⁹I am silent and cannot open my mouth,
because it is you who has done it.

¹⁰Stop wounding me;
I am overwhelmed by the blow of your hand.

¹¹When you discipline people for sin,
you consume the things they desire like a moth;
surely all people are nothing but vapor. *Selah*

¹²Hear my prayer, Yahweh, and listen to me;
listen to my weeping!
Do not be deaf to me,
for I am like a foreigner with you, a refugee like all my ancestors were.

¹³Turn your gaze from me so that I may smile again
before I die.”

Psalm 40

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹I waited patiently for Yahweh;
he listened to me and heard my cry.

²He brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay,
and he set my feet on a rock and made my steps secure.

³He has put a new song in my mouth, praise to our God.
Many will see it and honor him
and will trust in Yahweh.

⁴Blessed is the man who makes Yahweh his trust
and does not honor the proud or those who turn away from him to lies.

⁵Many, Yahweh my God, are the wonderful deeds that you have done,
and your thoughts which are about us cannot be numbered;
if I declared and spoke of them,
they would be more than could be counted.

⁶You have no delight in sacrifice or offering,

but you have opened my ears;
you have not required burnt offerings or sin offerings.

⁷Then said I, "See, I have come;
it is written about me in the scroll of the document.

⁸I delight to do your will, my God;
your laws are in my heart."

⁹I have proclaimed good news of your righteousness in the great assembly;
Yahweh, you know that my lips have not kept back from doing this.

¹⁰I have not concealed your righteousness in my heart;
I have declared your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your covenant faithfulness or your trustworthiness from the great assembly.

¹¹Do not keep back your acts of mercy from me, Yahweh;
let your covenant faithfulness and your trustworthiness always preserve me.

¹²Troubles that cannot be numbered surround me;
my iniquities have caught up with me so that I am no longer able to see anything;
they are more than the hairs on my head,
and my heart has failed me.

¹³Be pleased, Yahweh, to rescue me;
hurry to help me, Yahweh.

¹⁴Let them be ashamed and completely disappointed
who pursue my life to take it away.
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor,
those who delight in hurting me.

¹⁵Let them be shocked because of their shame,
those who say to me, "Aha, aha!"

¹⁶But may all those who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let everyone who loves your salvation say continually,
"May Yahweh be praised."

¹⁷I am poor and needy;
yet the Lord thinks about me.
You are my help and you come to my rescue;

do not delay, my God.

Psalm 41

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹Blessed is he who is concerned for the weak;
in the day of trouble, Yahweh will rescue him.

²Yahweh will preserve him and keep him alive,
and he will be blessed on the earth;
Yahweh will not turn him over to the will of his enemies.

³Yahweh will support him on the bed of suffering;
you will make his bed of sickness into a bed of healing.

⁴I said, "Yahweh, have mercy on me!
Heal me, for I have sinned against you."

⁵My enemies speak evil against me, saying,
'When will he die and his name perish?'

⁶If my enemy comes to see me, he says worthless things;
his heart gathers up my disaster for itself;
when he goes away from me, he tells others about it.

⁷All who hate me whisper together against me;
against me they hope for my hurt.

⁸They say, "An evil disease holds on tightly to him;
now that he is lying down, he will rise up no more."

⁹Indeed, even my own close friend, in whom I trusted,
who ate my bread,
has lifted up his heel against me.

¹⁰But you, Yahweh, have mercy on me and raise me up
so that I may pay them back.

¹¹By this I know that you delight in me,
for my enemy does not triumph over me.

¹²As for me, you support me in my integrity
and will keep me before your face forever.

¹³May Yahweh, the God of Israel be praised
from everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.

Book Two

Psalm 42

For the chief musician. A maschil of the sons of Korah.

¹As the deer pants after streams of water,
so I thirst for you, God.

²I thirst for God, for the living God,
when will I come and appear before God?

³My tears have been my food day and night,
while my enemies are always saying to me, "Where is your God?"

⁴These things I call to mind as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng and led them to the house of God
with the voice of joy and praise, a multitude celebrating a festival.

⁵Why are you bowed down, my soul?
Why are you upset within me?
Hope in God, for again I will praise him who is my salvation.

⁶My God, my soul is bowed down within me,
therefore I call you to mind from the land of the Jordan,
from the three peaks of Mount Hermon, and from the hill of Mizar.

⁷Deep calls to deep at the noise of your waterfalls;
all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

⁸Yet Yahweh will command his covenant faithfulness in the daytime;
in the night his song will be with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹I will say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me?
Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"

¹⁰As with a sword in my bones, my adversaries rebuke me,

while they always say to me, "Where is your God?"

¹Why are you bowed down, my soul?

Why are you upset within me?

Hope in God, for again I will praise him who is my salvation and my God.

Psalm 43

¹Bring me justice, God, and plead my cause against a nation that is not faithful.

²For you are the God of my strength. Why have you rejected me?

Why do I go about in mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

³Oh, send out your light and your truth, let them lead me.

Let them bring me to your holy hill

and to your dwelling.

⁴Then I will go to the altar of God,

to God my exceeding joy.

I will praise you with the harp, God, my God.

⁵Why are you bowed down, my soul?

Why are you upset within me?

Hope in God, for again I will praise him who is my salvation and my God.

Psalm 44

For the chief musician. A psalm of the sons of Korah. A maschil.

¹We have heard with our ears, God,

our fathers have told us

what work you did in their days,

in the days of old.

²You drove out the nations with your hand,

but you planted our people;

you afflicted the peoples,

but you spread our people out in the land.

³For they did not obtain the land for their possession by their own sword,

neither did their own arm save them;

but your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face,
because you were favorable to them.

⁴God, You are my King;
command victory for Jacob.

⁵Through you we will push down our adversaries;
through your name we will tread them under, those who rise up against us.

⁶For I will not trust in my bow,
neither will my sword save me.

⁷But you have saved us from our adversaries,
and have put to shame those who hate us.

⁸In God we have made our boast all the day long,
and we will give thanks to your name forever. *Selah*

⁹But now you have thrown us off and brought us dishonor,
and you do not go out with our armies.

¹⁰You make us turn back from the adversary;
and those who hate us take spoil for themselves.

¹¹You have made us like sheep to be slaughtered
and have scattered us among the nations.

¹²You sell your people for nothing;
you have not increased your wealth by doing so.

¹³You make us a rebuke to our neighbors,
scoffed and mocked by those around us.

¹⁴You make us an insult among the nations,
a shaking of the head among the peoples.

¹⁵All the day long my dishonor is before me,
and the shame of my face has covered me

¹⁶because of the voice of him who rebukes and insults,
because of the enemy and the avenger.

¹⁷All this has come on us; yet we have not forgotten you
or dealt falsely with your covenant.

¹⁸Our heart has not turned back;

our steps have not gone from your way.

¹⁹Yet you have severely broken us in the place of jackals
and covered us with the shadow of death.

²⁰If we have forgotten the name of our God
or spread out our hands to a strange god,

²¹would not God search this out?
For he knows the secrets of the heart.

²²Indeed, for your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are considered to be sheep for the slaughter.

²³Awake, why do you sleep, Lord?
Arise, do not throw us off permanently.

²⁴Why do you hide your face
and forget our affliction and our oppression?

²⁵For we have sunk down into the dust;
our bodies cling to the earth.

²⁶Rise up for our help
and redeem us for the sake of your covenant faithfulness.

Psalm 45

For the chief musician; set to Shoshannim. A psalm of the sons of Korah. A maschil. A song of loves.

¹My heart overflows on a good subject;
I will read aloud the words I have composed about the king;
my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

²You are fairer than the children of mankind;
grace is poured onto your lips;
therefore we know that God has blessed you forever.

³Put your sword on your side, mighty one,
in your glory and your majesty.

⁴In your majesty ride on triumphantly
because of trustworthiness, meekness, and righteousness;
your right hand will teach you fearful things.

⁵Your arrows are sharp;
the peoples fall under you;
your arrows are in the hearts of the king's enemies.

⁶Your throne, God, is forever and ever;
a scepter of justice is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁷You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness more than your companions.

⁸All your garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and cassia;
out of ivory palaces stringed instruments have made you glad.

⁹Kings' daughters are among your honorable women;
at your right hand stands the queen clothed in gold of Ophir.

¹⁰Listen, daughter, consider and incline your ear;
forget your own people and your father's house.

¹¹In this way the king will desire your beauty;
he is your master; revere him.

¹²The daughter of Tyre will be there with a gift;
the rich among the people will beg for your favor.

¹³The royal daughter in the palace is all glorious;
her clothing is worked with gold.

¹⁴She will be led to the king in embroidered dress;
the virgins, her companions who follow her,
will be brought to you.

¹⁵They will be led by gladness and rejoicing;
they will enter into the king's palace.

¹⁶In the place of your fathers will be your children,
whom you will make princes in all the earth.

¹⁷I will make your name to be remembered in all generations;
therefore the peoples will give you thanks forever and ever.

Psalm 46

For the chief musician. A psalm of the sons of Korah; set to Alamoth. A song.

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains should be shaken into the heart of the seas,

³though its waters roar and rage, and
though the mountains tremble with their swelling. *Selah*

⁴There is a river whose streams make the city of God happy,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

⁵God is in the middle of her; she will not be moved;
God will help her, and he will do so at the dawn of morning.

⁶The nations raged and the kingdoms were shaken;
he lifted up his voice, and the earth melted.

⁷Yahweh of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

⁸Come, behold the deeds of Yahweh,
the destruction he has caused on earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth;
he breaks the bow and cuts the spear into pieces;
he burns up the shields.

¹⁰Be quiet and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted on the earth.

¹¹Yahweh of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

Psalm 47

For the chief musician. A psalm of the sons of Korah.

¹Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with the sound of triumph.

²For Yahweh Most High is terrifying;
he is a great King over all the earth.

³He subdues peoples under us
and nations under our feet.

⁴He chooses our inheritance for us,
the glory of Jacob whom he loved. *Selah*

⁵God has gone up with a shout,
Yahweh with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

⁷For God is the King over all the earth;
sing praises with understanding.

⁸God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.

⁹The princes of the peoples have gathered together
to the people of the God of Abraham;
for the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is greatly exalted.

Psalm 48

A song; a psalm of the sons of Korah.

¹Great is Yahweh and greatly to be praised,
in the city of our God on his holy mountain.

²Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north,
the city of the great King.

³God has made himself known in her palaces as a refuge.

⁴For, see, the kings assembled themselves;
they passed by together.

⁵They saw it, then they were amazed;
they were dismayed, and they hurried away.

⁶Trembling took hold of them there,
pain as when a woman is in labor.

⁷With the east wind

you break the ships of Tarshish.

⁸As we have heard, so have we seen

in the city of Yahweh of hosts, in the city of our God;

God will establish it forever. *Selah*

⁹We have thought about your covenant faithfulness, God,

in the middle of your temple.

¹⁰As your name is, God,

so is your praise to the ends of the earth;

your right hand is full of righteousness.

¹¹Let Mount Zion be glad,

let the daughters of Judah rejoice

because of your righteous decrees.

¹²Walk around Mount Zion, go round about her;

count her towers,

¹³notice well her walls,

and look at her palaces

so that you may tell it to the next generation.

¹⁴For this God is our God forever and ever;

he will be our guide to death.

Psalm 49

For the chief musician. A psalm of the sons of Korah.

¹Hear this, all you peoples;

give ear, all you inhabitants of the world,

²both low and high,

rich and poor together.

³My mouth will speak wisdom

and the meditation of my heart will be of understanding.

⁴I will incline my ear to a parable;

I will begin my parable with the harp.

⁵Why should I fear the days of evil,
when iniquity surrounds me at my heels?

⁶Why should I fear those who trust in their wealth
and boast about the amount of their riches?

⁷It is certain that no one can redeem his brother
or give God a ransom for him,

⁸For the redemption of one's life is costly,
and no one can pay what we owe.

⁹No one can live forever
so that his body should not decay.

¹⁰For he will see decay. Wise men die;
the fool and the brute alike perish
and leave their wealth to others.

¹¹Their inner thought is that their families will continue forever,
and the places where they live, to all generations;
they call their lands after their own names.

¹²But man, having wealth, does not remain alive;
he is like the beasts that perish.

¹³This, their way, is their folly;
yet after them, men approve of their sayings. *Selah*

¹⁴Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol,
and death will be their shepherd.
The upright will rule over them in the morning,
and their bodies will be consumed in Sheol,
with no place for them to live.

¹⁵But God will redeem my life from the power of Sheol;
he will receive me. *Selah*

¹⁶Do not be afraid when one becomes rich,
and the glory of his house increases.

¹⁷For when he dies he will take nothing away;
his glory will not go down after him.

¹⁸He blessed his soul while he lived—
and men praise you when you live for yourself—
¹⁹he will go to the generation of his fathers
and they will never see the light again.
²⁰One who has wealth but no understanding
is like the beasts, which perish.

Psalm 50

A psalm of Asaph.

¹The Mighty One, God, Yahweh, has spoken
and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God has shone.
³Our God comes and does not stay silent;
a fire devours before him,
and it is very stormy around him.
⁴He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth so that he may judge his people:
⁵“Gather my faithful ones together to me,
those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”
⁶The heavens will declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge. *Selah*
⁷“Hear, my people, and I will speak;
I am God, your God.
⁸I will not reprove you for your sacrifices;
your burnt offerings are always before me.
⁹I will take no bull out of your house,
or male goats out of your folds.
¹⁰For every beast of the forest is mine,
and the cattle on a thousand hills.
¹¹I know all the birds of the mountains,

and the wild beasts of the field are mine.

¹²If I were hungry, I would not tell you;
for the world is mine, and everything in it.

¹³Will I eat the flesh of bulls
or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴Offer to God the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and pay your vows to the Most High.

¹⁵Call on me in the day of trouble;
I will rescue you, and you will glorify me."

¹⁶But to the wicked God says,
"What have you to do with declaring my statutes,
that you have taken my covenant in your mouth,

¹⁷since you hate instruction
and throw my words away?

¹⁸When you see a thief, you agree with him;
you participate with those who commit adultery.

¹⁹You give your mouth to evil,
and your tongue expresses deceit.

²⁰You sit and speak against your brother;
you slander your own mother's son.

²¹You have done these things, but I have kept silent,
so you thought that I was someone just like yourself.
But I will reprove you and bring up, right before your eyes, all the things you have done.

²²Give this careful consideration, you who forget God,
otherwise I will tear you to pieces,
and there will be no one to come to help you!

²³The one who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving praises me,
and to anyone who plans his path in the right way
I will show God's salvation."

Psalm 51

For the chief musician. A psalm of David; when Nathan the prophet came to him after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

¹Have mercy on me, God, because of your covenant faithfulness;
for the sake of the multitude of your merciful actions, blot out my transgressions.

²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴Against you, you only, I have sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
you are right when you speak;
you are correct when you judge.

⁵See, I was born in iniquity;
as soon as my mother conceived me, I was in sin.

⁶See, you desire trustworthiness in my inner self;
and you teach me wisdom in the secret place within.

⁷Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸Make me hear joy and gladness
so that the bones that you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹Do not drive me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain me with a willing spirit.

¹³Then will I teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will be converted to you.

¹⁴Forgive me for shedding blood, God of my salvation,

and I will shout for the joy of your righteousness.

¹⁵Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth will express your praise.

¹⁶For you do not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;

you have no pleasure in burnt offerings.

¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

You, God, will not despise a broken and a contrite heart.

¹⁸Do good in your good pleasure to Zion;

rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹Then will you delight in the sacrifices of righteousness,

in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;

then our people will offer bulls on your altar.

Psalm 52

For the chief musician. A maschil of David; when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, and said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."

¹Why are you proud of making trouble, you mighty man?

The covenant faithfulness of God comes every day.

²Your tongue plans destruction

like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

³You love evil more than good

and lying rather than speaking righteousness. *Selah*

⁴You love all words that devour others,

you deceitful tongue.

⁵God will likewise destroy you forever;

he will take you up and pluck you out of your tent

and root you out of the land of the living. *Selah*

⁶The righteous will also see it and fear;

they will laugh at him and say,

⁷"See, this is a man who did not make God his refuge,

but he trusted in the abundance of his wealth,

and he was strong when he destroyed others.”

⁸But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in God’s house;
I will trust in the covenant faithfulness of God forever and ever.

⁹I will give you thanks forever for what you have done.
I will wait for your name, because it is good,
in the presence of your faithful ones.

Psalm 53

For the chief musician; set to Mahalath. A maschil of David.

¹A fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”
They are corrupt and have done abominable iniquity;
there is no one who does good.

²God looks down from heaven on the children of mankind
to see if there are any who understand,
who seek after him.

³They have all turned away. Together they have become corrupt.
There is not one who does good, not even one.

⁴Do those who commit iniquity have no understanding—
those who devour my people as if they were eating bread
and they do not call on God?

⁵They were in great fear, although no reason to fear was there;
for God will scatter the bones of whoever will camp against you;
such people will be put to shame because God has rejected them.

⁶Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come from Zion!
When God brings back his people from the captivity,
then Jacob will rejoice and Israel will be glad!

Psalm 54

For the chief musician; on stringed instruments. A maschil of David; when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, “Does David not hide himself with us?”

¹Save me, God, by your name,
and judge me in your might.

²Hear my prayer, God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me,
and pitiless men have sought after my life;
they have not set God before them. *Selah*

⁴See, God is my helper;
the Lord is the one who upholds me.

⁵He will repay my enemies with evil;
in your faithfulness, destroy them!

⁶I will sacrifice to you with a freewill offering;
I will give thanks to your name, Yahweh, for it is good.

⁷For he has rescued me from every trouble;
my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

Psalm 55

For the chief musician; on stringed instruments. A maschil of David.

¹Give ear to my prayer, God;
and do not hide yourself from my plea.

²Pay attention to me and answer me;
I have no rest in my troubles

³because of the voice of my enemies,
because of the oppression of the wicked;
for they bring trouble on me
and persecute me in anger.

⁴My heart trembles within me,
and the terrors of death have fallen on me.

⁵Fearfulness and trembling have come on me,
and horror has overwhelmed me.

⁶I said, "Oh, if only I had wings like a dove!
Then would I fly away and be at rest.

⁷See, then I would wander far away;

I would stay in the wilderness. *Selah*

⁸I would hurry to a shelter
from the stormy wind and tempest."

⁹Devour them, Lord, confuse their language!

For I have seen violence and strife in the city.

¹⁰Day and night they go about on its walls;
wickedness and trouble are in the middle of it.

¹¹Wickedness is in the middle of it;
oppression and deceit do not leave its streets.

¹²For it was not an enemy who rebuked me,
then I could have borne it;
neither was it he who hated me who raised himself up against me,
then I would have hidden myself from him.

¹³But it was you, a man equal to myself,
my companion and my close friend.

¹⁴We had sweet fellowship together;
we walked in the house of God with the throng.

¹⁵Let death come suddenly on them;
let them go down alive to Sheol,
for wickedness is where they live, right among them.

¹⁶As for me, I will call on God,
and Yahweh will save me.

¹⁷In the evening, morning and at noonday I complain and moan;
he will hear my voice.

¹⁸He will safely rescue my life from the battle that was against me,
for those who fought against me were many.

¹⁹God, the one who rules from eternity,
will hear them and humiliate them. *Selah*

They never change,
and they do not fear God.

²⁰My friend has raised his hands against those who were at peace with him;

he has not respected the covenant that he had.

²¹His mouth was smooth as butter,

but his heart was hostile;

his words were softer than oil,

yet they were actually drawn swords.

²²Place your burdens on Yahweh, and he will sustain you;

he will never allow a righteous person to totter.

²³But you, God, will bring the wicked down into the pit of destruction;

bloodthirsty and deceitful men will not live even half as long as others,

but I will trust in you.

Psalm 56

For the chief musician; set to Jonath elem rehokim. A psalm of David. A michtam; when the Philistines took him in Gath.

¹Be merciful to me, God, for men are attacking me!

All the day long those who fight me press their assault.

²My enemies trample me all day long;

for there are many who arrogantly fight against me.

³When I am afraid,

I will put my trust in you.

⁴In God, whose word I praise—

in God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid;

what can mere man do to me?

⁵All the day long they twist my words;

all their thoughts are against me for evil.

⁶They gather themselves together, they hide themselves,

and they mark my steps,

just as they have waited for my life.

⁷Do not let them escape doing iniquity.

Bring down the peoples in your anger, God.

⁸You number my wanderings

and put my tears into your bottle;
are they not in your book?

⁹Then my enemies will turn back on the day that I call to you;
this I know, that God is for me.

¹⁰In God—whose word I praise,
in Yahweh—whose word I praise, ¹¹in God I trust,
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?

¹²The duty to fulfill my vows to you is on me, God;
I will give thank offerings to you.

¹³For you have rescued my life from death;
you have kept my feet from falling,
so that I may walk before God
in the light of the living.

Psalm 57

For the chief musician; set to Al Tashheth. A psalm of David. A michtam; when he fled from Saul, in the cave.

¹Be merciful to me, God, be merciful to me,
for I take refuge in you until these troubles are over.
I stay under your wings for protection until this destruction is over.

²I will cry to God Most High,
to God, who does all things for me.

³He will send help from heaven and save me,
he is angry with those who crush me. *Selah*
God will send me his loving kindness and his faithfulness.

⁴My life is among lions;
I am among those who are ready to devour me.
I am among people whose teeth are spears and arrows,
and whose tongues are sharp swords.

⁵Be exalted, God, above the heavens;
let your glory be above all the earth.

⁶They spread out a net for my feet;

I was distressed.

They dug a pit in front of me.

They themselves have fallen into the middle of it! *Selah*

⁷My heart is fixed, God, my heart is fixed;

I will sing, yes, I will sing praises.

⁸Wake up, my honored heart; wake up, lute and harp;

I will wake up the dawn.

⁹I will give thanks to you, Lord, among the peoples;

I will sing praises to you among the nations.

¹⁰For great is your unfailing love, reaching to the heavens;

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

¹¹Be exalted, God, above the heavens;

may your glory be exalted over all the earth.

Psalm 58

For the chief musician; set to Al Tashheth. A psalm of David. A michtam.

¹Do you rulers speak righteousness?

Do you judge uprightly, you people?

²No, you commit wickedness in your heart;

you distribute violence throughout the land with your hands.

³The wicked go astray even when they are in the womb;

they go astray from birth, speaking lies.

⁴Their poison is like a snake's poison;

they are like a deaf adder that stops up its ears,

⁵that pays no attention to the voice of charmers,

no matter how skillful they are.

⁶Break their teeth in their mouths, God;

break out the great teeth of the young lions, Yahweh.

⁷Let them melt away as water that runs off;

when they shoot their arrows, let them be as though they had no points.

⁸Let them be like a snail that melts and passes away,
like the untimely-born child of a woman that never sees the sunlight.

⁹Before your pots can feel the thorn's burning heat,
he will take them away with a whirlwind, the green thorns and the burning thorns alike.

¹⁰The righteous will rejoice when he sees God's vengeance;
he will wash his feet in the blood of the wicked,

¹¹so that men will say, "Truly, there is a reward for the righteous person;
truly there is a God who judges the earth."

Psalm 59

For the chief musician; set to Al Tashheth. A psalm of David. A michtam; when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.

¹Rescue me from my enemies, my God;
set me on high away from those who rise up against me.

²Keep me safe from the workers of iniquity,
and save me from the bloodthirsty men.

³For, see, they wait in ambush to take my life.
The powerful men gather themselves together against me,
but not because of my transgression or my sin, Yahweh.

⁴They prepare to run at me although I am without fault;
awake and help me and see.

⁵You, Yahweh God of hosts, the God of Israel,
arise and punish all the nations;
do not be merciful to any wicked transgressors. *Selah*

⁶They return at evening, they howl like dogs
and go around the city.

⁷See, they belch out with their mouths;
swords are in their lips,
for they say, "Who hears us?"

⁸But you, Yahweh, laugh at them;
you hold all the nations in derision.

⁹God, my strength, I will pay attention to you;
you are my high tower.

¹⁰My God will meet me with his covenant faithfulness;
God will let me see my desire on my enemies.

¹¹Do not kill them, or my people will forget.
Scatter them by your power and make them fall, Lord our shield.

¹²For the sins of their mouths and the words of their lips,
let them be captured in their pride,
and for the curses and lies that they express.

¹³Consume them in wrath, consume them so that they will be no more;
let them know that God rules in Jacob
and to the ends of the earth. *Selah*

¹⁴At evening they return,
howling like dogs going around the city.

¹⁵They wander about looking for food
and they growl like a dog if they are not satisfied.

¹⁶But I will sing about your strength,
and in the morning I will sing about your steadfast love!
For you have been my high tower
and a refuge in the day of my distress.

¹⁷To you, my strength, I will sing praises;
for God is my high tower, the God of covenant faithfulness.

Psalm 60

For the chief musician; set to Shushan Eduth. A michtam of David, for teaching. When he fought with Aram Naharaim and with Aram Zobah, and Joab returned and killed twelve thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.

¹God, you have cast us off; you have broken through our defenses;
you have been angry; restore us again.

²You have made the land tremble; you have torn it apart;
heal its fissures, for it is shaking.

³You have made your people see difficult things;

you have made us drink the wine of staggering.

⁴For those who honor you,

you have set up a banner

to be displayed against those who carry the bow. *Selah*

⁵So that those you love may be rescued,

rescue us with your right hand and answer me.

⁶God has spoken in his holiness, "I will rejoice;

I will divide Shechem and apportion out the Valley of Succoth.

⁷Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine;

Ephraim also is my helmet;

Judah is my scepter.

⁸Moab is my washbasin;

over Edom I will throw my shoe;

I will shout in triumph because of Philistia."

⁹Who will bring me into the strong city?

Who will lead me to Edom?

¹⁰But you, God, have you not rejected us?

You do not go into battle with our army.

¹¹Give us help against the enemy,

for man's help is futile.

¹²We will triumph with God's help;

he will trample down our enemies.

Psalm 61

For the chief musician; on a stringed instrument. A psalm of David.

¹Hear my cry, God;

attend to my prayer.

²From the ends of the earth will I call to you when my heart is faint;

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

³For you have been a refuge for me,

a strong tower from the enemy.

⁴Let me live in your tabernacle forever!

Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings. *Selah*

⁵For you, God, have heard my vows,
you have given me the inheritance of those who honor your name.

⁶You will prolong the king's life;
his years will be like many generations.

⁷He will remain before God forever.

⁸I will sing praise to your name forever
so that I may perform my vows every day.

Psalm 62

For the chief musician; after the manner of Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

¹I wait in silence for God alone;
my salvation comes from him.

²He alone is my rock and my salvation;
he is my high tower; I will not be greatly moved.

³How long, all of you, will you attack a man,
that you may tip him over
like a leaning wall or a shaky fence?

⁴They consult with him only to bring him down from his honorable position;
they love to tell lies;
they bless him with their mouths, but in their hearts they curse him. *Selah*

⁵I wait in silence for God alone;
for my hope is set on him.

⁶He alone is my rock and my salvation;
he is my high tower; I will not be moved.

⁷With God is my salvation and my glory;
the rock of my strength and my refuge are in God.

⁸Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us. *Selah*

⁹Surely men of low standing are vanity, and men of high standing are a lie;
they will weigh lightly in the scales;
weighed together, they are lighter than nothing.

¹⁰Do not trust in oppression or robbery;
and do not hope uselessly in riches,
for they will bear no fruit; do not fix your heart on them.

¹¹God has spoken once,
twice have I heard this:
power belongs to God.

¹²Also to you, Lord, belongs covenant faithfulness,
for you pay back every person for what he has done.

Psalm 63

A psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

¹God, you are my God! I earnestly search for you,
my soul thirsts for you, and my flesh longs for you,
in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

²So I have looked on you in the sanctuary,
to see your power and your glory.

³Because your covenant faithfulness is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

⁴So I will bless you while I live;
I will lift up my hands in your name.

⁵It will be as if I ate a meal of marrow and fatness;
with joyful lips my mouth will praise you,

⁶when I think about you on my bed
and meditate on you in the night hours.

⁷For you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

⁸I cling to you;
your right hand supports me.

⁹But those who seek to destroy my life
will go down into the lowest parts of the earth; ¹⁰they will be given over to those whose hands use the sword,
and they will become food for the jackals.

¹¹But the king will rejoice in God;
everyone who swears by him will be proud of him,
but the mouth of those who speak lies will be stopped up.

Psalm 64

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹Hear my voice, God, listen to my complaint;
preserve my life from fear of my enemies.

²Hide me from the secret plotting of evildoers,
from the commotion of the doers of iniquity.

³They have sharpened their tongues like swords;
they have aimed their arrows, bitter words,

⁴so that they may shoot from secret places at someone who is innocent;
suddenly they shoot at him and fear nothing.

⁵They encourage themselves in an evil plan;
they consult privately together in order to set traps;
they say, "Who will see us?"

⁶They invent sinful plans;
"We have finished," they say, "a careful plan."
The inner thoughts and hearts of man are deep.

⁷But God will shoot them;
suddenly they will be wounded with his arrows.

⁸They will be made to stumble, since their own tongues are against them;
all who see them will wag their heads.

⁹All people will fear
and will declare God's deeds.

They will wisely think about what he has done.

¹⁰The righteous will be glad about Yahweh and will take refuge in him;

all the upright in heart will take pride in him.

Psalm 65

For the chief musician. A psalm. A song of David.

¹For you, God in Zion, our praise waits;
our vows will be carried out to you.

²You who hear prayer,
to you all flesh will come.

³Iniquities prevail against us;
as for our transgressions, you will forgive them.

⁴Blessed is the man whom you choose to bring near to you
so that he may live in your courts.
We will be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.

⁵In righteousness you will answer us by doing amazing things,
God of our salvation;
you who are hope of all the ends of the earth
and of those who are far across the sea.

⁶For it is you who made the mountains firm,
you who are belted with strength.

⁷It is you who quiet the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the commotion of the peoples.

⁸Those who live in the uttermost parts of the earth are afraid of the evidence of your deeds;
you make the east and the west rejoice.

⁹You come to help the earth; you water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide mankind grain when you have prepared the earth.

¹⁰You water its furrows abundantly;
you settle down the furrows' ridges;

you make them soft with rain showers;

you bless the sprouts between them.

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
and your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

¹²The pastures in the wilderness drip with dew,
and the hills are clothed with joy.

¹³The pastures are clothed with flocks;
the valleys also are covered over with grain;
they shout for joy, and they sing.

Psalm 66

For the chief musician. A song, a psalm.

¹Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

²Sing out the glory of his name;
make his praise glorious.

³Say to God, "How terrifying are your deeds!
By the greatness of your power your enemies will submit to you.

⁴All the earth will worship you
and will sing to you;
they will sing to your name." *Selah*

⁵Come and see the works of God;
he is fearsome in his deeds toward the sons of mankind.

⁶He turned the sea into dry land;
they went through the river on foot;
there we rejoiced in him.

⁷He rules forever by his might;
his eyes observe the nations;
let not the rebellious exalt themselves. *Selah*

⁸Give blessing to God, you people,
let the sound of his praise be heard.

⁹He keeps us among the living,

and he does not permit our feet to slip.

¹⁰For you, God, have tested us;

you have tested us as silver is tested.

¹¹You brought us into a net;

you laid a heavy burden on our backs.

¹²You made people ride over our heads;

we went through fire and water,

but you brought us out into a spacious place.

¹³I will come into your house with burnt offerings;

I will pay you my vows

¹⁴which my lips promised

and my mouth spoke when I was in distress.

¹⁵I will offer to you burnt offerings of fat animals

with the sweet aroma of rams;

I will offer bulls and goats. *Selah*

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who fear God,

and I will declare what he has done for my soul.

¹⁷I cried to him with my mouth,

and he was praised with my tongue.

¹⁸If I had seen sin within my heart,

the Lord would not have listened to me.

¹⁹But God has truly heard;

he has paid attention to the voice of my prayer.

²⁰Blessed be God,

who has not turned away my prayer

or his covenant faithfulness from me.

Psalm 67

For the chief musician; on stringed instruments. A psalm, a song.

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us

and cause his face to shine on us *Selah*

²so that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.

³Let the peoples praise you, God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you will judge the peoples with justice
and govern the nations on earth. *Selah*

⁵Let the peoples praise you, God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶The earth has yielded its harvest
and God, our God, has blessed us.

⁷God has blessed us,
and all the ends of the earth honor him.

Psalm 68

For the chief musician; A psalm of David, a song.

¹Let God arise; let his enemies be scattered;
let those also who hate him flee before him.

²As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire,
so let the wicked perish in the presence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad; let them exult before God;
may they rejoice and be happy.

⁴Sing to God! Sing praises to his name!
Praise the one who rides through the plains of the Jordan River valley!
Yahweh is his name! Rejoice before him!

⁵A father of the fatherless, a judge of the widows,
is God in the holy place where he lives.

⁶God puts the lonely into families;
he brings out the prisoners with singing;
but the rebellious live in a parched land.

⁷God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness, *Selah*

⁸The earth trembled;
the heavens also dropped rain in God's presence,
in the presence of God when he came to Sinai, in the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹You, God, sent a plentiful rain;
you strengthened your inheritance when it was weary.

¹⁰Your people lived in it;
You, God, gave from your goodness to the poor.

¹¹The Lord gave the orders,
and those who announced them were a great army.

¹²Kings of armies flee, they flee,
and the women waiting at home divide the plunder:

¹³doves covered with silver
with wings of yellow gold.

When some of you people stayed among the sheepfolds, why did you do this?

¹⁴The Almighty scattered kings there,
it was as when it snowed on Mount Zalmon.

¹⁵A mighty mountain is the hill country of Bashan;
a high mountain is the hill country of Bashan.

¹⁶Why do you look in envy, you high hill country,
at the mountain which God desires for the place he will live?
Indeed, Yahweh will live in it forever.

¹⁷The chariots of God are twenty thousand, thousands upon thousands;
the Lord is among them in the holy place, as at Sinai.

¹⁸You have ascended on high; you have led away captives;
you have received gifts from among men,
even from those who fought against you,
so that you, Yahweh God, might live there.

¹⁹Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears our burdens,
the God who is our salvation. *Selah*

20Our God is a God who saves;
Yahweh the Lord is the one who is able to rescue us from death.

21But God will strike through the heads of his enemies,
through the hairy scalps of those who walk in offenses against him.

22The Lord said, "I will bring my enemies back from Bashan;
I will bring them back from the depths of the sea

23so that you may crush your enemies, dipping your foot in blood,
and so that the tongues of your dogs may have their share from your enemies."

24They have seen your processions, God,
the processions of my God, my King, into the holy place.

25The singers went first, the minstrels followed after,
and in the middle were the unmarried girls playing tambourines.

26Bless God in the assemblies;
praise Yahweh, you who are from the fountain^[1] of Israel.

27There is first Benjamin, the smallest tribe,
then the leaders of Judah and their multitudes,
the leaders of Zebulun and the leaders of Naphtali.

28Your God, Israel, has decreed your strength;
reveal to us your power, God, as you have revealed it in times past.

29Reveal your power to us from your temple at Jerusalem,
where kings bring gifts to you.

30Shout in battle against the wild beasts in the reeds,
against the peoples, that multitude of bulls and calves.
Humiliate them and make them bring you gifts;
scatter the peoples who love to wage war.

31Princes will come out of Egypt;
Cush will hurry to reach out with her hands to God.

32Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; *Selah*
Sing praises to Yahweh.

33To him who rides on the heaven of heavens, which exist from ancient times;
see, he lifts up his voice with power.

³⁴Ascribe strength to God;

his majesty is over Israel,

and his strength is in the skies.

³⁵God, you are fearsome in your holy place;

the God of Israel—he gives strength and power to his people.

Blessed be God.

68:26 ^[1] or, .

Psalm 69

For the chief musician; set to Shoshannim. A psalm of David.

¹Save me, God;

for the waters have put my life in danger.

²I sink in deep mire, where there is no place to stand;

I have come into deep waters, where the floods flow over me.

³I am weary with my crying; my throat is dry;

my eyes fail while I wait for my God.

⁴Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs on my head;

those who would cut me off, being my enemies for wrong reasons, are mighty;

what I did not steal, I have to give back.

⁵God, you know my foolishness,

and my sins are not hidden from you.

⁶Let not those who hope in you be put to shame because of me, Lord Yahweh of hosts;

let not those who seek you be brought to dishonor because of me, God of Israel.

⁷For your sake I have borne rebuke;

shame has covered my face.

⁸I have become a stranger to my brothers,

an alien to my mother's children.

⁹For the zeal of your house has eaten me up,

and the rebukes of those who rebuke you have fallen on me.

¹⁰When I wept and did not eat food,

they insulted me.

¹¹When I made sackcloth my clothing,

I became the object of a proverb to them.

¹²Those who sit in the city gate talk about me;

I am a song of drunkards.

¹³But as for me, my prayer is to you, Yahweh, at a time that you will accept;

answer me in the trustworthiness of your salvation.

¹⁴Pull me out of the mire, and do not let me sink;

let me be taken away from those who hate me and rescued out of the deep waters.

¹⁵Do not let the floods of water overwhelm me,

neither let the deep swallow me up.

Do not let the pit shut its mouth on me.

¹⁶Answer me, Yahweh, for your covenant faithfulness is good;

because your mercies for me are many, turn to me.

¹⁷Do not hide your face from your servant,

for I am in distress; answer me quickly.

¹⁸Come to me and redeem me.

Because of my enemies, ransom me.

¹⁹You know my rebuke, my shame, and my dishonor;

my adversaries are all before you.

²⁰Rebuke has broken my heart; I am full of heaviness;

I looked for someone to take pity, but there was none;

I looked for comforters, but I found none.

²¹They gave me poison for my food;

in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

²²Let their table before them become a snare;

when they think they are in safety, let it become a trap.

²³Let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see;

and always make their loins shake.

²⁴Pour out your indignation on them,

and let the fierceness of your anger overtake them.

²⁵Let their place be a desolation;

let no one live in their tents.

²⁶For they persecuted the one you struck down.

They repeated the account of the pain of those you have wounded.

²⁷Accuse them of having committed iniquity after iniquity;

do not let them come into your righteous victory.

²⁸Let them be blotted out of the Book of Life

and not be written down along with the righteous.

²⁹But I am poor and sorrowful;

let your salvation, God, set me up on high.

³⁰I will praise the name of God with a song

and will exalt him with thanksgiving.

³¹That will please Yahweh better than an ox

or a bull that has horns and hooves.

³²The meek have seen it and are glad;

you who seek after God, let your hearts live.

³³For Yahweh hears the needy

and does not despise his prisoners.

³⁴Let heaven and earth praise him,

the seas and everything that moves in them.

³⁵For God will save Zion and will rebuild the cities of Judah;

the people will live there and have it as a possession.

³⁶His servants' descendants will inherit it;

and those who love his name will live there.

Psalm 70

For the chief musician. A psalm of David; to bring to remembrance.

¹Save me, God!

Yahweh, come quickly and help me.

²Let those who try to take my life

be ashamed and humiliated;

let them be turned back and brought to dishonor,

those who take pleasure in my pain.

³Let them be turned back because of their shame,
those who say, "Aha, aha."

⁴Let all those who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation always say,
"May God be praised."

⁵But I am poor and needy;
hurry to me, God;
you are my help and you rescue me.
Yahweh, do not delay.

Psalm 71

¹In you, Yahweh, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

²Rescue me and make me safe in your righteousness;
turn your ear to me and save me.

³Be to me a rock for refuge where I may always go;
you have given a command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴Rescue me, my God, out of the hand of the wicked,
out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel.

⁵For you are my hope, Lord Yahweh.
I have trusted in you ever since I was a child.

⁶By you I have been supported from the womb;
you are he who took me out of my mother's belly;
my praise will be always about you.

⁷I am an example to many people;
you are my strong refuge.

⁸My mouth will be filled with your praise,
all the day with your honor.

⁹Do not throw me away in my time of old age;

do not abandon me when my strength fails.

¹⁰For my enemies are talking about me;
those who watch for my life are plotting together.

¹¹They say, "God has forsaken him;
pursue and take him, for there is no one to save him."

¹²God, do not be far from me;
my God, hurry to help me.

¹³Let them be put to shame and destroyed, those who are hostile to my life;
let them be covered with rebuke and dishonor, those who seek my hurt.

¹⁴But I will always hope in you
and will praise you more and more.

¹⁵My mouth will tell about your righteousness
and your salvation all the day,
although I cannot understand it.

¹⁶I will come with the mighty acts of the Lord Yahweh;
I will make mention of your righteousness, yours alone.

¹⁷God, you have taught me from my youth;
even now I declare your wonderful deeds.

¹⁸Indeed, even when I am old and gray-headed, God, do not forsake me,
as I have been declaring your strength to the next generation,
your power to everyone who is to come.

¹⁹Your righteousness also, God, is very high;
you who have done great things, God, who is like you?

²⁰You who made me see many troubles
will revive us again
and will bring us up again from the depths of the earth.

²¹May you increase my honor;
turn again and comfort me.

²²I will also give thanks to you with the harp
for your trustworthiness, my God;
to you I will sing praises with the harp,

Holy One of Israel.

²³My lips will shout for joy when I sing praises to you—
even my soul, which you have redeemed.

²⁴My tongue will also talk about your righteousness all day long;
for they have been put to shame and are confused, those who sought my hurt.

Psalm 72

A psalm of Solomon.

¹Give the king your righteous decrees, God,
your righteousness to the king's son.

²May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.

³May the mountains produce peace for the people;
may the hills produce righteousness.

⁴May he judge the poor of the people;
may he save the children of the needy
and break in pieces the oppressor.

⁵May they honor you while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon lasts throughout all generations.

⁶May he come down like rain on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.

⁷May the righteous flourish in his days,
and may there be an abundance of peace till the moon is no more.

⁸May he have dominion from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

⁹May those who live in the wilderness bow down before him;
may his enemies lick the dust.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the islands render tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

¹¹Indeed, may all kings fall down before him;
may all nations serve him.

¹²For he helps the needy person who cries out
and the poor person who has no other helper.

¹³He has pity on the poor and needy,
and he saves the lives of needy people.

¹⁴He redeems their lives from oppression and violence,
and their blood is precious in his sight.

¹⁵May he live! May the gold of Sheba be given to him.
May people always pray for him;
may God bless him all day long.

¹⁶May there be abundance of grain in the land;
on the mountaintops may their crops wave.
May the fruit of it be like Lebanon;
may the people flourish in the cities like the grass of the field.

¹⁷May his name endure forever;
may his name continue as long as the sun;
may people be blessed in him;
may all nations call him blessed.

¹⁸May Yahweh God, the God of Israel, be blessed,
who alone does wonderful things.

¹⁹May his glorious name be blessed forever,
and may the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen and Amen.

²⁰The prayers of David son of Jesse are finished.

Book Three

Psalm 73

A psalm of Asaph.

¹Surely God is good to Israel,
to those with a pure heart.

²But as for me, my feet almost slipped;

my feet almost slipped out from under me

³because I was envious of the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

⁴For they have no pain until their death,
but they are strong and well fed.

⁵They are free from the burdens of other men;
they are not afflicted like other men.

⁶Pride adorns them like a necklace around their neck;
violence clothes them like a robe.

⁷Out of such blindness comes sin;
evil thoughts pass through their hearts.

⁸They mock and speak wickedly;
in their arrogance they threaten oppression.

⁹They set their mouth against the heavens,
and their tongues march through the earth.

¹⁰Therefore his people turn to them
and abundant waters are drained out.

¹¹They say, "How does God know?
Is there knowledge with the Most High?"

¹²Take notice: these people are wicked;
they are always carefree, becoming richer and richer.

¹³Surely it is in vain that I have guarded my heart
and washed my hands in innocence.

¹⁴For all the day long I have been afflicted
and disciplined every morning.

¹⁵If I had said, "I will say these things,"
then I would have betrayed this generation of your children.

¹⁶Though I tried to understand these things,
it was too difficult for me.

¹⁷Then I went into God's sanctuary
and came to understand their fate.

¹⁸Surely you put them in slippery places;
you bring them down to ruin.

¹⁹How they become a wilderness in a moment!
They come to an end and are finished in awful terrors.

²⁰They are like a dream after one wakes up;
Lord, when you arise, you will think nothing of those dreams.

²¹For my heart was grieved,
and I was deeply wounded.

²²I was ignorant and lacked insight;
I was like a senseless animal before you.

²³Yet I am always with you;
you hold my right hand.

²⁴You will guide me with your advice
and afterward receive me to glory.

²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you?
There is no one on earth that I desire but you.

²⁶My flesh and my heart grow weak,
but God is the strength of my heart forever.

²⁷Those who are far from you will perish;
you will destroy all those who are unfaithful to you.

²⁸But as for me, all I need to do is to approach God.
I have made the Lord Yahweh my refuge.
I will declare all your deeds.

Psalm 74

A maschil of Asaph.

¹God, why have you rejected us forever?
Why does your anger burn against the sheep of your pasture?

²Call to mind your people, whom you purchased in ancient times,
the tribe whom you have redeemed to be your own heritage,
and Mount Zion, where you live.

³Come look at the complete ruins,
all the damage that the enemy has done in the holy place.

⁴Your adversaries roared in the middle of your appointed place;
they set up their battle flags.

⁵They hacked away with axes
as in a thick forest.

⁶They smashed and broke down all the engravings;
they broke them with axes and hammers.

⁷They set your sanctuary on fire;
they desecrated where you live, knocking it to the ground.

⁸They said in their hearts, "We will destroy them all."
They burned up all of your meeting places in the land.

⁹We do not see any more signs;
there is no prophet any more,
and no one among us knows how long this will last.

¹⁰How long, God, will the enemy throw insults at you?
Will the enemy blaspheme your name forever?

¹¹Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand?
Take your right hand from your garment and destroy them.

¹²Yet God has been my king from ancient times,
bringing salvation on the earth.

¹³You divided the sea by your strength;
you smashed the heads of the sea monsters in the waters.

¹⁴You crushed the heads of leviathan;
you fed him to those living in the wilderness.

¹⁵You broke open springs and streams;
you dried up flowing rivers.

¹⁶The day is yours, and the night is yours also;
you set the sun and moon in place.

¹⁷You have set all the borders of the earth;
you have made summer and winter.

¹⁸Call to mind how the enemy hurled insults at you, Yahweh,
and that a foolish people has blasphemed your name.

¹⁹Do not give the life of your dove to a wild animal.
Do not forget forever the life of your oppressed people.

²⁰Remember your covenant,
for the dark regions of the land are full of places of violence.

²¹Do not let the oppressed be turned back in shame;
let the poor and oppressed praise your name.

²²Arise, God; defend your own honor;
call to mind how fools insult you all day long.

²³Do not forget the voice of your adversaries
or the uproar of those who continually defy you.

Psalm 75

For the chief musician; set to Al Tashheth. A psalm of Asaph, a song.

¹We give thanks to you, God;
we give thanks, for you reveal your presence;
people tell of your wondrous works.

²At the appointed time I will judge fairly.

³Though the earth and all the inhabitants shake in fear,
I make steady the earth's pillars. *Selah*

⁴I said to the arrogant, "Do not be arrogant,"
and to the wicked, "Do not lift up the horn.

⁵Do not lift up your horn to the heights;
do not speak with an insolent neck."

⁶It is not from the east or from the west,
and it is not from the wilderness that lifting up comes.

⁷But God is the judge;
he brings down and he lifts up.

⁸For Yahweh holds in his hand a cup of foaming wine,
which is mixed with spices, and pours it out.

Surely all the wicked of the earth will drink it to the last drop.

⁹But I will continually tell what you have done;

I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

¹⁰He says, "I will cut off all the horns of the wicked,

but the horns of the righteous will be raised up."

Psalm 76

For the chief musician, on stringed instruments. A psalm of Asaph, a song.

¹God has made himself known in Judah;

his name is great in Israel.

²His tent is in Salem;

his dwelling place is in Zion.

³There he broke the arrows of the bow,

the shield, the sword, and the other weapons of war. *Selah*

⁴You shine brightly and reveal your glory,

as you descend from the mountains, where you killed your victims.

⁵The bravehearted were plundered;

they fell asleep.

All the warriors were helpless.

⁶At your rebuke, God of Jacob,

both rider and horse fell asleep.

⁷You, yes you, are to be feared;

who can stand in your sight when you are angry?

⁸From heaven you made your judgment heard;

the earth was afraid and silent

⁹when you, God, arose to execute judgment

and to save all the oppressed of the earth. *Selah*

¹⁰Surely your angry judgment against humanity will bring you praise;

you gird yourself with what is left of your anger.

¹¹Make vows to Yahweh your God and keep them.

May all who surround him bring gifts to him who is to be feared.

¹²He cuts off the spirit of the princes;
he is feared by the kings of the earth.

Psalm 77

For the chief musician; after the manner of Jeduthun. A psalm of Asaph.

¹I will call out with my voice to God;
I will call with my voice to God, and my God will hear me.

²In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord;
at night I stretched my hands out, and they would not become tired.
My soul refused to be comforted.

³I thought of God as I groaned;
I thought about him as I grew faint. *Selah*

⁴You held my eyes open;
I was too troubled to speak.

⁵I thought about the days of old,
about times long past.

⁶During the night I called to mind the song I once sang.
I thought carefully
and tried to understand what had happened.

⁷Will the Lord reject me forever?
Will he never again show me favor?

⁸Was his covenant faithfulness gone forever?
Had his promise failed forever?

⁹Had God forgotten to be gracious?
Had his anger shut off his compassion? *Selah*

¹⁰I said, "This is my sorrow:
the changing of the right hand of the Most High toward us."

¹¹But I will call to mind your deeds, Yahweh;
I will think about your wonderful deeds of old.

¹²I will ponder all your deeds
and will reflect on them.

¹³Your way, God, is holy;
what god compares to our great God?

¹⁴You are the God who does wonders;
you have revealed your strength among the peoples.

¹⁵You gave your people victory by your great power—
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. *Selah*

¹⁶The waters saw you, God;
the waters saw you, and they were afraid;
the depths trembled.

¹⁷The clouds poured down water;
the cloudy skies gave voice;
your arrows flew about.

¹⁸Your thunderous voice was heard in the wind;
the lightning lit up the world;
the earth trembled and shook.

¹⁹Your path went through the sea
and your way through the surging waters,
but your footprints were not seen.

²⁰You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Psalm 78

A maschil of Asaph.

¹Hear my teaching, my people,
listen to the words of my mouth.

²I will open my mouth in parables;
I will sing about hidden things about the past.

³These are things that we have heard and learned,
things that our ancestors have told us.

⁴We will not keep them from their descendants.
We will tell the next generation about the praiseworthy deeds of Yahweh,

his strength, and the wonders that he has done.

⁵For he established covenant decrees in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel.

He commanded our ancestors
that they were to teach them to their children.

⁶He commanded this so that the generation to come might know his decrees, the children not yet born,
who should tell them in turn to their own children.

⁷Then they would place their hope in God
and not forget his deeds
but keep his commandments.

⁸Then they would not be like their ancestors,
who were a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose hearts were not right,
and whose spirits were not committed and faithful to God.

⁹The Ephraimites were armed with bows,
but they turned back on the day of battle.

¹⁰They did not keep the covenant with God,
and they refused to obey his law.

¹¹They forgot his deeds,
the wonderful things that he had shown them.

¹²They forgot the marvelous things he did in the sight of their ancestors
in the land of Egypt, in the land of Zoan.

¹³He divided the sea and led them across it;
he made the waters to stand like walls.

¹⁴In the daytime he led them with a cloud
and all the night with the light of fire.

¹⁵He split the rocks in the wilderness,
and he gave them water abundantly, enough to fill the depths of the sea.

¹⁶He made streams flow out of the rock
and made the water flow like rivers.

¹⁷Yet they continued to sin against him,

rebellious against the Most High in the wilderness.

18They challenged God in their hearts
by asking for food to satisfy their appetites.

19They spoke against God;
they said, "Can God really lay out a table for us in the wilderness?"

20See, when he struck the rock, waters gushed out
and streams overflowed.

But can he give bread also?
Will he provide meat for his people?"

21When Yahweh heard this, he was angry;
so his fire burned against Jacob,
and his anger attacked Israel,

22because they did not believe in God
and did not trust in his salvation.

23Yet he commanded the skies above
and opened the doors of the sky.

24He rained down manna for them to eat,
and gave them the grain from heaven.

25People ate the bread of angels.
He sent them food in abundance.

26He caused the east wind to blow in the sky,
and by his power he guided the south wind.

27He rained down meat on them like dust,
birds as numerous as the sands of the sea.

28They fell in the middle of their camp,
all around their tents.

29So they ate and were full.
He gave them what they craved.

30But they had not yet filled up;
their food was still in their mouths.

31Then God's anger attacked them

and killed the strongest of them.

He brought down the young men of Israel.

³²Despite this, they continued to sin
and did not believe his wonderful deeds.

³³Therefore God cut short their days;
their years were filled with terror.

³⁴Whenever God afflicted them, they would start to seek him,
and they would return and look earnestly for him.

³⁵They would call to mind that God was their rock
and that the Most High God was their rescuer.

³⁶But they would flatter him with their mouth
and lie to him with their words.

³⁷For their hearts were not firmly fixed on him,
and they were not faithful to his covenant.

³⁸Yet he, being merciful, forgave their iniquity and did not destroy them.
Yes, many times he held back his anger
and did not stir up all his wrath.

³⁹He called to mind that they were made of flesh,
a wind that passes away and does not return.

⁴⁰How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness
and grieved him in the barren regions!

⁴¹Again and again they challenged God
and offended the Holy One of Israel.

⁴²They did not think about his power,
how he had rescued them from the enemy

⁴³when he performed his terrifying signs in Egypt
and his wonders in the region of Zoan.

⁴⁴He turned the Egyptians' rivers to blood
so that they could not drink from their streams.

⁴⁵He sent swarms of flies that devoured them
and frogs that overran their land.

⁴⁶He gave their crops to the grasshopper
and their labor to the locust.

⁴⁷He destroyed their vines with hail
and their sycamore trees with more hail.

⁴⁸He rained hail on their cattle
and hurled lightning bolts at their livestock.

⁴⁹The fierceness of his anger lashed out against them.
He sent wrath, fury, and trouble
like agents who bring disaster.

⁵⁰He leveled a path for his anger;
he did not spare them from death
but gave them over to the plague.

⁵¹He killed all the firstborn in Egypt,
the firstborn of their strength in the tents of Ham.

⁵²He led his own people out like sheep
and guided them through the wilderness like a flock.

⁵³He led them secure and unafraid,
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

⁵⁴Then he brought them to the border of his holy land,
to this mountain that his right hand acquired.

⁵⁵He drove out the nations from before them
and assigned them their inheritance.
He settled the tribes of Israel in their tents.

⁵⁶Yet they challenged and defied the Most High God
and did not keep his solemn commands.

⁵⁷They were unfaithful and acted treacherously like their fathers;
they were as undependable as a faulty bow.

⁵⁸For they made him angry with their high places
and provoked him to jealous anger with their idols.

⁵⁹When God heard this, he was angry
and completely rejected Israel.

⁶⁰He abandoned the sanctuary of Shiloh,
the tent where he had lived among people.

⁶¹He allowed his strength to be captured
and gave his glory into the enemy's hand.

⁶²He handed his people over to the sword,
and he was angry with his heritage.

⁶³Fire devoured their young men,
and their young women had no wedding songs.

⁶⁴Their priests fell by the sword,
and their widows could not weep.

⁶⁵Then the Lord awakened as one from sleep,
like a warrior who shouts because of wine.

⁶⁶He drove his adversaries back;
he put them to everlasting shame.

⁶⁷He rejected the tent of Joseph,
and he did not choose the tribe of Ephraim.

⁶⁸He chose the tribe of Judah
and Mount Zion that he loved.

⁶⁹He built his sanctuary like the heavens,
like the earth that he has established forever.

⁷⁰He chose David, his servant,
and took him from the sheepfolds.

⁷¹He took him from following the ewes with their young, and he brought him
to be shepherd of Jacob, his people, and of Israel, his heritage.

⁷²David shepherded them with the integrity of his heart,
and he guided them with the skill of his hands.

Psalm 79

A psalm of Asaph.

¹God, foreign nations have come into your inheritance;
they have defiled your holy temple;

they have turned Jerusalem into a heap of ruins.

²They have given the dead bodies of your servants as food to the birds of the skies,
the bodies of your faithful ones to the beasts of the earth.

³They have shed their blood like water around Jerusalem,
and there was none to bury them.

⁴We have become a reproach for our neighbors,
mocking and derision to those who are around us.

⁵How long, Yahweh? Will you stay angry forever?
How long will your jealous anger burn like fire?

⁶Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not know you
and on the kingdoms that do not call upon your name.

⁷For they have devoured Jacob
and destroyed his villages.

⁸Do not hold the sins of our forefathers against us;
may your merciful actions come to us,
for we are very low.

⁹Help us, God of our salvation, for the sake of the glory of your name;
save us and forgive our sins for your name's sake.

¹⁰Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"
May the blood of your servants that was shed
be avenged on the nations before our eyes.

¹¹May the groans of the prisoners come before you;
with the greatness of your power keep the children of death alive.

¹²Pay back into the laps of our neighboring countries seven times as much
as the insults with which they have insulted you, Lord.

¹³So we your people and sheep of your pasture
will give you thanks forever.
We will tell your praises to all generations.

Psalm 80

For the chief musician, set to the Shoshannim Eduth style. A psalm of Asaph.

¹Pay attention, Shepherd of Israel,

you who lead Joseph like a flock;

you who sit above the cherubim, shine on us!

²In the sight of Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your power;

come and save us.

³God, restore us;

make your face shine on us, and we will be saved.

⁴Yahweh God of hosts,

how long will you be angry at your people when they pray?

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears

and given them tears to drink in great quantities.

⁶You make us something for our neighbors to argue over,

and our enemies laugh about us among themselves.

⁷God of hosts, restore us;

make your face shine on us, and we will be saved.

⁸You brought a vine out of Egypt;

you drove out nations and transplanted it.

⁹You cleared the land for it;

it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰The mountains were covered with its shade,

the cedars of God by its branches.

¹¹It sent out its branches as far as the sea

and its shoots to the Euphrates River.

¹²Why have you broken down its walls

so that all who pass by along the road pluck its fruit?

¹³The boars out of the forest ruin it,

and the beasts of the field feed on it.

¹⁴Turn back, God of hosts;

look down from heaven and take notice and take care of this vine.

¹⁵This is the root that your right hand planted,

the shoot that you made to grow.

¹⁶It has been burned and cut down;
they perish because of your rebuke.

¹⁷May your hand be on the man of your right hand,
on the son of man whom you made strong for yourself.

¹⁸Then we will not turn away from you;
revive us, and we will call on your name.

¹⁹Yahweh God of hosts, restore us;
make your face shine on us, and we will be saved.

Psalm 81

For the chief musician; set to the Gittith style. A psalm of Asaph.

¹Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout out for joy to the God of Jacob.

²Sing a song and play the tambourine,
the pleasant lyre with the harp.

³Blow the trumpet on the day of the new moon,
on the day of the full moon, when our feast day begins.

⁴For it is a statute for Israel,
a decree given by the God of Jacob.

⁵He issued it as a regulation in Joseph
when he went against the land of Egypt,
where I heard a voice that I did not recognize:

⁶"I removed the burden from his shoulder;
his hands were freed from holding the basket.

⁷In your distress you called out, and I helped you;
I answered you from a dark thundercloud.
I tested you at the waters of Meribah. *Selah*

⁸Listen, my people, for I will warn you,
Israel, if you would only listen to me!

⁹There must be no foreign god among you;
you must not worship any foreign god.

¹⁰I am Yahweh your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

¹¹But my people did not listen to my words;
Israel did not obey me.

¹²So I gave them over to their own stubborn way
so that they might do what seemed right to them.

¹³Oh, that my people would listen to me;
oh, that my people would walk in my paths.

¹⁴Then I would quickly subdue their enemies
and turn my hand against their oppressors.

¹⁵May those who hate Yahweh cringe in fear before him!
May they be humiliated forever.

¹⁶I would feed Israel with the finest wheat;
I would satisfy you with honey out of the rock.”

Psalm 82

A psalm of Asaph.

¹God stands in the divine assembly;
in the midst of the gods he renders judgment.

²How long will you judge unjustly
and show favoritism to the wicked? *Selah*

³Defend the poor and fatherless;
maintain the rights of the afflicted and destitute.

⁴Rescue the poor and needy;
take them out of the hand of the wicked.

⁵They neither know nor understand;
they wander around in the darkness;
all the foundations of the earth crumble.

⁶I said, “You are gods,
and all of you sons of the Most High.

⁷Nevertheless you will die like men
and fall like one of the princes.”

⁸Arise, God, judge the earth,
for you have an inheritance in all the nations.

Psalm 83

A song. A psalm of Asaph.

¹God, do not be silent!

Do not ignore us and remain unmoved, God.

²Look, your enemies are making a commotion,
and those who hate you have raised their heads.

³They conspire against your people
and plan together against your protected ones.

⁴They have said, “Come, and let us destroy them as a nation.
Then the name of Israel will no longer be remembered.”

⁵They schemed together with one strategy;
they made an alliance against you—

⁶the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites,
of Moab and the Hagrites, ⁷Gebal, Ammon, Amalek;
and also Philistia and the inhabitants of Tyre.

⁸Assyria also has joined with them;
they have become an arm for the descendants of Lot. *Selah*

⁹Do to them as you did to Midian,
as you did to Sisera and to Jabin at the Kishon River.

¹⁰They perished at Endor
and became like manure for the earth.

¹¹Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb,
and all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna.

¹²They said, “Let us take for ourselves
the pastures of God.”

¹³My God, make them like the whirling dust,

like chaff before the wind,

¹⁴like the fire that burns the forest,

and like the flame that sets the mountains on fire.

¹⁵Chase them with your strong wind,

and terrify them with your windstorm.

¹⁶Fill their faces with shame

so that they might seek your name, Yahweh.

¹⁷May they be put to shame and be terrified forever;

may they perish in disgrace.

¹⁸Then they will know that you alone, Yahweh,

are the Most High over all the earth.

Psalm 84

For the chief musician; set to the Gittith style. A psalm of the sons of Korah.

¹How lovely is the place where you live,

Yahweh of hosts!

²I long for the courts of Yahweh, my desire for it has made me exhausted.

My heart and all of my being call out to the living God.

³Even the sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest for herself where she may lay her young

near your altars, Yahweh of hosts,

my King, and my God.

⁴Blessed are they who live in your house;

they praise you continually. *Selah*

⁵Blessed is the man whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways up to Zion.

⁶Passing through the Valley of Tears, they find springs of water to drink.

The early rains cover it with blessings.^[1]

⁷They go from strength to strength;

every one of them appears before God in Zion.

⁸Yahweh God of hosts, hear my prayer;

God of Jacob, listen to what I am saying! *Selah*

⁹God, watch over our shield;
show concern for your anointed.

¹⁰For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God,
than to live within the tents of the wicked.

¹¹For Yahweh God is our sun and shield;
Yahweh will give grace and glory;
he does not withhold any good thing from those who walk in integrity.

¹²Yahweh of hosts,
blessed is the man who trusts in you.

84:6 ^[1].

Psalm 85

For the chief musician. A psalm of the sons of Korah.

¹Yahweh, you have showed favor to your land;
you have restored the well-being of Jacob.

²You have forgiven the sin of your people;
you have covered all their sin. *Selah*

³You have withdrawn all your wrath;
you have turned back from your hot anger.

⁴Restore us, God of our salvation,
and let go of your displeasure with us.

⁵Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you remain angry throughout future generations?

⁶Will you not revive us again?
Then your people will rejoice in you.

⁷Show us your covenant faithfulness, Yahweh,
grant us your salvation.

⁸I will listen to what Yahweh God says,
for he will make peace with his people, his faithful ones.

Yet they must not turn again to foolish ways.

⁹Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him;
then glory will remain in our land.

¹⁰Covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹Trustworthiness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.

¹²Yes, Yahweh will give his good blessings,
and our land will yield its crops.

¹³Righteousness will go before him
and make a way for his footsteps.

Psalm 86

A prayer of David.

¹Listen, Yahweh, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.

²Protect me, for I am faithful;
my God, save your servant who trusts in you.

³Be merciful to me, Lord,
for I cry out to you all day long.

⁴Make your servant glad,
for to you, Lord, I lift up my soul.

⁵You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,
and you show great mercy to all those who cry out to you.

⁶Yahweh, listen to my prayer;
hear the sound of my pleas.

⁷In the day of my trouble I call on you,
for you will answer me.

⁸There is no one who compares to you among the gods, Lord.
There are no deeds like your deeds.

⁹All the nations that you have made will come and bow before you, Lord.

They will honor your name.

¹⁰For you are great and do wonderful things;
you only are God.

¹¹Teach me your ways, Yahweh. Then I will walk in your truth.

Unite my heart to reverence you.

¹²Lord my God, I will praise you with my whole heart;
I will glorify your name forever.

¹³For great is your covenant faithfulness toward me;
you have rescued my life from the depths of Sheol.

¹⁴God, the arrogant have risen up against me.

A gang of violent men seek my life.

They have no regard for you.

¹⁵But you, Lord, are a merciful and gracious God,
slow to anger, and abundant in covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness.

¹⁶Turn toward me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the son of your servant woman.

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor.

Then those who hate me will see it and be put to shame
because you, Yahweh, have helped me and comforted me.

Psalm 87

A psalm of the sons of Korah; a song.

¹On the holy mount stands the city he founded;

²Yahweh loves the gates of Zion
more than all the tents of Jacob.

³Glorious things are said of you, city of God. *Selah*

⁴"I mention Rahab and Babylon to my followers.
See, there are Philistia, and Tyre, along with Cush—
and will say, 'This one was born there.'"

⁵Of Zion it will be said, "Each of these was born in her;

and the Most High himself will establish her.”

⁶Yahweh writes in the census book of the nations,

“This one was born there.” *Selah*

⁷So also the singers and the dancers say together,

“All my fountains are in you.”

Psalm 88

A song, a psalm of the sons of Korah; for the chief musician; set to the Mahalath Leannoth style. A maschil of Heman the Ezrahite.

¹Yahweh, God of my salvation,

I cry out day and night before you.

²Listen to my prayer;

pay attention to my cry.

³For I am filled with troubles,

and my life has reached Sheol.

⁴People treat me like those who go down into the pit;

I am a man with no strength.

⁵I am abandoned among the dead;

I am like the dead who lie in the grave,

about whom you care no more

because they are cut off from your power.

⁶You place me in the lowest part of the pit,

in the dark and deep places.

⁷Your wrath lies heavy on me,

and all your waves crash over me. *Selah*

⁸Because of you, my acquaintances avoid me.

You have made me a shocking sight to them.

I am hemmed in and I cannot escape.

⁹My eyes grow weary from trouble;

All day long I call out to you, Yahweh;

I spread out my hands to you.

¹⁰Will you do wonders for the dead?

Will those who have died rise and praise you? *Selah*

¹¹Will your covenant faithfulness be proclaimed in the grave,
your loyalty in the place of the dead?

¹²Will your wonderful deeds be known in the darkness,
or your righteousness in the place of forgetfulness?

¹³But I cry to you, Yahweh;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.

¹⁴Yahweh, why do you reject me?
Why do you hide your face from me?

¹⁵I have always been afflicted and on the verge of death since my youth.
I have suffered from your terrors; I am in despair.

¹⁶Your angry actions have passed over me,
and your terrifying deeds have annihilated me.

¹⁷They surround me like water all the day long;
they have all encircled me.

¹⁸You have removed every friend and acquaintance from me.
My only acquaintance is the darkness.

Psalm 89

A maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

¹I will sing of Yahweh's acts of covenant faithfulness forever.

I will proclaim your truthfulness to future generations.

²For I have said, "Covenant faithfulness has been established forever;
your truthfulness you have established in the heavens."

³I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have made an oath to David my servant.

⁴I will establish your descendants forever,
and I will establish your throne through all generations." *Selah*

⁵The heavens praise your wonders, Yahweh;
your truthfulness is praised in the assembly of the holy ones.

⁶For who in the skies can be compared to Yahweh?

Who among the sons of the gods is like Yahweh?

⁷He is a God who is greatly honored in the council of the holy ones
and is awesome among all who surround him.

⁸Yahweh God of hosts,

who is strong like you, Yahweh?

Your truthfulness surrounds you.

⁹You rule the raging sea;

when the waves surge, you calm them.

¹⁰You crushed Rahab as one who is killed.

You scattered your enemies with your strong arm.

¹¹The heavens belong to you, and the earth also.

You made the world and all it contains.

¹²You created the north and the south.

Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your name.

¹³You have a mighty arm

and a strong hand, and your right hand is high.

¹⁴Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness come before you.

¹⁵Blessed are the people who worship you!

Yahweh, they walk in the light of your face.

¹⁶They rejoice in your name all day long,

and in your righteousness they exalt you.

¹⁷You are their majestic strength,

and by your favor we are victorious.

¹⁸For our shield belongs to Yahweh;

our king belongs to the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁹Long ago you spoke in a vision to your faithful ones;^[1]

you said, "I have set a crown on a mighty one."^[2]

I have raised up one chosen from among the people.

²⁰I have chosen David my servant;

with my holy oil have I anointed him.

²¹My hand will support him;

my arm will strengthen him.

²²No enemy will deceive him;

no son of wickedness will oppress him.

²³I will crush his enemies before him;

I will kill those who hate him.

²⁴My truth and my covenant faithfulness will be with him;

by my name he will be victorious.

²⁵I will place his hand over the sea

and his right hand over the rivers.

²⁶He will call out to me, 'You are my Father,

my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

²⁷I also will place him as my firstborn son,

the most exalted of the kings of the earth.

²⁸I will extend my covenant faithfulness to him forever;

and my covenant with him will be secure.

²⁹I will make his descendants endure forever

and his throne as enduring as the skies above.

³⁰If his children forsake my law

and do not walk in my regulations,

³¹if they break my rules

and do not keep my commands,

³²then will I punish their rebellion with a rod

and their iniquity with blows.

³³But I will not remove my steadfast love from him

or be unfaithful to my promise.

³⁴I will not break my covenant

or change the words of my lips.

³⁵Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness—

I will not lie to David:

³⁶his descendants will continue forever
and his throne as long as the sun before me.

³⁷It will be established forever like the moon,
the faithful witness in the sky." *Selah*

³⁸But you have refused and rejected;
you have been angry with your anointed king.

³⁹You have renounced the covenant of your servant.
You have desecrated his crown on the ground.

⁴⁰You have broken down all his walls.
You have ruined his strongholds.

⁴¹All who pass by have robbed him.
He has become an object of disgust to his neighbors.

⁴²You have raised the right hand of his enemies;
you have made all his enemies rejoice.

⁴³You turn back the edge of his sword
and have not made him stand when in battle.

⁴⁴You have brought his splendor to an end;
you have brought down his throne to the ground.

⁴⁵You have shortened the days of his youth.
You have covered him with shame. *Selah*

⁴⁶How long, Yahweh? Will you hide yourself, forever?
How long will your anger burn like fire?

⁴⁷Oh, think about how short my time is,
and for what uselessness you have created all the children of mankind!

⁴⁸Who can live and not die,
or rescue his own life from the hand of Sheol? *Selah*

⁴⁹Lord, where are your former acts of covenant faithfulness
that you swore to David in your truthfulness?

⁵⁰Call to mind, Lord, the mocking directed against your servants
and how I bear in my heart so many insults from the nations.

⁵¹Your enemies hurl insults, Yahweh;

they mock the footsteps of your anointed one.

⁵²Blessed be Yahweh forever.

Amen and Amen.

Book Four

89:19 ^[1] instead of .

89:19 ^[2] . Some translate the word for as , and that is how the ULT has translated the word here.

Psalm 90

A prayer of Moses the man of God.

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
throughout all generations.

²Before the mountains were formed,
or you formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

³You return man to dust,
and you say, "Return, you descendants of mankind."

⁴For a thousand years in your sight
are as yesterday when it is past,
and as a watch in the night.

⁵You sweep them away as with a flood and they sleep;
in the morning they are like the grass that sprouts up.

⁶In the morning it blooms and grows up;
in the evening it withers and dries up.

⁷Truly, we are consumed in your anger,
and in your wrath we are terrified.

⁸You have set our iniquities before you,
our hidden sins in the light of your presence.

⁹Our life passes away under your wrath;
our years quickly pass like a sigh.

¹⁰Our years are seventy,
or even eighty if we are healthy;

but even our best years are marked by trouble and sorrow.

Yes, they pass quickly, and we fly away.

¹¹Who knows the intensity of your anger,
and your wrath that is equal to the fear of you?

¹²So teach us to consider our life
so that we might live wisely.

¹³Turn back, Yahweh! How long will it be?
Have pity on your servants.

¹⁴Satisfy us in the morning with your covenant faithfulness
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵Make us glad in proportion to the days you afflicted us
and to the years we have experienced trouble.

¹⁶Let your servants see your work,
and let our children see your majesty.

¹⁷May the favor of the Lord our God be ours;
prosper the work of our hands;
indeed, prosper the work of our hands.

Psalm 91

¹He who lives in the shelter of the Most High
will stay in the shadow of the Almighty.

²I will say of Yahweh, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

³For he will rescue you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly plague.

⁴He will cover you with his wings,
and under his wings you will find refuge.
His trustworthiness is a shield and protection.

⁵You will not be afraid of terror in the night,
or of the arrow that flies by day,

⁶or of the plague that roams around in the darkness,

or of the disease that comes at noontime.

⁷A thousand may fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not reach you.

⁸You will only observe
and see the punishment of the wicked.

⁹For Yahweh is my refuge!
Make the Most High your refuge also.

¹⁰No evil will overtake you;
no affliction will come near your home.

¹¹For he will direct his angels to protect you,
to guard you in all your ways.

¹²They will lift you up with their hand
so that you will not hit your foot on a stone.

¹³You will crush lions and adders under your feet;
you will trample on young lions and serpents.

¹⁴Because he is devoted to me, I will rescue him.
I will protect him because he is loyal to me.

¹⁵When he calls to me, I will answer him.
I will be with him in trouble;
I will give him victory and will honor him.

¹⁶I will satisfy him with the length of his days,
and show him my salvation.

Psalm 92

A psalm, a song for the Sabbath day.

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to Yahweh
and to sing praises to your name, Most High,
²to proclaim your covenant faithfulness in the morning
and your truthfulness every night,
³with a harp of ten strings

and with the melody of the lyre.

⁴For you, Yahweh, have made me glad through your deeds.

I will sing for joy because of the deeds of your hands.

⁵How great are your deeds, Yahweh!

Your thoughts are very deep.

⁶A brutish person does not know,

nor does a fool understand this:

⁷When the wicked sprout like the grass,

and even when all the evildoers thrive,

still they are doomed to eternal destruction.

⁸But you, Yahweh, will reign forever.

⁹Indeed, look at your enemies, Yahweh!

Indeed, look at your enemies. They will perish!

All those who do evil will be scattered.

¹⁰You have lifted up my horn like the horn of the wild ox;

I am anointed with fresh oil.

¹¹My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;

my ears have heard of the doom of my evil foes.

¹²The righteous will flourish like the palm tree;

they will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³They are planted in the house of Yahweh;

they flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴They bear fruit even when they are old;

they stay fresh and green,

¹⁵to proclaim that Yahweh is just.

He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Psalm 93

¹Yahweh reigns; he is robed in majesty;

Yahweh has clothed and girded himself with strength.

The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

²Your throne is established from ancient times;
you are from everlasting.

³The oceans rise, Yahweh;
they have lifted up their voice;
the oceans' waves crash and roar.

⁴Above the crashing of many waves,
the mighty breakers of the sea,
Yahweh on high is mighty.

⁵Your solemn commands are very trustworthy;
holiness adorns your house,
Yahweh, for the length of your days.

Psalm 94

¹Yahweh, God who avenges,
God who avenges, shine over us.

²Rise up, judge of the earth,
give to the proud what they deserve.

³How long will the wicked, Yahweh,
how long will the wicked rejoice?

⁴They pour out their arrogant words;
all those who do evil boast.

⁵They crush your people, Yahweh;
they afflict the nation that belongs to you.

⁶They kill the widow and foreigner who lives in their country,
and they murder the fatherless.

⁷They say, "Yahweh will not see,
the God of Jacob does not take notice of it."

⁸Understand, you stupid people!
You fools, when will you ever learn?

⁹He who made the ear, does he not hear?
He who formed the eye, does he not see?

¹⁰He who disciplines the nations, does he not correct?

He is the one who gives knowledge to man.

¹¹Yahweh knows the thoughts of men,
that they are vapor.

¹²Blessed is the one whom you instruct, Yahweh,
the one whom you teach from your law.

¹³You give him rest in times of trouble
until a pit is dug for the wicked.

¹⁴For Yahweh will not forsake his people
or abandon his inheritance.

¹⁵For judgment will again be righteous;
and all the upright in heart will follow it.

¹⁶Who will rise up to defend me against the evildoers?
Who will stand up for me against the wicked?

¹⁷Unless Yahweh had been my help,
I would soon be lying down in the place of silence.

¹⁸When I said, "My foot is slipping,"
Your covenant faithfulness, Yahweh, held me up.

¹⁹When cares within me are many, your consolations make me happy.

²⁰Can a throne of destruction be allied with you,
one who creates injustice by statute?

²¹They conspire together to take the life of the righteous
and they condemn the innocent to death.

²²But Yahweh has been my high tower,
and my God has been the rock of my refuge.

²³He will bring on them their own iniquity
and will cut them off in their own wickedness.

Yahweh our God will cut them off.

Psalm 95

¹Oh come, let us sing to Yahweh;

let us sing joyfully to the rock of our salvation.

²Let us enter his presence with thanksgiving;

let us sing to him with psalms of praise.

³For Yahweh is a great God

and a great King superior to all gods.

⁴In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his.

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before Yahweh, our Creator:

⁷For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Today—oh, that you would hear his voice!

⁸“Do not harden your heart, as at Meribah,

or as on the day of Massah in the wilderness,

⁹where your forefathers tested me

and tried me, though they had seen my deeds.

¹⁰For forty years I was angry with that generation

and said, ‘This is a people whose hearts wander astray;

they have not known my ways.’

¹¹Therefore I vowed in my anger

that they would never enter into my resting place.”

Psalm 96

¹Oh, sing to Yahweh a new song;

sing to Yahweh, all the earth.

²Sing to Yahweh, bless his name;

announce his salvation day after day.

³Declare his glory among the nations,

his marvelous deeds among all the nations.

⁴For Yahweh is great and is to be praised greatly.

He is to be feared above all other gods.

⁵For all the gods of the nations are idols,

but it is Yahweh who made the heavens.

⁶Splendor and majesty are in his presence.

Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to Yahweh, you clans of peoples,

ascribe praise to Yahweh for his glory and strength.

⁸Give to Yahweh the glory that his name deserves.

Bring an offering and come into his courts.

⁹Bow down to Yahweh in the splendor of holiness;

tremble before him, all the earth.

¹⁰Say among the nations, "Yahweh reigns."

The world also is established; it cannot be shaken.

He judges the peoples fairly.

¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

let the sea roar and that which fills it shout with joy.

¹²Let the fields rejoice and all that is in them.

Then let all the trees in the forest shout for joy

¹³before Yahweh, for he is coming.

He is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness

and the peoples with his faithfulness.

Psalm 97

¹Yahweh reigns; let the earth rejoice;

let the many coastlands be glad.

²Clouds and darkness surround him.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

³Fire goes before him

and consumes his adversaries on every side.

⁴His lightning lights up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.

⁵The mountains melt like wax before Yahweh,
the Lord of the whole earth.

⁶The skies declare his justice,
and all the nations see his glory.

⁷All those who worship carved figures will be shamed,
those who boast in worthless idols—
bow down to him, all you gods!

⁸Zion heard and was glad,
and the towns of Judah rejoiced
because of your righteous decrees, Yahweh.

⁹For you, Yahweh, are most high above all the earth.
You are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰You who love Yahweh, hate evil!
He protects the lives of his faithful ones,
and he takes them out of the hand of the wicked.

¹¹Light is sown for the righteous
and gladness for those with honest hearts.

¹²Be glad in Yahweh, you righteous;
and give thanks when you remember his holiness.

Psalm 98

A psalm.

¹Oh, sing to Yahweh a new song,
for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm have given him victory.

²Yahweh has made known his salvation;
he has openly showed his justice to all the nations.

³He calls to mind his covenant loyalty and faithfulness for the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth will see the victory of our God.

⁴Shout for joy to Yahweh, all the earth;
burst into song, sing for joy, and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to Yahweh with the harp,
with the harp and melodious song.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
make a joyful noise before the King, Yahweh.

⁷Let the sea shout and everything in it,
the world and those who live in it!

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the mountains shout for joy.

⁹Yahweh is coming to judge the earth;
he will judge the world with righteousness
and the nations with fairness.

Psalm 99

¹Yahweh reigns; let the nations tremble.
He sits enthroned above the cherubim; the earth quakes.

²Yahweh is great in Zion;
he is exalted above all the nations.

³Let them praise your great and awesome name;
he is holy.

⁴The king is strong, and he loves justice.
You have established fairness;
you have done righteousness and justice in Jacob.

⁵Praise Yahweh our God
and worship at his footstool.
He is holy.

⁶Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
and Samuel was among those who called on his name.
They called to Yahweh, and he answered them.

⁷He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud.

They kept his solemn commands
and the statutes that he gave them.

⁸You answered them, Yahweh our God.

A forgiving God you were to them,
but one who punished their sinful deeds.

⁹Praise Yahweh our God,
and worship at his holy hill,
for Yahweh our God is holy.

Psalm 100

A psalm of thanksgiving.

¹Shout joyfully to Yahweh, all the earth.

²Serve Yahweh with gladness;
come before his presence with joyful singing.

³Know that Yahweh is God;
he made us, and we are his.
We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴Enter into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

⁵For Yahweh is good; his covenant faithfulness endures forever
and his truthfulness through all generations.

Psalm 101

A psalm of David.

¹I will sing of covenant faithfulness and justice;
to you, Yahweh, I will sing praises.

²I will walk in the way of integrity.
Oh, when will you come to me?

I will walk with integrity within my house.

³I will not put wrongdoing before my eyes;

I hate worthless evil;
it will not cling to me.

⁴Perverse people will leave me;

I am not loyal to evil.

⁵I will destroy whoever secretly slanders his neighbor.

I will not tolerate anyone who has a proud demeanor and an arrogant attitude.

⁶I will look to the faithful of the land to sit at my side.

Those who walk in the way of integrity may serve me.

⁷Deceitful people will not remain within my house;

liars will not be welcome before my eyes.

⁸Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked from the land;

I will remove all evildoers from the city of Yahweh.

Psalm 102

A prayer of the afflicted when he is faint and pours out his lament before Yahweh.

¹Hear my prayer, Yahweh;

hear my cry to you.

²Do not hide your face from me in my time of trouble.

Listen to me.

When I call out to you, answer me quickly.

³For my days pass away like smoke,

and my bones burn like fire.

⁴My heart is crushed, and I am like grass that has withered.

I forget to eat any food.

⁵With my continual groaning,

I have become very thin.

⁶I am like a pelican of the wilderness;

I have become like an owl in the ruins.

⁷I lie awake like a solitary bird,

alone on the housetop.

⁸My enemies taunt me all day long;

those who mock me use my name in curses.

⁹I eat ashes like bread

and mix my drink with tears.

¹⁰Because of your raging anger,

you have lifted me up to throw me down.

¹¹My days are like a shadow that fades,

and I have withered like grass.

¹²But you, Yahweh, live forever,

and your fame is for all generations.

¹³You will rise up and have mercy on Zion.

Now is the time to have mercy upon her;

the appointed time has come.

¹⁴For your servants hold her stones dear

and feel compassion for the dust of her ruins.

¹⁵The nations will respect your name, Yahweh,

and all the kings of the earth will honor your glory.

¹⁶Yahweh will rebuild Zion

and will appear in his glory.

¹⁷At that time, he will respond to the prayer of the destitute;

he will not reject their prayer.

¹⁸This will be written for future generations,

and a people not yet born will praise Yahweh.

¹⁹For he has looked down from the holy heights;

from heaven Yahweh has viewed the earth,

²⁰to hear the groaning of the prisoners,

to release those who were condemned to death.

²¹Then men will proclaim the name of Yahweh in Zion

and his praise in Jerusalem

²²when the peoples and kingdoms gather together

to serve Yahweh.

²³He has taken away my strength in the middle of life.

He has shortened my days.

²⁴I said, "My God, do not take me away in the middle of life;
you are here throughout all generations.

²⁵In ancient times you set the earth in place;
the heavens are the work of your hands.

²⁶They will perish, but you will remain;
they will all grow old like a garment;
like clothing, you will remove them, and they will disappear.

²⁷But you are the same,
and your years will have no end.

²⁸The children of your servants will live on,
and their descendants will live in your presence."

Psalm 103

A psalm of David.

¹I give praise to Yahweh with all my life,
and with all that is within me, I give praise to his holy name.

²I give praise to Yahweh with all my life,
and I remember all of his good deeds.

³He forgives all your sins;
he heals all your diseases.

⁴He redeems your life from destruction;
he crowns you with covenant faithfulness and acts of tender mercy.

⁵He satisfies your life with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle.

⁶Yahweh does what is fair
and does acts of justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the descendants of Israel.

⁸Yahweh is merciful and gracious;
he is patient; he has great covenant loyalty.

⁹He will not always discipline;
he is not always angry.

¹⁰He does not deal with us as our sins deserve
or repay us for what our sins demand.

¹¹For as the skies are high above the earth,
so great is his covenant faithfulness toward those who honor him.

¹²As far as the east is from the west,
this is how far he has removed the guilt of our sins from us.

¹³As a father has compassion on his children,
so Yahweh has compassion on those who honor him.

¹⁴For he knows how we are formed;
he knows that we are dust.

¹⁵As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower in a field.

¹⁶The wind blows over it, and it disappears,
and no one can even tell where it once grew.

¹⁷But the covenant faithfulness of Yahweh is from everlasting to everlasting on those who honor him.
His righteousness extends to their descendants.

¹⁸They keep his covenant
and remember to obey his instructions.

¹⁹Yahweh has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over everyone.

²⁰Give praise to Yahweh, you his angels,
you mighty ones who are strong and do his word,
and obey the sound of his word.

²¹Give praise to Yahweh, all his hosts,
you are his servants who carry out his will.

²²Give praise to Yahweh, all his creatures,
in all the places where he reigns.

I will give praise to Yahweh with all my life.

Psalm 104

¹I give praise to Yahweh with all my life,
Yahweh my God, you are very magnificent;
you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

²You cover yourself with light as with a garment;
you spread out the heavens like a tent curtain.

³You lay the beams of your chambers on the clouds;
you make the clouds your chariot;
you walk on the wings of the wind.

⁴He makes the winds his messengers,
flames of fire his servants.

⁵He laid the foundations of the earth,
and it will never be moved.

⁶You covered the earth with water like a garment;
the water covered the mountains.

⁷Your rebuke made the waters recede;
at the sound of your thunderous voice they fled.

⁸The mountains rose, and the valleys spread out
into the places that you had appointed for them.

⁹You have set a boundary for them that they will not cross;
they will not cover the earth again.

¹⁰He made springs flow into the valleys;
the streams flow between the mountains.

¹¹They supply water for all the animals of the field;
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

¹²By the riverbanks the birds build their nests;
they sing among the branches.

¹³He waters the mountains from his water chambers in the sky.
The earth is filled with the fruit of his labor.

¹⁴He makes the grass grow for the cattle

and plants for man to cultivate
so that man may produce food from the earth.

15He makes wine to make man happy,
oil to make his face shine,
and food to sustain his life.

16The trees of Yahweh get plenty of rain;
the cedars of Lebanon which he planted.

17There the birds make their nests.
The stork makes the cypress tree her home.

18The wild goats live on the high mountains;
the mountain heights are a refuge for the hyraxes.

19He appointed the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.

20You make the darkness of the night
when all the beasts of the forest come out.

21The young lions roar for their prey
and seek their food from God.

22When the sun rises, they retreat
and sleep in their dens.

23Meanwhile, people go out to their work
and labor away until the evening.

24Yahweh, how many and varied are your works!
With wisdom you made them all;
the earth overflows with your works.

25Over there is the sea, deep and wide,
teeming with innumerable creatures,
both small and great.

26The ships travel there,
and Leviathan is also there, which you formed to play in the sea.

27All these look to you to give them
their food on time.

²⁸When you give to them, they gather;
when you open your hand, they are satisfied.

²⁹When you hide your face, they are troubled;
if you take away their breath, they die
and return to dust.

³⁰When you send out your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the countryside.

³¹May the glory of Yahweh last forever;
may Yahweh enjoy his creation.

³²He looks down on the earth, and it shakes;
he touches the mountains, and they smoke.

³³I will sing to Yahweh all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³⁴May my thoughts be sweet to him;
I will rejoice in Yahweh.

³⁵May sinners vanish from the earth,
and let the wicked be no more.
I give praise to Yahweh with all my life.
Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 105

¹Give thanks to Yahweh, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations.

²Sing to him, sing praises to him;
speak of all his marvelous deeds.

³Boast in his holy name;
let the heart of those who seek Yahweh rejoice.

⁴Seek Yahweh and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

⁵Recall the marvelous things he has done,
his miracles and the decrees from his mouth,

⁶you descendants of Abraham his servant,
you people of Jacob, his chosen ones.

⁷He is Yahweh, our God.

His decrees are on all the earth.

⁸He keeps in mind his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded for a thousand generations.

⁹He calls to mind the covenant that he made with Abraham
and his oath to Isaac.

¹⁰This is what he confirmed to Jacob as a statute
and to Israel as an everlasting covenant.

¹¹He said, "I will give you the land of Canaan
as your share of your inheritance."

¹²He said this when they were only few in number,
so very few, and were strangers in the land.

¹³They went from nation to nation
and from one kingdom to another.

¹⁴He did not allow anyone to oppress them;
he rebuked kings for their sakes.

¹⁵He said, "Do not touch my anointed ones,
and do not harm my prophets."

¹⁶He called for a famine on the land;
he cut off the whole supply of bread.

¹⁷He sent a man ahead of them;
Joseph was sold as a servant.

¹⁸His feet were bound by shackles;
on his neck was put an iron collar,

¹⁹until what he had said came to pass.

The word of Yahweh tested him.

²⁰The king sent servants to release him;
the ruler of the people set him free.

²¹He put him in charge of his house

as ruler of all his possessions

²²to instruct his princes as he wished

and to teach his elders wisdom.

²³Then Israel came into Egypt,

and Jacob lived for a time in the land of Ham.

²⁴Yahweh made his people fruitful,

and made them stronger than their enemies.

²⁵He caused their enemies to hate his people,

to mistreat his servants.

²⁶He sent Moses, his servant,

and Aaron, whom he had chosen.

²⁷They performed his signs among the Egyptians,

his wonders in the land of Ham.

²⁸He sent darkness and made that land dark,

but its people did not obey his commands.

²⁹He turned their water into blood

and killed their fish.

³⁰Their land swarmed with frogs,

even in the rooms of their rulers.

³¹He spoke, and swarms of flies and gnats came

throughout their country.

³²He turned their rain into hail,

with fire flaming on their land.

³³He destroyed their vines and fig trees;

he broke the trees of their country.

³⁴He spoke, and the locusts came,

so many locusts.

³⁵The locusts ate up all of the vegetation in their land;

They ate up all the crops of the ground.

³⁶He killed every firstborn in their land,

the firstfruits of all their strength.

³⁷He brought the Israelites out with silver and gold;

none of his tribes stumbled on the way.

³⁸Egypt was glad when they went away,

for the Egyptians were afraid of them.

³⁹He spread a cloud for a covering

and made a fire to light up the night.

⁴⁰The Israelites asked for food, and he brought quail

and satisfied them with bread from heaven.

⁴¹He split the rock, and waters gushed from it;

they flowed in the wilderness like a river.

⁴²For he called to mind his holy promise

that he made to Abraham his servant.

⁴³He led his people out with joy,

his chosen with shouts of triumph.

⁴⁴He gave them the lands of the nations;

they took possession of the wealth of the peoples

⁴⁵so that they might keep his statutes

and obey his laws.

Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 106

¹Praise Yahweh.

Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,

for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²Who can recount the mighty acts of Yahweh

or proclaim in full all his praiseworthy deeds?

³Blessed are those who do what is right,

and whose deeds are always just.

⁴Call me to mind, Yahweh, when you show favor to your people;

help me when you save them.

⁵Then I will see the prosperity of your chosen,

rejoice in the gladness of your nation,
and glory with your inheritance.

⁶We have sinned like our ancestors;
we have done wrong, and we have done evil.

⁷Our fathers did not appreciate your marvelous deeds in Egypt;
they ignored your many acts of covenant faithfulness;
they were rebellious at the sea, the Sea of Reeds.

⁸Nevertheless, he saved them for his name's sake
so that he might reveal his power.

⁹He rebuked the Sea of Reeds, and it dried up.
Then he led them through the depths, as through a wilderness.

¹⁰He saved them from the hand of those who hated them,
and he rescued them from the hand of the enemy.

¹¹But the waters covered their adversaries;
not one of them survived.

¹²Then they believed his words,
and they sang his praise.

¹³But they quickly forgot what he had done;
they did not wait for his instructions.

¹⁴They had insatiable cravings in the wilderness,
and they challenged God in the desert.

¹⁵So he gave them what they requested,
but he sent a horrible disease upon them.

¹⁶In the camp they became jealous of Moses
and Aaron, the holy priest of Yahweh.

¹⁷The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan
and covered the followers of Abiram.

¹⁸Fire broke out among them;
the fire consumed the wicked.

¹⁹They made a calf at Horeb
and worshiped a cast metal figure.

²⁰They traded the glory of God
for the image of a bull that eats grass.

²¹They forgot God their Savior,
who had done great deeds in Egypt.

²²He had done wonderful things in the land of Ham
and mighty acts at the Sea of Reeds.

²³So he said he would destroy them—
had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him,
to turn away his anger from destroying them.

²⁴Then they despised the fruitful land;
they did not believe his promise,

²⁵but grumbled in their tents,
and did not obey Yahweh.

²⁶Therefore he raised his hand and swore to them
that he would let them die in the desert,

²⁷scatter their descendants among the nations,
and scatter them in foreign lands.

²⁸They worshiped the Baal of Peor
and ate the sacrifices offered to the dead.

²⁹They provoked him to anger with their actions,
and a plague broke out among them.

³⁰Then Phinehas rose to intervene,
and the plague subsided.

³¹It was counted to him as a righteous deed
to all generations forever.

³²They also angered Yahweh at the waters of Meribah,
and Moses suffered because of them.

³³They made Moses bitter,
and he spoke rashly.

³⁴They did not destroy the nations
as Yahweh had commanded them,

35but they mingled with the nations
and learned their ways
36and worshiped their idols,
which became a snare to them.
37They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons.
38They shed innocent blood,
the blood of their sons and of their daughters,
whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan,
desecrating the land with blood.
39They were defiled by their deeds;
in their actions they were like prostitutes.
40So Yahweh was angry with his people,
and he despised his own people.
41He gave them into the hand of the nations,
and those who hated them ruled over them.
42Their enemies oppressed them,
and they were brought into subjection to their authority.
43Many times he came to help them,
but they kept rebelling
and were brought low by their own sin.
44Nevertheless, he paid attention to their distress
when he heard their cry for help.
45He called to mind his covenant with them
and relented because of his steadfast love.
46He caused all their conquerers
to have pity on them.
47Save us, Yahweh, our God.
Gather us from among the nations
so that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praises.
48May Yahweh, the God of Israel, be praised

from everlasting to everlasting.

All the people said, "Amen."

Praise Yahweh.

Book Five

Psalm 107

¹Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,
and his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²Let the redeemed of Yahweh speak out,
those he has rescued from the hand of the enemy.

³He has gathered them out of foreign lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

⁴They wandered in the wilderness on a desert road
and found no city in which to live.

⁵Because they were hungry and thirsty,
they fainted from exhaustion.

⁶Then they called out to Yahweh in their trouble,
and he rescued them out of their distress.

⁷He led them by a direct path
so that they would go to a city to live in.

⁸Oh that people would praise Yahweh for his covenant faithfulness
and for the amazing things he has done for humanity!

⁹For he satisfies the longings of those who are thirsty,
and the desires of those who are hungry he fills up with good things.

¹⁰Some sat in darkness and in gloom,
prisoners in affliction and chains.

¹¹This was because they had rebelled against God's word
and rejected the instruction of the Most High.

¹²He humbled their hearts through hardship;

they stumbled and there was no one to help them up.

¹³Then they called out to Yahweh in their trouble,
and he brought them out of their distress.

¹⁴He brought them out of darkness and gloom
and broke their bonds.

¹⁵Oh that people would praise Yahweh for his covenant faithfulness
and for the amazing things he has done for humanity!

¹⁶For he has broken the gates of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron.

¹⁷They were foolish in their rebellious ways
and afflicted because of their sins.

¹⁸They lost their desire to eat any food,
and they came close to the gates of death.

¹⁹Then they called out to Yahweh in their trouble,
and he brought them out of their distress.

²⁰He sent his word and healed them,
and he rescued them from their destruction.

²¹Oh that people would praise Yahweh for his covenant faithfulness
and for the amazing things he has done for humanity!

²²Let them offer the sacrifices of thanksgiving
and proclaim his deeds in singing.

²³Some travel on the sea in ships
and do business overseas.

²⁴These saw the deeds of Yahweh
and his wonders on the seas.

²⁵For he commanded and aroused the windstorm
that stirs up the seas.

²⁶They reached up to the sky; they went down to the depths.
Their lives melted away in distress.

²⁷They swayed and staggered like drunkards
and were at their wits' end.

²⁸Then they called out to Yahweh in their trouble,
and he brought them out of their distress.

²⁹He calmed the storm,
and the waves were stilled.

³⁰Then they rejoiced because the sea was calm,
and he brought them to their desired harbor.

³¹Oh that people would praise Yahweh for his covenant faithfulness
and for the amazing things he has done for humanity!

³²Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people
and praise him in the council of the elders.

³³He turns rivers into a wilderness,
springs of water into dry land,

³⁴and a fruitful land into a barren place
because of the wickedness of its people.

³⁵He turns the wilderness into a pool of water
and dry land into springs of water.

³⁶He settles the hungry there,
and they build a city to live in.

³⁷They build a city to plant fields in, to plant vineyards,
and to bring in an abundant harvest.

³⁸He blesses them so they are very numerous.
He does not let their cattle decrease in number.

³⁹They were diminished and brought low
by painful distress and suffering.

⁴⁰He pours contempt on the leaders
and causes them to wander in the wilderness, where there are no roads.

⁴¹But he protects the needy from affliction
and cares for his families like a flock.

⁴²The upright will see this and rejoice,
and all wickedness shuts its mouth.

⁴³Whoever is wise should take note of these things

and meditate on Yahweh's acts of covenant faithfulness.

Psalm 108

A song, a psalm of David.

¹My heart is fixed, God;

I will sing, yes, I will sing praises also with my honored heart.

²Wake up, lute and harp;

I will wake up the dawn.

³I will give thanks to you, Yahweh, among the peoples;

I will sing praises to you among the nations.

⁴For your covenant faithfulness is great above the heavens;

and your trustworthiness reaches to the skies.

⁵Be exalted, God, above the heavens,

and may your glory be exalted over all the earth.

⁶So that those you love may be rescued,

rescue us with your right hand and answer me.

⁷God has spoken in his holiness; "I will rejoice;

I will divide Shechem and apportion out the Valley of Succoth.

⁸Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine;

Ephraim also is my helmet;

Judah is my scepter.

⁹Moab is my washbasin;

over Edom I will throw my shoe;

I will shout in triumph because of Philistia.

¹⁰Who will bring me into the strong city?

Who will lead me to Edom?"

¹¹God, have you not rejected us?

You do not go into battle with our army.

¹²Give us help against the enemy,

for man's help is futile.

¹³We will triumph with God's help;

he will trample down our enemies.

Psalm 109

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹God whom I praise, do not be silent,

²For the wicked and deceitful attack me;
they speak lies against me.

³They surround me and say hateful things,
and they attack me without cause.

⁴In return for my love they accuse me,
but I pray for them.

⁵They repay me evil for good,
and they hate my love.

⁶Appoint a wicked man over such an enemy as these people;
appoint an accuser to stand at his right hand.

⁷When he is judged, may he be found guilty;
may his prayer be considered sinful.

⁸May his days be few;
may another take his office.

⁹May his children be fatherless,
and may his wife be a widow.

¹⁰May his children wander about and beg,
asking for handouts as they leave their ruined home.

¹¹May the creditor take all he owns;
may strangers plunder what he earns.

¹²May no one extend any kindness to him;
may no one have pity on his fatherless children.

¹³May his children be cut off;
may their name be blotted out in the next generation.

¹⁴May his ancestors' sins be mentioned to Yahweh;
and may the sin of his mother not be forgotten.

15 May their guilt always be before Yahweh;
may Yahweh cut off their memory from the earth.

16 May Yahweh do this because this man never bothered to show any covenant faithfulness,
but instead harassed the oppressed, the needy,
and the disheartened to death.

17 He loved cursing; may it come back upon him.
He hated blessing; may no blessing come to him.

18 He clothed himself with cursing as his garment,
and his curse came into his inner being like water,
like oil into his bones.

19 May his curses be to him like the clothes he wears to cover himself,
like the belt he always wears.

20 May this be the reward of my accusers from Yahweh,
of those who say evil things about me.

21 Yahweh my Lord, deal kindly with me for your name's sake.
Because your covenant faithfulness is good, save me.

22 For I am oppressed and needy,
and my heart is wounded within me.

23 I am fading away like the shadow of the evening;
I am shaken off like a locust.

24 My knees are weak from fasting;
I am turning to skin and bones.

25 I am disdained by my accusers;
when they see me, they shake their heads.

26 Help me, Yahweh my God;
save me by your covenant faithfulness.

27 May they know that this is your doing,
that you, Yahweh, have done this.

28 Though they curse me, please bless me;
when they attack, may they be put to shame,
but may your servant rejoice.

²⁹May my adversaries be clothed with shame;
may they wear their shame like a robe.

³⁰With my mouth I give great thanks to Yahweh;
I will praise him in the midst of a crowd.

³¹For he will stand at the right hand of the one who is needy,
to save him from those who judge him.

Psalm 110

A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh says to my master, "Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies your footstool."

²Yahweh will hold out the scepter of your strength from Zion;
rule among your enemies.

³Your people will follow you in holy garments
of their own free will on the day of your power;
from the womb of the dawn your youth will be to you like the dew.

⁴Yahweh has sworn, and will not change:
"You are a priest forever,
after the manner of Melchizedek."

⁵The Lord is at your right hand.
He will kill kings on the day of his anger.

⁶He will judge the nations;
he will fill the battlegrounds with dead bodies;
he will kill the leaders in many countries.

⁷He will drink of the brook along the road,
and then he will lift his head up high after victory.

Psalm 111

¹Praise Yahweh.

I will give thanks to Yahweh with my whole heart
in the assembly of the upright, in their gathering.

²The works of Yahweh are great,
eagerly awaited by all those who desire them.

³His work is majestic and glorious,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴He does wonderful things that will be remembered;
Yahweh is gracious and merciful.

⁵He gives food to his faithful followers.
He will always call to mind his covenant.

⁶He showed his powerful works to his people
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

⁷The works of his hands are trustworthy and just;
all his instructions are reliable.

⁸They are established forever,
to be observed faithfully and properly.

⁹He gave victory to his people;
he ordained his covenant forever;
holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰To honor Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom;
those who carry out his instructions have good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

Psalm 112

¹Praise Yahweh.
Blessed is the man who fears Yahweh,
who greatly delights in his commandments.

²His descendants will be powerful on earth;
the descendants of the godly man will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches are in his house;
his righteousness will endure forever.

⁴Light shines in the darkness for the godly person;
he is gracious, merciful, and just.

⁵It goes well for the man who deals graciously and lends money,
who conducts his affairs with honesty.

⁶For he will never be moved;
the righteous person will be remembered forever.

⁷He does not fear bad news;
he is confident, trusting in Yahweh.

⁸His heart is tranquil, without fear,
until he looks in triumph over his adversaries.

⁹He generously gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever;
he will be exalted with honor.

¹⁰The wicked person will see this and be angry;
he will grind his teeth in rage and he will melt away;
the desire of the wicked people will perish.

Psalm 113

¹Praise Yahweh.
Praise him, you servants of Yahweh;
praise the name of Yahweh.

²Blessed be the name of Yahweh,
both now and forevermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its setting,
Yahweh's name should be praised.

⁴Yahweh is exalted above all nations,
and his glory reaches above the skies.

⁵Who is like Yahweh our God,
who has his seat on high,

⁶who looks down
at the sky and at the earth?

⁷He raises up the poor out of the dirt
and lifts up the needy from the ash heap,

⁸so that he may seat him with princes,
with the princes of his people.

⁹He gives a home to the barren woman of the house,
he makes her a joyful mother of children.

Praise Yahweh!

Psalm 114

¹When Israel left Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people who spoke a foreign language,

²Judah became his holy place,
Israel his kingdom.

³The sea looked and fled;
the Jordan turned back.

⁴The mountains skipped like rams,
the hills skipped like lambs.

⁵Why did you flee, sea?
Jordan, why did you turn back?

⁶Mountains, why did you skip like rams?
You little hills, why did you skip like lambs?

⁷Tremble, earth, before the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

⁸He turned the rock into a pool of water,
the hard rock into a spring of water.

Psalm 115

¹Not to us, Yahweh, not to us,
but to your name bring honor,
for your covenant faithfulness and for your trustworthiness.

²Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God?"

³Our God is in heaven;

he does whatever he pleases.

⁴The nations' idols are silver and gold,
the work of men's hands.

⁵Those idols have mouths, but they do not speak;
they have eyes, but they do not see;

⁶they have ears, but they do not hear;
they have noses, but they do not smell.

⁷Those idols have hands, but do not feel;
they have feet, but they cannot walk;
nor do they speak from their mouths.

⁸Those who make them are like them,
as is everyone who trusts in them.

⁹Israel, trust in Yahweh;
he is your help and shield.

¹⁰House of Aaron, trust in Yahweh;
he is your help and shield.

¹¹You who honor Yahweh, trust in him;
he is your help and shield.

¹²Yahweh takes notice of us and will bless us;
he will bless the family of Israel;
he will bless the family of Aaron.

¹³He will bless those who honor him,
both young and old.

¹⁴May Yahweh increase your numbers more and more,
yours and your descendants'.

¹⁵May you be blessed by Yahweh,
who made heaven and earth.

¹⁶The heavens belong to Yahweh;
but the earth he has given to mankind.

¹⁷The dead do not praise Yahweh,
nor do any who go down into silence;

¹⁸But we will bless Yahweh
now and forevermore.
Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 116

¹I love Yahweh because he hears
my voice and my pleas for mercy.

²Because he listened to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.

³The cords of death surrounded me,
and the snares of Sheol confronted me;
I felt anguish and sorrow.

⁴Then I called on the name of Yahweh:
“Please Yahweh, rescue my life.”

⁵Yahweh is merciful and fair;
our God is compassionate.

⁶Yahweh protects the naive;
I was brought low, and he saved me.

⁷My soul can return to its resting place,
for Yahweh has been good to me.

⁸For you rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears,
and my feet from stumbling.

⁹I will serve Yahweh
in the land of the living.

¹⁰I believed in him, even when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted.”

¹¹In my confusion I said,
“All men are liars.”

¹²How can I repay Yahweh
for all his kindnesses to me?

¹³I will raise the cup of salvation,
and call on the name of Yahweh.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to Yahweh
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵Precious in the sight of Yahweh
is the death of his faithful ones.

¹⁶Yahweh, indeed, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your servant woman;
you have taken away my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and will call on the name of Yahweh.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to Yahweh
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹in the courts of Yahweh's house,
in your midst, Jerusalem.

Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 117

¹Praise Yahweh, all you nations;
exalt him, all you peoples.

²For his covenant faithfulness is great toward us,
and the trustworthiness of Yahweh endures forever.

Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 118

¹Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²Let Israel say,
"His covenant faithfulness endures forever."

³Let the house of Aaron say,
"His covenant faithfulness endures forever."

⁴Let the loyal followers of Yahweh say,
"His covenant faithfulness endures for ever."

⁵In my distress I called out to Yahweh;
Yahweh answered me and set me free.

⁶Yahweh is with me; I will not be afraid;
what can man do to me?

⁷Yahweh is on my side as my helper;
I will look in triumph on those who hate me.

⁸It is better to take shelter in Yahweh
than to put confidence in man.

⁹It is better to take refuge in Yahweh
than to put one's trust in a prince.

¹⁰All the nations surrounded me;
in Yahweh's name I cut them off.

¹¹They surrounded me; yes, they surrounded me;
in Yahweh's name I cut them off.

¹²They surrounded me like bees;
they disappeared as quickly as fire among thorns;
in Yahweh's name I cut them off.

¹³They attacked me to knock me down,
but Yahweh helped me.

¹⁴Yahweh is my strength and joy,
and he is the one who rescues me.

¹⁵The joyful shout of victory is heard in the tents of the righteous;
the right hand of Yahweh conquers.

¹⁶The right hand of Yahweh is exalted;
the right hand of Yahweh conquers.

¹⁷I will not die, but live
and declare the deeds of Yahweh.

¹⁸Yahweh has punished me harshly;
but he has not handed me over to death.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and I will give thanks to Yahweh.

²⁰This is the gate of Yahweh;
the righteous enter through it.

²¹I will give thanks to you, for you answered me,
and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

²³This is Yahweh's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day on which Yahweh has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵Please, Yahweh, give us victory!
Please, Yahweh, give us success!

²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of Yahweh;
we bless you from the house of Yahweh.

²⁷Yahweh is God, and he has given us light;
bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will exalt you.

²⁹Oh, give thanks to Yahweh; for he is good;
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

Psalm 119

ALEPH

¹Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who walk in the law of Yahweh.

²Blessed are they who keep his solemn commands,
who seek him with all their heart.

³They do no wrong;
they walk in his ways.

⁴You have commanded us to keep your instructions
so that we should carefully observe them.

⁵Oh, that I would be firmly established
in the observance of your statutes!

⁶Then I would not be put to shame
when I think of all your commandments.

⁷I will give thanks to you with an upright heart
when I learn your righteous decrees.

⁸I will observe your statutes;
do not leave me alone.

BETH

⁹How can a young person keep his path pure?
By obeying your word.

¹⁰With my whole heart I seek you;
Do not let me stray from your commandments.

¹¹I have stored up your word in my heart
so that I might not sin against you.

¹²Blessed you are, Yahweh;
teach me your statutes.

¹³With my mouth I have declared
all the righteous decrees that you have revealed.

¹⁴I rejoice in the way of your covenant decrees
more than in all riches.

¹⁵I will meditate on your instructions
and pay attention to your ways.

¹⁶I delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

GIMEL

¹⁷Be kind to your servant so that I may live
and keep your word.

¹⁸Open my eyes so that I may see

marvelous things in your law.

¹⁹I am a foreigner in the land;

do not hide your commandments from me.

²⁰My desires are crushed by the longing to know

your righteous decrees at all times.

²¹You rebuke the proud, who are cursed,

who wander from your commandments.

²²Spare me from disgrace and humiliation,

for I have obeyed your covenant decrees.

²³Though rulers plot and slander me,

your servant meditates on your statutes.

²⁴Your covenant decrees are my delight,

and they are my counselors.

DALETH

²⁵My life clings to the dust!

Give me life by your word.

²⁶I told you my ways, and you answered me;

teach me your statutes.

²⁷Make me understand the ways of your instructions,

so that I can meditate on your wondrous teachings.

²⁸I am overwhelmed with grief!

Strengthen me by your word.

²⁹Turn from me the path of deceit;

graciously teach me your law.

³⁰I have chosen the way of faithfulness;

I have always kept your righteous decrees before me.

³¹I cling to your covenant decrees;

Yahweh, do not let me be shamed.

³²I will run in the path of your commandments,

for you enlarge my heart to do so.

HE

³³Teach me, Yahweh, the way of your statutes,
and I will keep them to the end.

³⁴Give me understanding, and I will keep your law;
I will observe it with all my heart.

³⁵Guide me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight to walk in it.

³⁶Direct my heart toward your covenant decrees
and away from unrighteous gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
revive me in your ways.

³⁸Carry out for your servant your promise
that you made to those who honor you.

³⁹Take away the insults I dread,
for your righteous judgments are good.

⁴⁰See, I have longed for your instructions;
revive me in your righteousness.

VAV

⁴¹Yahweh, give me your unfailing love—
your salvation, according to your promise;

⁴²then I will have a reply for the one who mocks me,
for I trust in your word.

⁴³Do not take the word of truth from my mouth,
for my hope is in your righteous decrees.

⁴⁴I will observe your law continually,
forever and ever.

⁴⁵I will walk securely,
for I seek your instructions.

⁴⁶I will speak of your solemn commands before kings
and will not be ashamed.

⁴⁷I delight in your commandments,
which I love dearly.

⁴⁸I will lift up my hands to your commandments, which I love;
I will meditate on your statutes.

ZAYIN

⁴⁹Call to mind your promise to your servant
because you have given me hope.

⁵⁰This is my comfort in my affliction:
that your promise has kept me alive.

⁵¹The proud have scoffed at me,
yet I have not turned away from your law.

⁵²I have thought about your righteous decrees from ancient times, Yahweh,
and I comfort myself.

⁵³Hot anger has taken hold of me
because of the wicked who reject your law.

⁵⁴Your statutes have been my songs
in the house where I temporarily live.

⁵⁵I think about your name during the night, Yahweh,
and I keep your law.

⁵⁶This has been my practice
because I have observed your instructions.

HETH

⁵⁷Yahweh is my portion;
I have determined to observe your words.

⁵⁸I earnestly request your favor with my whole heart;
be merciful to me, as your word promised.

⁵⁹I examined my ways
and turned my feet to your covenant decrees.

⁶⁰I hurry and do not delay
to keep your commandments.

⁶¹The cords of the wicked have ensnared me;
I have not forgotten your law.

⁶²At midnight I rise to give thanks to you

because of your righteous decrees.

⁶³I am a companion of all who honor you,
to all who observe your instructions.

⁶⁴The earth, Yahweh, is full of your covenant faithfulness;
teach me your statutes.

TETH

⁶⁵You have done good to your servant,
Yahweh, by means of your word.

⁶⁶Teach me proper discernment and understanding,
for I have believed in your commandments.

⁶⁷Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I observe your word.

⁶⁸You are good, and you are one who does good;
teach me your statutes.

⁶⁹The arrogant have smeared me with lies,
but I keep your instructions with my whole heart.

⁷⁰Their hearts are hardened,
but I delight in your law.

⁷¹It is good for me that I have suffered
so that I would learn your statutes.

⁷²Instruction from your mouth is more precious to me
than thousands of pieces of gold and silver.

YOD

⁷³Your hands have made and fashioned me;
give me understanding so that I may learn your commandments.

⁷⁴Those who honor you will be glad when they see me
because I find hope in your word.

⁷⁵I know, Yahweh, that your decrees are just,
and that in faithfulness you afflicted me.

⁷⁶Let your covenant faithfulness comfort me,
as you promised your servant.

77Show me compassion so that I may live,
for your law is my delight.

78Let the proud be put to shame,
for they have slandered me;
but I will meditate on your instructions.

79May those who honor you turn to me,
those who know your covenant decrees.

80May my heart be blameless with respect to your statutes
so that I may not be put to shame.

KAPH

81I faint with longing that you might rescue me!
I hope in your word.

82My eyes long to see your promise;
when will you comfort me?

83For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke;
I do not forget your statutes.

84How long must your servant endure this;
when will you judge those who persecute me?

85The proud have dug pits for me,
defying your law.

86All your commandments are reliable;
those people persecute me wrongfully; help me.

87They have almost made an end to me on earth,
but I do not reject your instructions.

88By your steadfast love, keep me alive,
so that I may obey your commands.

LAMEDH

89Yahweh, your word stands forever;
your word is established firmly in heaven.

90Your faithfulness lasts for all generations;
you have established the earth, and it remains.

⁹¹All things continue to this day, just as you said in your righteous decrees,
for all things are your servants.

⁹²If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

⁹³I will never forget your instructions,
for through them you have kept me alive.

⁹⁴I am yours; save me,
for I seek your instructions.

⁹⁵The wicked prepare to destroy me,
but I will seek to understand your covenant decrees.

⁹⁶I have seen that everything has its limits,
but your commandments are broad, beyond limits.

MEM

⁹⁷Oh how I love your law!
It is my meditation all day long.

⁹⁸Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies,
for your commandments are always with me.

⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your covenant decrees.

¹⁰⁰I understand more than those older than I am;
this is because I have kept your instructions.

¹⁰¹I have kept my feet back from every evil path
so that I might observe your word.

¹⁰²I have not turned aside from your righteous decrees,
for you have instructed me.

¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste,
yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴Through your instructions I gain discernment;
therefore I hate every false way.

NUN

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet

and a light for my path.

106I have sworn and have confirmed it,
that I will observe your righteous decrees.

107I am very afflicted;
keep me alive, Yahweh, as you have promised in your word.

108Yahweh, please accept the freewill offerings of my mouth,
and teach me your righteous decrees.

109My life is always in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.

110The wicked have set a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from your instructions.

111I claim your covenant decrees as my heritage forever,
for they are the joy of my heart.

112My heart is set on obeying your statutes
forever to the very end.

SAMEKH

113I hate those who have a double mind,
but I love your law.

114You are my hiding place and my shield;
I hope in your word.

115Get away from me, you evil doers,
so that I may observe the commandments of my God.

116Sustain me by your word so that I may live
and not be ashamed of my hope.

117Support me, and I will be safe;
I will always meditate on your statutes.

118You reject all those who stray from your statutes,
for those people are deceptive and unreliable.

119You remove all the wicked of the earth like slag;
therefore I love your solemn commands.

120My body trembles in fear of you,

and I am afraid of your righteous decrees.

AYIN

121I do what is just and right;

do not abandon me to my oppressors.

122Guarantee the welfare of your servant;

do not let the proud oppress me.

123My eyes grow tired as I wait for your salvation

and for your righteous word.

124Show your servant your covenant faithfulness,

and teach me your statutes.

125I am your servant; give me understanding

so that I may know your covenant decrees.

126It is time for Yahweh to act,

for people have broken your law.

127Truly I love your commandments

more than gold, more than fine gold.

128Therefore I carefully follow all your instructions,

and I hate every path of falsehood.

PE

129Your rules are wonderful,

that is why I obey them.

130The unfolding of your words gives light;

it gives understanding to the untrained.

131I open my mouth and pant,

for I long for your commandments.

132Turn to me and have mercy on me,

as you always do for those who love your name.

133Direct my footsteps by your word;

do not let any sin rule me.

134Redeem me from human oppression

so that I may observe your instructions.

135 Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your statutes.

136 Streams of tears run down from my eyes
because people do not observe your law.

TSADHE

137 You are righteous, Yahweh,
and your decrees are fair.

138 You have given your covenant decrees righteously
and faithfully.

139 Anger has destroyed me
because my adversaries forget your words.

140 Your word has been tested very much,
and your servant loves it.

141 I am insignificant and despised,
yet I do not forget your instructions.

142 Your justice is forever right,
and your law is trustworthy.

143 Though distress and anguish have found me,
your commandments are still my delight.

144 Your covenant decrees are righteous forever;
give me understanding that I may live.

QOPH

145 I cried out with my whole heart, "Answer me, Yahweh,
I will keep your statutes.

146 I call to you; save me,
and I will observe your covenant decrees."

147 I rise before the dawn of the morning and cry for help.
I hope in your words.

148 My eyes are open before the night watches change
so that I might meditate on your word.

149 Hear my voice in your covenant faithfulness;

keep me alive, Yahweh, as you have promised in your righteous decrees.

150 Those who are persecuting me are coming closer to me,
but they are far from your law.

151 You are near, Yahweh,
and all your commandments are trustworthy.

152 Long ago I learned from your covenant decrees
that you had set them in place forever.

RESH

153 Look on my affliction and help me,
for I do not forget your law.

154 Plead my cause and redeem me;
keep me, as you have promised in your word.

155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not love your statutes.

156 Great are your merciful actions, Yahweh;
keep me alive, as you always do.

157 My persecutors and my foes are many,
yet I have not turned from your covenant decrees.

158 I view the treacherous with disgust
because they do not keep your word.

159 See how I love your instructions;
keep me alive, Yahweh, as you have promised by your covenant faithfulness.

160 The essence of your word is truth;
every one of your righteous decrees lasts forever.

SHIN

161 Princes persecute me without cause,
but my heart stands in awe of your word.

162 I rejoice at your word
like one who finds great plunder.

163 I hate and despise falsehood,
but I love your law.

164Seven times a day I praise you

because of your righteous decrees.

165Great peace they have, those who love your law;

nothing makes them stumble.

166I hope for your salvation, Yahweh,

and I obey your commandments.

167I observe your solemn commands,

and I love them greatly.

168I keep your instructions and your solemn commands,

for you are aware of everything I do.

TAV

169Listen to my cry for help, Yahweh;

give me understanding into your word.

170May my plea come before you;

help me, as you have promised in your word.

171May my lips pour out praise,

for you teach me your statutes.

172Let my tongue sing about your word,

for all your commandments are right.

173May your hand help me,

for I have chosen your instructions.

174I long for your rescue, Yahweh,

and your law is my delight.

175May I live and praise you,

and may your righteous decrees help me.

176I have wandered off like a lost sheep;

seek your servant,

for I have not forgotten your commandments.

Psalm 120

A song of ascents.

¹In my distress I called out to Yahweh,
and he answered me.
²Rescue my life, Yahweh, from those who lie with their lips
and deceive with their tongues.
³How will he punish you, and what more will he do to you,
you who have a lying tongue?
⁴He will punish you with the arrows of a warrior
sharpened over burning coals of the broom tree.
⁵Woe is me because I temporarily live in Meshech;
I lived previously among the tents of Kedar.
⁶For too long I have lived
with those who hate peace.
⁷I am for peace,
but when I speak, they are for war.

Psalm 121

A song of ascents.

¹I will lift up my eyes to the mountains.
From where will my help come?
²My help comes from Yahweh,
who made heaven and earth.
³He will not allow your foot to slip;
he who protects you will not slumber.
⁴See, the guardian of Israel
never slumbers or sleeps.
⁵Yahweh is your guardian;
Yahweh is the shade at your right hand.
⁶The sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
⁷Yahweh will protect you from all harm,
and he will protect your life.

⁸Yahweh will protect you in all you do
now and forevermore.

Psalm 122

A song of ascents, of David.

¹I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of Yahweh.”

²Jerusalem, our feet are standing
within your gates!

³Jerusalem, built
as a city carefully planned!

⁴The tribes go up to Jerusalem—the tribes of Yahweh—
as a testimony for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of Yahweh.

⁵There thrones of judgment were set,
thrones of the house of David.

⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
“May those who love you have peace.

⁷May there be peace within the walls that defend you,
and may they have peace within your fortresses.”

⁸For the sake of my brothers and my friends
I will say, “May there be peace within you.”

⁹For the sake of the house of Yahweh our God,
I will seek good for you.

Psalm 123

A song of ascents.

¹To you I lift up my eyes,
you who are enthroned in the heavens.

²See, as the eyes of servants look to their master's hand,
as the eyes of a maid look to her mistress's hand,

so our eyes look to Yahweh our God
until he has mercy on us.

³Have mercy on us, Yahweh, have mercy on us,
for we are filled with humiliation.

⁴We are more than full
of the scoffing of the insolent
and with the contempt of the proud.

Psalm 124

A song of ascents; of David.

¹"If Yahweh had not been on our side,"
let Israel say now,

²"if it had not been Yahweh who was on our side
when men rose up against us,

³then they would have swallowed us up alive
when their anger raged against us.

⁴The water would have swept us away;
the torrent would have overwhelmed us.

⁵Then the raging waters would have drowned us."

⁶Blessed be Yahweh,
who has not allowed us to be torn by their teeth.

⁷We have escaped like a bird out of the snare of the fowlers;
the snare has been broken, and we have escaped.

⁸Our help is in Yahweh,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 125

A song of ascents.

¹Those who trust in Yahweh
are like Mount Zion, unshakable, forever enduring.

²As the mountains surround Jerusalem,

so Yahweh surrounds his people
now and forever.

³The scepter of wickedness must not rule in the land of the righteous.

Otherwise the righteous might do what is wrong.

⁴Do good, Yahweh, to those who are good
and to those who are upright in their hearts.

⁵But as for those who turn aside to their crooked ways,
Yahweh will lead them away with the evildoers.

May peace be on Israel.

Psalm 126

A song of ascents.

¹When Yahweh restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

²Then our mouths were filled with laughter
and our tongues with singing.

Then they said among the nations,
"Yahweh has done great things for them."

³Yahweh did great things for us;
how glad we were!

⁴Restore our fortunes, Yahweh,
like the streams in the Negev.

⁵Those who sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy.

⁶He who goes out weeping, carrying seed for sowing,
will return again with shouts of joy, bringing his bundles of grain with him.

Psalm 127

A song of ascents, of Solomon.

¹Unless Yahweh builds the house,
they work uselessly, those who build it.

Unless Yahweh guards the city,

the watchman stands guard uselessly.

²It is useless for you to rise up early,
to come home late,
or to eat the bread of hard work,
for Yahweh provides for his beloved as they sleep.

³See, children are a heritage from Yahweh,
and the fruit of the womb is a reward from him.

⁴Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,
so are the children of one's youth.

⁵How blessed is the man that has his quiver full of them.
He will not be put to shame
when he confronts his enemies in the gate.

Psalm 128

A song of ascents.

¹Blessed is everyone who honors Yahweh,
who walks in his ways.

²What your hands provide, you will enjoy;
you will be blessed and prosper.

³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in your house;
your children will be like olive plants
as they sit around your table.

⁴Yes, indeed, the man will be blessed
who honors Yahweh.

⁵May Yahweh bless you from Zion;
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

⁶May you live to see your children's children.
May peace be on Israel.

Psalm 129

A song of ascents.

¹"Often since my youth they have attacked me,"
let Israel say.

²"Often since my youth they have attacked me,
yet they have not defeated me.

³The plowers plowed on my back;
they made their furrows long.

⁴Yahweh is righteous;
he has cut the ropes of the wicked."

⁵May they all be put to shame and turned back,
those who hate Zion.

⁶May they be like the grass on the housetops
that withers before it grows up,

⁷that cannot fill the reaper's hand
or the chest of the one who binds bundles of grain together.

⁸May those who pass by not say,
"May the blessing of Yahweh be on you;
we bless you in the name of Yahweh."

Psalm 130

A song of ascents.

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, Yahweh.

²Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears be attentive
to my pleas for mercy.

³If you, Yahweh, would mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴But there is forgiveness with you,
that you may be revered.

⁵I wait for Yahweh, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

⁷Israel, hope in Yahweh.
Yahweh is merciful,
and he is very willing to forgive.

⁸It is he who will redeem Israel
from all his sins.

Psalm 131

A song of ascents; of David.

¹Yahweh, my heart is not proud or my eyes haughty.
I do not have great hopes for myself
or concern myself with things that are beyond me.

²Indeed I have stilled and quieted my soul;
like a weaned child with his mother,
my soul within me is like a weaned child.

³Israel, hope in Yahweh
now and forever.

Psalm 132

A song of ascents.

¹Yahweh, for David's sake call to mind
all his afflictions.

²Call to mind how he swore to Yahweh,
how he vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob.

³He said, "I will not enter my house
or get into my bed,

⁴I will not give sleep to my eyes
or rest to my eyelids

⁵until I find a place for Yahweh,
a tabernacle for the Mighty One of Jacob."

⁶See, we heard about it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.

⁷We will go into God's tabernacle;
we will worship at his footstool.

⁸Arise, Yahweh, to your resting place,
you and the ark of your strength!

⁹May your priests be clothed with integrity;
may your faithful ones shout for joy.

¹⁰For your servant David's sake,
do not turn away from your anointed king.

¹¹Yahweh swore a sure oath to David,
a sure oath that he will not revoke:
"I will place one of your descendants on your throne.

¹²If your sons keep my covenant
and the laws that I will teach them,
their children also will sit on your throne forevermore."

¹³Certainly Yahweh has chosen Zion,
he has desired her for his seat.

¹⁴"This is my resting place forever.
I will live here, for I desire her.

¹⁵I will abundantly bless her with provisions.
I will satisfy her poor with bread.

¹⁶I will clothe her priests with salvation,
her faithful ones will shout aloud for joy.

¹⁷There I will make a horn to sprout for David
and set up a lamp for my anointed one.

¹⁸I will clothe his enemies with shame,
but on him his crown will shine."

Psalm 133

A song of ascents, of David.

¹Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
for brothers to live together!

²It is like fine oil on the head
pouring down on the beard—
Aaron's beard,
and then it pours down on the collar of his robes.

³It is like the dew of Hermon
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there Yahweh commanded the blessing—
life forevermore.

Psalm 134

A song of ascents.

¹Come, bless Yahweh, all you servants of Yahweh,
you who serve during the night in Yahweh's house.

²Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless Yahweh.

³May Yahweh bless you from Zion,
he who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 135

¹Praise Yahweh.
Praise the name of Yahweh.
Praise him, you servants of Yahweh,
²you who stand in Yahweh's house,
in the courtyards of the house of our God.

³Praise Yahweh, for he is good;
sing praises to his name, for it is pleasant to do so.

⁴For Yahweh has chosen Jacob for himself,
Israel as his possession.

⁵I know that Yahweh is great,

that our Lord is above all gods.

⁶Whatever Yahweh desires, he does
in heaven, on earth, in the seas and all the ocean depths.

⁷He brings the clouds from far away,
making lightning bolts accompany the rain
and bringing the wind out of his storehouse.

⁸He killed the firstborn of Egypt,
both of man and animals.

⁹He sent signs and wonders into your midst, Egypt,
against Pharaoh and all his servants.

¹⁰He attacked many nations
and killed mighty kings,

¹¹Sihon king of the Amorites
and Og king of Bashan
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.

¹²He gave us their land as an inheritance,
an inheritance to Israel his people.

¹³Your name, Yahweh, endures forever;
your renown, Yahweh, endures throughout all generations.

¹⁴For Yahweh defends his people
and has compassion on his servants.

¹⁵The nations' idols are silver and gold,
the work of men's hands.

¹⁶Those idols have mouths, but they do not speak;
they have eyes, but they do not see;

¹⁷they have ears, but they do not hear,
nor is there breath in their mouths.

¹⁸Those who make them are like them,
as is everyone who trusts in them.

¹⁹Descendants of Israel, bless Yahweh;
descendants of Aaron, bless Yahweh.

²⁰Descendants of Levi, bless Yahweh;
you who honor Yahweh, bless Yahweh.

²¹Blessed be Yahweh in Zion,
he who lives in Jerusalem.
Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 136

¹Oh, give thanks to Yahweh; for he is good,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²Oh, give thanks to the God of gods,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

³Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

⁴Give thanks to him who alone does great wonders,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

⁵to him who by wisdom made the heavens,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

⁶Give thanks to him who spread out the earth above the waters,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

⁷to him who made great lights,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

⁸Give thank to him who gave the sun to rule by day,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

⁹the moon and stars to rule by night,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

¹⁰Give thanks to him who killed the firstborn of Egypt,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

¹¹and brought out Israel from among them,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

¹²with a strong hand and a raised arm,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

¹³Give thanks to him who divided the Sea of Reeds,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

¹⁴and made Israel to pass through the middle of it,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

¹⁵but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Sea of Reeds,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

¹⁶Give thanks to him who led his people through the wilderness,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

¹⁷to him who killed great kings,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

¹⁸Give thanks to him who killed famous kings,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

¹⁹Sihon king of the Amorites,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

²⁰and Og king of Bashan,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²¹Give thanks to him who gave their land as an inheritance,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

²²an inheritance to Israel his servant,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

²³to him who called us to mind and helped us in our humiliation,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²⁴Give thanks to him who has given us victory over our enemies,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever—

²⁵who gives food to all living beings,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

²⁶Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his covenant faithfulness endures forever.

Psalm 137

¹By the rivers of Babylon

we sat down and wept
when we thought about Zion.

²On the poplars there
we hung our harps.

³There our captors required songs from us,
and those who mocked us required us to be happy, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”

⁴How could we sing a song about Yahweh
in a foreign land?

⁵If I ignore the memory of you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand forget her skill.

⁶Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth
if I think about you no more,
if I do not prefer Jerusalem
more than my greatest delights.

⁷Call to mind, Yahweh, what the Edomites did
on the day Jerusalem fell.
They said, “Tear it down, tear it down
to its foundations.”

⁸Daughter of Babylon, soon to be destroyed—
may the person be blessed, whoever pays you back
for what you have done to us.

⁹May the person be blessed, whoever takes and dashes your little ones
against a rock.

Psalm 138

A psalm of David.

¹I will give you thanks with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing praises to you.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your covenant faithfulness and for your trustworthiness.

You have made your word and your name more important than anything else.

³On the day that I called you, you answered me;
you made me bold and strengthened my soul.

⁴All the kings of the earth will give you thanks, Yahweh,
for they will hear the words from your mouth.

⁵Indeed, they will sing of the deeds of Yahweh,
for great is the glory of Yahweh.

⁶For though Yahweh is high, yet he cares for the lowly,
but the proud he knows from far off.

⁷Though I walk in the middle of danger, you will preserve my life;
you will reach out with your hand against the anger of my enemies,
and your right hand will save me.

⁸Yahweh is with me to the end;
your covenant faithfulness, Yahweh, endures forever.
Do not forsake the ones whom your hands have made.

Psalm 139

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh, you have examined me, and you know me.

²You know when I sit down and when I get up;
you understand my thoughts from far away.

³You observe my path and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

⁴For before there is a word on my tongue,
you know it completely, Yahweh.

⁵Behind me and before me you surround me
and place your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too much for me;
it is too high, and I cannot reach it.

⁷Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

⁸If I ascend up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, you are there.

⁹If I fly away on the wings of the morning
and go to live in the uttermost parts across the sea,

¹⁰even there your hand will lead me,
your right hand will hold on to me.

¹¹If I said, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
and the light will become night around me,"

¹²even the darkness would not be dark to you.
The night would shine like the day,
for the darkness and the light are both alike to you.

¹³You formed my inner parts;
you formed me in my mother's womb.

¹⁴I will praise you,
for I am wonderfully made.
My soul knows this very well.

¹⁵My bones were not hidden from you
when I was made in private,
when I was intricately made in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶You saw me inside the womb;
all the days assigned to me were recorded
in your book even before the first one happened.

¹⁷How precious are your thoughts to me, God!
How vast is their sum!

¹⁸If I tried to count them, they would be more in number than the sand.
When I awake, I am still with you.

¹⁹If only you would kill the wicked, God;
get away from me, you violent men.

²⁰They rebel against you and act deceitfully;
your enemies tell lies.

²¹Do I not hate those, Yahweh, who hate you?

Do I not despise those who rise up against you?

²²I hate them completely;

they have become my enemies.

²³Examine me, God, and know my heart;

test me and know my thoughts.

²⁴See if there is any wicked way in me,

and lead me in the everlasting way.

Psalm 140

For the chief musician. A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh, rescue me from the wicked;

preserve me from violent men.

²They plan evil in their hearts;

they cause battles every day.

³Their tongues wound like serpents;

vipers' poison is on their lips. *Selah*

⁴Keep me from the hands of the wicked, Yahweh;

preserve me from violent men

who plan to knock me over.

⁵The proud have set a trap for me;

they have spread a net;

they have set a snare for me. *Selah*

⁶I said to Yahweh, "You are my God;

listen to my cries for mercy."

⁷Yahweh, my Lord, you are powerfully able to save me;

you shield my head in the day of battle.

⁸Yahweh, do not grant the desires of the wicked;

do not let their plots succeed. *Selah*

⁹Those who surround me raise their heads;

let the mischief of their own lips cover them.

¹⁰Let burning coals fall on them;

throw them into the fire,
into bottomless pits, never more to rise.

¹¹May men of tongues not be made secure on the earth;
may evil hunt down the violent man to strike him dead.

¹²I know that Yahweh will judge in favor of the afflicted,
and that he will give justice to the needy.

¹³Surely the righteous people will give thanks to your name;
the upright people will live in your presence.

Psalm 141

A psalm of David.

¹Yahweh, I am crying out to you; come quickly to me.
Listen to me when I call to you.

²May my prayer be like incense before you;
may my lifted hands be like the evening sacrifice.

³Yahweh, place a guard over my mouth;
guard the door of my lips.

⁴Do not let my heart desire any evil thing
or participate in sinful activities
with men who behave wickedly.
May I not eat any of their delicacies.

⁵Let a righteous man hit me; it will be a kindness to me.
Let him correct me; it will be like oil on my head;
may my head not refuse to accept it.
But my prayer is always against their wicked deeds.

⁶Their leaders will be thrown down from the top of cliffs;
they will hear that my own words are pleasant.

⁷They will have to say, "As when one plows and breaks up the ground,
so our bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol."

⁸Surely my eyes are on you, Yahweh, Lord;
in you I take refuge; do not leave my soul defenseless.

⁹Protect me from the snares that they have laid for me,
from the traps of evildoers.

¹⁰Let the wicked fall into their own nets
while I escape.

Psalm 142

A maschil of David, when he was in the cave; a prayer.

¹With my voice I cry out for help to Yahweh;
with my voice I plead for Yahweh's favor.

²I pour out my lament before him;
I tell him my troubles.

³When my spirit is weak within me,
you know my path.

In the way that I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴I look to my right and see
that there is no one who cares about me.

There is no escape for me;
no one cares about my life.

⁵I called out to you, Yahweh;
I said, "You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living.

⁶Listen to my call,
for I have been brought very low;
rescue me from my persecutors,
for they are stronger than I.

⁷Bring my soul out of prison
so that I may give thanks to your name.
The righteous will gather around me
because you have been good to me."

Psalm 143

A psalm of David.

¹Hear my prayer, Yahweh; listen to my pleas.

Because of your faithfulness and righteousness, answer me!

²Do not enter into judgment with your servant,
for in your sight no one is righteous.

³The enemy has pursued my soul;
he has crushed me to the ground;
he has made me to live in darkness
like those who have been dead a long time.

⁴My spirit is overwhelmed within me;
my heart despairs.

⁵I call to mind the old days;
I meditate on all your deeds;
I reflect on your accomplishments.

⁶I spread my hands out to you;
my soul thirsts for you in a parched land. *Selah*

⁷Answer me quickly, Yahweh, because my spirit faints.
Do not hide your face from me,
or I will become like those who go down into the pit.

⁸Let me hear your covenant faithfulness in the morning,
for I trust in you.
Show me the way where I should walk,
for I lift up my soul to you.

⁹Rescue me from my enemies, Yahweh;
I flee to you to hide.

¹⁰Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.
May your good Spirit
lead me in the land of uprightness.

¹¹Yahweh, for your name's sake, keep me alive;

in your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.

¹²In your covenant faithfulness cut off my enemies
and destroy all the enemies of my life,
for I am your servant.

Psalm 144

A psalm of David.

¹Blessed be Yahweh, my rock,
who trains my hands for war
and my fingers for battle.

²You are my covenant faithfulness and my fortress,
my high tower and the one who rescues me,
my shield and the one in whom I take refuge,
the one who subdues nations under me.

³Yahweh, what is man that you take notice of him
or the son of man that you think about him?

⁴Man is like a breath;
his days are like a passing shadow.

⁵Cause the sky to sink and come down, Yahweh;
touch the mountains and make them smoke.

⁶Send flashes of lightning and scatter my enemies;
shoot your arrows and drive them back in confusion.

⁷Reach out your hand from above;
rescue me out of many waters,
from the hand of foreigners.

⁸Their mouths speak lies,
and their right hand is falsehood.

⁹I will sing a new song to you, God;
on a lute of ten strings I will sing praises to you,

¹⁰who give salvation to kings,
who rescued David your servant from an evil sword.

¹¹Rescue me and free me from the hand of foreigners.

Their mouths speak lies,
and their right hand is falsehood.

¹²May our sons be like plants who grow to full size in their youth
and our daughters like carved corner pillars, shapely like those of a palace.

¹³May our storehouses be full with every kind of produce,
and may our sheep produce thousands and ten thousands in our fields.

¹⁴Then our oxen will have many young.
No one will break through our walls; there will be no exile
and no outcry in our streets.

¹⁵Blessed is the people with such blessings;
happy is the people whose God is Yahweh.

Psalm 145

A psalm of praise. Of David.

¹I will extol you, my God, King;
I will bless your name forever and ever.

²Every day will I bless you;
I will praise your name forever and ever.

³Great is Yahweh and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

⁴One generation will praise your deeds to the next
and will proclaim your mighty actions.

⁵I will meditate on the majesty of your glory
and on your marvelous deeds.

⁶They will speak of the power of your awesome works,
and I will declare your greatness.

⁷They will declare your abounding goodness,
and they will sing about your righteousness.

⁸Yahweh is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in covenant faithfulness.

⁹Yahweh is good to all;
his tender mercies are over all his works.

¹⁰All you have made will give thanks to you, Yahweh;
your faithful ones will bless you.

¹¹They will speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and they will tell of your power.

¹²They will make known to mankind God's mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of his kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

¹⁴Yahweh supports all who are falling
and raises up all those who are bent over.

¹⁵The eyes of all wait for you;
you give them their food at the right time.

¹⁶You open your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷Yahweh is righteous in all his ways
and faithful in all he does.

¹⁸Yahweh is near to all those who call to him,
to all who call to him in trustworthiness.

¹⁹He fulfills the desire of those who honor him;
he hears their cry and saves them.

²⁰Yahweh watches over all those who love him,
but he will destroy all the wicked.

²¹My mouth will speak out the praise of Yahweh;
let all mankind bless his holy name forever and ever.

Psalm 146

¹Praise Yahweh.
Praise Yahweh, my soul.

²I give praise to Yahweh with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I exist.

³Do not put your trust in princes
or in mankind, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴When a person's life's breath stops, he returns to the ground;
on that day his plans end.

⁵Blessed is he who has the God of Jacob for his help,
whose hope is in Yahweh his God.

⁶Yahweh made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
he observes trustworthiness forever.

⁷He executes justice for the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

Yahweh frees the prisoners;

⁸Yahweh opens the eyes of the blind;
Yahweh raises up those who are bowed down;
Yahweh loves the righteous people.

⁹Yahweh protects the foreigners in the land;
he lifts up the fatherless and widow,
but he opposes the wicked.

¹⁰Yahweh will reign forever,
your God, Zion, for all generations.

Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 147

¹Praise Yahweh,
for it is good to sing praises to our God,
it is pleasant, and praise is suitable.

²Yahweh rebuilds Jerusalem,
he gathers together the scattered people of Israel.

³He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴He counts the stars,

he gives names to all of them.

⁵Great is our Lord and awesome in power,

his understanding cannot be measured.

⁶Yahweh lifts up the oppressed,

he brings the wicked down to the ground.

⁷Sing to Yahweh with thanksgiving,

sing praises to our God with a harp.

⁸He covers the heavens with clouds

and prepares rain for the earth,

making the grass to grow on the mountains.

⁹He gives food to the animals

and to the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰He finds no delight in the strength of a horse,

he takes no pleasure in the strong legs of a man.

¹¹Yahweh takes pleasure in those who honor him,

who hope in his covenant faithfulness.

¹²Praise Yahweh, Jerusalem,

praise your God, Zion.

¹³For he strengthens the bars of your gates,

he blesses your children among you.

¹⁴He brings prosperity inside your borders,

he satisfies you with the finest of wheat.

¹⁵He sends out his commandment to earth,

his command runs very swiftly.

¹⁶He makes the snow like wool,

he scatters the frost like ashes.

¹⁷He dispenses the hail like crumbs,

who can withstand the cold he sends?

¹⁸He sends out his command and melts them,

he makes the wind to blow and the water to flow.

¹⁹He proclaimed his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his righteous decrees to Israel.

²⁰He has not done so with any other nation,
and as for his decrees, they do not know them.

Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 148

¹Praise Yahweh.

Praise Yahweh, you in the heavens;
praise him, you in the heights.

²Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts.

³Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴Praise him, highest heaven
and you waters that are above the sky.

⁵Let them praise the name of Yahweh,
for he gave the command, and they were created.

⁶He has also established them forever and ever;
he issued a decree that will never change.

⁷Praise him from the earth,
you sea monsters and all ocean depths,

⁸fire and hail, snow and clouds,
stormy wind fulfilling his word.

⁹Praise him, mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars,

¹⁰animals wild and tame,
creatures that crawl and birds.

¹¹Praise Yahweh, kings of the earth and all nations,
princes and all who govern on the earth,

¹²both young men and young women,

elderly and children.

¹³Let them all praise the name of Yahweh,
for his name alone is exalted
and his glory extends over the earth and the heavens.

¹⁴He has lifted up the horn of his people
for praise from all his faithful ones,
the Israelites, the people near to him.
Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 149

¹Praise Yahweh.
Sing to Yahweh a new song;
sing his praise in the assembly of the faithful ones.

²Let Israel rejoice in the one who made them;
let the people of Zion rejoice in their king.

³Let them praise his name with dancing;
let them sing praises to him with tambourine and harp.

⁴For Yahweh takes pleasure in his people;
he glorifies the humble with salvation.

⁵Let the faithful ones rejoice in this honor;
let them sing for joy on their beds.

⁶May the praises of God be in their mouths
and a two-edged sword in their hand

⁷to execute vengeance on the nations
and acts of punishment on the peoples.

⁸They will bind their kings with chains
and their nobles with iron shackles.

⁹They will execute the judgment that is written.
This will be an honor for all his faithful ones.
Praise Yahweh.

Psalm 150

¹Praise Yahweh.

Praise God in his holy place;

praise him in the mighty heavens.

²Praise him for his mighty acts;

praise him for his surpassing greatness.

³Praise him with the blast of the horn;

praise him with lute and harp.

⁴Praise him with tambourines and dancing;

praise him with stringed instruments and wind instruments.

⁵Praise him with loud cymbals;

praise him with high sounding cymbals.

⁶Let everything that has breath praise Yahweh.

Praise Yahweh.

Proverbs

Chapter 1

¹The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, the king of Israel:

²To know wisdom and instruction,
to understand words of understanding;

³to receive instruction of insight,
righteousness and justice and equity;

⁴to give to naive ones prudence,
to a young man knowledge and discretion

⁵(a wise one will hear and increase learning,
and one who discerns will get directions),

⁶to understand a proverb and a satire,
the words of the wise and their riddles.

⁷The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge,
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

⁸Hear, my son, the instruction of your father
and do not forsake the teaching of your mother.

⁹For, they are a wreath of favor for your head
and necklace chains for your neck.

¹⁰My son, if sinners entice you,
do not consent.

¹¹If they say, "Come with us!
Let us lie in wait for blood.

Let us lie hidden for the innocent without cause.

¹²Let us swallow them, the living ones, like Sheol,
and the whole ones like those going down to a pit.

¹³We will find every precious wealth.
We will fill our houses with spoil.

14Cause your lot to fall in our midst;
one purse will be for all of us.”

15My son, do not walk in the way with them;
restrain your foot from their path.

16For their feet run to evil,
and they hurry to pour out blood.

17Surely in vain is the net spread out in the eyes of any owner of wing,

18but these men lie in wait for their blood;
they lie hidden for their lives.

19So are the ways of all who unjustly gain unjust gain;
it takes the life of its owner.

20Wisdom cries out in the street,
she gives her voice in the plazas.

21At the head of the tumultuous streets she calls out;
at the opening of the gates in the city she says her words,

22“Until when will the naive ones love naivety
and mockers delight in mockery for themselves
and fools hate knowledge?”

23Turn to my rebuke.
Behold, I shall pour out my spirit to you,
I shall cause you to know my words.

24Because I have called and you have refused,
I have stretched forth my hand and there was no heeding,

25and you have let go of all my counsel,
and you did not consent to my rebuke,

26I too will laugh in your disaster,
I will mock when your terror comes,

27when your terror comes like a storm
and your disaster comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.

28Then they will call out to me but I will not answer,

they will diligently seek me but they will not find me,
²⁹for the reason that they hate knowledge
and did not choose the fear of Yahweh,
³⁰they did not consent to my counsel,
and they despised my every rebuke.
³¹And they will eat from the fruit of their ways,
and from their schemes they will have their fill.
³²For the turning away of the naive will slay them
and ease will cause fools to perish.
³³But the one who listens to me will dwell securely
and will be at ease from the terror of evil.”

Chapter 2

¹My son, if you receive my words
and store up my commands with you—
²by causing your ear to be attentive to wisdom,
you incline your heart to understanding—
³indeed, if you call out for discernment,
you lift up your voice for understanding,
⁴if you seek it like silver
and search for it like hidden treasures,
⁵then you will understand the fear of Yahweh
and you will find the knowledge of God.
⁶For Yahweh gives wisdom,
knowledge and understanding are from his mouth.
⁷And he stores up prudence for the upright ones—
a shield for those walking with integrity,
⁸to guard the paths of justice,
he will keep the way of his faithful ones.
⁹Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity—
every good track.

¹⁰For wisdom will enter into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your self.

¹¹Discretion will watch over you,
understanding will guard you,
¹²to rescue you from the way of evil,
from a man who speaks perverse things,
¹³the ones who forsake the paths of uprightness
to walk in the ways of darkness,
¹⁴the ones who are joyful to do evil,
they rejoice in perverse things of evil,
¹⁵whose paths are crooked
and who are devious in their tracks;
¹⁶to rescue you from a strange woman,
from a foreign woman who makes her words smooth,
¹⁷the one who forsakes the companion of her youth
and has forgotten the covenant of her God.

¹⁸For her house sinks down to death
and her tracks to the spirits of the dead.

¹⁹All who enter her will not return
and they will not reach the paths of life.

²⁰So you shall walk in the way of the good ones
and you shall keep the paths of the righteous ones.

²¹For the upright ones will dwell in the land,
and the blameless ones will remain in it,
²²but wicked ones will be cut off from the land,
and those who act treacherously will be torn away from it.

Chapter 3

¹My son, do not forget my teaching,
and let your heart keep my commands.

²For they will add to you length of days and years of life and peace.

³Do not let covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness leave you,
tie them on your neck,

write them on the tablet of your heart,

⁴and you will find favor and good insight

in the eyes of God and mankind.

⁵Trust in Yahweh with all your heart

and do not lean on your understanding;

⁶in all your ways acknowledge him

and he will straighten your paths.

⁷Do not be wise in your eyes,

fear Yahweh and turn from evil.

⁸It will be healing for your navel

and refreshment for your bones.

⁹Honor Yahweh from your wealth

and from the firstfruits of all your produce,

¹⁰and your storehouses will be full with plenty

and your presses will burst open with new wine.

¹¹The instruction of Yahweh, my son, do not reject,

and do not abhor his rebuke.

¹²For Yahweh rebukes whom he loves,

and like a father he is pleased with a son.

¹³Blessed is the man who finds wisdom

and the man who obtains understanding.

¹⁴For better is its gain than the gain of silver,

and its produce than gold.

¹⁵She is more precious than corals,

and all your desired things do not compare with her.

¹⁶Length of days is in her right hand,

in her left hand are riches and honor.

¹⁷Her ways are ways of pleasantness

and all her paths are peace.

¹⁸She is a tree of life to the ones who take hold of her,
and those who grasp her are blessed.

¹⁹Yahweh founded the earth by wisdom,
he established the heavens by understanding.

²⁰By his knowledge the depths broke open
and the clouds dripped dew.

²¹My son, do not let them depart from your eyes,
guard prudence and discretion.

²²And they will be life for your soul
and favor for your neck.

²³Then you will walk your way to security
and your foot will not stumble.

²⁴When you lie down, you will not be in dread,
and you will lie down and your sleep will be pleasant.

²⁵Do not be afraid of sudden dread
and of the devastation of the wicked ones when it comes.

²⁶For Yahweh will be at your loins,
and he will keep your foot from capture.

²⁷Do not withhold good from its owner,
when it is in the power of your hand to act.

²⁸Do not say to your neighbor,
"Go and return, and tomorrow I will give it,"
and it is there with you.

²⁹Do not plot evil against your neighbor,
and he who is dwelling safely with you.

³⁰Do not contend with a man without cause,
if he has not done evil to you.

³¹Do not be envious of a man of violence
and do not choose any of his ways.

³²For the devious one is an abomination to Yahweh,
but his counsel is with the upright.

³³The curse of Yahweh is in the house of the wicked one,
but he blesses the abode of the righteous ones.

³⁴Though to the mockers he mocks,
yet to the humble he gives favor.

³⁵The wise ones will inherit honor,
but fools lift up dishonor.

Chapter 4

¹Hear, sons, the instruction of a father,
and listen attentively in order to know understanding.

²For I give good instruction to you;
do not forsake my teaching.

³When I was a son of my father,
the tender and only one before the face of my mother,

⁴then he taught me and said to me,
"Let your heart grasp my words;
keep my commands and live.

⁵Acquire wisdom, acquire understanding;
do not forget and do not turn from the words of my mouth.

⁶Do not abandon her and she will keep you;
love her and she will guard you.

⁷The beginning of wisdom: acquire wisdom!
And in all your acquisition acquire understanding.

⁸Exalt her and she will raise you up;
she will honor you when you embrace her.

⁹She will give a wreath of favor to your head;
she will bestow to you a crown of splendor."

¹⁰Listen, my son, and receive my words,
and they will multiply for you the years of life.

¹¹I taught you in the way of wisdom;
I caused you to tread in the tracks of uprightness.

¹²When you walk, your step will not be restricted;
and if you run, you will not stumble.

¹³Take hold of instruction, do not let go;
guard it, for it is your life.

¹⁴Do not enter in the path of wicked ones
and do not advance in the way of evil ones.

¹⁵Avoid it, do not pass through it;
turn aside from it and pass on.

¹⁶For they do not sleep if they do not do evil
and their sleep is robbed if they do not cause stumbling.

¹⁷For they eat the bread of wickedness
and they drink the wine of violent acts.

¹⁸But the path of the righteous ones is like a light of brightness,
going and shining until the day is established.

¹⁹The way of the wicked is like the darkness;
they do not know on what they stumble.

²⁰My son, listen attentively to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.

²¹Do not let them turn aside from your eyes;
keep them in the midst of your heart.

²²For they are life to those who find them
and healing to all of his flesh.

²³Guard your heart more than all keeping,
for from it are the sources of life.

²⁴Remove the crookedness of mouth from you,
and put far away from you the deviousness of lips.

²⁵Cause your eyes to look to the front,
and cause your eyelids to be straight in front of you.

²⁶Make level the track of your foot
and all your ways will be firm.

²⁷Do not turn aside to the right or to the left;

cause your foot to turn away from evil.

Chapter 5

¹My son, listen attentively to my wisdom,
incline your ear to my understanding,

²in order to keep discretion,
and your lips may guard knowledge.

³For the lips of a strange woman drip fresh honey
and her palate is smoother than oil,

⁴but her end is bitter like wormwood,
sharp like a two-edge sword.

⁵Her feet are going down to death;
her steps take hold of Sheol.

⁶Lest she make level the path of life,
she does not know her ways are unstable.

⁷And now, sons, listen to me;
and do not turn away from the words of my mouth.

⁸Keep your way far from near her
and do not come near to the opening of her house.

⁹Lest you give your splendor to others
and your years to a cruel one.

¹⁰Lest strangers be satisfied with your strength
and your toil be in the house of a foreigner,

¹¹and you groan at your end
when your flesh and your body cease.

¹²And you will say, "How I hated instruction
and my heart despised rebuke!

¹³And I did not listen to the voice of my teachers
and I did not incline my ear to those who taught me.

¹⁴I was almost in all evil,
in the midst of the assembly and the congregation."

- ¹⁵Drink water from your cistern
and flowing water from the midst of your well.
- ¹⁶Should your springs flow outside,
streams of water in the plazas?
- ¹⁷Let them be for you, for you alone,
and not for strangers with you.
- ¹⁸May your fountain be blessed,
and get joy from the wife of your youth.
- ¹⁹A doe of loves and a mountain goat of grace,
may her breasts drench you at every time;
may you continually stagger in her love.
- ²⁰And why would you stagger with a strange woman, my son,
and embrace the bosom of a foreign woman?
- ²¹For the ways of a man are in front of the eyes of Yahweh,
and are making level all of his paths.
- ²²His iniquities seize him, the wicked one;
and he is grasped by the cords of his sin.
- ²³He himself will die because there is no instruction;
and he staggers in the abundance of his foolishness.

Chapter 6

- ¹My son, if you made a pledge to your neighbor,
you clapped your palm for a stranger,
²you are ensnared by the words of your mouth,
you are caught by the words of your mouth,
³then do this, my son, and rescue yourself.
Since you have come into the palm of your neighbor,
go, humble yourself and importune your neighbor.
- ⁴Do not give sleep to your eyes
and slumber to your eyelids.
- ⁵Rescue yourself like a gazelle from a hand,

and like a bird from the hand of the trapper.

⁶Go to the ant, lazy one!

See its ways and be wise,

⁷that without a commander,

officer, or ruler for it,

⁸it prepares its bread in the summer,

it gathers its food in the harvest.

⁹Until when, lazy one, will you lie down?

When will you rise from your sleep?

¹⁰"A little sleep, a little slumber,

a little folding of the hands to lie down"—

¹¹and your poverty will come like one who walks

and your need like a man of shield.

¹²A person of worthlessness, a man of iniquity,

is one who goes around with crookedness of mouth,

¹³one who winks with his eyes, one who rubs with his foot,

one who points with his fingers.

¹⁴Perverse things are in his heart; plotting evil at every time,

he sends forth quarrels.

¹⁵Therefore his disaster will come suddenly,

in a moment he will be broken and without healing.

¹⁶Six things are they Yahweh hates,

and seven things are abominations of his self:

¹⁷uplifted eyes, a tongue of falsehood,

and hands that pour out innocent blood,

¹⁸a heart devising plans of iniquity,

feet hurrying to run to evil,

¹⁹a witness of falsehood who breathes out lies

and one who sends forth quarrels between brothers.

²⁰Guard, my son, the command of your father

and do not forsake the teaching of your mother.

²¹Bind them on your heart continually;
tie them around your neck.

²²When you go about, it will guide you;
when you lie down, it will watch over you;
and you will wake up, it will talk with you.

²³For the command is a lamp and the teaching is a light,
and the rebukes of instruction are the way of life,

²⁴to keep you from a woman of evil,
from the smoothness of the tongue of a foreign woman.

²⁵Do not desire her beauty in your heart
and do not let her take you with her eyelashes.

²⁶For the price of a woman who is a prostitute is as far as a loaf of bread,
but the wife of a man hunts a precious life.

²⁷Will a man snatch up a fire in his chest
and his clothes not be burned?

²⁸If a man walks on coals
then will his feet not be burned?

²⁹So is the one who enters into the wife of his neighbor:
every one who touches her will not be free of guilt.

³⁰They do not despise the thief
if he steals to satisfy his life when he is hungry.

³¹But if he is found, he will restore sevenfold;
he will give all the wealth of his house.

³²One who commits adultery with a woman is lacking of heart;
destroying his life, he himself does it.

³³He will find a wound and dishonor
and his shame will not be wiped out.

³⁴For jealousy is the heat of a man,
and he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

³⁵He will not lift up the face of any ransom,
and he will not be willing if you increase the bribe.

Chapter 7

¹My son, keep my words

and store up my commands with you.

²Keep my commands and live

and my teaching as the pupil of your eyes.

³Tie them on your fingers;

write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴Say to wisdom, "You are my sister,"

and call to understanding, "Kinsman,"

⁵in order to keep you from the strange woman,

from the foreign woman who makes her words smooth.

⁶For in the window of my house,

through the window lattice I looked down.

⁷And I saw among the naive,

I discerned among the sons a young man lacking of sense.

⁸Passing through the street beside her corner,

he strode the way of her house,

⁹in the twilight, in the evening of the day,

in the pupil of the night and darkness.

¹⁰And behold, a woman to meet him,

with the garment of a prostitute and guarded of heart.

¹¹(She is one who is loud and who is rebellious;

her feet do not stay in her house.

¹²At one time in the street, at another time in the plazas,

and beside every corner she lies in ambush.)

¹³And she grabbed him and kissed him,

she made her face strong and said to him,

¹⁴"The sacrifices of peace offerings were on me;

today I have completed my vows.

¹⁵Therefore, I came out to meet you,

to diligently seek your face and I found you.

¹⁶I have spread my bed with coverings,
colored ones, linen of Egypt.

¹⁷I have sprinkled my bed
with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

¹⁸Come, let us be saturated with loves until the morning;
let us delight ourselves with loves.

¹⁹For the man is not in his house;
he went on a road to a distance.

²⁰He took the bag of the silver in his hand;
he will enter his house to the day of the full moon.”

²¹She turned him with much of her teaching;
with the smoothness of her lips she compelled him.

²²Following after her suddenly,
like an ox he came to slaughter,
and like an anklet to the instruction of a fool,

²³until an arrow split his liver,
like a bird rushing into a trap,
and he did not know that it was in exchange for his life.

²⁴And now, my sons, listen to me;
and listen attentively to the words of my mouth.

²⁵Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways;
do not wander into her paths.

²⁶For she has caused many pierced ones to fall,
and numerous are all her slain ones.

²⁷Her house is the ways of Sheol,
descending to the rooms of death.

Chapter 8

¹Does not wisdom call out
and understanding give her voice?

²At the heads of the heights, on the road,
the house of travelers, she stations herself.

³To the hand of the gates, to the mouth of the city,
the entrance of the openings, she cries out.

⁴"To you, men, I call;
and my voice is to the sons of mankind.

⁵Understand prudence, naive ones,
and fools, understand heart.

⁶Listen, for I will speak noble things,
and the opening of my lips will be upright things.

⁷For my palate will utter truth,
and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

⁸All the words of my mouth are in righteousness;
there is nothing twisted or perverse in them.

⁹All of them are straight things for the one who is discerning
and upright things for those who find knowledge.

¹⁰Receive my instruction and not silver,
and knowledge more than choice gold.

¹¹For wisdom is better than corals
and all desired things do not compare with her.

¹²I, Wisdom, I dwell with prudence
and I find knowledge and discretion.

¹³The fear of Yahweh is hating evil.
I hate pride and arrogance and the evil way
and the mouth of perverse things.

¹⁴Counsel and prudence belong to me;
I am understanding; strength belongs to me.

¹⁵By me kings reign and weighty ones decree righteousness.

¹⁶By me rulers rule,
and nobles, all judges of righteousness.

¹⁷As for me, I love those who love me,

and those who diligently seek me will find me.

¹⁸Riches and honor are with me,
lasting wealth and righteousness.

¹⁹My fruit is better than gold, and than refined gold,
and my produce than choice silver.

²⁰I walk in the path of righteousness,
in the midst of the paths of justice,

²¹to cause those who love me to inherit substance;
and I will fill their treasuries.

²²Yahweh possessed me at the beginning of his way,
before his works from then.

²³From eternity I was installed,
from the head, from the earliest times of the earth.

²⁴When there were no depths, I was brought forth,
when there were no springs made heavy with water.

²⁵Before the mountains were settled,
before the face of the hills, I was brought forth,

²⁶before he made the earth or the outside places
or the head of the dust of the world.

²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he inscribed a circle over the face of the deep.

²⁸When he made the clouds firm from above,
when the springs of the deep became strong,

²⁹when he set for the sea its limit,
and waters do not pass over his mouth,

when he inscribed the foundations of the earth,

³⁰then I was beside him faithfully,

and I was a delight day by day,
frolicking before his face at every time.

³¹Frolicking in the world of his earth,
my delight was with the sons of mankind.

³²And now, sons, listen to me,
and blessed are they who keep my ways.

³³Hear instruction,
and be wise, and do not let go of it.

³⁴Blessed is the man who listens to me,
watching over my doors day by day,
keeping the doorposts of my entrance.

³⁵For those who find me are those who find life,
and he obtains favor from Yahweh.

³⁶But one who misses me is one who does violence to his life;
all who hate me love death."

Chapter 9

¹Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn out her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her slaughter, she has mixed her wine,
also she has set her table.

³She has sent out her female servants,
she calls out on the tops of the heights of the city.

⁴"Whoever is naive, let him turn aside here,"
she says to him lacking of heart.

⁵"Come, eat my bread,
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Forsake naive things and live;
and go straight in the way of understanding.

⁷One who instructs a mocker receives shame for himself,
and one who rebukes a wicked one, his injury.

⁸Do not rebuke a mocker, lest he hate you;
rebuke a wise one and he will love you.

⁹Give to a wise one and he will become more wise;
cause the righteous one to know and he will increase learning.

¹⁰The beginning of wisdom is the fear of Yahweh
and knowledge of the holy one is understanding.

¹¹For by me your days will become many,
and years of life will be added to you.

¹²If you are wise, you are wise for yourself,
and if you mock, you will bear it, you alone.”

¹³The woman of foolishness is loud,
naive and she does not know anything.

¹⁴And she sits at the opening of her house,
on a seat, the heights of the city,

¹⁵to call to those who pass over the way,
the ones going straight on their paths.

¹⁶“Whoever is naive, let him turn aside here!”
And she says to him, the lacking of heart,

¹⁷“Stolen waters are sweet,
and bread of secrecies is pleasant.”

¹⁸And he does not know that the spirits of the dead are there;
her called ones are in the depths of Sheol.

Chapter 10

¹The proverbs of Solomon:

A wise son causes a father to rejoice
but a foolish son is the grief of his mother.

²Treasures of wickedness do not profit,
but righteousness delivers from death.

³Yahweh does not let the life of the righteous one hunger
but he thrusts away the desire of the wicked ones.

⁴A palm of slackness makes poverty,
but the hand of diligent ones makes rich.

⁵One who gathers in the summer is a son who acts prudently,
but one who sleeps in the harvest is a son who causes shame.

- ⁶Blessings are for the head of the righteous one,
but the mouth of the wicked ones covers violence.
- ⁷The memory of the righteous one is for a blessing,
but the name of the wicked ones will rot.
- ⁸The wise of heart receive commands
but the fool of lips will be thrust down.
- ⁹One who walks in integrity will walk securely,
but one who causes his ways to be crooked will be known.
- ¹⁰One who winks an eye gives pains,
and the fool of lips will be thrust down.
- ¹¹The mouth of the righteous one is a spring of life,
but the mouth of the wicked ones covers violence.
- ¹²Hatred stirs up quarrels,
but love covers all transgressions.
- ¹³Wisdom is found on the lips of one who is discerning,
but a rod is for the back of the lacking of heart.
- ¹⁴Wise men store up knowledge,
but the mouth of a fool is near ruin.
- ¹⁵The wealth of the rich one is the city of his strength;
the ruin of lowly ones is their poverty.
- ¹⁶The wage of the righteous one is to life;
the income of the wicked one is to sin.
- ¹⁷One who keeps instruction is on a path to life
but one who rejects rebuke goes astray.
- ¹⁸One who covers hate with lips of falsehood
and causes an evil report to go forth, he is a fool.
- ¹⁹With a multitude of words transgression does not cease,
but one who restrains his lips is prudent.
- ²⁰The tongue of the righteous one is choice silver;
the heart of the wicked ones is like little.
- ²¹The lips of the righteous one shepherd many,

but fools die for lacking heart.

²²The blessing of Yahweh, it causes to become rich,
and he does not add pain with it.

²³Doing a wicked plan is like laughter for a fool,
but wisdom is for a man of understanding.

²⁴The terror of the wicked one, it will come to him,
but the desire of the righteous ones will be given.

²⁵Like the passing over of a whirlwind, there is no wicked one,
but a righteous one is a foundation of eternity.

²⁶Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes,
so is the lazy one to one who sends him.

²⁷The fear of Yahweh will increase days,
but the years of the wicked ones will be short.

²⁸The hope of the righteous ones is joy,
but the expectation of the wicked ones will perish.

²⁹The way of Yahweh is a stronghold for the one with integrity,
but ruin is for those who do iniquity.

³⁰A righteous one will not be shaken to eternity,
but wicked ones will not dwell in the land.

³¹The mouth of the righteous one bears the fruit of wisdom,
but the tongue of the perverse ones will be cut off.

³²The lips of the righteous one know favor,
but the mouth of the wicked ones, perverse things.

Chapter 11

¹Scales of deceit are an abomination of Yahweh
but a full stone is his delight.

²When pride comes then disgrace comes,
but with modest ones is wisdom.

³The integrity of the upright ones will guide them
but the crookedness of the treacherous ones will destroy them.

- ⁴Wealth will not profit in the day of wrath,
but righteousness will deliver from death.
- ⁵The righteousness of a blameless one will make his way straight,
but a wicked one will fall by his wickedness.
- ⁶The righteousness of the upright ones will deliver them,
but treacherous ones will be captured by desire.
- ⁷In the death of a wicked man hope will perish,
and the expectation of strong ones perishes.
- ⁸A righteous one will be drawn away from distress,
but a wicked one will enter instead of him.
- ⁹With a mouth a godless one will destroy his neighbor,
but with knowledge righteous ones will be delivered.
- ¹⁰In the good of the righteous ones a city will rejoice;
and when wicked ones perish there will be a shout of joy.
- ¹¹With the blessing of the upright ones a city will be exalted,
but with the mouth of the wicked ones it will be thrown down.
- ¹²One who despises his neighbor is lacking of heart,
but a man of understanding will keep quiet.
- ¹³One who goes about in slander is one who uncovers a secret,
but one who is faithful of spirit is one who covers a matter.
- ¹⁴When there are no directions a people will fall,
but salvation is in an abundance of counsel.
- ¹⁵He will certainly be hurt if he pledges for a stranger,
but one who hates hand claps is secure.
- ¹⁶A woman of grace will grasp honor,
but ruthless ones will grasp riches.
- ¹⁷A man of kindness is one who rewards his self,
but a cruel one is one who troubles his flesh.
- ¹⁸A wicked one makes a wage of falsehood,
but one who sows righteousness, a wage of truth.
- ¹⁹Thus, righteousness is to life,

but one who pursues evil is to his death.

²⁰The abomination of Yahweh is those perverse of heart,
but his delight is those blameless of way.

²¹Hand to hand wicked ones will not be free of guilt,
but the seed of the righteous ones will slip away.

²²A ring of gold in the nose of a pig
is a beautiful woman that turns away from discretion.

²³The desire of the righteous ones is only good;
the hope of the wicked ones is fury.

²⁴There is one who scatters and increases more,
but one who withholds more than what is right is only for poverty.

²⁵A person of blessing will be fattened,
and the one who drenches, also he will be drenched.

²⁶People will curse one who withholds grain,
but a blessing is for the head of one who sells.

²⁷One who diligently seeks good seeks favor,
but one who seeks evil, it will come to him.

²⁸One who trusts in his riches, he will fall,
but like a leaf righteous ones will flourish.

²⁹One who troubles his house will inherit wind,
and a fool will be a servant to the wise of heart.

³⁰The fruit of the righteous one is a tree of life,
and one who takes lives is wise.

³¹Behold, a righteous one in the land will be repaid,
how much more a wicked one and one who sins!

Chapter 12

¹One who loves instruction loves knowledge,
but one who hates rebuke is stupid.

²A good one obtains favor from Yahweh,
but a man of schemes he will condemn.

- ³A man will not be established by wickedness,
but the root of the righteous ones will not be shaken.
- ⁴A wife of strength is the crown of her master,
but she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones.
- ⁵The thoughts of the righteous ones are justice;
the directions of the wicked ones are deceit.
- ⁶The words of the wicked ones are an ambush of blood,
but the mouth of the upright ones will deliver them.
- ⁷Wicked ones are overthrown and they are not,
but the house of the righteous ones will stand.
- ⁸A man will be praised for the mouth of his insight,
but one who is twisted of heart will be to contempt.
- ⁹It is better to be lightly esteemed and a servant belong to him
than to honor oneself and be lacking of bread.
- ¹⁰A righteous one is one who knows the life of his animal,
but the compassion of the wicked ones is cruel.
- ¹¹Bread will satisfy one who works his ground,
but one who pursues empty things is lacking of heart.
- ¹²A wicked one desires the snare of evil ones,
but the root of the righteous ones will give.
- ¹³In the transgression of lips is the snare of the evil one,
but a righteous one will go out from distress.
- ¹⁴From the fruit of the mouth of a man will he be satisfied with good,
and the work of the hands of a man will return to him.
- ¹⁵The way of a fool is right in his eyes,
but a wise one listens to counsel.
- ¹⁶A fool, his anger is known on the day,
but a prudent one covers dishonor.
- ¹⁷Who breathes out faithfulness reports what is right,
but a witness of falsehoods is deceitful.
- ¹⁸There is one who speaks thoughtlessly like the thrusts of a sword,

but the tongue of the wise ones is healing.

¹⁹A lip of truth will be established to perpetuity,
but a tongue of falsehood until I blink.

²⁰Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil,
but joy is for those who advise peace.

²¹Any iniquity will not be allowed to happen to the righteous one,
but wicked ones are full of evil.

²²Lips of falsehood are an abomination of Yahweh,
but those who do faithfulness are his delight.

²³A prudent man covers knowledge,
but the heart of fools proclaims folly.

²⁴The hand of the diligent ones will rule
but a slack one will become a forced laborer.

²⁵Anxiety in the heart of a man weighs it down,
but a good word causes it to rejoice.

²⁶A righteous one searches out from his neighbor,
but the way of wicked ones will lead them astray.

²⁷A negligent one will not roast his game,
but the wealth of a man is precious for a diligent one.

²⁸In the path of righteousness is life,
and the way of the path is no death.

Chapter 13

¹A wise son, the instruction of a father,
but a mocker does not listen to rebuke.

²From the fruit of the mouth of a man he eats good,
but the appetite of the treacherous ones is violence.

³One who guards his mouth is one who keeps his life;
one who opens his lips is ruin for himself.

⁴A lazy one, his appetite is craving and there is nothing,
but the appetite of the diligent ones will be fattened.

- ⁵A righteous one hates a word of falsehood,
but a wicked one causes a stink and causes shame.
- ⁶Righteousness guards the blameless of way,
but wickedness overthrows a sinful one.
- ⁷There is one who pretends to be rich but there is nothing at all;
one who pretends to be poor but has great wealth.
- ⁸The ransom of the life of a man is his riches,
but one who is poor does not hear a rebuke.
- ⁹The light of the righteous ones will rejoice,
but the lamp of the wicked ones will be extinguished.
- ¹⁰Only with pride gives strife,
but with those who are counseled, wisdom.
- ¹¹Wealth from vanity will dwindle,
but one who gathers by hand will increase.
- ¹²Hope delayed makes the heart sick,
but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.
- ¹³One who despises a word will be pledged to it,
but the fearful of a command, he will be rewarded.
- ¹⁴The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life,
to turn away from the snares of death.
- ¹⁵Good insight gives favor,
but the way of those who act treacherously is permanent.
- ¹⁶Every prudent one acts with knowledge,
but a fool displays folly.
- ¹⁷A wicked messenger falls into evil,
but an envoy of faithfulness is healing.
- ¹⁸One who lets go of instruction, poverty and shame,
but one who keeps a rebuke will be honored.
- ¹⁹A desire that occurs will be pleasing to the self,
but the abomination of fools is turning away from evil.
- ²⁰One who walks with wise ones will be wise,

but one who associates with fools will be hurt.

²¹Evil will pursue sinners,

but goodness will reward the righteous.

²²A good one will cause sons of sons to inherit,

but the strength of the one who sins is being stored up for the righteous one.

²³Much food is the unplowed field of those who are poor,

but there is a being swept away without justice.

²⁴One who withholds his rod hates his son,

but one who loves him seeks him diligently with discipline.

²⁵A righteous one eats to the satisfaction of his spirit,

but the stomach of the wicked ones will be empty.

Chapter 14

¹The wise ones of women, she builds her house,
but a foolish woman tears it down with her hands.

²One who walks in his uprightness fears Yahweh
but one who is crooked in his ways despises him.

³In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride,
but the lips of the wise ones will preserve them.

⁴Where there are no cattle is a trough of grain,
but an abundance of crops is by the strength of an ox.

⁵A witness of faithfulness will not lie,
but a witness of falsehood breathes out lies.

⁶A mocker seeks wisdom and there is none,
but knowledge is easy for one who discerns.

⁷Go from before a man of foolishness,
for you will not know lips of knowledge.

⁸The wisdom of a prudent one is understanding his way,
but the foolishness of fools is deceit.

⁹Fools mock the guilt offering,
but between upright ones is favor.

- 10**The heart is knowing the bitterness of its self,
and in its joy a stranger will not share.
- 11**The house of the wicked ones will be destroyed,
but the tent of the upright ones will flourish.
- 12**There is a right way before the face of a man,
but its end is the ways of death.
- 13**A heart may be in pain even in laughter,
and the end of joy may be grief.
- 14**The turning away of heart will be satisfied from his ways,
but a good man from on him.
- 15**The naive one believes every thing,
but the prudent one discerns his step.
- 16**A wise one is one who fears and turns away from evil,
but the fool is one who makes himself furious and is being confident.
- 17**One short of nostrils does foolishness,
and a man of schemes is hated.
- 18**Naive ones inherit foolishness,
but prudent ones will wear a crown of knowledge.
- 19**Evil ones will bow down before the face of good ones,
and wicked ones at the gates of the righteous one.
- 20**One who is poor is hated even by his neighbor,
but those who love the rich are many.
- 21**One who sins despises his neighbor,
but one who shows favor to afflicted ones, he is blessed.
- 22**Do not those who plan evil go astray?
But covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness are to those who plan good.
- 23**With all toil there is profit,
but the word of lips is only for poverty.
- 24**The crown of the wise ones is their riches;
the foolishness of fools is foolishness.
- 25**A witness of truth rescues lives,

but one who breathes out lies is deceitful.

²⁶In the fear of Yahweh is the confidence of the strong one,
and he will be a refuge for his sons.

²⁷The fear of Yahweh is a fountain of life,
to turn away from the snares of death.

²⁸The splendor of a king is in the abundance of the people,
but with the end of the populace the potentate is ruined.

²⁹One long of nose is abundant in understanding,
but one short of spirit is one who exalts foolishness. ³⁰A heart of healing is the life of the body,
but envy is the decay of bones.

³¹One who oppresses a lowly one taunts him who made him,
but one showing favor to a needy one honors him.

³²The wicked one will be thrust down by his evil,
but the righteous one seeks refuge in his death.

³³Wisdom will rest in the heart of one who is discerning,
but she will become known in the midst of fools.

³⁴Righteousness raises a nation,
but sin is the shame of peoples.

³⁵The delight of a king is for the servant who acts prudently
but his fury will be for one who acts shamefully.

Chapter 15

¹A gentle answer turns back heat,
but a word of pain lifts up a nose.

²The tongue of the wise ones deals well with knowledge,
but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.

³The eyes of Yahweh are in every place,
keeping watch on evil ones and good ones.

⁴A healing tongue is a tree of life,
but deceit in it is a crushing in the spirit.

⁵A fool spurns the instruction of his father,

but one who keeps rebuke is prudent.

⁶The house of the righteous one is much wealth,
but the produce of the wicked one is being troubled.

⁷The lips of the wise ones scatter knowledge,
but the heart of fools is not so.

⁸The sacrifice of the wicked ones is an abomination of Yahweh,
but the prayer of the upright ones is his delight.

⁹An abomination of Yahweh is the way of the wicked one,
but he loves one who pursues righteousness.

¹⁰Painful discipline is for one who forsakes the path;
one who hates rebuke will die.

¹¹Sheol and Abaddon are before Yahweh;
how much more the hearts of the sons of mankind?

¹²A mocker does not love rebuking of him;
he will not go to the wise ones.

¹³A joyful heart makes a face glad,
but by the pain of the heart a spirit is stricken.

¹⁴The heart of one who is discerning seeks knowledge,
but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

¹⁵All the days of the afflicted one are evil,
but the good of heart has a feast continually.

¹⁶Better is a little with the fear of Yahweh
than much treasure and with it dismay.

¹⁷Better is a meal of vegetables and love is there
than a fattened ox and with it hatred.

¹⁸A man of heat stirs up a quarrel,
but the long of nostrils will quiet a dispute.

¹⁹The path of the lazy one is like a hedge of thorn bushes,
but the path of the upright ones is a built-up one.

²⁰A wise son causes a father to rejoice,
but a foolish man despises his mother.

- ²¹Foolishness is a joy to the lacking of sense,
but the man of understanding makes going straight.
- ²²Plans are broken with no counsel,
but with a multitude of counselors it will stand.
- ²³Joy is for the man with the answer of his mouth,
and how good is a word in its time.
- ²⁴The path of life is upward for one who is prudent,
in order to turn away from Sheol below.
- ²⁵Yahweh will tear down the house of the proud ones,
but he will set up the boundary of the widow.
- ²⁶Thoughts of evil are an abomination of Yahweh,
but words of pleasantness are pure ones.
- ²⁷One who unjustly gains unjust gain is one who troubles his house,
but one who hates bribes will live.
- ²⁸The heart of the righteous one considers how to answer,
but the mouth of the wicked ones pours out evil.
- ²⁹Yahweh is far from wicked ones,
but he hears the prayer of the righteous ones.
- ³⁰The luminary of the eyes causes the heart to rejoice;
good news fattens the bone.
- ³¹An ear that hears the rebuke of life
will lodge among the wise.
- ³²One who lets go of instruction is one who despises his life,
but one who hears rebuke is one who acquires heart.
- ³³The fear of Yahweh is instruction of wisdom,
and humility is before the face of honor.

Chapter 16

- ¹The plans of the heart are for a man,
but the answer of the tongue is from Yahweh.
- ²All the ways of a man are pure in his eyes,

but Yahweh weighs the spirits.

³Roll your works to Yahweh
and your plans will be established.

⁴Yahweh has made all for its answer
and even the wicked one for the day of evil.

⁵Every high one of heart is an abomination of Yahweh,
hand to hand he will not be free of guilt.

⁶By covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness is iniquity covered,
and by the fear of Yahweh is turning away from evil.

⁷When Yahweh is pleased with the ways of a man,
he causes even his enemies to make peace with him.

⁸Better is a little with righteousness
than much produce with no justice.

⁹The heart of man plans his way,
but Yahweh establishes his step.

¹⁰Divination is on the lips of a king,
in judgment his mouth will not act unfaithfully.

¹¹A scale and balances of justice are for Yahweh;
all the stones of the bag are his work.

¹²Doing wickedness is an abomination of kings,
for by righteousness is a throne established.

¹³The delight of kings are lips of righteousness,
and he loves one who speaks uprightly.

¹⁴The heat of a king is messengers of death,
but a wise man will appease it.

¹⁵In the light of the face of the king is life,
and his favor is like a spring rain cloud.

¹⁶How better to acquire wisdom than gold,
and to acquire understanding is more choice than silver.

¹⁷The highway of the upright ones turns from evil;
one who guards his life is one who protects his way.

- 18**Pride is before the face of breaking,
and a height of spirit is before the face of a stumbling.
- 19**It is better to be lowly of spirit with afflicted ones
than to divide spoil with proud ones.
- 20**One who acts prudently concerning a matter will find good,
and ones who trusts in Yahweh, blessed is he.
- 21**One who is discerning will be called wise of heart,
and the sweetness of lips increases learning.
- 22**The prudence of its owner is a fountain of life,
but the instruction of fools is foolishness.
- 23**The heart of the wise makes his mouth prudent,
and on his lips it increases learning.
- 24**Words of pleasantness are a honeycomb,
sweet to the self and healing to the bone.
- 25**There is a right way before the face of a man
and its end is the ways of death.
- 26**The appetite of the laborer labors for him,
for his mouth presses on him.
- 27**A man of worthlessness digs up evil
and on his lips it is like a scorching fire.
- 28**A man of perverse things lets loose strife,
and one who whispers is one who separates close friends.
- 29**A man of violence persuades his neighbor,
and he leads him in a way that is not good.
- 30**One who winks his eyes plans perverse things;
one who compresses his lips brings evil to completion.
- 31**Gray hair is a crown of splendor;
it is found in the way of righteousness.
- 32**Better is one long of nostrils than a mighty one,
and one who rules his spirit than one who captures a city.
- 33**A lot is thrown down into the lap,

but all its judgment is from Yahweh.

Chapter 17

¹Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it
than a house full of sacrifices of strife.

²A servant who acts prudently will rule over a son who acts shamefully
and in the midst of brothers he will share an inheritance.

³The melting-pot is for silver and the furnace is for gold,
and Yahweh tests hearts.

⁴One who does evil listens attentively to the lips of iniquity;
a liar listens to a tongue of destruction.

⁵One who mocks one who is poor taunts him who made him;
one rejoicing at calamity will not be free of guilt.

⁶The crown of old ones is sons of sons,
and the splendor of sons is their fathers.

⁷A lip of excess is not suitable for a fool;
how much less a lip of falsehood for a noble.

⁸A stone of favor is a bribe in the eyes of its owner;
he succeeds to all that he turns.

⁹One who covers transgression is one who seeks love,
but one who repeats a matter is one who separates close friends.

¹⁰A rebuke goes down into one who is discerning
more than a hundred blows to a fool.

¹¹An evil one seeks only rebellion,
but a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

¹²Meet a female bear robbed of offspring by a man
and not a fool in his foolishness!

¹³One who returns evil for good,
evil will not depart from his house.

¹⁴The beginning of a quarrel is the releasing of water,
so leave before the dispute breaks out.

¹⁵One who declares the wicked one righteous and one who declares the righteous one wicked,
even the two of them are an abomination of Yahweh.

¹⁶Why is this: a price is in the hand of a fool
to acquire wisdom but there is no heart?

¹⁷At every time the friend is one who loves,
and a brother is born for distress.

¹⁸A man lacking of heart is one who claps a palm,
pledging a pledge before the face of his neighbor.

¹⁹One who loves transgression is one who loves strife;
one who makes his doorway high is one who seeks brokenness.

²⁰One perverse of heart will not find goodness,
and one who is turned away in his tongue will fall into evil.

²¹One who begets a fool, it is to grief for him,
and the father of a fool will not rejoice.

²²A joyful heart will make healing good,
but a broken spirit dries up bone.

²³A wicked one takes a bribe from the bosom
to turn the paths of justice.

²⁴Wisdom is with the face of one who is discerning,
but the eyes of a fool are at the ends of the earth.

²⁵A son of a fool is a grief to his father
and bitterness to her who bore him.

²⁶Even to fine the righteous is not good,
to strike nobles is against uprightness.

²⁷One who knows knowledge is one who restrains his words,
and a man of understanding is cool of spirit.

²⁸Even a fool who keeps silent will be considered wise;
one who shuts his lips is being discerning.

Chapter 18

¹One who separates himself seeks for desire;

he bursts out against all prudence.

²A fool does not delight in understanding
but rather in his heart revealing itself.

³When wickedness comes contempt also comes,
and reproach with shame.

⁴The words of the mouth of a man are deep waters;
a spring of wisdom is a bubbling stream.

⁵It is not good to lift the face of the wicked one,
to turn aside the righteous one in the judgment.

⁶The lips of a fool enter into strife,
and his mouth calls for blows.

⁷The mouth of a fool is ruin for him,
and his lips are a snare of his life.

⁸The words of one who whispers are like things swallowed greedily,
and they go down into the inner rooms of the belly.

⁹Also, one who is slack in his work,
he is a brother to an owner of destruction.

¹⁰The name of Yahweh is a tower of strength;
the righteous one runs into it and is set on high.

¹¹The wealth of the rich is a city of his strength
and like a wall set on high in his imagination.

¹²Before the face of breaking the heart of a man is exalted,
but before the face of honor is humility.

¹³One who returns a word before he listens,
it is folly to him and shame.

¹⁴The spirit of a man will endure his illness,
but a broken spirit, who can lift it?

¹⁵The heart of one who is discerning acquires knowledge,
and the ear of the wise ones seeks knowledge.

¹⁶The gift of a man will make room for him,
and it will lead him before the face of great ones.

- ¹⁷The first one with his case is right,
then his neighbor comes and examines him.
- ¹⁸The lot causes quarrels to cease,
and it makes a separation between mighty ones.
- ¹⁹A brother who has been offended is worse than a city of strength,
and quarrels are like the gate bar of a fortress.
- ²⁰From the fruit of the mouth of a man his belly is satisfied;
with the produce of his lips he is satisfied.
- ²¹Death and life are in the hand of the tongue,
and those who love it will eat its fruit.
- ²²He who finds a wife finds a good thing
and obtains favor from Yahweh.
- ²³One who is poor speaks pleas,
but a rich one answers harshly.
- ²⁴A man of companions is to be broken,
but there is one who loves, clinging more than a brother.

Chapter 19

- ¹Better is one who is poor who walks in his integrity
than one who is perverse in his lips and he is a fool.
- ²Also, a life with no knowledge is not good,
and the one who hurries with feet is one who misses.
- ³The foolishness of a man will pervert his way,
and his heart will rage against Yahweh.
- ⁴Wealth adds many companions,
but a lowly one is separated from his companions.
- ⁵A witness of falsehoods will not be free of guilt,
and he who breathes out lies will not slip away.
- ⁶Many will appease the face of a noble one,
and everyone is a friend of a man of gift.
- ⁷All the brothers of one who is poor hate him;

how much more do his friends keep away from him!

Pursuing with words, they are not.

⁸One who acquires heart is one who loves his life;

one who keeps understanding is to find good.

⁹A witness of falsehoods will not be free of guilt,

and one who breathes out lies will perish.

¹⁰Luxury is not suitable for a fool;

how much less for a slave to rule over officials.

¹¹The insight of a man makes his nose long,

and his splendor is to pass over a transgression.

¹²The rage of a king is a growling like the young lion,

but his favor is like dew on vegetation.

¹³A son of a fool is destruction to his father,

and the quarrels of a wife are a continuous dripping.

¹⁴A house and wealth are the inheritance of fathers,

but a wife who acts prudently is from Yahweh.

¹⁵Laziness causes deep sleep to fall,

and the appetite of slackness is hungry.

¹⁶One who keeps a command is one who keeps his life;

one who despises his ways will die.

¹⁷One who shows favor to the lowly is one who lends to Yahweh,

and he will repay to him his recompense.

¹⁸Discipline your son when there is hope,

and do not set your life to putting him to death.

¹⁹One great of heat is one who lifts up a fine;

for if you rescue, then you will have to do so again.

²⁰Listen to counsel and accept instruction,

so that you will become wise in your end.

²¹Many are the plans in the heart of a man,

but the counsel of Yahweh, it will stand.

²²The desire of a man is covenant faithfulness,

and better is one who is poor than a man of lying.

²³The fear of Yahweh is to life

and the satisfied one will stay overnight;

he will not be visited by evil.

²⁴A lazy one hides his hand in the dish;

he will not even return it to his mouth.

²⁵Strike a mocker and a naive one will become prudent,

and rebuking is for one who is discerning, he will discern knowledge.

²⁶One who does violence to a father, who causes a mother to flee,

is a son who causes shame and causes disgrace.

²⁷My son, cease to hear instruction,

stray from the words of knowledge.

²⁸A witness of worthlessness mocks justice

and the mouth of the wicked ones swallows iniquity.

²⁹Judgments are prepared for the mockers,

and blows for the back of fools.

Chapter 20

¹Wine is a mocker, intoxicating drink is one who is loud,

and everyone who goes astray by it is not wise.

²The terror of a king is a growling like the young lion;

one who infuriates him is one who forfeits his life.

³Cessation from strife is honor for a man,

but every fool breaks out.

⁴A lazy one will not plow in winter,

and he begs in the harvest but there is nothing.

⁵Counsel in the heart of a man is deep waters,

and a man of understanding will draw it out.

⁶Many a man proclaims, each man, his loyalty,

but who can find a man of faithfulness?

⁷A righteous one is one who walks about in his integrity;

blessed are his sons after him.

⁸A king who sits on the throne of judgment
is one who scatters every evil with his eyes.

⁹Who can say, "I have made my heart pure,
I am clean from my sin"?

¹⁰Stone and stone, ephah and ephah,
even the two of them are an abomination of Yahweh.

¹¹Even a young man will cause himself to be recognized by his deeds,
if pure and if upright is his work.

¹²An ear that hears and an eye that sees,
Yahweh made even the two of them.

¹³Do not love sleep lest you become impoverished;
open your eyes, be satisfied with bread.

¹⁴"Bad! Bad!" says the one who buys,
but when he leaves him, then he boasts.

¹⁵There is gold and an abundance of corals,
but lips of knowledge are a vessel of preciousness.

¹⁶Take his garment when he has pledged for a stranger,
and hold it in pledge for a foreign woman.

¹⁷Bread of falsehood is sweet to a man,
but afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

¹⁸Plans are established by counsel,
and by deliberation make war.

¹⁹One who walks in slander is one who uncovers a secret,
and you should not associate yourself with one who opens his lips.

²⁰One who curses his father and his mother,
his lamp will be extinguished in the pupil of darkness.

²¹An inheritance gained quickly in the beginning,
its end will not be blessed.

²²Do not say, "I will repay evil."
Wait for Yahweh and he will save you.

²³Stone and stone are an abomination of Yahweh,
and scales of deceit are not good.

²⁴The steps of a man are from Yahweh,
and how can a man understand his way?

²⁵A snare of a man: he says rashly, "It is holy,"
and after vows considers.

²⁶A wise king is one who scatters the wicked,
and he brings back a wheel over them.

²⁷The spirit of a man is the lamp of Yahweh,
searching all the inner rooms of the belly.

²⁸A king guards covenant faithfulness and trustworthiness,
and his throne is sustained by covenant faithfulness.

²⁹The splendor of young men is their strength
and the adornment of old ones is gray hair.

³⁰Strikes of a wound cleanse away evil
and blows of the inner rooms of the belly.

Chapter 21

¹The heart of a king is channels of water in the hand of Yahweh;
he turns it in accordance with all that he desires.

²Every way of a man is right in his eyes,
but Yahweh is he who weighs hearts.

³To do righteousness and justice
is more acceptable to Yahweh than a sacrifice.

⁴Height of eyes and broadness of heart,
the lamp of wicked ones, are sin.

⁵The plans of the diligent one are surely to abundance,
but everyone who acts hastily is surely to poverty.

⁶Work of treasures by a tongue of falsehood
is a fleeting vapor, those that seek death.

⁷The violence of wicked ones will sweep them away,

for they refuse to do justice.

⁸The way of a guilty man is crooked,
but the pure one, his work is upright.

⁹It is better to dwell on the corner of a roof
than with a woman of quarrels and a house of companionship.

¹⁰The spirit of the wicked one craves evil;
his neighbor is not shown favor in his eyes.

¹¹When fining a mocker a naive one becomes wise,
and when instructing a wise one he acquires knowledge.

¹²A righteous one considers the house of the wicked one;
overturning wicked ones to calamity.

¹³One who shuts his ears from the outcry of a lowly one,
he also will cry out but will not be answered.

¹⁴A gift in secrecy subdues nose,
and a bribe in the bosom, strong heat.

¹⁵Doing justice is a joy for the righteous one,
but a terror to those who do iniquity.

¹⁶A man wandering from the way of insight
will rest in the assembly of the spirits of the dead.

¹⁷A man of poverty is one who loves joy;
one who loves wine and oil will not become rich.

¹⁸A wicked one is a ransom for the righteous,
and one who acts treacherously instead of upright ones.

¹⁹It is better to dwell in a land of desert
than with a wife of quarrels and vexation.

²⁰Desireable treasure and oil are in the abode of a wise one,
but a foolish man swallows it up.

²¹One who pursues righteousness and covenant faithfulness
will find life, righteousness, and honor.

²²A wise one ascends a city of mighty ones
and he brings down the strength of its confidence.

- ²³One who keeps his mouth and his tongue
is one who keeps his life from distress.
- ²⁴An insolent, proud one, mocker is his name,
acting in the overflow of insolence.
- ²⁵The desire of the lazy one causes him to die,
for his hands refuse to work.
- ²⁶All the day he desires desire for himself,
but a righteous one gives and does not withhold.
- ²⁷The sacrifice of the wicked ones is an abomination;
how much more when he brings it with a scheme.
- ²⁸A witness of falsehoods will perish,
but the man who listens will speak to perpetuity.
- ²⁹A man of wickedness makes firm with his face,
but an upright one, he discerns his ways.^[1]
- ³⁰There is no wisdom and there is no understanding
and there is no counsel in opposition to Yahweh.
- ³¹A horse is prepared for the day of battle,
but the salvation belongs to Yahweh.
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21:29 ^[1]

Chapter 22

- ¹A name is to be chosen more than much riches;
favor is better than silver and than gold.
- ²A rich one and one who is poor meet together;
Yahweh is the maker of all of them.
- ³A prudent one sees evil and hides himself,
but naive ones pass on and they are fined.
- ⁴The reward of humility, the fear of Yahweh,
is riches and honor and life.
- ⁵Thorns, snares are in the way of the perverse one;
one who guards his life will stay far from them.

- ⁶Train up the boy in accordance with the mouth of his way;
even when he is old, he will not turn aside from it.
- ⁷A rich one rules over those who are poor,
and one who borrows is a slave to a man who lends.
- ⁸One who sows injustice will reap trouble,
and the rod of his fury will come to an end.
- ⁹The good of eye, he himself will be blessed,
for he gives from his bread to the lowly.
- ¹⁰Drive out a mocker and strife will go out,
and judgment and dishonor will cease.
- ¹¹One who loves a pure heart,
his lips are gracious, the king is his friend.
- ¹²The eyes of Yahweh guard knowledge,
and he overturns the words of one who is treacherous.
- ¹³A lazy one says, "A lion is outside!
I will be killed in the midst of the plazas!"
- ¹⁴The mouth of a strange woman is a deep pit;
one who is cursed of Yahweh will fall there.
- ¹⁵Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a boy;
the rod of discipline will cause it to be far from him.
- ¹⁶One who oppresses a lowly one to increase for himself,
one who gives to a rich one, will surely be to poverty.
- ¹⁷Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise ones,
and set your heart to my knowledge.
- ¹⁸For it will be pleasant if you keep them in your belly,
they are ready together on your lips.
- ¹⁹Your trust is to be in Yahweh;
I have caused you to know today, even you.
- ²⁰Have I not written for you thirty things
with counsels and knowledge,
- ²¹to cause you to know the truth of the words of trustworthiness,

to return trustworthy words to one who sent you?

²²Do not rob a lowly one because he is lowly,
and do not crush an afflicted one at the gate.

²³For Yahweh will plead their dispute,
and he will rob those who rob them of life.

²⁴Do not befriend a man of nose,
and do not come with a man of heat,

²⁵lest you learn his paths
and you take a trap for your life.

²⁶Do not be among those who clap a palm,
among those who pledge for loans.

²⁷If there is nothing for you to pay,
why should he take away your bed from under you?

²⁸Do not remove the ancient boundary
that your fathers made.

²⁹See a skilled man in his work; he will station himself before the face of kings;
he will not station himself before the face of low ones.

Chapter 23

¹When you sit to eat with a ruler,
consider carefully what is before your face,

²and put a knife at your throat
if you are an owner of an appetite.

³Do not desire his delicious morsels;
for it is bread of falsehoods.

⁴Do not toil to gain riches;
cease from your understanding.

⁵Will you cause your eyes to fly upon it, but it is not?
For it will surely make wings for itself like an eagle;
it will fly into the heavens.

⁶Do not eat the bread of one evil of eye,

and do not desire his delicious morsels.

⁷For like one who calculates in his spirit, so he is.

"Eat and drink!" he will say to you,

but his heart is not with you.

⁸You will vomit up your morsel you ate,

and you will ruin your delightful words.

⁹Do not speak in the ears of a fool,

for he will despise the insight of your words.

¹⁰Do not move an ancient boundary,

and do not enter into the fields of orphans,

¹¹for one who redeems them is strong;

he will plead their dispute against you.

¹²Bring your heart to instruction

and your ear to words of knowledge.

¹³Do not withhold discipline from a boy;

if you strike him with the rod, he will not die.

¹⁴You yourself shall strike him with the rod

and you will rescue his life from Sheol.

¹⁵My son, if your heart is wise,

my heart, even myself, will be glad,

¹⁶and my kidneys will exult,

when your lips speak upright things.

¹⁷Do not let your heart envy sinners,

but rather the fear of Yahweh all the day.

¹⁸Surely there is an end

and your hope will not be cut off.

¹⁹Listen, you my son, and be wise,

and lead your heart in the way.

²⁰Do not be among those who drink much wine,

among those who squander meat for themselves.

²¹For one who drinks much and one who squanders will become poor,

and slumber will clothe with rags.

²²Listen to your father, this one begot you,
and do not despise your mother when she is old.

²³Buy truth and do not sell,
wisdom and instruction and understanding.

²⁴The father of a righteous one will rejoice greatly,
and one who begets a wise one, he will be glad in him.

²⁵May your father and your mother be glad,
and may she who bore you rejoice.

²⁶My son, give your heart to me,
and may your eyes watch my ways.

²⁷For a prostitute is a deep pit,
and a foreign woman is a narrow well.

²⁸Also, she lies in ambush like a robber,
and she increases those who act treacherously among man.

²⁹For whom is woe? For whom is sorrow? For whom are quarrels?
For whom is a lament? For whom is wounds without reason?
For whom is dullness of eyes?

³⁰For those who linger over wine,
for those coming to search out mixed wine.

³¹Do not look at wine when it turns red,
when its eye gives in the bag,
it goes down with evenness.

³²Its end bites like a snake,
and it stings like a viper.

³³Your eyes will see strange things,
and your heart will speak perverse things.

³⁴And you will be like one who lies down in the heart of the sea
and like one who lies down at the head of a mast.

³⁵"They hit me. I was not hurt.
They beat me. I did not know.

When I awake, I will do again, I will seek it again.”

Chapter 24

¹Do not envy men of evil,

and do not desire to be with them.

²For their heart murmurs violence,

and their lips speak trouble.

³A house is built by wisdom

and by understanding it is established.

⁴And by knowledge the rooms are filled,

all precious and pleasant wealth.

⁵A man of wisdom is with strength

and a man of knowledge is one who strengthens power.

⁶For with guidance you make war for yourself

and salvation is with an abundance of counsel.

⁷Wise things are too high for a fool;

in the gate he will not open his mouth.

⁸One who plans to do evil,

they will call him a master of schemes.

⁹A plan of foolishness is sin,

and a mocker is an abomination of mankind.

¹⁰If you make yourself slack in the day of distress,

your strength is narrow.

¹¹Rescue those who are taken for death,

but do not hold back those who are staggering to the slaughter.

¹²If you say, “Behold, we did not know this.”

Does not the one who weighs hearts, even he understand,

and the one who guards your life, even he know?

And he will return to a man according to his work.

¹³My son, eat honey because it is good

and the fresh honey is sweet on your palate.

14 So know wisdom for your self;

if you find it, then there will be a future
and your hope will not be cut off.

15 Do not lie in ambush like a wicked one for the abode of the righteous one;

do not assault his resting-place.

16 For a righteous one falls seven times and rises up,

but wicked ones stumble in calamity.

17 When your enemy falls, do not be glad,

and when he stumbles do not let your heart rejoice,

18 lest Yahweh see, and it is evil in his eyes,

and he turn back his nose from on him.

19 Do not be cause yourself to be hot at evildoers;

do not envy wicked ones.

20 For a future is not for an evil one,

the lamp of the wicked ones will be extinguished.

21 My son, fear Yahweh and the king;

do not associate with ones who change.

22 For suddenly their disaster will arise,

and who is one who knows the destruction of the two of them?

23 These also are of the wise ones:

Recognizing faces in judgment is not good.

24 One who says to the wicked one, "You are righteous,"

peoples will curse him, nations will denounce him.

25 But for those who rebuke it will be delightful,

and a blessing of goodness will come over them.

26 He kisses lips

who returns honest words.

27 Prepare your work outside,

and make it ready for yourself in the field;

and after you will build your house.

28 Do not be a witness without cause against your neighbor.

And would you deceive with your lips?

²⁹Do not say, "Just as it was done to me, so I will do to him;
I will return to the man according to his deed."

³⁰I passed over the field of a lazy man
and over the vineyard of the man lacking of heart.

³¹And behold, all of it went up with thorns,
its face was covered with nettles,
and the wall of his stones was broken down.

³²And I myself looked, I set my heart,
I saw, I received instruction.

³³A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of hands to lie down,

³⁴and your poverty will come walking around,
and your needs like a man of shield.

Chapter 25

¹These also are proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah the king of Judah copied.

²It is the glory of God to hide a matter,
but the glory of kings to search out a matter.

³Heavens for height and earth for depth,
and the heart of kings is not searchable.

⁴Remove dross from silver
and a vessel goes out for the one who refines.

⁵Remove a wicked one before the face of the king,
and his throne will be established by the righteous one.

⁶Do not honor yourself before the face of the king,
and do not stand in the place of the great ones.

⁷For it is better to say to you, "Come up here,"
than to humiliate you before the face of a noble,
whom your eyes have seen.

⁸Do not go out hastily to dispute,

or else what will you do in its end
when your neighbor humiliates you?

⁹Dispute your dispute with your neighbor
and do not uncover another secret,

¹⁰lest one who hears reproaches you,
and your evil report not turn back.

¹¹Apples of gold in sculptures of silver
is a word that is spoken in accordance with its circumstance.

¹²A ring of gold and jewelry of fine gold
is a wise rebuke on an ear that listens.

¹³Like the coolness of snow on the day of harvest
is a faithful messenger for those who sent him
and he brings back the life of his masters.

¹⁴Clouds and wind but there is no rain
is the man who boasts of a gift of falsehood.

¹⁵With length of nostrils a ruler is persuaded,
and a soft tongue breaks bone.

¹⁶If you find honey, eat what is sufficient for you,
lest you become satiated with it and you vomit it up.

¹⁷Make rare your foot from the house of your neighbor,
lest he become satiated with you and hate you.

¹⁸A hammer and a sword and a sharp arrow
is a man who answers a testimony of falsehood against his neighbor.

¹⁹A broken tooth and a shaky foot
is confidence in one who acts treacherously in the day of distress.

²⁰One who removes a garment on a cold day,
vinegar on natron,
so is one who sings with songs over a heart of misery.

²¹If one who hates you is hungry, cause him to eat bread,
and if thirsty, cause him to drink water;

²²for you are heaping coals on his head,

and Yahweh will reward you.

²³The wind of the north brings forth rain,
and faces that are angry, a tongue of secrecy.

²⁴It is better to dwell on the corner of a roof
than with a wife of quarrels and a house of companionship.

²⁵Cool water over a weary spirit,
so is good news from a distant land.

²⁶A spring that is muddied by trampling and a fountain that is spoiled
is a righteous one who shakes before the face of a wicked one.

²⁷To eat much honey is not good,
and the searching out of their honor upon honor.

²⁸A breached city that has no wall
is a man who has no restraint for his spirit.

Chapter 26

¹Like the snow in the summer and like the rain in the harvest,
so honor is not suitable for a fool.

²As the bird with respect to fluttering, as the swallow with respect to flying,
so an undeserved curse does not come.

³A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey,
and a rod for the back of fools.

⁴Do not answer a fool according to his foolishness,
lest you become like him, also you.

⁵Answer a fool according to his foolishness,
lest he become wise in his eyes.

⁶One who cuts off feet, one who drinks violence,
is one who sends words by the hand of a fool.

⁷Legs dangle from a lame man,
so is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

⁸Like tying a stone in a sling,
so is one who gives honor to a fool.

⁹A thorn goes up into the hand of a drunkard,
so is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

¹⁰An archer who pierces everyone,
so is one who hires a fool and hires those passing by.

¹¹Like a dog that returns over its vomit
is a fool who repeats his foolishness.

¹²See a man wise in his eyes,
there is more hope for a fool than him.

¹³A lazy one says, "A young lion is in the road,
a lion is between the plazas!"

¹⁴The door turns on its hinges,
and a lazy one on his bed.

¹⁵A lazy one hides his hand in the dish;
he is weary to return it to his mouth.

¹⁶A lazy one is wiser in his eyes
than seven who return discretion.

¹⁷One who grabs the ears of a dog passing by
is one who infuriates himself over a dispute not for him.

¹⁸Like a madman who shoots burning arrows and death,

¹⁹so is the man who deceives his neighbor
and says, "Was I not joking?"

²⁰At the lack of wood a fire goes out,
and when there is no one who whispers a quarrel is silenced.

²¹As charcoal is to burning coals and wood is to fire,
so a man of quarrels is to kindling of a dispute.

²²The words of one who whispers are like delicious morsels,
and they themselves go down into the inner rooms of the belly.

²³Silver of dross covering over a clay pot
are burning lips and a heart of evil.

²⁴One who hates disguises himself with his lips
and he sets deceit in his inward part.

²⁵When he makes his voice gracious, do not trust in him,
for seven abominations are in his heart.

²⁶Hatred is covered by deception;
his evil will be uncovered in the assembly.

²⁷One who digs a pit will fall into it
and one who rolls a stone, it will come back to him.

²⁸A tongue of falsehood hates its oppressed ones,
and a smooth mouth makes ruin.

Chapter 27

¹Do not boast about tomorrow,
for you do not know what a day will bring forth.

²Let a stranger praise you and not your mouth,
a foreigner and not your lips.

³The heaviness of a stone and the weight of sand,
yet the vexation of a fool is heavier than the two of them.

⁴Fierceness of heat and a flood of nose,
but who will stand before the face of jealousy?

⁵Better is a rebuke that is open
than a love that is hidden.

⁶Faithful are the wounds of one who loves,
but abundant are the kisses of one who hates.

⁷A satiated appetite tramples fresh honey,
but for the appetite of a hungry one everything bitter is sweet.

⁸Like a bird that wanders from its nest,
so a man who wanders from his place.

⁹Oil and incense make the heart glad
and the sweetness of his friend is from counsel of self.

¹⁰Do not forsake your friend and the friend of your father,
and do not enter the house of your brother on the day of your disaster.
Better is a nearby inhabitant than a distant brother.

- 11** Be wise, my son, and make my heart glad
and I shall return a word to one who taunts me.
- 12** A prudent one sees evil, he hides;
naive ones pass on, they are fined.
- 13** Take his garment when he pledges for a stranger,
and hold it in pledge on behalf of a foreign woman.
- 14** One who blesses his neighbor with a great voice in the rising morning,
it will be considered a curse to him!
- 15** Dripping that is continuous on a day of steady rain
and a woman of quarrels are the same;
- 16** Restraining her is like restraining the wind
and oil meets his right hand.
- 17** Iron sharpens against iron,
and a man sharpens the face of his neighbor.
- 18** One who watches a fig tree will eat its fruit
and one who guards his master will be honored.
- 19** As the water is the face to the face,
so is the heart of the man to the man.
- 20** Sheol and Abaddon are not satisfied,
and the eyes of man are not satisfied.
- 21** A melting-pot is for silver and a furnace is for gold,
so is a man for the mouth of one who praises him.
- 22** If you pound a fool in a mortar with a pestle, in the midst of grains,
his foolishness will not turn aside from on him.
- 23** Know well the face of your flock,
set your heart to the livestock.
- 24** For wealth is not to eternity,
and a crown is not for generation and generation.
- 25** The grass is uncovered and fresh grass is seen,
so the herbs of the mountains are gathered.
- 26** Like lambs are for your clothing,

so male goats are the price of a field.

²⁷And there will be enough milk of female goats for your food, for the food of your house, and life for your female servants.

Chapter 28

¹The wicked flee and there is not one who pursues, but the righteous ones are confident like a young lion.

²By the transgression of a land many are its rulers, but with a man who is discerning, who is knowledgeable, so it will endure.

³A man who is poor and who oppresses the lowly ones is a rain that washes away and there is no bread.

⁴Those who forsake instruction praise a wicked one, but those who keep instruction strive against them.

⁵Men of evil do not understand justice but those who seek Yahweh understand everything.

⁶One who is poor who walks in his integrity is better than one perverse of ways and he is rich.

⁷One who keeps instruction is a son who is discerning, but one who associates with those who squander shames his father.

⁸One who makes his wealth abundant by interest and usury gathers it for one who shows favor to lowly ones.

⁹One who turns his ear away from hearing instruction, even his prayer is an abomination.

¹⁰One who leads upright ones astray in the way of evil he will fall into his pits but blameless ones will inherit good.

¹¹A rich man is wise in his eyes, but a lowly one who understands will search him out.

¹²There is great splendor when righteous ones rejoice, but a man is searched for when wicked ones arise.

¹³One who covers his transgressions will not prosper,

but one who confesses and forsakes will be shown mercy.

¹⁴Blessed is a man who trembles continually,
but one who hardens his heart will fall into evil.

¹⁵A lion that growls and a bear that charges
is a wicked ruler over a lowly people.

¹⁶A leader lacking understanding is with great oppressions;
one who hates unjust gain will lengthen days.

¹⁷A man who oppresses by the blood of life
will flee as far as a pit;
they will not support him.

¹⁸One who walks blamelessly will be saved,
but one who is crooked in ways will fall into one.

¹⁹One who works his land will be satisfied with bread,
but one who pursues empty things will be satisfied with poverty.

²⁰A man of faithfulness has an abundance of blessings,
but one who hurries to become rich will not be free of guilt.

²¹Recognizing faces is not good,
but on account of a bit of bread a man will rebel.

²²A man of an evil eye is one who hurries to the wealth,
but he does not know that poverty will come to him.

²³One who rebukes a man afterward will find favor
more than one who makes the tongue smooth.

²⁴One who robs his father and his mother and says, "There is no transgression,"
he is the companion of a man of destruction.

²⁵One wide of spirit stirs up strife,
but one who trusts in Yahweh will be made fat.

²⁶One who trusts in his heart, he is a fool,
but one who walks in wisdom, he will slip away.

²⁷One who gives to the one who is poor has no need,
but one who hides his eyes has an abundance of curses.

²⁸When wicked ones arise a man will hide himself,

but when they perish righteous ones will increase.

Chapter 29

¹A man of rebukes who stiffens the neck
will suddenly be broken and there will be no healing.

²When the righteous ones increase, the people rejoice,
but when a wicked man rules, the people groan.

³A man who loves wisdom makes his father rejoice,
but one who associates with prostitutes destroys wealth.

⁴The king by justice causes the land to stand,
but a man of contributions tears it down.

⁵A man who makes smooth for his neighbor
is one who spreads a net for his feet.

⁶A snare is in the transgression of an evil man,
but the righteous one sings and rejoices.

⁷A righteous one is one who knows the cause of lowly ones;
a wicked one does not understand knowledge.

⁸Men of mockery inflame a city,
but wise ones turn away nose.

⁹A wise man disputes with a foolish man,
but he trembles and laughs and there is no rest.

¹⁰Men of bloodshed hate a blameless one,
but upright ones seek his life.

¹¹A fool brings forth all his spirit,
but a wise one soothes it backwards.

¹²One who rules who listens attentively to a word of falsehood,
all his servants are wicked.

¹³One who is poor and the man of oppression meet together;
he who enlightens the eyes of them both is Yahweh.

¹⁴A king who judges lowly ones by truth,
his throne will be established to perpetuity.

- ¹⁵A rod and rebukes give wisdom
but a boy who is sent away is one who causes his mother shame.
- ¹⁶When wicked ones increase, transgression increases,
but righteous ones will look at their overthrow.
- ¹⁷Discipline your son and he will cause you to rest
and he will give delights to your spirit.
- ¹⁸When there is no prophetic vision, the people are let loose,
but one who keeps instruction, blessed is he.
- ¹⁹A servant will not be corrected with words,
for he understands but there is no answer.
- ²⁰Do you see a man who hastens his words;
there is more hope for a fool than him.
- ²¹If one pampers his servant from youth,
then his end will be insolence.
- ²²A man of nose stirs up strife
and an owner of heat, much transgression.
- ²³The pride of a man will make him low,
but one lowly of spirit will grasp honor.
- ²⁴One who shares with a thief is one who hates his life;
he will hear an oath but will not tell.
- ²⁵The anxiety of a man gives a snare,
but the one who trusts in Yahweh will be set on high.
- ²⁶Many are those who seek the face of a ruler,
but justice of a man is from Yahweh.
- ²⁷A man of injustice is an abomination of righteous ones,
but the upright of way is an abomination of a wicked one.

Chapter 30

- ¹The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, the burden:
The declaration of the man to Ithiel, to Ithiel and Ucal:
- ²Surely, I am more stupid than a man,

and the understanding of mankind does not belong to me.

³And I have not learned wisdom,
nor do I know the knowledge of the holy one.

⁴Who has ascended to heaven and descended?
Who has gathered the wind in the hollow of his hands?
Who has bound up waters in a cloak?
Who has raised up all the ends of the earth?
What is his name and what is the name of his son? Surely you know!

⁵Every word of God is tested;
he is a shield for those who take refuge in him.

⁶Do not add upon his words,
lest he rebuke you and you be shown a liar.

⁷Two things I ask from with you,
do not withhold from me before I die:

⁸Put emptiness and the word of a lie far away from me.
Do not give to me poverty or riches,
cause me to tear the bread of my portion.

⁹Lest I be satiated and I deny and say, "Who is Yahweh?"
And lest I become dispossessed and I steal
and I seize the name of my God.

¹⁰Do not slander a slave to his master,
lest he curse you and you be guilty.

¹¹There is a generation, it curses its father
and does not bless its mother.

¹²There is a generation pure in its eyes,
but it is not washed from its filth.

¹³There is a generation, how high are its eyes,
and its eyelids are lifted up!

¹⁴There is a generation, its teeth are swords
and its jaws are knives
for devouring afflicted ones from the earth and poor ones from mankind.

15Two daughters are for the leech, "Give! Give!"

There are three, they are not satisfied;
four, they do not say, "Enough":

16Sheol, and the barrenness of the womb,
a land not satisfied with water,
and a fire does not say, "Enough!"

17An eye mocks a father
and despises the obedience of a mother,
the ravens of the wadi will peck it out
and the sons of the vulture will eat it.

18Three things, they are too marvelous for me,
and four, I do not understand them:

19the way of the eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship in the heart of the sea;
and the way of a man with a young woman.

20Thus is the way of a woman who commits adultery:
she devours and wipes her mouth
and says, "I have not done iniquity."

21Under three things the earth trembles,
and under four it is not able to bear:

22under a slave when he becomes king,
and a fool when he is satisfied with bread,

23under a hated woman when she is married,
and a female servant when she dispossesses her mistress.

24Four things, they are small things of the earth
but they are wise things being made wise:

25The ants are not a strong nation,
but they prepare their food in the summer.

26Rock badgers are not a mighty nation,
but they set their house in the rock.

- ²⁷There is no king for the locust,
but all of them go out divided into groups.
- ²⁸You can catch a lizard with hands,
yet it is in the palaces of the king.
- ²⁹Three things, they are doing well of step,
and four are doing well of walking:
- ³⁰a lion is mighty among the animals
and it will not turn away from the face of anything,
- ³¹one girded of loins, or a male goat,
and a king against whom one does not rise up.
- ³²If you have been foolish by lifting up yourself,
or if you have devised evil, a hand be to mouth!
- ³³For the squeezing of milk brings forth butter
and the squeezing of the nose brings forth blood,
and the squeezing of nostrils brings forth strife.

Chapter 31

- ¹The words of Lemuel the king, a burden that his mother had instructed him:
- ²Why, my son? And why, son of my womb?
And why, son of my vows?
- ³Do not give your strength to women
or your ways to wipe out kings.
- ⁴It is not for kings, Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine
or for rulers, or intoxicating drink.
- ⁵Lest, he drink and forget what has been decreed
and pervert the cause of all the sons of the afflicted one.
- ⁶Give intoxicating drink to one who is perishing
and wine to those bitter of spirit.
- ⁷He will drink and will forget his poverty
and he will not remember his trouble again.
- ⁸Open your mouth for the mute,

for the cause of all the sons of the passing away one.

⁹Open your mouth, judge righteously,
and plead the cause of the afflicted one and poor one.

¹⁰A woman of strength, who can find?

And her worth is far more than corals.

¹¹The heart of her husband trusts in her
and he will not lack spoil.

¹²She does him good and not evil
all the days of her life.

¹³She selects wool and linens
and works with the delight of her palms.

¹⁴She is like the ships of one who travels about;
she brings her food from far away.

¹⁵And she rises while still night
and gives food to her house
and a portion to her female servants.

¹⁶She considers a field and gets it;
from the fruit of her palms she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷She girds her loins with strength
and she makes her arms firm.

¹⁸She perceives that her gain is good;
her lamp does not go out in the night.

¹⁹She stretches out her hands at the distaff
and her palms grasp the spindle.

²⁰She spreads out her palms to the afflicted one,
and she stretches out her hands to the poor one.

²¹She does not fear for her house because of the snow,
for all her house is clothed with scarlet.

²²She makes for herself coverings,
fine linen and purple for her garment.

²³Her husband is one who is known at the gates,

when he sits with the elders of the land.

²⁴She makes a linen garment and sells,
and she gives a sash to the Canaanite.

²⁵Strength and splendor are her clothing,
and she laughs at a day to come.

²⁶Her mouth opens with wisdom,
and the instruction of covenant faithfulness is on her tongue.

²⁷One who watches closely the goings on of her house,
she does not eat the bread of idleness.

²⁸Her sons rise up and call her blessed;
her husband also praises her.

²⁹"Many daughters have done valiantly,
but you have ascended over all of them."

³⁰Charm is falsehood and beauty is vain;
a woman fearful of Yahweh, she will be praised.

³¹Give to her from the fruit of her hands
and let her works praise her in the gates.

Ecclesiastes

Chapter 1

¹The words of Qoheleth, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

²"Most futile of futile things, Qoheleth has said,

"Most futile of futile things,

the entirety is futile."

³What profit is for mankind in all his toil that he continually toils under the sun?

⁴A generation is going,

and a generation is coming,

but the earth remains for forever.

⁵Likewise, the sun rises,

and the sun comes in,

and comes panting to its place, it rises there.

⁶Going towards south

and circling towards north,

circling, circling, the wind goes

and upon its circuits the wind returns.

⁷All the rivers are flowing to the sea,

but the sea, it is not full.

To a place where the rivers are going,

there they are returning to go.

⁸All the things are wearisome,

man is not able to explain.

An eye is not satisfied by seeing,

likewise an ear is not fulfilled from hearing.

⁹Whatever that has been, it is what will be,

and whatever that has been done, it is what will be done.

So there is not anything new under the sun.

¹⁰Is there anything about which one may say,

'See this, it is new?'

Formerly it existed

in ages that existed from before our faces.

¹¹There is not a remembrance of former things,

or even of latter things

which may be.

There will not be a remembrance of them like what will be of the latter things." ¹²I am Qoheleth, I have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³Now I gave my heart to study and to search out with the wisdom about everything that has been done under the sun. It is a frustrating task God has given to the sons of the human to be busy with it. ¹⁴I have seen all the deeds that have been done under the sun, and look, the entirety is futile as tending wind.

¹⁵Twisted is not able to be straight,

and missing is not able to be counted! ¹⁶I, myself, have spoken with my heart, by saying, "Myself, look, I have amassed and I have increased wisdom over all who were before my face in Jerusalem. Indeed, my heart has seen much wisdom and knowledge." ¹⁷So I gave my heart to know wisdom and knowledge, foolishness and folly. I have known that even this, it is tending wind. ¹⁸For with abundance of wisdom is much sorrow, and one adding knowledge, he will add anguish.

Chapter 2

¹I myself said in my heart, "Come now! Let me test you with joy, so experience with pleasure." But look, it also was futile. ²About laughter I said, "Making one a fool," and about joy, "What is this doing?" ³I sought out in my heart to expand my flesh with wine, while my heart was guiding into the wisdom, although by holding on to folly, until that I would see how this is good for the sons of the man, what they would do under the heavens the number of the days of their lives. ⁴I expanded my works. I built houses for myself. I planted vineyards for myself. ⁵I made for myself gardens and parks, and I planted a tree of every kind of fruit in them. ⁶I made for myself reservoirs of waters in order to irrigate from them a forest sprouting up trees. ⁷I acquired male servants and maidservants, and sons of the house were for me; also property, cattle and a flock of small animals. Much was for me, more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. ⁸I also amassed for myself silver and gold, and valued property of kings and the provinces. I prepared male singers and female singers for myself, and the luxuries of the sons of the man, a concubine, indeed concubines.^[1] ⁹So I became wealthy and I added more than all who were before me in Jerusalem, moreover my wisdom stood with me.

¹⁰Thus all that my eyes asked,

I did not refuse from them.

I did not deny my heart from any joy,

because my heart was joyful from all my toil

and this was my portion from all my toil.

¹¹Then I turned myself toward all my works that my hands had done,

and at toil that I have toiled to do,

and look, the entirety is futile as tending wind.

Thus there was not an advantage under the sun.

¹²Also I turned myself to see wisdom,
and foolishness and folly,
for who is the man who would come after the king?
What already exists, they have done it.

¹³Then I myself saw
that there is an advantage to the wisdom more than the folly,
as the advantage of the light over the darkness.

¹⁴The wise, his eyes are in his head,
but the fool is walking in the darkness,
although I know, even myself, that one event will happen to all of them.

¹⁵Then I myself said in my heart,
"As the fate of the fool,
also myself, it will happen to me.
So how am I myself wise, then, abundantly?"
So I spoke in my heart,
that also this is futile.

¹⁶For there is no remembrance of the wise man, equally with the fool for forever,
in that already the coming days the entirety is forgotten,

and how the wise along with the fool will die. ¹⁷So I hated this life because of evil around me, the work that was being done under the sun, for the entirety was futile as tending wind. ¹⁸Moreover I myself hated all my toil, that I had become a toiler under the sun since I must bestow it to the man who will come after me. ¹⁹For who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will rule over all my toil which I have toiled and for which I have acted wisely under the sun. Also this is futile. ²⁰Therefore I turned myself to despair in my heart about all the toil which I had toiled under the sun. ²¹For there is a man whom his toil is with wisdom, and with knowledge, and with skill, but to a man who has not toiled over it, he will give it as his portion. This also is futile and a great calamity. ²²For what happens to the man in exchange for all his toil, and concerning the striving of his heart for which he is toiling under the sun? ²³Because all his days are sorrows, and grievous is his travail. Even in the night his heart does not take rest. Also this, it is futile. ²⁴There is nothing good in the man who would eat and he would drink then he would show his innermost being good in the toil of him. Also this I myself saw that from the hand of the true God it is. ²⁵For who may eat and who may have enjoyment further than me? ²⁶For to a man who is good before his face, he gives wisdom and knowledge and joy. But to the one who sins he gives travail to gather and to heap up in order to give to a good one before the face of the true God. This also is futile as tending wind.

2:8 ^[1] , , etc.

Chapter 3

¹For the entirety there is a set time, and a proper time for every experience under the heavens:

²a proper time for bearing and a proper time for dying,

a proper time for planting and a proper time for plucking up what was planted,

³a proper time for slaying and a proper time for healing,

a proper time for breaking down and a proper time for building,

⁴a proper time for weeping and a proper time for laughing,

a proper time of wailing and a proper time of skipping about,

⁵a proper time for casting stones and a proper time of gathering stones,

a proper time for embracing, and a proper time for refraining from embracing,

⁶a proper time for searching and a proper time for letting go,

a proper time for keeping and a proper time for throwing away,

⁷a proper time for tearing apart and a proper time for sewing together,

a proper time for keeping quiet and a proper time for speaking,

⁸a proper time for loving and a proper time for hating,

a proper time of battle, and a proper time of peace. ⁹What advantage is there for the one working? In exchange for what is he a laborer? ¹⁰I have seen the travail that God has given to the sons of man to be occupied with it. ¹¹The entirety he has made beautiful at its proper time. He has also given the concept of eternity in their heart, because without that the man would not discover the work that God has done, from beginning even to end. ¹²I know that there is no good in them, but only to rejoice and to do good during his life, ¹³and the whole of mankind, that he eats and he drinks and he sees good in all of his toil. It is a gift of God. ¹⁴I know that everything that the true God does, it will be for forever. To it there is nothing to add and from it there is nothing to remove, for the true God has acted so that they should fear from before his faces.

¹⁵Whatever that is, formerly it was,

and what is to be, formerly it was.

So the true God searches out what is pursued.^[1] ¹⁶Moreover, still I have seen under the sun the place of judgment, to there is the wicked one, and the place of the righteous, to there is the wicked one. ¹⁷I myself said in my heart, "The true God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for a proper time is for every experience and on account of all of the work there." ¹⁸I myself said in my heart, "Concerning the manner of the sons of man, upon the true God purging them and upon seeing that they, themselves are an animal by themselves, ¹⁹because a destiny awaits the sons of man and a destiny awaits the animal. So one destiny for them as a death this one, so a death this one. Now one spirit for the entirety and an advantage of the man over the beast, there is none, for the entirety is futile. ²⁰The entirety is going to one place. The entirety was from the dust, and the entirety returns to the dust. ²¹Who knows, the spirit of the sons of man, that it is going up towards upward or the spirit of the beast, that it is going down, towards downwards into the earth?^[2] ²²So I saw that there is nothing better than that the man would rejoice in his works, because it is his portion. For who will bring him to see about what that will be after him?"

3:15 ^[1], other modern versions interpret this line in different ways.

3:21 ^[2]

Chapter 4

¹Then I turned myself and I saw all those being oppressed, what was being done under the sun.

Now look, the tears of those being oppressed,

and there is not a comforter for them!

Indeed, out of the hand of their oppressors is strength,

but there is not a comforter for them!

²So I myself commended the dead ones, who have already died,

more than the living ones, who they are still alive.

³However, better than the two of them is the one who has not yet been,

who has not seen the evil work that is being done under the sun. ⁴Then I myself saw every accomplishment and every success of the work, that it was the envy of a man before his neighbor. This also is futile as tending wind.

⁵The fool is clasping his hands,

thus devouring his flesh.

⁶Better is a fullness of palm at rest

than a fullness of both fists with toil that is tending wind. ⁷Then I myself turned and I saw futility under the sun.

⁸There is one and there is not a second.

Even a son or a brother there is not for him,

and there is not an end to all his toil.

Even his eye is not satisfied with wealth.

So for what am I a laborer

and depriving my being of pleasure?

This also is futile and an evil activity it is.

⁹Better are the two than the one,

because there is for them a good reward in exchange for their toil.

¹⁰For if the one should fall, he will lift up his companion.

But woe to him, the one that would fall

but there is not a second to lift him up.

¹¹Also if two would lie down, then it is warm for them,

but for one, how will he be warm?

¹²Indeed, if the one would overpower him,

the two would stand against him,

and a tripled rope is not torn apart in a hurry. ¹³Better is a poor but wise child than an old and foolish king who does not know to be admonished any longer. ¹⁴For from the house of those who are imprisoned he came forth to become king, even if in his kingdom he was born being in want. ¹⁵I saw all the living, those walking around under the sun, along with the second child who would stand in his place. ¹⁶There is no end to all the people, to all who are before them, even though the ones afterward will not rejoice in him. But also this is futile as tending wind.

Chapter 5

¹Guard your feet accordingly when you go to the house of the true God, and draw near to listen rather than by the giving of the foolish ones, a sacrifice when there is not for them knowing of doing evil.

²Do not be hasty with regard to your mouth,

and your heart, may it not hurry to bring forth a matter before the faces of the true God.

For the true God is in the heavens, but you are on the earth,

on account of this let your words be few.

³For the dream comes with much work activity,

but the voice of a fool with many words. ⁴Accordingly, when you vow a vow to God, do not delay to complete it, for there is no delight in the fools. What you vow, complete! ⁵It is better that you would not vow, than that you would vow but you would not complete. ⁶Do not give your mouth over to make your flesh sin, and do not say before the faces of the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should the true God be angry on account of your voice, that he would ruin the work of your hands? ⁷For with many dreams, then futilities and many words. Instead fear God. ⁸If you see oppression of poor and plunder of justice and righteousness in a district, do not marvel over the matter, for a higher one than over the high one is watching, and even higher ones over them. ⁹Moreover, an advantage for a land, along with everyone, it is a king being in a field being worked.

¹⁰A lover of silver is not satisfied with silver,

and who loves being in abundance not by income.

This also, is futile.

¹¹When goodness increases, ones consuming it increase.

So what advantage is for the owner of it

except if his eyes are beholding?

¹²Sweet is the sleep of the one working,

whether a little or whether much he should eat,

but the satiation of a rich one, it does not permit resting for him to sleep. ¹³There is a sickening evil I have seen under the sun:

wealth being kept by its owner, resulting in his misery.

¹⁴When that wealth was lost in a bad business matter,

though he had fathered a son, yet there is not anything in his hand.

¹⁵Just as he comes forth from the womb of his mother,
naked he will return by going just how he came.

Also he can not take anything in spite of his toiling that may go in his hand. ¹⁶Moreover, this also is a sickening evil,
everyone corresponding to how he came, in the same manner he will go away.

So what advantage is for him that he should toil for the wind?

¹⁷Even all his days he eats in the darkness

and he is greatly vexed with his sickness and strife. ¹⁸Look, what I myself have seen is good, what is appealing is to eat and to drink and to see good in all his toiling that he should toil under the sun the number of the days of his life that the true God has given to him, for it is his portion. ¹⁹Indeed, the whole of mankind, because the true God has given to him wealth and treasures, and he has empowered him to eat from it, and to take up his portion and to rejoice in his toiling, this, it is a gift from God. ²⁰For he does not remember much about the days of his lifetime, because God causes a response with the pleasures of his heart.

Chapter 6

¹There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it is abundant on the human being. ²A man who the true God might give to him wealth, and treasures, and distinction so that there is not for him a lacking for his being out of all that he might crave for himself, but the true God might not enable him to eat from it. Instead, a disassociated man will eat of it. This is futility, and it is an evil agony. ³If a man should father 100 and he should live many years, however abundant that the days of his years may be, but his being is not satisfied from the good, and also there is not a burial place for him, I say better than him is the miscarriage. ⁴For in the futility he came and in the darkness he will go, and in the darkness his name is being concealed. ⁵Even sunshine he did not see, but he did not know. There is a rest for this one more than that one. ⁶Even if he should live 1,000 years twice, but good he did not see, is it not to one place that everyone is going?

⁷All the toil of the man is for his mouth,
even though the being is not filled.

⁸Indeed, what more is for the wise one over the fool?

What is for the poor one

knowing to go about before the living ones?

⁹Better is a view from eyes

than a going away of a being,

also this is futile as tending wind.

¹⁰Whatever that was, already it has been called its name, and it is known that he is a man. So he is not able to strive with who is the mightier than he.

¹¹For there are many matters increasing futility,

what more is for the man? ¹²For who knows what is good for the man during the lifetime, the number of the days of his futile life, that he will experience them like a shadow? For who will explain to the man what will be after him under the sun?

Chapter 7

¹A good name is better than fine oil,
and the day of the death is better than the day of his being born.

²It is better to go to a house of mourning
than to go to a house of a drinking banquet.
by the reason that it is the end of the entirety of mankind,
so the living should convey to his heart.

³Grief is better than laughter,
for by sadness of faces a heart becomes better.

⁴A heart of wise ones is in a house of mourning,
but a heart of fools is in house of revelry.

⁵Better to heed a rebuke of a wise one
than a man listening to a song of fools.

⁶For like the sound of the thorns under the pot,
so is the laughter of the fool.
Indeed, even this is futility.

⁷For the extortion makes a wise one foolish,
and a gift destroys a heart.

⁸Better is an end of a matter than its beginning.
Better is patient in spirit than proud in spirit.

⁹Do not hasten to anger in your spirit,
for anger rests in a bosom of fools.

¹⁰Do not say, "What has happened that the former days were better than these?"
For you did not ask about this out of wisdom.

¹¹Wisdom is good with an inheritance,
and an advantage to seers of the sun.

¹²For the wisdom is as a defense as the defense of the silver,
and an advantage of knowledge is the wisdom preserves her owners. ¹³See the handiwork of the true God!
For who is able to straighten when he has made it crooked?

¹⁴When a day is good, live in goodness,

but when a day is bad, see
the true God has done even this along with that,
by reason of because the man will not discover anything after it. ¹⁵I have seen the whole in the days of my futility.

There is a righteous one perishing in his righteousness,
and there is a wicked one living long in his evil.

¹⁶Do not be overly righteous,
and do not show yourself as wise to excess.

Why should you put yourself to shame?

¹⁷Do not be increasingly wicked and do not be a fool.
Why should you die when it is not your proper time?

¹⁸It is good that you should take hold of this,
and also of that you should not let your hand go.
For the fearer of God will go forth with all of them.^[1]

¹⁹The wisdom is strong for the wise,
more than ten rulers who are in the city.

²⁰For mankind, there is not a righteous one on the earth
who does good and does not sin.

²¹Also, to all of the words that they might speak, do not convey to your heart,
that you will not hear your servant belittling you.

²²For likewise, many times your heart knows
that even you yourself have belittled others. ²³All of this I have tested with wisdom. I said,
“Let me be wise,”
but it was far from me.

²⁴Far away is what that has been, and deep, unfathomable.
Who can discover it?

²⁵I myself turned even my heart to know and to seek out
and searching for wisdom and reason,
and to know wickedness is foolish
and folly is madness.

²⁶However, I myself found more bitter than death is the woman
when her heart, it is as snares and nets,

her hands are chains.

A good person before the faces of the true God will be rescued from her,

but a sinner will be captured by her. ²⁷“See, this I have found out,” says Qohelet. “One by one in order to find reason. ²⁸What still my being has sought, but I have not found: one man among a thousand I found. However a woman among all of those I did not find. ²⁹Only see this I have found: that the true God made the man upright, but they themselves have sought out many inventions.”

7:18 ^[1], some modern versions have different interpretations of this difficult passage.

Chapter 8

¹Who is like a wise one,

and who knows an interpretation of a matter?

Wisdom in a man enlightens his faces,

and the strength of his faces is altered. ²Myself, observe the mouth of a king, even for the sake of the oath to God.

³Do not be disturbed, away from his faces you may go. Do not stand on the side of an evil matter, for all that he delights, he will do. ⁴In that a word of a king is authoritative, so who may say to him, “What are you doing?”

⁵A keeper of a command will not know anything evil,

and a wise heart will know a proper time and judgment.

⁶Because for every delight there is a proper time and a judgment,

therefore the distress of the man is abundant upon him.

⁷For there is no one who knows what that will be, for just as it will be,

who will explain to him?

⁸There is not a man having power over his breath to hold back the breath,^[1]

and there is not a ruler over the day of the death.

Also there is no discharge during the battle,

and wickedness will not deliver its owners.

⁹All this I have seen, and given my heart to every kind of action that has been done under the sun, a proper time when the man has dominion over a man for distress to him.^[2] ¹⁰Indeed, when thus I have seen wicked ones buried, even they used to go in and out from a holy place. They would go about but they are forgotten in the city where thus they had done. This also is futile.^[3] ¹¹When nothing is done about the sentence regarding the evil action quickly, on account of this the heart of the sons of the man is filled within them to do evil. ¹²Seeing that a sinner is doing evil a hundredfold yet living long in spite of it, truly also I know that it will be better for the fearers of the true God, who do fear from the standpoint of before his faces. ¹³But it will not be well for a wicked one, and he will not lengthen days like the shadow, because he has no fearing at the standpoint of before the faces of God. ¹⁴There is futility that has been done on the earth, that there are righteous ones who have happen to them as the experience of the wicked ones, and there are wicked ones who have happen to them as the experience of the righteous ones. I say that this too is futile. ¹⁵So I myself recommend the pleasure, for there is nothing better for the man under the sun except for to eat and to drink and to rejoice, and it will remain with him in his toiling the days of his life that God has given to him under the sun. ¹⁶Just as I gave my heart to know wisdom and to see the travail

that has been done on the earth, for even in the day or in the night there was not sleep for him in his eyes seeing,
¹⁷however I saw every work of the true God, that the man is not able to discover the work that has been done under the sun, in that whatsoever the man would toil to seek, yet he would not find. Also, even if the wise one would claim to know, he is not able to find out.

8:8 ^[1] .

8:9 ^[2] . The Hebrew passage can be interpreted either way.

8:10 ^[3] . Other versions have .

Chapter 9

¹For all of this I have given to my heart, and to examine all of this, because the righteous ones and the wise ones and their deeds are in the hand of the true God. Even love, even hate, the man has no knowing the whole coming to their faces.

²The entirety is the same as what is for everyone, one fate

is for the righteous one and for the wicked one,

for the good one,^[1]

and for the pure one, and for the unclean one,

and for the one who is sacrificing and for one when he is not sacrificing.

As a good one,

just as the sinner,

the one who puts himself under an oath,

just as one fearing an oath. ³This is an evil among everything that has been done under the sun, that one fate is for everyone. Indeed, also the heart of the sons of the man is full of evil, and foolishness is in their heart during their lives, then after it to the dead ones. ⁴For whoever that has become joined to all the living ones, there is hope, for a living dog, it is better than the dead lion.^[2]

⁵For the living ones know that they will die,

but the dead ones, there is not their knowing anything.

Truly there is no longer for them a reward

because their memory is forgotten.

⁶Even their love, even their hate, even their jealousy

has perished long ago.

Thus there is not for them a portion any longer for forever

in everything that has been done under the sun. ⁷Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a happy heart, for the true God is already pleased with your actions. ⁸At every time let your garments be white and may oil on your head not be lacking. ⁹See life with a wife whom you love all the days of your life of futility, that he has given to you under the sun, all your days of futility, because it is your portion among the living and during your toil that you toil under the sun. ¹⁰All that your hand should find to do, do in your strength, because there is no deed or invention or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, where you are going to there.

¹¹I have turned and certainly seen under the sun,
 that the race is not for the swift ones,
 and the battle is not for the strong ones,
 and even bread is not for the wise ones,
 and even wealth is not for the ones who are intelligent,
 and even favor is not for the ones having understanding.
 Instead, time and chance will happen to all of them.

¹²Surely, also the man does not know his time.
 As the fish that are caught in a evil net,
 or as the birds that are caught in the snare,
 like them, the sons of the man are ensnared by an evil time

as when it falls upon them suddenly. ¹³Also, this I have seen: wisdom under the sun, and great it is to me. ¹⁴A small city with a few men in it, and a great king came against it and he surrounded it and he built mighty siege ramps against it. ¹⁵Now he found in it a poor, wise man, and he delivered the city by his wisdom. Yet a man did not remember that poor man. ¹⁶So I myself said, "Better is wisdom than strength, but the wisdom of the poor one is despised, and his words, they are not heeded."

¹⁷Words of wise ones in quietness are heeded more
 than an outcry of a ruler among the fools.

¹⁸Better is wisdom than weapons of war,
 but one sinner can destroy much good.

9:2 ^[1] . In this way, they make the phrase complete. Translators may decide to imitate them.
 9:4 ^[2] .

Chapter 10

¹Dead flies make precious oil of a perfumer give forth a stench,
 a little foolishness is more weighter than wisdom.

²A heart of a wise one is at his right hand,
 but a heart of a fool is at his left.

³Now even as soon as when the fool is going along a road,
 his heart is deficient,
 and he will say to everyone a fool he is.

⁴If the spirit of the ruler should rise up against you, do not leave your place,
 because restoration will settle down great offenses.

⁵There is an evil I have seen under the sun,
like an error that comes forth from before the faces of the ruler.

⁶The fool is given into the many dignified positions,
while rich ones are sitting in the humble rank.

⁷I have seen slaves on horses,
and princes walking like slaves on the ground.

⁸Anyone digging a pit
may fall into it, and anyone breaking down a hedge,
a snake may strike him.

⁹Anyone pulling out stones
may be hurt by them,
anyone splitting timbers
may be endangered by them.

¹⁰If the iron blade is dull, and he does not whet surfaces, then he must use greater strength, but an advantage is wisdom gives success.

¹¹If the snake should strike because there was no charming,
then there is no advantage for the master of the tongue.

¹²Words of a mouth of a wise one are gracious,
but lips of a fool will swallow him.

¹³The beginning of the words of his mouth are foolishness,
and at the end his mouth is wicked folly.

¹⁴Moreover, the fool multiplies words,
the man does not know what that will happen, or what will be beyond after him.
Who can explain to him?

¹⁵The toil of the foolish ones makes him weary,
so that he does not know to go to a city.

¹⁶Woe to you, O land, when your king is a lad,
and your princes are feasting in the morning!

¹⁷Blessed are you, O land, when your king is a son of noble ones,
and your princes are eating at the proper time,
for strength, and not for the drinking!

¹⁸Because of laziness the rafter will sag,
and because of idleness of hands the house will drip.

¹⁹For laughter they prepare bread,
and wine gladdens life,
but the silver will answer the whole thing.

²⁰Even in your thinking, do not curse a king,
and in the chambers of your bed, do not curse a rich one.
For a bird of the heavens will carry the voice,
and an owner of wings will expose a matter.

Chapter 11

¹Let your bread go out over the surfaces of the waters,
for in the multitude of the days you will find it.

²Give a portion to seven, or even to eight,
for you do not know what evil will happen upon the earth.

³If the dark clouds are filled with rain,
they will empty out upon the earth,
but if a tree should fall toward the south or even toward the north,
any place where the tree should fall, there it will remain.

⁴A watcher of wind might not sow,
and one who stares at the dark clouds might not harvest.

⁵Just as it is not for you knowing what is the path of the wind,
so the bones being in the womb of the full one,^[1]
so likewise you do not know the work of the true God,
who is doing everything.

⁶In the morning sow your seed,
and until the evening, do not let your hand rest,
for it is not for you knowing whether this will prosper.
Will it be this or that,
or whether the two of them as one would be better?

⁷Truly the light is sweet,

and it is a good thing for the eyes to see the sun.

⁸Even if the man should live many years,
in all of them let him rejoice.

But let him remember the days of darkness,
for they will be many.

Everything that comes will be futility.

⁹Rejoice, young man, in your childhood times,
and let your heart gladden you in the days of your youthful times.

So, go out in the ways of your heart,
and with the the sights of your eyes.

But, know that on account of all these things, the true God will bring you into the judgment.

¹⁰So remove anger from your heart,
and keep away sorrow from your flesh,
because the childhood and the youth is futility.

11:5 ^[1] .

Chapter 12

¹Now remember your Creator in the days of your youthful times, even when the days of the evil have not come,
but years will arrive when you will say,

“There is not delight for me in them,”

²as long as that the sun is not dark, nor the light of the moon, or the stars,
and the dark clouds return after the rain.

³On the day it will happen that the guards of the house will tremble,
and the men of strength will be stooped over,
and the women grain millers will cease from labor because they are few,
and the seeing through the latticework will grow dim.

⁴Then doors will be shut along the street,
when the sound of the handmill becomes quiet,
when they rise up at the sound of the bird,
and all the daughters of the song are weakened.

⁵They will even be afraid of height

and terrors along the road.

Although the almond tree might blossom,

yet the locusts fatten themselves

and the caperberry frustrates.

For the man is going to his eternal home

and the mourners will surround in the street.

6

Until that the cord of silver has not been fastened,

or the bowl of gold gets crushed,

then a jar is shattered at the fountain,

and the wheel crushes at the well,

⁷Likewise the dust will return to the earth as what it was,

and the spirit will return to the true God who gave it.

⁸"Most futile of futile things," says the Qohelet, "the entirety is futile." ⁹Moreover also because Qohelet was wise continually he taught the people knowledge. Also he pondered and he examined. He composed many proverbs.

¹⁰Qohelet sought to discover words of delight, and upright words of truth were written. ¹¹Words of wise ones are like goads, and like pegs implanted are masters of collections given by one shepherd. ¹²Furthermore also, from them, my son, be enlightened: making many scrolls, there is no end and much study is wearying to flesh.

¹³The end of the matter

is the whole has been heard:

fear the true God and keep his commandments,

for this is the entirety of the man.

¹⁴On account of every deed, the true God will bring into judgment,

along with anything having been hidden,

whether good or whether evil.

Song of Songs

Chapter 1

¹The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's.

The woman speaking to herself

²Oh, that he would kiss me with the kisses of his mouth,

The woman speaking to the man

for your love is better than wine.

³Your anointing oils have a delightful fragrance;

your name is like flowing perfume,

so the young women love you.

⁴Take me with you, and we will run.

The woman speaking to herself

The king has brought me into his rooms.

The woman speaking to the man

We are glad; We rejoice about you;

let us celebrate your love; it is better than wine.

It is natural for the other women to adore you.

The woman speaking to the other women

⁵I am dark but lovely,

you daughters of Jerusalem—

dark like the tents of Kedar,

lovely like the curtains of Solomon.

⁶Do not stare at me because I am dark,

because the sun has scorched me.

My mother's sons were angry with me;

they made me keeper of the vineyards,

but my own vineyard I have not kept.

The woman speaking to the man

⁷Tell me, you whom my soul loves,

where do you feed your flock?

Where do you rest your flock at noontime?

Why should I be like someone who wanders

beside the flocks of your companions?

The man speaking to the woman

⁸If you do not know, most beautiful among women,

follow the tracks of my flock,

and pasture your young goats near the shepherds' tents.

⁹I compare you, my love,

to a mare among Pharaoh's chariot horses.

¹⁰Your cheeks are beautiful with ornaments,

your neck with strings of jewels.

¹¹We will make for you gold ornaments

with silver studs.

The woman speaking to herself

¹²While the king lay on his couch,

my nard emitted its fragrance.

¹³My beloved is to me like a bag of myrrh

that spends the night lying between my breasts.

¹⁴My beloved is to me like a cluster of henna flowers

in the vineyards of En Gedi.

The man speaking to the woman

¹⁵Listen, you are beautiful, my love;

listen, you are beautiful;

your eyes are doves.

The woman speaking to the man

¹⁶Listen, you are handsome, my beloved, how handsome.

The lush plants are our bed.

¹⁷The beams of our house are cedars;

our rafters are firs.

Chapter 2

The woman speaking to the man

¹I am a meadow flower of Sharon,
a lily of the valleys.

The man speaking to the woman

²As a lily among thorns,
so is my love among the young women.

The woman speaking to herself

³As an apricot tree among the trees of the forest,
so is my beloved among the young men.

I sit down under his shadow with great delight,
and his fruit is sweet to my taste.

⁴He brought me to the house of wine,
and his banner over me was love.

The woman speaking to the man

⁵Revive me with raisin cakes and refresh me with apricots,
for I am weak with love.

The woman speaking to herself

⁶His left hand is under my head,
and his right hand embraces me.

The woman speaking to the other women

⁷I want you to swear, daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles and the does of the fields,
that you will not awaken or arouse love
until she pleases.

The woman speaking to herself

⁸There is the sound of my beloved! Listen, here he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
jumping over the hills.

⁹My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag;
look, he is standing behind our wall,

gazing through the window,
peering through the lattice.

10My beloved spoke to me and said,
"Arise, my love;
My beautiful one, come away with me.

11Look, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.

12The flowers have appeared in the land;
the time for pruning and the singing of birds has come,
and the sound of the doves is heard in our land.

13The fig tree ripens her green figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give off their fragrance.
Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away.

14My dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the secret clefts of the mountain crags,
let me see your face.
Let me hear your voice,
for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely."

The woman speaking to the man

15Catch the foxes for us, the little foxes
that spoil vineyards,
for our vineyard is in blossom.

16My beloved is mine, and I am his;
he grazes among the lilies with pleasure.

The woman speaking to the man

17Go away, my beloved,
before the soft winds of dawn blow and the shadows flee away.
Go away; be like a gazelle or a young stag
on the rugged mountains.

Chapter 3

The woman speaking to herself

¹At night on my bed

I was longing for him whom my soul loves;

I looked for him, but I could not find him.

²I said to myself, "I will get up and go through the city,

through the streets and squares;

I will search for him whom my soul loves."

I searched for him, but I did not find him.

³The watchmen found me as they were making their rounds in the city.

I asked them, "Have you seen him whom my soul loves?"

⁴It was only a little while after I had passed 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,

into the bedroom of the one who had conceived me.

The woman speaking to the other women

⁵I want you to swear, daughters of Jerusalem,

by the gazelles and the does of the fields,

that you will not awaken or arouse love

until she pleases.

The woman speaking to herself

⁶What is that coming up from the wilderness

like a column of smoke,

perfumed with myrrh and frankincense,

with all the powders sold by merchants?

⁷Look, it is the bed of Solomon;

sixty warriors surround it,

sixty soldiers of Israel.

⁸All of them are skilled with a sword and are experienced in warfare.

Every man has his sword at his side,

armed against the terrors of the night.

⁹King Solomon made himself a sedan chair
of the wood from Lebanon.

¹⁰Its posts were made of silver;
the back was made of gold, and the seat of purple cloth.
Its interior was decorated with love
by the daughters of Jerusalem.

The woman speaking to the women of Jerusalem

¹¹Go out, daughters of Zion, and gaze on King Solomon,
bearing the crown with which his mother crowned him
on his wedding day,
on the day of the joy of his heart.

Chapter 4

The man speaking to the woman

¹Oh, you are beautiful, my love; you are beautiful.
Your eyes are doves behind your veil.

Your hair is like a flock of goats
going down from Mount Gilead.

²Your teeth are like a flock of newly shorn ewes,
coming up from the washing place.

Each one has a twin,
and none among them is bereaved.

³Your lips are like a thread of scarlet;
your mouth is lovely.

Your cheeks are like pomegranate halves
behind your veil.

⁴Your neck is like the tower of David built in rows of stone,
with a thousand shields hanging on it,
all the shields of soldiers.

⁵Your two breasts are like two fawns,

twins of a gazelle,
grazing among the lilies.

⁶Until the dawn arrives and the shadows flee away,
I will go to the mountain of myrrh
and to the hill of frankincense.

⁷You are beautiful in every way, my love
and there is no blemish in you.

⁸Come with me from Lebanon, my bride.
Come with me from Lebanon;
come from the top of Amana,
from the top of Senir and Hermon,
from lions' dens,
from mountain dens of leopards.

⁹You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride;
you have stolen my heart,
with just one look at me,
with just one jewel of your necklace.

¹⁰How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride!
How much better is your love than wine,
and the fragrance of your perfume than any spice.

¹¹Your lips, my bride, drip honey;
honey and milk are under your tongue;
the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.

¹²My sister, my bride is a garden locked up,
a garden locked up, a spring that is sealed.

¹³Your branches are a grove of pomegranate trees with choice fruits,
and of henna and nard plants,

¹⁴Nard and saffron,
calamus and cinnamon with all kinds of spices,
myrrh and aloes with all the finest spices.

¹⁵You are a garden spring,

a well of fresh water,
streams flowing down from Lebanon.

The woman speaking to the man

¹⁶Awake, north wind; come, south wind;
blow on my garden so that its spices may give off their fragrance.
May my beloved come into his garden
and eat some of its choice fruit.

Chapter 5

The man speaking to the woman

¹I 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.

The friends speaking to the man and the woman

Eat, friends;
drink and be drunk with love.

The woman speaking to herself

²I was asleep, but my heart was awake.
There is the sound of my beloved knocking and saying,
“Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled one,
for my head is wet with dew,
my hair with the night’s dampness.”

³“I have taken off my robe; must I put it on again?

I have washed my feet; must I get them dirty?”

⁴My beloved put in his hand through the opening of the door latch,
and my heart was stirred up for him.

⁵I got up to open the door for my beloved;

my hands were dripping with myrrh,
my fingers with moist myrrh,
on the door handle.

⁶I opened the door for my beloved,
but my beloved had turned and gone.
My heart sank when he spoke.^[1]

I looked for him, but I did not find him;
I called him, but he did not answer me.

⁷The watchmen found me as they were making their rounds in the city.
They struck me and wounded me;
the guards on the walls took away my cloak from me.
The woman speaking to the women of the city

⁸I want you to swear, daughters of Jerusalem,
that if you find my beloved—
What will you make known to him?—
that I am sick from love.

The women of the city speaking to the woman

⁹How is your beloved better than another beloved man,
most beautiful among women?
Why is your beloved better than another beloved,
that you ask us to take an oath like this?

The woman speaking to the women of the city

¹⁰My beloved is radiant and ruddy,
outstanding among ten thousand.

¹¹His head is the purest gold;
his hair is curly and as black as a raven.

¹²His eyes are like doves beside streams of water,
bathed in milk, mounted like jewels.

¹³His cheeks are like beds of spices,
yielding aromatic scents.^[2]

His lips are lilies, dripping liquid myrrh.

¹⁴His arms are rounded gold set with jewels;
his abdomen is ivory covered with sapphires.

¹⁵His legs are pillars of marble, set on bases of pure gold;

his appearance is like Lebanon, choice as the cedars.

¹⁶His mouth is most sweet;

he is completely lovely.

This is my beloved, and this is my friend,

daughters of Jerusalem.

5:6 ^[1] .

5:13 ^[2] .

Chapter 6

The women of Jerusalem speaking to the young woman

¹Where has your beloved gone,

most beautiful among women?

In what direction has your beloved gone,

so that we may seek him with you?

The woman speaking to herself

²My beloved has gone down to his garden,

to the beds of spices,

to graze in the garden and to gather lilies.

³I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine;

he grazes among the lilies with pleasure.

The man speaking to the woman

⁴You are as beautiful as Tirzah, my love,

as lovely as Jerusalem,

as awe-inspiring as an army with its banners.

⁵Turn your eyes away from me,

for they overwhelm me.

Your hair is like a flock of goats

going down from the slopes of Gilead.

⁶Your teeth are like a flock of ewes

coming up from the washing place.

Each one has a twin,

and none among them is bereaved.

⁷Your cheeks are like pomegranate halves
behind your veil.

The man speaking to himself

⁸There are sixty queens, eighty concubines,
and young women without number.

⁹My dove, my undefiled, is the only one;
she is the only daughter of her mother;
she is the favorite one of the woman who bore her.

The young women saw her and called her blessed;
the queens and the concubines saw her also, and they praised her:

What the queens and the concubines said

¹⁰“Who is this who appears like the dawn,
as beautiful as the moon,
as bright as the sun,
as awe-inspiring as an army with its banners?”

The man speaking to himself

¹¹I went down into the grove of nut trees
to see the young growth in the valley,
to see whether the vines had budded,
and whether the pomegranates were in bloom.

¹²I was so happy that I felt
I was riding in the chariot of a prince.

The friends speaking to the woman

¹³Turn back, turn back, you perfect woman;^[1]
turn back, turn back so that we may gaze on you.

The woman speaking to the friends

Why do you gaze on the perfect woman,^[2]
as if on the dance between two armies?^[3]

6:13 ^[1] .

6:13 ^[2] .

6:13 ^[3] .

Chapter 7

The man speaking to the woman

¹How beautiful your feet appear in your sandals, prince's daughter!

The curves of your thighs are like jewels,
the work of the hands of a master craftsman.

²Your navel is like a round bowl;
may it never lack mixed wine.

Your belly is like a mound of wheat
encircled with lilies.

³Your two breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle.

⁴Your neck is like a tower of ivory;
your eyes are the pools in Heshbon
by the gate of Bath Rabbim.

Your nose is like the tower in Lebanon
that looks toward Damascus.

⁵Your head is on you like Carmel;
the hair on your head is dark purple.
The king is held captive by its tresses.

⁶How beautiful and how lovely you are,
my love, with delights!^[1]

⁷Your height is like that of a date palm tree,
and your breasts like clusters of fruit.

⁸I said, "I want to climb that palm tree;
I will take hold of its branches."
May your breasts be like clusters of grapes,
and may the fragrance of your nose be like apricots.

⁹May your palate be like the best wine,
flowing smoothly for my beloved,
gliding over the lips of those who sleep.^[2]

The woman speaking to the man

¹⁰I am my beloved's,
and he desires me.

¹¹Come, my beloved, let us go out into the countryside;
let us spend the night in the villages.^[3]

¹²Let us rise early to go to the vineyards;
let us see whether the vines have budded,
whether their blossoms have opened,
and whether the pomegranates are in flower.
There I will give you my love.

¹³The mandrakes give off their fragrance;
at the door where we are staying are all sorts of choice fruits, new and old,
that I have stored up for you, my beloved.

7:6 ^[1] .

7:9 ^[2] .

7:11 ^[3] .

Chapter 8

The woman speaking to the man

¹I wish that you were like my brother,
who nursed at my mother's breasts.
Then whenever I met you outside, I could kiss you,
and no one would despise me.

²I would lead you and bring you into my mother's house—
she who taught me.

I would give you spiced wine to drink
and some of the juice of my pomegranates.

The woman speaking to herself

³His left hand is under my head
and his right hand embraces me.

The woman speaking to the other women

⁴I want you to swear, daughters of Jerusalem,
that you will not stir up or awaken love

until it pleases.

The women of Jerusalem speaking

⁵Who is this who is coming up from the wilderness,

leaning on her beloved?

The woman speaking to the man

I awakened you under the apricot tree;

there your mother conceived you;

there she gave birth to you, she delivered you.

⁶Set me as a seal over your heart,

like a seal on your arm,

for love is as strong as death.

Passionate devotion is as unrelenting as Sheol;

its flames burst out; it is a blazing flame,

a flame hotter than any other fire.

⁷Surging waters cannot quench love,

nor can floods sweep it away.

If a man gave all the possessions in his house for love,

the offer would utterly be despised.

The woman's brothers speaking among themselves

⁸We have a little sister,

and her breasts have not yet grown.

What can we do for our sister

on the day when she will be promised in marriage?

⁹If she is a wall,

we will build on her a tower of silver.

If she is a door,

we will adorn her with boards of cedar.

The woman speaking to herself

¹⁰I was a wall, but my breasts are now like fortress towers;^[1]

so I am in his eyes as one who brings peace.^[2]

The woman speaking to herself

11Solomon had a vineyard at Baal Hamon.

He gave the vineyard to those who would maintain it.

Each one was to bring a thousand shekels of silver for its fruit.

12My vineyard, my very own, is before me;

the thousand shekels are for you, Solomon,

and the two hundred shekels are for those who maintain its fruit.

The man speaking to the woman

13You who live in the gardens,

my companions are listening for your voice;

let me hear it.

The woman speaking to the man

14Hurry, my beloved,

and be like a gazelle or a young stag

on the mountains of spices.

8:10 ^[1] .

8:10 ^[2] .

Isaiah

Chapter 1

¹The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, that he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, {and} Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

²Hear, heavens, and give ear, earth; for Yahweh has spoken:

“Children I have raised and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.

³The ox knows his owner, and the donkey the feeding trough of his master,
{but} Israel does not know, my people does not understand.”

⁴Woe! Sinful nation, people heavy with iniquity,
seed of evildoers, sons who act corruptly!

They have abandoned Yahweh, they have despised the Holy One of Israel,
they have estranged themselves from him.

⁵Why should you still be beaten, should you continue to rebel?

The whole head is sick, the whole heart is weak.

⁶From the sole of the foot to the head {there is} no health in it;
{but} bruises, and sores, and fresh wounds;
they have not been pressed out, and they have not been bandaged, and they have not been softened with oil.

⁷Your land {is} a desolation; your cities {are} burned with fire;
your field—in front of you strangers are devouring it;
a desolation as the overthrowing of strangers.

⁸And Daughter Zion is left like a hut in a vineyard,
like a shed in a cucumber field, like a besieged city.

⁹If Yahweh of hosts had not left for us a few survivors,
we would have been like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah.

¹⁰Hear the word of Yahweh, rulers of Sodom;
listen to the law of our God, people of Gomorrah:

¹¹“What is the multitude of your sacrifices to me?” says Yahweh.
“I have had enough of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fatted beasts;
and in the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats I do not delight.

12When you come to appear before me,
who has required this of you, to trample my courts?

13Do not continue to bring an offering of worthlessness; incense is an abomination to me;
new moon and Sabbath and calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity with a festive assembly.

14My soul hates your new moons and your appointed feasts;
they are a burden to me; I have become weary with carrying.

15So when you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you multiply prayer, I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.

16Wash, cleanse yourselves;
remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes;
stop doing evil;

17Learn to do good;
seek justice, correct the oppressor,^[1]
give justice to the fatherless, contend for the widow.”

18“Come now, and let us argue together,” says Yahweh;
“though your sins are like scarlet, they will be white like snow;
though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.

19If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land,

20but if you refuse and rebel, by the sword you will be devoured,”
for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken.

21How the faithful city has become a prostitute!
She who was full of justice—righteousness lodged in her,
but now murderers.

22Your silver has become dross, your wine mixed with water.

23Your princes {are} rebels and companions of thieves;
everyone loves bribes and runs after payoffs.
They do not defend the fatherless, and the legal plea of the widow does not come before them.

24Therefore this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel:
“Woe! I will take vengeance against my adversaries, and avenge myself against my enemies;

25I will turn my hand against you,

refine away your dross as with lye, and take away all your dross.

²⁶I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning; afterwards you will be called the city of righteousness, a faithful town.”

²⁷Zion will be redeemed by justice, and her repentant ones by righteousness.

²⁸Rebels and sinners {will be} crushed together, and those who abandon Yahweh will come to an end.

²⁹“For they will be ashamed of the sacred oak trees that you desired, and you will be embarrassed by the gardens that you have chosen.

³⁰For you will be like an oak whose leaf fades, and like a garden that has no water.

³¹The strong man will be like tinder, and his work like a spark; both of them will burn together, and there will be no one to quench {them}.”

1:17 ^[1], some versions have .

Chapter 2

¹The things that Isaiah son of Amoz perceived in a vision, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²It will be in the last days
{that} the mountain of Yahweh’s house
will be established as the highest of the mountains,
and it will be raised up above the hills,
and all the nations will flow to it.

³Many peoples will come and say,
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the God of Jacob,
so he may teach us some of his ways, and we may walk in his paths.”
For out of Zion will go the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.

⁴He will judge between the nations and will render decisions for many peoples;
they will hammer their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any longer.

⁵House of Jacob, come, and let us walk in the light of Yahweh.

⁶For you have abandoned your people, the house of Jacob,
because they are filled with customs from the east and they practice divination like the Philistines,
and they shake hands with sons of foreigners.

⁷Their land is full of silver and gold, and is there no limit to their wealth;
their land also is full of horses, nor is there limit to their chariots.

⁸Their land also is full of idols;
they worship the craftsmanship of their own hands, things that their own fingers have made.

⁹The people will be bowed down, and individuals will fall down; therefore do not raise them up.

¹⁰Go into the rocky places and hide in the ground
from the terror of Yahweh and from the glory of his majesty.

¹¹The lofty gaze of man will be brought low, and the pride of men will be brought down,
and Yahweh alone will be exalted on that day.

¹²For there will be a day of Yahweh of hosts
against everyone who is proud and raised up, and against everyone who is arrogant—and he will be {brought}
down—

¹³and against all the cedars of Lebanon {that are} high and lifted up,
and against all the oaks of Bashan.

¹⁴That day of Yahweh of hosts will be against all the high mountains, and against all the hills {that are} lifted up,

¹⁵and against every high tower, and against every impregnable wall,

¹⁶and against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all beautiful sailing vessels.

¹⁷The pride of man will be brought low, and the haughtiness of men will fall;
Yahweh alone will be exalted on that day.

¹⁸The idols will completely pass away.

¹⁹Men will go into the caves of the rocks and the holes of the ground,
from the terror of Yahweh, and from the glory of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth.

²⁰On that day people will throw away their idols of silver and of gold
that they have made for themselves to worship—they will throw them away to the moles and bats.

²¹The people will go into the crevices in the rocks and into the clefts of the {ragged} rocks,
from the terror of Yahweh and from the glory of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth.

²²Stop trusting in man, whose life-breath {is} in his nostrils,
for what does he amount to?

Chapter 3

¹See, the Lord Yahweh of hosts is about to take away from Jerusalem and from Judah

support and staff: the whole supply of bread and the whole supply of water,
2the mighty man and the warrior, the judge and the prophet, the one who practices divination and the elder,
3the captain of fifty and the respected citizen, the counselor, the expert craftsman and the skillful enchanter.
4“I will place mere youths as their leaders, and the young will rule over them.
5The people will be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbor;
the child will insult the elderly, and the degraded will challenge the honorable.
6A man will even take hold of his brother in his father’s house
{and say}, ‘You have a coat; be our ruler, and {let} this ruin {be} in your hands.’
7On that day he will shout and say,
‘I will not be a healer; I have no bread or clothing.
You will not make me ruler of the people.’”
8For Jerusalem has stumbled, and Judah has fallen,
because their speech and their actions {are} against Yahweh, defying the eyes of his glory.
9The look on their faces witnesses against them; and they tell of their sin like Sodom; they do not hide {it.}
Woe to them! For they have completed a catastrophe for themselves.
10Tell the righteous person that it will be well, for they will eat the fruit of their deeds.
11Woe to the wicked! It will go badly for him, for the recompense of his hands will be done to him.
12My people—children are their oppressors, and women rule over them.
My people, those who guide you lead {you} astray and confuse the direction of your path.
13Yahweh stands up for an accusation; he is standing to accuse the people.
14Yahweh will come with judgment against the elders of his people and their leaders:
“You have ruined the vineyard; the plunder from the poor {is} in your houses.
15Why do you crush my people and grind the faces of the poor?”
This is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts.
16Yahweh says that because the daughters of Zion are proud,
they walk with their necks extended,
with flirting eyes, walking with tiny steps as they go,
making tinkling sounds from bracelets on their ankles.
17Therefore the Lord will form scabs on the heads of the daughters of Zion,
and Yahweh will make them bald.
18On that day the Lord will remove their beautiful ankle jewelry, head bands, the crescent ornaments,

¹⁹the ear pendants, the bracelets, and the veils;

²⁰the headscarves, the ankle chains, the sashes, and the perfume boxes, and the lucky charms.

²¹He will remove the rings and the nose jewels;

²²the festive robes, the mantles, the veils, and the handbags;

²³the hand mirrors, the fine linen, the head pieces, and the wraps.

²⁴Instead of sweet perfume there will be stench; and instead of a sash, a rope;

instead of well-arranged hair, baldness; and instead of a robe, a covering of sackcloth;

and branding instead of beauty.

²⁵Your men will fall by the sword, and your strong men will fall in war.

²⁶Jerusalem's gates will lament and mourn; and she will be alone and sit upon the ground.

Chapter 4

¹On that day seven women will take hold of one man and say,

"Our own food we will eat, our own clothing we will wear.

But let us take your name to remove our shame."

²On that day the branch of Yahweh will be beautiful and glorious,

and the fruit of the land will be tasty

and delightful for those survivors in Israel.

³It will happen that {the one who is} left in Zion

and the one who remains in Jerusalem will be called holy,

everyone who is written down as living in Jerusalem.

⁴This will happen when the Lord will have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion,

and will have cleansed the blood stains from Jerusalem's midst,

by means of the spirit of judgment and the spirit of flaming fire.

⁵Then over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her place of assembly,

Yahweh will create cloud and smoke by day,

and the shining of a flaming fire by night;

it {will be} a canopy over all the glory.

⁶It will be a shelter for shade in the daytime from the heat,

and a refuge and a cover from the storm and rain.

Chapter 5

¹Let me sing for my well beloved, a song of my beloved about his vineyard.

My well beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He spaded it, removed the stones, and planted it with an excellent kind of vine.

He built a tower in the middle of it, and also built a winepress.

He waited for {it} to produce grapes, but it only produced wild grapes.

³So now, inhabitant of Jerusalem and man of Judah,

judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more could have been done for my vineyard, that I have not done for it?

When I looked for {it} to produce grapes, why did it produce wild grapes?

⁵Now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will remove the hedge,

I will turn it into a pasture, I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

⁶I will lay it waste, and it will not be pruned nor hoed. Instead, briars and thorns will spring up.

I will also command the clouds not to rain on it.

⁷For the vineyard of Yahweh of hosts {is} the house of Israel,

and the man of Judah his pleasant planting;

he waited for justice, but instead, there was killing; for righteousness, but, instead, a shout {for help}.

⁸Woe to those who join house to house, who join field to field,

until no room remains, and you alone remain in the land!

⁹Yahweh of hosts {told} me,

many houses will be empty, even great and impressive ones, without any inhabitant.

¹⁰For a ten-yoke vineyard will yield only one bath, and one homer of seed will yield only an ephah.

¹¹Woe to those who rise up early in the morning to obtain strong drink,

those who linger late into the night {until} wine inflames them.

¹²They banquet with harp, lute, tambourine, flute, and wine,

but they do not recognize the work of Yahweh, nor have they considered the doings of his hands.

¹³Therefore my people have gone into captivity for lack of understanding;

their honored leaders go hungry, and their common people have nothing to drink.

¹⁴Therefore Sheol has made its appetite greater and has opened its mouth very wide;

their elite, the people, their leaders, and the revelers and those who are happy among them, descend into Sheol.

¹⁵Man will be forced to bend down, and mankind will be humbled; the eyes of the lofty will be cast down.

¹⁶Yahweh of hosts will be exalted in his justice, and God the Holy One will show himself holy by his righteousness.

¹⁷Then the sheep will feed as in their own pasture, and in the ruins, lambs will graze as foreigners.^[1]

¹⁸Woe to those who pull along iniquity with useless cords and who pull along sin as if it were with a cart rope.

¹⁹Woe to those who say, "Let God hurry, let him act quickly, so we can see {it} happen; and let the plans of the Holy One of Israel come, so that we may know them."

²⁰Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;
who represent darkness as light, and light as darkness;
who represent bitter as sweet, and sweet as bitter!

²¹Woe to {those who are} wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own understanding!

²²{Woe} to those who are champions at drinking wine, and masters at mixing strong drinks;

²³who acquit the wicked for payment, and deprive the innocent of his rights!

²⁴Therefore as the tongue of fire devours stubble, and as the dry grass goes down in flame,
so their root will rot, and their blossom will blow away like dust.

This will happen because they have rejected the law of Yahweh of hosts, and because they have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

²⁵Therefore the anger of Yahweh is kindled against his people. He has reached out with his hand against them and has punished them.

The mountains tremble, and their corpses are like garbage in the streets.

In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand [is] still stretched out.

²⁶He will lift up a signal flag for far away nations and will whistle for those at the end of the earth.

Look, they will come speedily and promptly.

²⁷None tire or stumble among them; none slumbers or sleeps.

Nor are their belts loose, or the thongs of their sandals broken.

²⁸Their arrows {are} sharp and all their bows are bent;
their horses' hooves are like flint, and their chariot wheels like storms.

²⁹Their roaring {will be} like a lion; they will roar like young lions.

They will growl and seize the prey and drag {it} away, with none to rescue.

³⁰On that day they will roar against the prey as the sea roars.

If {anyone} looks over the land, he will see darkness and suffering; even the light will be made dark by the clouds.

5:17 ^[1] .

Chapter 6

¹In the year that king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne; he was high and elevated, and the hem of his {robe} filled the temple. ²Above him were the seraphim; {each} one had six wings; with two each covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³Each {one} called to another and said,

“Holy, holy, holy, {is} Yahweh of hosts! The whole earth {is} full of his glory.”

⁴The foundations of the thresholds shook at the voices of those who were crying out, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵Then I said,

“Woe {is} me! For I am doomed because I am a man of unclean lips,

and I live among a people of unclean lips,

because my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh, Yahweh of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me; he had a glowing coal in his hand, that he had taken with the tongs from off the altar. ⁷He touched my mouth {with it} and said,

“See, this has touched your lips; your guilt has been taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

⁸I heard the voice of the Lord say, “Whom shall I send; who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I {am;} send me.”

⁹He said, “Go and tell this people,

‘Listen, but do not understand; see, but do not perceive.’

¹⁰Make the heart of this people insensitive, and their ears dull, and blind their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and then turn and be healed.” ¹¹Then I said, “Lord, how long?” He answered,

“Until cities crash into ruins and are without inhabitants,

and the houses are without people, and the land falls into a desolate waste,

¹²and until Yahweh has sent the people far away, and the solitude of the land is great.

¹³Even if a tenth of the people remain in it, it {will} again {be} destroyed;

as a terebinth or an oak is cut down and whose trunk {remains},

the holy seed {is in} its stump.”

Chapter 7

¹During the days of Ahaz son of Jotham son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Aram, and Pekah son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up to Jerusalem to war against it, but they could not prevail against it. ²It was reported to the house of David that Aram was allied with Ephraim. His heart trembled, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the forest shake in the wind.^[1]

³Then Yahweh said to Isaiah, “Go out with your son Shear-Jashub to meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, on the road to Launderer’s Field. ⁴Tell him, ‘Be careful, remain calm, do not be afraid or intimidated by

these two smoldering firebrands, by the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram, and of Pekah son of Remaliah. ⁵Aram, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah have planned evil against you; they have said, ⁶“Let us attack Judah and terrify her, and let us break into her and set up our king there, the son of Tabeel.”

⁷The Lord Yahweh says, “It will not take place; it will not happen,

⁸because the head of Aram {is} Damascus, and the head of Damascus {is} Rezin.

Within sixty-five years, Ephraim will be shattered and will no longer be a people.

⁹The head of Ephraim {is} Samaria, and the head of Samaria {is} Remaliah’s son.

If you do not remain firm in faith, surely you will not remain secure.””

¹⁰The Lord spoke again to Ahaz,^[2] ¹¹“Ask a sign of Yahweh your God; ask for it in the depths or in the height above.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, nor will I test Yahweh.” ¹³So Isaiah replied, “Listen, house of David. {Is it} not enough for you people to test the patience of people? Must you also test the patience of my God? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you people a sign: See, the young woman will conceive, bear a son, and will call his name Immanuel.^[3] ¹⁵He will eat curds and honey when he knows to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be desolate. ¹⁷Yahweh will bring on you, on your people, and on your father’s house days unlike any since Ephraim seceded from Judah—he will bring on you the king of Assyria.”

¹⁸At that time

Yahweh will whistle for a fly from the distant streams of Egypt,

and for a bee from the land of Assyria.

¹⁹They will all come and settle down into all the gorges, into the clefts of the rocks, on all the thornbushes, and onto all the pastures.

²⁰At that time the Lord will shave with a razor that was hired beyond the Euphrates River—the king of Assyria—the head and the hair of the legs; it will also sweep away the beard.

²¹On that day, a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep,

²²and because of the abundance of milk which they shall give, he will eat curds, for everyone left in the land will eat curds and honey.

²³At that time, where there were a thousand vines {worth} a thousand silver {shekels}, there will be nothing but briars and thorns.

²⁴Men will go there to hunt with bows, because all the land will be briars and thorns.

²⁵They will stay away from all the hills that were cultivated with the hoe, for fear of the briars and thorns; but it will be a place where cattle and sheep graze.

7:2 ^[1], some versions have .

7:10 ^[2], some versions have .

7:14 ^[3], some versions have .

Chapter 8

¹Yahweh said to me, "Take a large tablet and write on it, 'Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.' ²I will summon faithful witnesses to attest for me, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah son of Jeberekiah." ³I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son. Then Yahweh said to me, "Call his name Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz. ⁴For before the child knows to cry, 'My father,' and, 'My mother,' the riches of Damascus and the plunder of Samaria will be carried away by the king of Assyria."

⁵Yahweh spoke to me again,

⁶"Because this people has refused the gentle waters of Shiloah,
and is happy over Rezin and Remaliah's son,

⁷therefore the Lord is about to bring up on them the waters of the River, mighty and many, the king of Assyria and all his glory.

It will come up over all its channels and overflow its banks.

⁸The River will sweep onward into Judah, flooding and passing on, until it reaches to your neck.

Its outstretched wings will fill the breadth of your land, Immanuel."

⁹You peoples will be broken to pieces. Listen, all you distant countries:

arm yourselves for war and be broken in pieces; arm yourselves and be broken in pieces.

¹⁰Form a plan, but it will not be carried out; issue the command, but it will not be carried out,

for God {is} with us. ¹¹Yahweh spoke to me, with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people.

¹²Do not call conspiracy anything that this people calls conspiracy,
you will not fear what they fear, and do not be terrified.

¹³It is Yahweh of hosts whom you will honor as holy; he is the one you must fear, and he is the one you must dread.

¹⁴He will become a sanctuary;

but he will be a stone of striking, and a rock of stumbling—

for both the houses of Israel,

and he will be a trap and a snare

to the people of Jerusalem.

¹⁵Many will stumble over it and fall and be broken, and be ensnared and captured.

¹⁶Bind up my testimony, seal the official record, and give it to my disciples.

¹⁷I will wait for Yahweh, who hides his face from the house of Jacob; I will trust in him.

¹⁸See, I and the sons whom Yahweh has given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel
from Yahweh of hosts, who lives on Mount Zion.

¹⁹They will say to you, "Consult with those who speak with the dead and with spirits," the ones who chirp and mutter incantations. But should a people not consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰To the law and to the testimony! If they do not say such things, it is because they have no light of dawn.

²¹They will pass through the land greatly distressed and hungry. When they are hungry, they will become angry and curse their king and their God, as they turn their faces upward.

²²They will look at the earth

and see distress, darkness, and oppressive gloom. {They will be} driven into a land of darkness.

Chapter 9

¹The gloom {will be} dispelled from her who {was} in anguish.

In an earlier time he humiliated

the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,

but in the later time he will make it glorious, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

those who have lived in the land of the shadow of death, the light has shone on them.^[1]

³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased their joy.

They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time,

as {men} rejoice when they divide the plunder.

⁴For the yoke of his burden, the beam across his shoulder,

the rod of his oppressor, you have shattered as on the day of Midian.

⁵For every boot treading in the tumult

and the garments rolled in blood

will be burned, fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child has been born, to us a son has been given;

and the rule will be on his shoulder;

and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the increase of {his} government and of peace {there will be} no end,

as he rules on the throne of David, and over his kingdom,

to establish it and sustain it

with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and for evermore.

The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will do this.

⁸The Lord sent a word against Jacob, and it fell on Israel.

⁹All the people will know, even Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who say in pride and with an arrogant heart,

¹⁰"The bricks have fallen, but we will rebuild with chiseled stone; the sycamores have been cut down, but we will put cedars in their place."

¹¹Therefore Yahweh will raise up against him Rezin, his adversary, and will stir up his enemies,

¹²the Arameans on the east, and the Philistines on the west. They will devour Israel with open mouth.

In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand {is} still stretched out.

¹³Yet the people will not turn to him who struck them, nor will they seek Yahweh of hosts.

¹⁴Therefore Yahweh will cut off from Israel head and tail, palm branch and reed, in one day.

¹⁵The leader and the noble man {are} the head; and the prophet that teaches lies {is} the tail.

¹⁶Those who lead this people lead {them} astray, and {those who are} led by them are swallowed up.

¹⁷Therefore the Lord will not rejoice over their young men nor will he have compassion on their fatherless and widows,

since every one is godless and an evildoer, and every mouth speaks foolish things.

In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand is still stretched out.

¹⁸Wickedness burns like a fire; it devours the briars and thorns;

it even burns the thickets of the forest, which rise in a column of smoke.

¹⁹Through the fury of Yahweh of hosts the land is scorched, and the people are like fuel for the fire.

No man spares his brother.

²⁰They will grab food on the right hand but still be hungry; they will eat food on the left hand but will not be satisfied.

Each will even eat the flesh of his own arm.^[2]

²¹Manasseh {will devour} Ephraim, and Ephraim, Manasseh; and they together {will} attack Judah.

In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand {is} still stretched out.

9:2 ^[1], some versions have .

9:20 ^[2], some versions have .

Chapter 10

¹Woe to those who enact unjust laws and write unfair decrees.

²They deprive the needy of justice, rob the poor of my people of their rights, plunder widows, and make the fatherless their prey!

³What will you do on judgment day when the destruction comes from far away?

To whom will you flee for help, and where will you leave your wealth?

⁴Nothing remains, and you crouch among the prisoners or fall among the killed.

In all these things, his anger does not subside; instead, his hand {is} still stretched out.

⁵Woe to the Assyrian, the club of my anger, the rod by whom I wield my fury!

⁶I send him against an arrogant nation and against the people who bear my overflowing wrath.

I order him to take the spoil, to take the prey, and to trample them like mud in the streets.

⁷But this is not what he intends, nor does he think this way.

{It is} in his heart to destroy and eliminate many nations.

⁸For he says, "{Are} not all my princes kings?

⁹{Is} not Kalno like Carchemish?

{Is} not Hamath like Arpad? {Is} not Samaria like Damascus?

¹⁰As my hand has overcome idolatrous kingdoms, whose carved figures were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria,

¹¹just as I did to Samaria and her worthless idols,

will I not also do the same to Jerusalem and to her idols?"

¹²When the Lord has finished his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the speech of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and his prideful looks. ¹³For he says,

"By my strength and by my wisdom I acted. I have understanding,

and I have removed the boundaries of the peoples. I have stolen their treasures,

and like a bull I have brought down the inhabitants.

¹⁴My hand has seized, as from a nest, the wealth of nations,

and as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth.

None fluttered their wings or opened their mouth or chirped."

¹⁵Will the ax boast about itself against the one who wields it?

Will the saw praise itself more than the one who cuts with it?

It is as if a rod could lift up those who raise it, {or} as if a wooden club could lift up a person.

¹⁶Therefore the Lord Yahweh of hosts will send emaciation among his elite warriors;

and under his glory there will be kindled a burning like fire.

¹⁷The light of Israel will become a fire, and his Holy One a flame;

it will burn and devour his thorns and briars in one day.

18Yahweh will consume the glory of his forest and of his fruitful land, both soul and body;

it will be like when a sick man's life wastes away.

19The remnant of the trees of his forest will be so {few}, that a child could count them.

20On that day, the remnant of Israel, the family of Jacob that has escaped, will no longer rely on the one who defeated them, but will indeed depend on Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel.

21A remnant of Jacob will return to the mighty God.

22For though your people, Israel, are like the sand of the seashore, only a remnant of them will return. Destruction is decreed, as overflowing righteousness demands.

23For the Lord Yahweh of hosts, is about to carry out the destruction determined throughout the land.

24Therefore the Lord Yahweh of hosts says, "My people who live in Zion, do not fear the Assyrian. He will strike you with the rod and raise his staff against you, as the Egyptians did. **25**Do not fear him, for in a very short time my anger against you will end, and my anger will lead to his destruction."

26Then Yahweh of hosts will wield a whip against them, as when he defeated Midian at the rock of Oreb. He will raise his rod over the sea and lift it up as he did in Egypt.

27On that day, his burden is lifted from your shoulder and his yoke from off your neck, and the yoke will be destroyed because of fatness.^[1]

28The enemy has come to Aiath

and has passed through Migron; at Michmash he has stored his provisions.

29They have crossed over the pass and they lodge at Geba.

Ramah trembles and Gibeah of Saul has fled.

30Cry aloud, daughter of Gallim! Give attention, Laishah!

You poor Anathoth!

31Madmenah is fleeing,

and the inhabitants of Gebim run for safety.

32This very day he will halt

at Nob and shake his fist at the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

33Behold, the Lord Yahweh of hosts will lop off the boughs with a terrifying crash;

the tallest trees {will be} cut down, and the lofty will be brought low.

34He will chop down the thickets of the forest with an ax, and Lebanon in his majesty will fall.

10:27 ^[1] . Other modern versions have . Here means the Assyrian king and his army.

Chapter 11

1A shoot will sprout from the stump of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will bear fruit.

²The Spirit of Yahweh will rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of instruction and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yahweh.

³His delight will be the fear of the Lord;
he will not judge by what his eyes see, nor decide by what his ears hear.

⁴Instead, he will judge the poor with righteousness and decide fairly for the humble of the earth.
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵Righteousness will be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his hips.

⁶The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat,
the calf, the young lion and the fattened calf, together. A little child will lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear will graze together, and their young will lie down together.
The lion will eat straw like the ox.

⁸A baby will play over the hole of the snake,
and the weaned child will put his hand on the serpent's den.

⁹They will not hurt nor destroy on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of knowledge of Yahweh, as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day, the root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples.
The nations will seek him out, and his resting place will be glorious.

¹¹On that day, the Lord will again extend his hand
to recover the remnant of his people who remain in Assyria, Egypt,
Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the islands of the sea.

¹²He will set up a banner for the nations and will gather the outcasts of Israel
and the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

¹³He will turn aside the envy of Ephraim, and hostilities of Judah will be cut off.
Ephraim will not envy Judah, and Judah will no longer be hostile to Ephraim.

¹⁴Instead they will swoop down on the Philistine hills on the west,
and together they will plunder the people of the east.
They will attack Edom and Moab, and the people of Ammon will obey them.

¹⁵Yahweh will completely destroy the gulf of the Sea of Egypt.
With his scorching wind he will wave his hand over the Euphrates River
and will divide it into seven streams, so it can be crossed over in sandals.

¹⁶There will be a highway for the remnant of his people that return from Assyria,

as there was for Israel in their coming up from the land of Egypt.

Chapter 12

¹On that day you will say,

"I will give thanks to you, Yahweh. For though you were angry with me, your wrath has turned away, and you have comforted me.

²See, God {is} my salvation; I will trust and will not fear,

for Yahweh, yes, Yahweh {is} my strength and song. He has become my salvation."

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

⁴On that day you will say, "Give thanks to Yahweh and call upon his name;

declare his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵Sing to Yahweh, for he has done glorious things; let this be known throughout the earth.

⁶Cry aloud and shout for joy, you inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst {is} the Holy One of Israel."

Chapter 13

¹A declaration about Babylon, that Isaiah son of Amoz received:

²On the bare mountain set up a signal flag, cry aloud to them,

wave your hand for them to go into the gates of the nobles.

³I have commanded my holy ones,

yes, I have called my mighty men to execute my anger, even my proudly exulting ones.

⁴The noise of a multitude in the mountains, as of many people!

The noise of a tumult of the kingdoms like many nations gathered together!

Yahweh of hosts is mustering the army for the battle.

⁵They come from a far country, from way over the horizon.

It is Yahweh with his instruments of judgment, to destroy the whole land.

⁶Howl, for the day of Yahweh {is} near; it comes with destruction from the Almighty.

⁷Therefore all hands hang limp, and every heart melts.

⁸They will be terrified; pain and agony will seize {them}, like a woman in labor.

They will look in astonishment at one another; their faces {will be} aflame.

⁹See, the day of Yahweh comes with cruel wrath and overflowing anger,

to make the land a desolation and to destroy the sinners from it.

¹⁰The stars of heaven and the constellations will not give their light.

The sun will be darkened even from dawn, and the moon will not shine.

¹¹I will punish the world for {its} evil and the wicked for their iniquity.

I will put an end to the arrogance of the proud and will bring down the arrogance of the ruthless.

¹²I will make men more rare than fine gold and mankind harder to find than the pure gold of Ophir.

¹³Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place,
by the fury of Yahweh of hosts, and on the day of his fierce anger.

¹⁴Like a hunted gazelle or like a sheep with no shepherd,
every man will turn toward his own people and will flee to his own land.

¹⁵Every one who is found will be killed, and every one who is captured will die by the sword.

¹⁶Their infants also will be dashed in pieces before their eyes.
Their houses will be plundered and their wives raped.

¹⁷Look, I am about to stir up the Medes to attack them,
who will not be concerned about silver, nor do they delight in gold.

¹⁸{Their} bows will strike down the young men;
they will have no mercy on infants and they will not look with pity on children.

¹⁹Then Babylon, the most admired of kingdoms, the splendor of Chaldean pride,
will be overthrown by God like Sodom and Gomorrah.

²⁰It will not be inhabited or lived in from generation to generation.
The Arab will not pitch his tent there, nor will shepherds have their flocks rest there.

²¹But wild animals of the desert will lie there. Their houses will be full of owls;
and ostriches and wild goats will skip about there.

²²Hyenas will cry in their fortresses, and jackals in the beautiful palaces. Her time {is} near, and her days will not be delayed.

Chapter 14

¹Yahweh will have compassion on Jacob; he will again choose Israel and restore them into their own land. Foreigners will join with them and attach themselves to the house of Jacob. ²The nations will bring them to their own place. Then the house of Israel will take them in the land of Yahweh as male and female servants. They will take captive those who had captured them, and they will rule over their oppressors.

³On the day that Yahweh gives you rest from your suffering and anguish, and from the hard labor which you were required to perform, ⁴you will sing this taunt song against the king of Babylon,

“How the oppressor has come to an end, the proud fury ended!^[1]”

⁵Yahweh has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of those rulers,
⁶that struck the peoples in wrath with unceasing blows,
that ruled the nations in anger, with an attack that was unrestrained.
⁷The whole earth is at rest {and} is quiet; they begin celebrating with singing.
⁸Even the cypress trees rejoice over you {with} the cedars of Lebanon;
{they say}, 'Since you are laid low, no woodcutter comes up to cut us down.'
⁹Sheol below is eager to meet {you} when you go there.
It arouses the dead for you, all the kings of the earth,
making them rise up from their thrones, all the kings of the nations.
¹⁰They all will speak and say to you,
'You have become as weak as us. You have become like us.
¹¹Your pomp has been brought down to Sheol {with} the sound of your string instruments.
Maggots are spread under you, and worms cover you.'
¹²How you are fallen from heaven, daystar, son of the morning!
{How} you are cut down to the ground, you who conquered the nations!
¹³You had said in your heart, 'I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God,
and I will sit on the mount of assembly, in the far reaches of the north.
¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High God.'
¹⁵Yet you are now brought down to Sheol, to the depths of the pit.
¹⁶Those who see you will gaze at you {and} they will pay attention to you.
They will {say,} '{Is} this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms,
¹⁷who made the world like a wilderness, {who} overthrew its cities and did not let his prisoners go home?'
¹⁸All the kings of the nations,
all of them lie down in honor, each one in his own tomb.
¹⁹But you are cast out of your grave like a branch thrown away.
The dead cover you {like} a garment, those pierced by the sword, who go down to the stones of the pit.
²⁰You will not join them in burial, because you have destroyed your land
{and} killed your people.
The offspring of evildoers will never be mentioned again."
²¹Prepare your slaughter for his children, for the iniquity of their ancestors,

so they will not rise up and possess the earth and fill the whole world with cities.

²²“I will rise up against them”—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

“I will cut off from Babylon name, descendant, and posterity”—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

²³“I will also make her into a possession of owls, and into pools of water,
and I will sweep her with the broom of destruction”—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

²⁴Yahweh of hosts has sworn,

“Surely, as I have intended, so it will come about;

and as I have purposed, {so} it will be:

²⁵I will break the Assyrian in my land, and on my mountains trample him underfoot.

Then his yoke will be lifted from off them and his burden from off their shoulder.

²⁶This {is} the plan that is intended for the whole earth, and this is the hand that is raised over all the nations.

²⁷For Yahweh of hosts has planned this; who will stop him? His hand {is} raised, and who will turn it back?

²⁸In the year that king Ahaz died this declaration came:

²⁹Do not rejoice, all you Philistines, that the rod that struck you is broken.

For out of the serpent’s root will grow out an adder,

and his offspring {will be} a fiery flying serpent.

³⁰The firstborn of the poor will graze their sheep in my pastures,

and the needy will lie down in safety.

I will kill your root with famine

that will put to death all your survivors.

³¹Howl, gate; cry, city; all of you will melt away, Philistia.

For out of the north comes a cloud of smoke,

and there is no straggler in his ranks.

³²How will they respond to the messengers of that nation?

“Yahweh has founded Zion, and in her the afflicted of his people will find refuge.”

14:4 ^[1], some versions have , , , or .

Chapter 15

¹A declaration about Moab.

Indeed, in one night Ar of Moab is laid waste {and} destroyed;

indeed, in one night Kir of Moab is laid waste {and} destroyed.

²They have gone up to the temple, the people of Dibon went up to the heights to weep;

Moab laments over Nebo and over Medeba.

All their heads are shaved bare {and} all their beards are cut off.

³In their streets they wear sackcloth; on their housetops

and in the square everyone wails, melting in tears.

⁴Heshbon and Elealeh call out for help; their sound is heard as far as Jahaz.

So the armed men of Moab call out for help; they tremble within themselves.

⁵My heart cries out for Moab; her fugitives {flee} to Zoar and to Eglath Shelishiyah.

They go up the ascent of Luhith weeping;

on the road to Horonaim they loudly wail over their destruction.

⁶The waters of Nimrim are a desolation;

the grass is withered;

the vegetation has dried up;

there is no more green grass.

⁷The abundance they have grown and stored

they carry away over the brook of the poplars.

⁸The cry has gone around the territory of Moab;

the wailing as far as Eglaim and Beer Elim.

⁹For the waters of Dimon are full of blood; but I will bring even more upon Dimon.

A lion will attack those who escape from Moab and also those remaining in the land.

Chapter 16

¹Send rams to the ruler of the land

from Selah in the wilderness, to the mount of the daughter of Zion.

²As wandering birds, as a scattered nest,

{so} the women of Moab are at the fords of the Arnon River.

³"Give instruction, execute justice; provide some shade like night in the middle of the day;

hide the fugitives; do not betray the fugitives.

⁴Let them live among you, the refugees from Moab;

be a hiding place for them from the destroyer."

For the oppression will stop, and destruction will cease,

those who trample will disappear from the land.

⁵A throne will be established in covenant faithfulness; and one from David's tent will faithfully sit there.
He will judge as he seeks justice and does righteousness.

⁶We have heard of Moab's pride, his arrogance,
his boasting, and his anger. {But} his boastings are empty words.

⁷So Moab wails for Moab—they all wail! Mourn, you who are utterly destroyed, for the raisin cakes of Kir Hareseth.

⁸The fields of Heshbon have dried up as well as the vines of Sibmah.

The rulers of the nations have trampled the choice vines
that reached to Jazer and spread into the desert.

Its shoots spread abroad; they went over to the sea.

⁹Indeed I will weep along with Jazer for the vineyard of Sibmah.

I will water you with my tears, Heshbon, and Elealeh.

For on your fields of summer fruits and harvest I have ended the shouts of joy.

¹⁰Gladness and joy are taken away from the fruit tree groves; and there is no singing, or shouts in the vineyards.
No one treads out wine in the presses, for I have put an end to the shouts of the one who treads.

¹¹So my heart sighs like a harp for Moab, and my inward being for Kir Hareseth.

¹²When Moab wears himself out on the high place
and enters his temple to pray, his prayers will accomplish nothing.

¹³This {is} the word that Yahweh spoke concerning Moab previously. ¹⁴Again Yahweh speaks, "Within three years, the glory of Moab will disappear; in spite of his many people, the remnant {will be} very few and insignificant."

Chapter 17

¹A declaration about Damascus.

²The cities of Aroer {will be} abandoned.

They will be places for flocks to lie down, and no one will frighten {them}.

³Fortified cities will disappear from Ephraim, the kingdom from Damascus,

and the remnant of Aram—they will be like the glory of the people of Israel—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

⁴It will come about on that day

{that} the glory of Jacob will become thin, and the fatness of his flesh will become lean.

⁵It will be as when a harvester gathers the standing grain, and his arm reaps the heads of grain.

It will be as when one glean heads of grain in the Valley of Rephaim.

⁶Gleanings will be left, however, as when the olive tree is shaken:

two {or} three olives in the top of the uppermost bough, four {or} five in the highest branches of a fruitful tree—this is the declaration of Yahweh, the God of Israel.

⁷On that day men will look toward their Maker, and their eyes will look to the Holy One of Israel.

⁸They will not look to the altars, the work of their hands, nor will they look to what their fingers have made, the Asherah poles or the sun images.

⁹On that day their strong cities will be like the abandoned wooded slopes on the hill summits, that were forsaken because of the people of Israel and that will become a desolation.

¹⁰For you have forgotten the God of your salvation, and have ignored the rock of your strength.

So you plant pleasant plants, and set out vine branches received from a stranger,

¹¹on the day you plant and hedge and cultivate. Soon your seed will grow, {but} the harvest {will} fail on a day of grief and of desperate sorrow.

¹²Woe! The uproar of many peoples, that roar like the roaring of the seas, and the rushing of nations, {that} rush like the rushing of mighty waters!

¹³The nations will roar like the rushing of many waters,

but he will rebuke them and they will flee far away,

they will be chased before the wind like chaff on the mountains,

and like weeds whirling before a storm.

¹⁴In the evening, see, terror! Before the morning they will be gone!

This {is} the portion of those who loot us, the lot of those who rob us.

Chapter 18

¹Woe to the land of the {rustling} of wings, which {is} along the rivers of Cush;

²who send ambassadors by the sea, in vessels of papyrus on the waters.

Go, you swift messengers, to a nation tall and smooth,

to a people feared far and near, a nation strong and trampling down, whose land the rivers divide.

³All you inhabitants of the world and you who live on the earth,

when a signal is lifted up on the mountains, look; and when the trumpet is blown, listen.

⁴This is what Yahweh said to me, "I will quietly observe from my home,

like the simmering heat in sunshine, like a cloud of mist in the heat of harvest.

⁵Before the harvest, when the blossoming is over, and the flower is ripening into a grape,

he will cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, {and} he will cut down and take away the spreading branches.

⁶They will be left together for the birds of the mountains and for the animals of the earth.

The birds will summer on them, and all the animals of the earth will winter on them.”

⁷At that time tribute will be brought to Yahweh of hosts from a people tall and smooth, from a people feared far and near, a nation strong and trampling down, whose land the rivers divide, to the place of the name of Yahweh of hosts, to Mount Zion.

Chapter 19

¹A declaration about Egypt.

See, Yahweh rides on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt;
the idols of Egypt quake before him, and the hearts of the Egyptians melt within themselves.

²I will stir up Egyptians against Egyptians: A man will fight against his brother, and a man against his neighbor; city will be against city, and kingdom against kingdom.

³The spirit of Egypt will be weakened from within. I will destroy his advice, though they sought the advice of idols, dead men’s spirits, mediums, and spiritualists.

⁴I will give the Egyptians into the hand of a harsh master, and a strong king will rule over them— this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts.”

⁵The waters of the sea will dry up, and the river will dry up and become empty.

⁶The rivers will become foul; the streams of Egypt will dwindle and dry up; the reeds and flags will wither away.

⁷The reeds along the Nile,
at the mouth of the Nile,
and every sown field beside the Nile will become parched,
will be driven away, and will be no more.

⁸The fishermen will wail and mourn, and all who cast a hook into the Nile will mourn,
and those who spread nets on the waters will grieve.

⁹The workers in combed flax and those who weave white cloth will turn pale.

¹⁰The cloth workers of Egypt will be crushed; all who work for hire will be grieved within themselves.

¹¹The princes of Zoan {are} completely foolish. The advice of the wisest advisors of Pharaoh has become senseless. How can you say to Pharaoh, “I {am} the son of wise men, a son of ancient kings?”

¹²Where then {are} your wise men?

Let them tell you and make known what Yahweh of hosts plans concerning Egypt.

¹³The princes of Zoan have become fools, the princes of Memphis are deceived; they have made Egypt go astray, {who are} the cornerstones of her tribes.^[1]

¹⁴Yahweh has mixed a spirit of distortion into her midst,

and they have led Egypt astray in all she does, like a drunk staggering in his vomit.

¹⁵There is nothing anyone can do for Egypt, whether head or tail, palm branch or reed. ¹⁶In that day, the Egyptians will be like women. They will tremble and fear because of the upraised hand of Yahweh of hosts that he raises over them. ¹⁷The land of Judah will become a cause of staggering to Egypt. Whenever anyone reminds them of her, they will be afraid, because of the plan of Yahweh, that he is planning against them. ¹⁸In that day there will be five cities in the land of Egypt that speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to Yahweh of hosts. One of these will be called The City of the Sun.^[2]

¹⁹In that day there will be an altar to Yahweh in the middle of the land of Egypt, and a stone pillar at the border to Yahweh. ²⁰It will be as a sign and a witness to Yahweh of hosts in the land of Egypt. When they cry to Yahweh because of oppressors, he will send them a savior and a defender, and he will deliver them. ²¹Yahweh will become known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will acknowledge Yahweh on that day. They will worship with sacrifices and offerings, and will make vows to Yahweh and fulfill {them}. ²²Yahweh will afflict Egypt, afflicting and healing. They will return to Yahweh; he will hear their prayer and will heal {them}.

²³In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come to Egypt, and the Egyptian to Assyria; and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians. ²⁴In that day, Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth; ²⁵Yahweh of hosts will bless them and say, "Blessed {be} Egypt, my people; Assyria, the work of my hands; and Israel, my inheritance."

19:13 ^[1], some versions have , the Hebrew name for the same city in Egypt.

19:18 ^[2], which probably refers to the Egyptian city of Heliopolis, some ancient and modern versions have .

Chapter 20

¹In the year that Tartan came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him, he fought against Ashdod and took it. ²At that time Yahweh spoke by Isaiah son of Amoz and said, "Go and remove the sackcloth from your waist, and take your sandals off your feet." He did so, walking naked and barefoot. ³Yahweh said, "Just as my servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot for three years, it is a sign and an omen concerning Egypt and concerning Cush— ⁴in this way the king of Assyria will lead away the captives of Egypt, and the exiles of Cush, young and old, naked and barefoot, and with buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt. ⁵They will be dismayed and ashamed, because of Cush their hope and of Egypt their glory. ⁶The inhabitants of these coasts will say on that day, 'Indeed, this {was} our source of hope, where we fled for help to be rescued from the king of Assyria, and now, how can we escape?'"

Chapter 21

¹A declaration about the desert by the sea.

Like stormwinds sweeping through the Negev it comes
passing through from the wilderness, from a terrible land.

²A distressing vision has been given to me:

the treacherous man deals treacherously, and the destroyer destroys.

Go up and attack, Elam; besiege, Media;

I will stop all her groaning.

³Therefore my loins are filled with pain;

pains like the pains of a woman in labor have taken hold of me;

I am bowed down by {what I} heard; I am disturbed by {what I} saw.

⁴My heart pounds; I shake with fear.

Twilight was my desire, but it brought me terror.

⁵They prepare the table, they spread rugs and eat and drink;

arise, princes, anoint your shields with oil.

⁶For this is what the Lord said to me,

“Go, post a watchman; he must report what he sees.

⁷When he sees a chariot, a pair of horsemen,

riders on donkeys, and riders on camels,

then he must pay attention and be very alert.”

⁸The watchman cries out,^[1]

“Lord, on the watchtower I stand all day, every day,

and at my post I stand all night long.”

⁹Here comes a chariot {with} a man and a pair of horsemen.

He calls out, “Babylon has fallen, fallen,

and all the carved figures of its gods are broken to the ground.”

¹⁰My threshed and winnowed ones, children of my threshing floor!

What I have heard from Yahweh of hosts,

the God of Israel, I have declared to you.

¹¹A declaration about Dumah.

One calls to me from Seir,

“Watchman, what is left of the night?

Watchman, what is left of the night?”

¹²The watchman said, “The morning comes and also the night.

If you want to ask, then ask; and come back again.”

¹³A declaration about Arabia.

In the wilderness of Arabia you spend the night, you caravans of Dedanites.

¹⁴Bring water for the thirsty;

inhabitants of the land of Tema, meet the fugitives with bread.

¹⁵For they have fled from the sword, from the drawn sword,

from the bent bow, and from the weight of war. ¹⁶For this is what the Lord said to me, "Within a year, as a laborer hired for a year would see it, all the glory of Kedar will end. ¹⁷Only a few of the archers, the warriors of Kedar will remain," for Yahweh, the God of Israel, has spoken.

21:8 ^[1], some older versions have .

Chapter 22

¹A declaration about the Valley of Vision:

What is the reason that you have all gone up to the housetops?

²Is it so you may hear a city full of noises, a town full of revelry?

Your dead {were} not killed with the sword, and they did not die in battle.

³All your rulers fled away together, but they were captured without using a bow;

all of them were captured together, though they had fled far away.

⁴Therefore I said, "Do not look at me, I will weep bitterly;

do not try to comfort me concerning the destruction of the daughter of my people."

⁵For {there is} a day of tumult, treading down, and confusion for the Lord Yahweh of hosts, in the Valley of Vision, a breaking down of the walls, and people crying out to the mountains.

⁶Elam takes up the quiver, with chariots of men {and} horsemen, and Kir lays the shield bare.

⁷It will come about {that} your choicest valleys

will be full of chariots, and the horsemen will take their positions at the gate.

⁸He took away the protection of Judah;

and you looked in that day to the weapons in the Palace of the Forest.

⁹You saw the breaches of the city of David, that they were many,

and you collected the water of the lower pool.

¹⁰You counted the houses of Jerusalem, and you tore down the houses to fortify the wall.

¹¹You made a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the old pool.

But you did not consider the city's maker, who had planned it long ago.

¹²The Lord Yahweh of hosts called on that day

for weeping, for mourning, for shaved heads, and the wearing of sackcloth.

¹³But look, instead, celebration and gladness, killing cattle and slaughtering sheep, eating meat and drinking wine; let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we will die.

¹⁴This was revealed in my ears by Yahweh of hosts:

“Surely this iniquity will not be forgiven you, even when you die,” says the Lord Yahweh of hosts.

¹⁵The Lord Yahweh of hosts, says this, “Go to this administrator, to Shebna, who {is} over the house, {and say},

¹⁶“What are you doing here and who gave you permission to cut out a tomb for yourself, hewing out a grave on the heights and carving out a resting place in the rock?”

¹⁷See, Yahweh is about to throw you, a {mighty} man, about to throw you down; he will grasp you tightly.

¹⁸He will surely wind you round and round, and toss you like a ball into a vast country.

There you will die, and there your glorious chariots will be; you {will be} the shame of your master’s house!

¹⁹“I will thrust you from your office and from your station. You will be pulled down.

²⁰It will come about on that day that I will call my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

²¹I will clothe him with your tunic and put on him your sash, and I will transfer your authority into his hand.

He will be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.

²²I will place the key of the house of David on his shoulder;

he will open, and none will shut; he will shut, and none will open.

²³I will fasten him, a peg in a secure place,

and he will become a seat of glory for his father’s house.

²⁴They will hang on him all the glory of his father’s house, the offspring and descendants, every small container from the cups to all the jugs. ²⁵On that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—the peg driven in a firm place will give way, break off, and fall, and the weight that was on it will be cut off—for Yahweh has spoken.

Chapter 23

¹A declaration about Tyre:

Howl, you ships of Tarshish; for there is neither home nor harbor;

from the land of Cyprus it has been revealed to them.^[1]

²Be silent, you inhabitants of the coast; the merchant of Sidon,

who travels over the sea, has filled you.^[2]

³Upon the great waters was the grain of Shihor,

the harvest of the Nile was her produce;

and it became the commerce of the nations.

⁴Be ashamed, Sidon; for the sea has spoken, the mighty one of the sea. He says,
 "I have not labored nor given birth,
 {nor} have I raised young men nor brought up young women."

⁵When the report {comes to} Egypt, they will be grieved concerning Tyre.

⁶Cross over to Tarshish; wail, you inhabitants of the coast.

⁷Has this happened to you, the joyful {city,} whose origin {is} from ancient times,
 whose feet carried her far away to foreign places to settle?

⁸Who has planned this against Tyre, the giver of crowns,
 whose merchants {are} princes, whose traders {are} the honored ones of the earth?

⁹Yahweh of hosts has planned it to dishonor her pride
 and all her glory, to shame all her honored ones of the earth.

¹⁰Plow your land, as one plows the Nile, daughter of Tarshish. {There is} no longer a marketplace in Tyre. ^[3]

¹¹Yahweh has reached out with his hand over the sea, and he has shaken the kingdoms;
 he has given a command concerning Phoenicia, to destroy the strongholds.

¹²He said, "You will not rejoice again, oppressed virgin daughter of Sidon;
 arise, pass over to Cyprus; but neither there you will have rest."

¹³See the land of the Chaldeans. This people has ceased to be; the Assyrians have made it a wilderness for wild animals.

They set up their siege towers; they demolished its palaces; they made it a heap of ruins.

¹⁴Howl, you ships of Tarshish; for your refuge has been destroyed. ¹⁵In that day, Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years, like the days of a king. After the end of seventy years there will happen in Tyre something like in the song of the prostitute.

¹⁶Take a harp, go about the city, you forgotten prostitute;

play it well, sing many songs, so that you may be remembered. ¹⁷It will come about that after seventy years, Yahweh will help Tyre, and she will start making money again by doing the work of a prostitute, and she will offer her services to all the kingdoms of the earth. ¹⁸Her profits and earnings will be set apart to Yahweh. They will not be stored up or kept in the treasury, for her profits will be given to those who live in Yahweh's presence and will be used to supply them with abundant food and so they can have the best quality clothing.

23:1 ^[1], some modern versions keep , the Hebrew name for this island.

23:2 ^[2] or .

23:10 ^[3], some versions have or .

Chapter 24

¹Look, Yahweh is about to empty the earth, to devastate it, mar its surface, and scatter its inhabitants.

²It will come about 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 creditor, so with the debtor;
as with the receiver of interest, so with the giver of interest.

³The earth will be completely devastated and completely stripped;
for Yahweh has spoken this word.

⁴The earth dries up and withers, the world shrivels up {and} fades away,
the prominent people of the earth waste away.

⁵The earth is polluted by its inhabitants
because they have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes,
and broken the everlasting covenant.

⁶Therefore a curse devours the earth, and its inhabitants are found guilty.
The inhabitants of the earth burn up, and few people {are} left.

⁷The new wine dries up, the vine withers, all the merry-hearted groan.

⁸The happy sound of the tambourines stops, and the revelry of those who rejoice;
the joy of the lyre ceases.

⁹They no longer drink wine and sing, and the beer is bitter to those who drink it.

¹⁰The city of chaos has been broken down; every house is closed up and empty.

¹¹{There is} a crying in the streets because of the wine;
all joy is darkened, the gladness of the land has disappeared.

¹²In the city is left a desolation, and the gate is broken into a ruin.

¹³For this is how {it will be} on the whole earth among the nations,
as when an olive tree is beaten, as the gleanings when the grape harvest is done.

¹⁴They will lift up their voices and shout the majesty of Yahweh,
and will joyfully shout from the sea.

¹⁵Therefore in the east glorify Yahweh,
and in the isles of the sea give glory to the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel.

¹⁶From the farthest part of the earth we have heard songs,
"Glory to the righteous one!"

But I said, "I have wasted away, I have wasted away, woe is me!

The treacherous have dealt treacherously;

yes, the treacherous have dealt very treacherously."

¹⁷Terror, the pit, and the snare {are} upon you, inhabitants of the earth.

¹⁸He who flees from the sound of terror will fall into the pit,

and he who comes up out of the middle of the pit will be caught in the snare.

The windows of the heavens will be opened, and the foundations of the earth will shake.

¹⁹The earth will be completely broken, the earth ripped apart;

the earth will be violently shaken.

²⁰The earth will stagger like a drunken man and it will sway back and forth like a hut.

Its sin will be heavy on it and it will fall and never rise again.

²¹On that day Yahweh will punish the host of the heaven in the heavens,

and the kings of the earth on the earth.

²²They will be gathered together, prisoners in a pit,

and will be shut up in a prison;

and after many days they will be punished.

²³Then the moon will be ashamed, and the sun disgraced,

for Yahweh of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,

and before his elders in glory.

Chapter 25

¹Yahweh, you {are} my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name;

for you have done wonderful {things,} things planned long ago, in perfect faithfulness.

²For you have made the city a heap, a fortified city, a ruin,

and a fortress of strangers into no city.

³Therefore a strong people will glorify you; a city of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For you have been a place of safety for the one who is poor,

a shelter for the one who is needy in his distress—

a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.

When the breath of the ruthless was like a storm {against} a wall,

⁵and like heat in a dry land,

you subdued the noise of foreigners,
as the heat is subdued by the shade of a cloud,
so the song of the ruthless ones is answered.

⁶On this mountain Yahweh of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things,
of choice wines, of tender meats, a feast on the lees.

⁷He will destroy on this mountain the covering over all peoples,
the web woven over all the nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever,
and the Lord Yahweh will wipe away tears from off all faces;
the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for Yahweh has spoken it.

⁹It will be said on that day, "Look, this {is} our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us.
This {is} Yahweh; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

¹⁰For on this mountain the hand of Yahweh will rest;
and Moab will be trampled down in his place, even as straw is trampled down in a pit filled with manure.

¹¹They will spread their hands in the midst of it, as a swimmer spreads his hands to swim.
But Yahweh will bring down their pride in spite of the skill of their hands.

¹²Your high fortress walls he will bring down to the ground, to the dust.

Chapter 26

¹In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city; {God} has made salvation its walls and ramparts.

²Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

³The mind {that} {is} stayed {on you}, you will keep {him} in {perfect} peace, for he trusts in you.

⁴Trust in Yahweh forever; for in Yah, Yahweh, {is} an everlasting rock.

⁵For he will bring down those who live proudly; the fortified city
he will lay low, he will lay low to the ground; he will level it to the dust.

⁶It will be trampled down by the feet of the poor {and} the treading of the needy.

⁷The path of the righteous {is} level, Righteous One; the path of the righteous you make straight.

⁸Yes, in the path of your judgments, Yahweh, we wait for you;
your name and your reputation are our desire.

⁹I have longed for you in the night; yes, my spirit within me seeks you earnestly.

For when your judgments come on the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn about righteousness.

¹⁰Let favor be shown to the wicked one, {but} he will not learn righteousness. In the land of uprightness he acts wickedly

and does not see the majesty of Yahweh.

¹¹Yahweh, your hand is lifted up, but they do not notice.

But they will see your zeal for the people and be put to shame, because fire of your adversaries will devour them.

¹²Yahweh, you will bring about peace for us; for indeed, you have also accomplished all our works for us.

¹³Yahweh our God, other masters besides you have ruled over us; {but} we praise your name alone.

¹⁴{They are} dead, they will not live; {they are} deceased, they will not arise.

Indeed, you came in judgment and destroyed them, and made every memory of them to perish.

¹⁵You have increased the nation, Yahweh, you have increased the nation; you are honored;

you have extended all the borders of the land.

¹⁶Yahweh, in trouble have they looked to you; they whispered prayers {when} your discipline {was} on them.^[1]

¹⁷As a pregnant {woman} nears the time for her to give birth,

when she is in pain and cries out in her labor pains,

so we have been before you, Lord.

¹⁸We have been pregnant, we have been in labor, but it is as if we have only given birth to wind. We have not brought salvation to the earth,

and the inhabitants of the world have not fallen.

¹⁹Your dead will live; their dead bodies will arise. Awake and sing for joy, you who live in the dust;

for your dew is the dew of light, and the earth will bring forth its dead.

²⁰Go, my people, enter into your rooms and shut your doors behind you;

hide for a little while, until the indignation has passed by.

²¹For, look, Yahweh is about to come out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity;

the earth will uncover her bloodshed, and will no longer conceal her slain.

26:16 ^[1]

Chapter 27

¹On that day Yahweh with his hard, great and fierce sword

will punish Leviathan the slithering serpent, Leviathan the squirming serpent,

and he will kill the monster that {is} in the sea.

²In that day: A vineyard of wine, sing of it.

³"I, Yahweh, am its protector; I water it every moment.

I guard it night and day so no one will hurt it.

⁴I am not angry, Oh, that there were briers {and} thorns!

In battle I would march against them; I would burn them all together;

⁵unless they grasp my protection {and} make peace with me; let them make peace with me.

⁶In the coming day, Jacob will take root; Israel will blossom and bud;

and they will fill the surface of the ground with fruit."

⁷Has Yahweh attacked Jacob and {Israel} as he attacked those nations who attacked them? Have Jacob and Israel been killed as in the slaughter of those nations that were killed by them?

⁸In exact measure you have contended, sending Jacob and Israel away; he drove them away with his fierce breath in the day of the east wind.^[1]

⁹So in this way, the iniquity of Jacob will be atoned for, for this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin:

when he will make all the altar stones as chalk and crushed to pieces,

and no Asherah poles or incense altars will remain standing.

¹⁰For the fortified city is desolate, the habitation is deserted and forsaken like the wilderness.

There a calf feeds, and there he lies down and consumes its branches.

¹¹When the boughs are withered, they will be broken off. Women will come {and} make fires with them,

for this is not a people of understanding.

Therefore their Maker will not have compassion on them, and he who made them will not be merciful to them.

¹²It will come about on that day

{that} Yahweh will thresh from the Euphrates River to the Wadi of Egypt

and you, the people of Israel, will be gathered together one by one.

¹³On that day a great trumpet will be blown;

and the perishing ones in the land of Assyria will come, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt,

they will worship Yahweh on the holy mountain in Jerusalem.

27:8 ^[1], many modern versions have an idea similar to .

Chapter 28

¹Woe to the proud garland crown that {is} worn by each of the drunkards of Ephraim, and to the fading flower of its glorious beauty,

the garland that {is} set on the head of the lush Valley of those who are overcome with wine!

²Behold, the Lord sends one who is mighty and strong; like a storm of hail and a destructive windstorm,

like a driving rain and overflowing waters;

and he will throw each garland crown down to the ground.

³The proud garland of the drunkards of Ephraim will be trodden underfoot.

⁴The fading flower of his glorious beauty, that is on the head of the rich valley, will be as the first ripe fig before the summer, that, when someone sees it, while it is yet in his hand, he gulps it down.

⁵In that day Yahweh of hosts will become a beautiful crown and a diadem of beauty for the remainder of his people,

⁶a spirit of justice for him who sits in judgment, and strength for those who turn back their enemies at their gates.

⁷But even these reel with wine, and stagger with strong drink.

The priest and the prophet reel with strong drink, and they are swallowed up by wine.

They stagger with strong drink, staggering in vision and reeling in decision.

⁸Truly, all tables are covered with vomit, so that there {is} no {clean} place.

⁹To whom will he teach knowledge, and to whom will he explain the message?

To those who are weaned from milk or to those {just} taken from the breasts?

¹⁰For it is command upon command, command upon command; rule upon rule, rule upon rule; here a little, there a little.

¹¹Indeed, with mocking lips and a foreign tongue he will speak to this people.

¹²In the past he said to them "This {is} the rest, give rest to him who is weary; and this {is} the refreshing," but they would not listen.

¹³So the word of Yahweh will be to them
command upon command, command upon command; rule upon rule, rule upon rule;
here a little, there a little;
so that they may go and fall backward, and be broken, ensnared, and captured.

¹⁴So listen to the word of Yahweh, you who mock,
you who rule over this people who {are} in Jerusalem.

¹⁵This will happen because you said, "We have made a covenant with death,
and with Sheol we have reached an agreement. So when the overwhelming whip passes through, it will not reach us.

For we have made a lie our refuge, and taken shelter in falsehood."

¹⁶Therefore the Lord Yahweh says,

"See, I will lay in Zion a foundation stone, a tried stone,

a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation. He who believes will not be ashamed.

¹⁷I will make justice the measuring stick, and righteousness the plumbline.

Hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and the floodwaters will overwhelm the hiding place.

¹⁸Your covenant with death will be dissolved, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand.

When the raging flood passes through, you will be overwhelmed by it.

¹⁹Whenever it passes through, it will overwhelm you,

and morning by morning it will pass through and by day and night it will come.

When the message is understood, it will cause terror.

²⁰For the bed is too short for a man to stretch out {on}, and the blanket too narrow for him to wrap himself {in}."

²¹Yahweh will rise up as {on} Mount Perazim; he will rouse himself as in the Valley of Gibeon

to do his work, his strange work, and perform his strange deed.

²²Now therefore do not mock, or your bonds will be tightened.

I have heard from the Lord Yahweh of hosts, a decree of destruction on the earth.

²³Pay attention and listen to my voice; be attentive and listen to my words.

²⁴Does a farmer who plows all day to sow, only plow the ground? Does he continually break up and harrow the field?

²⁵When he has prepared the ground, does he not scatter caraway seed, sow the cumin, put in the wheat in rows and the barley in the right place, and the spelt at its edges?^[1]

²⁶His God instructs him; he teaches him wisely.

²⁷Moreover, the caraway seed is not threshed with a sledge,

nor is a cartwheel rolled over the cumin;

but caraway is beaten with a stick, and cumin with a rod.

²⁸Grain is ground for bread but not too finely,

and though the wheels of his cart and his horses scatter it, his horses do not crush it.

²⁹This too comes from Yahweh of hosts,

{who} is wonderful in instruction {and} excellent in wisdom.

28:25 ^[1] and , because these expressions are uncertain in Hebrew.

Chapter 29

¹Woe to Ariel, Ariel, the city {where} David encamped!

Add year to year; let the festivals come round.

²But I will besiege Ariel, and she will be mourning and lamenting;
and she will be to me like Ariel.

³I will encamp against you in a circle
and will lay siege against you with a palisade, and I will raise siege works against you.

⁴You will be brought down and will speak from the ground; your speech will be low from the dust.
Your voice will sound like a spirit that speaks from the ground, and out of the dust your speech will whisper.

⁵The great number of your invaders will become like fine dust, and the multitude of the ruthless ones as chaff that passes away.

It will happen suddenly, in an instant.

⁶Yahweh of hosts will come to you
with thunder, earthquake, great noise, {with} strong winds and violent storm, and the flames of a devouring fire.

⁷It will be like a dream, a vision of the night:
A horde of all the nations will fight against Ariel
and her stronghold. They will attack her and her fortifications to press upon her.

⁸It will be like when a hungry man dreams he is eating, but when he awakes, his stomach is empty.
It will be like when a thirsty man dreams that he is drinking, but he when he awakes, {he is} fainting, with his thirst not quenched.

Yes, so will be the great number of nations that fights against Mount Zion.

⁹Astonish yourselves and be astonished; blind yourselves and be blind!

Be drunk, but not with wine; stagger, but not with beer.

¹⁰For Yahweh has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep.

He has closed your eyes, the prophets, and has covered your heads, the seers. ¹¹All revelation has become to you as the words of a book that is sealed, which {men} might give to one who is learned, saying, "Read this." He also says, "I cannot, for it {is} sealed." ¹²If the book is given to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

¹³The Lord said, "This people comes close to me with their mouths
and honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

Their honor for me is only a commandment of men that has been taught.

¹⁴Therefore, see, I will proceed to do a marvelous thing among this people, wonder after wonder.
The wisdom of their wise {men} will perish, and the understanding of their prudent {men} will disappear."

¹⁵Woe to those who deeply hide their plans from Yahweh,
and whose deeds are in darkness. They say, "Who sees us, and who knows us?"

¹⁶You turn things upside down! Should the potter be considered like clay,

so that the thing that is made should say about him who made it, "He did not make me,"
or the thing formed say about him who formed it, "He does not understand"?

¹⁷In just a little while,

Lebanon will be turned into a field, and the field will become a forest.

¹⁸On that day the deaf will hear the words of a book,

and the eyes of the blind will see out of the {deep} darkness.

¹⁹The oppressed will again rejoice in Yahweh,

and the poor among men will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰For the ruthless will cease, and the scoffer will vanish. All those who love to do evil will be eliminated,

²¹who by a word make a man out to be an offender. They lay a snare for him

who seeks justice at the gate and put the righteous down with empty {lies}.

²²Therefore this is what Yahweh says concerning the house of Jacob—Yahweh, who redeemed Abraham,

"Jacob will no longer be ashamed, nor will his face be pale.

²³But when he sees his children, the work of my hands, they will make my name holy.

They will make holy the name of the Holy One of Jacob and they will stand in awe of the God of Israel.

²⁴Those who err in spirit will gain understanding, and complainers will learn knowledge."

Chapter 30

¹"Woe to the rebellious children," this is Yahweh's declaration.

"They make plans, but not from me; they make alliances with other nations,

but they were not directed by my Spirit, so they add sin to sin.

²They set out to go down into Egypt, but have not asked for my direction.

They seek protection from Pharaoh and take refuge in the shadow of Egypt.

³Therefore Pharaoh's protection will be your shame,

and the refuge in Egypt's shade, {your} humiliation,

⁴although their princes are at Zoan, and their messengers have come to Hanes.

⁵They will all be ashamed because of a people {who} cannot help them,

{who} are neither help nor aid, but a shame, and even a disgrace."

⁶A declaration about the beasts of the Negev:

Through the land of trouble and danger, of the lioness and the lion,

the viper and fiery flying serpent,

they carry their riches on the backs of donkeys,
and their treasures on the camels' humps,
to a people {who} cannot help them.

⁷For Egypt's help is worthless;
therefore I have called her Rahab, who sits still.

⁸Now go, write it in their presence on a tablet, and inscribe it on a scroll,
that it may be preserved for the time to come as a testimony.

⁹For these {are} a rebellious people, lying children,
children {who} will not hear the instruction of Yahweh.

¹⁰They say to the seers, "Do not see;"
and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy the truth to us;
speak flattering words to us, prophesy illusions. ¹¹Turn aside from the way, stray off the path;
cause the Holy One of Israel to cease speaking before our face."

¹²Therefore the Holy One of Israel says,
"Because you reject this word
and trust in oppression and deceit and lean on it,

¹³so this sin will be to you
like a broken part ready to fall, like a bulge in a high wall
whose fall will happen suddenly, in an instant."

¹⁴He will break it as a potter's vessel is broken; he will not spare it,
so that there will not be found among its pieces a shard
with which to scrape fire from the hearth, or to scoop up water out of the cistern.

¹⁵For this is what the Lord Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel says,
"In returning and resting you will be saved; in quietness and in trust will be your strength.
But you were not willing.

¹⁶You said, 'No,
for we will flee on horses,' so you will flee;
and, 'We will ride upon swift {horses},' so those who pursue you will be swift.

¹⁷One thousand {will flee} at the threat of one;
at the threat of five you will flee
until your remnant will be like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, or like a flag on a hill."

¹⁸Yet Yahweh is waiting to be gracious to you, therefore he is ready to show you mercy.

For Yahweh {is} a God of justice; blessed {are} all those who wait for him.

¹⁹For a people will live in Zion, in Jerusalem, and you will weep no more.

He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. When he hears it, he will answer you.

²⁰{Though} Yahweh gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, even so, your teacher will not hide himself anymore, but you will see your teacher with your own eyes.

²¹Your ears will hear a word behind you saying,

"This {is} the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

²²You will desecrate your carved figures overlaid with silver and your gold cast figures.

You will throw them away like a menstrual rag. You will say to them, "Get out of here."

²³He will give the rain for your seed when you sow the ground, and bread with abundance from the ground, and the crops will be abundant.

In that day your cattle will graze in broad pastures.

²⁴The oxen and the donkeys, who plow the ground, will eat seasoned feed that has been winnowed with a shovel and a fork.

²⁵On every high mountain and on every high hill, there will be flowing brooks {and} streams of waters, in the day of the great slaughter when the towers fall.

²⁶The light of the moon will be like the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be seven times brighter, like the sunlight of seven days.

Yahweh will bind up the breaking of his people and heal the bruises of his wounding them.

²⁷Look, the name of Yahweh comes from a distant place, burning {with} his anger and in dense smoke.

His lips are full of fury, and his tongue is like a devouring fire.

²⁸His breath is like an overflowing torrent that reaches up to the middle of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of destruction. His breath {is} a bridle in the jaws of the peoples to cause {them} to wander away.

²⁹You will have a song as in the night {when} a holy feast is observed, and gladness of heart, as when one goes with a flute to the mountain of Yahweh, to the Rock of Israel.

³⁰Yahweh will make the splendor of his voice heard and show the motion of his arm in storming anger and flames of fire, with windstorm, rainstorm, and hailstones.

³¹For at the voice of Yahweh, Assyria will be shattered; he will strike them with a staff.

³²Every stroke of the appointed rod that Yahweh will lay on them will be accompanied with the music of tambourines and harps as he battles and fights with them.

³³For a place of burning {was} prepared long ago. Indeed, it is prepared for the king, and God has made it deep and wide.

The pile {is} ready with a fire and much wood.

The breath of Yahweh, like a stream of brimstone, will set it on fire.

Chapter 31

¹Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help {and} lean on horses, and trust in chariots (for {they are} many) and in horsemen (for they are countless).

But they are not concerned about the Holy One of Israel, nor do they seek Yahweh!

²Yet he {is} wise, and he will bring disaster and will not retract his words.

He will arise against the evil house and against the helpers of those who commit sin.

³Egypt {is} a man and not God, their horses flesh and not spirit.

When Yahweh reaches out with his hand, both the one who helps will stumble, and the one who is helped will fall; both will perish together.

⁴This is what Yahweh says to me,

“As a lion, even a young lion, growls over its torn prey,

when a group of shepherds is called out against it,

but it does not tremble at their voices, nor creep away from their sound;

thus Yahweh of hosts will descend to fight on Mount Zion, on that hill.

⁵Like birds in flight, so Yahweh of hosts will protect Jerusalem;

he will protect and rescue as he passes over it and preserves {it}.

⁶Return {to him} from whom you have deeply turned away, people of Israel. ⁷For in that day each one will get rid of his idols of silver

and his idols of gold that your own hands have sinfully made.

⁸Assyria will fall by the sword; a sword not wielded by man will consume him.

He will flee from the sword, and his young men will be forced to do hard labor.

⁹They will lose all confidence because of terror, and his princes will be afraid at the sight of Yahweh's battle flag—this is Yahweh's declaration—whose fire {is} in Zion and whose firepot {is} in Jerusalem.”

Chapter 32

¹Look, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice.

²Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm,

like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a land of weariness.

³Then the eyes of those who see will not be dim, and the ears of those who hear will hear attentively.

⁴The rash will think carefully with understanding, and the stutterer will speak distinctly and with ease.

⁵The fool will no longer {be} called honorable, nor the deceiver called principled.

⁶For the fool speaks folly, and his heart plans evil

and godless actions, and he speaks wrongly against Yahweh.

He makes the hungry empty, and the thirsty he causes to lack drink.

⁷The deceiver's methods {are} evil. He devises wicked schemes

to ruin the poor with lies, even when the poor say what is right.

⁸But the honorable man makes honorable plans; and because of his honorable actions he will stand.

⁹Rise up, you women who are at ease, and listen to my voice;

you carefree daughters, listen to me.

¹⁰For in a little more than a year your confidence will be broken,

you carefree women, for the grape harvest will fail, the ingathering will not come.

¹¹Tremble, you {women} who are at ease; be troubled, you confident ones;

take off your fine clothes and make yourselves bare; put on sackcloth around {your} waists.

¹²You will wail for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vines.

¹³The land of my people will be overgrown with thorns {and} briers,

even in all the once joyful houses {in} the city of revelry.

¹⁴For the palace will be forsaken, the crowded city will be deserted;

the hill and the watchtower will become caves forever,

a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks;

¹⁵until the Spirit is poured on us from on high,

and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is considered as a forest.

¹⁶Then justice will reside in the wilderness; and righteousness will live in the fruitful field.

¹⁷The work of righteousness will be peace; and the result of righteousness, quietness and confidence forever.

¹⁸My people will live in a peaceful habitation, in secure homes, and in quiet resting places.

¹⁹But even if it hails and the forest is destroyed, and the city is completely annihilated, ²⁰you who sow beside all the streams {will be} blessed, you who send out your ox and donkey to graze.

Chapter 33

¹Woe to you, destroyer who {has} not {been} destroyed!

Woe to the betrayer whom they have not betrayed!

When you stop destroying, you will be destroyed.

When you stop betraying, they will betray you.

²Yahweh, be gracious to us; we wait for you;

be our arm every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble.

³At the loud noise the peoples flee; when you arise, the nations are scattered.

⁴Your spoil is gathered {as} the locusts gather; as locusts leap, men leap on it.

⁵Yahweh is exalted. He lives in a high place. He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness.

⁶He will be the stability in your times,

abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of Yahweh is his treasure.

⁷Look, their envoys cry in the streets; the diplomats hoping for peace weep bitterly.

⁸The highways are deserted; there are no more travelers.

Covenants are broken, witnesses are despised, and mankind is not respected.^[1]

⁹The land mourns {and} withers away; Lebanon is ashamed {and} withers away;^[2]

Sharon is like a desert plain; and Bashan and Carmel shake off {their leaves}.

¹⁰"Now will I arise," says Yahweh; "now I will be lifted up; now I will be elevated.

¹¹You conceive chaff, and you give birth to stubble; your breath is a fire that will consume you.

¹²The peoples will be burned to lime, {as} thornbushes are cut down and are burned.

¹³You {who are} far away, hear what I have done; and, you {who are} near, acknowledge my might."

¹⁴The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless ones.

Who among us can sojourn with a raging fire? Who among us can sojourn with everlasting burnings?

¹⁵He who walks righteously and speaks honestly;

who despises the gain of oppression,

who shakes his hand so that it will not accept a bribe,

who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed,

and who shuts his eyes from looking on evil—

¹⁶this is the man who will dwell on the heights,

his {place} of defense {will be} the fortress among the cliffs,

his food will be given, and his water {will be} in steady supply.

¹⁷Your eyes will see the king in his beauty; they will see a land off in the distance.

¹⁸Your heart will recall the terror; where {is} the scribe, where {is} he who weighed the money? Where {is} he who counted the towers?

¹⁹You will no longer see the defiant people, a people of a strange language {that you} {do} not understand.

²⁰Look at Zion, the city of our feasts;

your eyes will see Jerusalem as a quiet habitation, a tent {that} will not be removed,
whose stakes will never be pulled up nor will any of its cords be broken.

²¹Instead, Yahweh in majesty {will be} with us, in a place of broad rivers {and} streams.

No warship with oars will travel it, and no large ships will sail by.

²²For Yahweh {is} our judge, Yahweh {is} our lawgiver, Yahweh {is} our king; he will save us.

²³Your riggings are slack; they cannot hold the mast in place; they cannot spread the sail;
when the great spoil is divided, even the lame will drag off the spoil.

²⁴The inhabitants will not say, "I am sick;" the people who live there {will be} forgiven for {their} iniquity.

33:8 ^[1] , some versions have .

33:9 ^[2] .

Chapter 34

¹Come near, you nations, and listen; pay attention, you people!

The earth and all that fills it must listen, the world, and all {things} that come from it.

²For Yahweh is angry with all the nations, and furious against all their armies;
he has completely destroyed them, he has handed them over to the slaughter.

³The bodies of their dead will be thrown out. The stench of the dead bodies will be everywhere;
and the mountains will soak up their blood.

⁴All the stars of the sky will fade away,
and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; and all their stars will fade away,
as the leaf fades from off the vine, and as the overripe figs from the fig tree.

⁵For when my sword will have drunk its fill in heaven;
look, it will now come down on Edom, on the people I am setting apart for destruction.

⁶The sword of Yahweh is dripping with blood and covered with fat,
dripping with the blood of lambs and goats, covered with the fat of the kidneys of rams.
For Yahweh has a sacrifice in Bozrah and a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

⁷Wild oxen will fall with them, and young bulls with the older ones.

Their land will be drunk with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.

⁸For {it will be} a day of vengeance for Yahweh and a year when he will pay them back for the cause of Zion.

⁹The streams of Edom will be turned into pitch, her dust into sulfur,
and her land will become burning pitch.

¹⁰It will burn night and day; its smoke will rise forever;
from generation to generation it will be a wasteland; no one will pass through it forever and ever.

¹¹But wild birds and animals will live there; the owl and the raven will make their nest in it.
He will stretch over it the measuring line of ruin and the plumbline of destruction.

¹²Her nobles
will have nothing left to call a kingdom, and all her princes {will be} nothing.

¹³Thorns will overgrow her palaces, nettles and thistles her fortresses.
It will be a habitation of jackals, a place for ostriches.

¹⁴The wild animals and the hyenas will meet there, and the wild goats will cry to one another.
Nocturnal animals will settle there and find for themselves a place of rest.

¹⁵Owls will make nests, lay and hatch their {eggs}, hatch and protect their young.
Yes, there hawks will gather, each one with its mate.

¹⁶Search through the scroll of Yahweh; not one of these will be missing.
None will lack for a mate; for his mouth has commanded it, and his spirit has gathered them.

¹⁷He has cast lots for their places, and his hand has measured it out for them by a cord.
They will possess it forever; from generation to generation they will live there.

Chapter 35

¹The wilderness and the Arabah will be glad; and the desert will rejoice and blossom.
Like the rose,

²it will blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing;
the glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of Yahweh, the splendor of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands, and steady the knees that shake.

⁴Say to those {with a} fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!
Look, your God will come {with} vengeance,
{with} the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind will see, and the ears of the deaf will hear.

⁶Then the lame man will leap like a deer, and the mute tongue will sing,
for water breaks out in the Arabah, and streams in the wilderness.

⁷The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the habitation of jackals, where they once lay, {will be} grass with reeds and rushes.

⁸A highway will be there called The Holy Way.

The unclean will not travel it. But it will be for him who walks in it.

No fool will go on it.

⁹No lion will be there, no ferocious beast will be on it; they will not be found there,
but the redeemed will walk there.

¹⁰The ransomed of Yahweh will return

and come with singing to Zion, and everlasting joy will be on their heads;
gladness and joy will overtake them; sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Chapter 36

¹In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. ²Then the king of Assyria sent the chief commander from Lachish to Jerusalem to King Hezekiah with a great army. He approached the conduit of the upper pool, on the highway to the launderers' field, and stood by it. ³The Israelite officials who went out of the city to talk with them were Hilkiyah's son Eliakim, the palace administrator, Shebna the king's secretary, and Asaph's son Joah, who wrote down the government decisions.

⁴The chief commander said to them, "Tell Hezekiah that the great king, the king of Assyria, says, 'What is the source of your confidence? ⁵You speak only useless words, saying there is counsel and strength for war. Now in whom are you trusting? Who has given you courage to rebel against me? ⁶Look, you are trusting in Egypt, that splintered reed that you use as a walking staff, but if a man leans on it, it will stick into his hand and pierce it. That is what Pharaoh king of Egypt {is} to anyone who trusts in him. ⁷But if you say to me, "We are trusting in Yahweh our God," {is} not he the one whose high places and altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, "You must worship before this altar in Jerusalem"? ⁸Now therefore, I want to make you a good offer from my master the king of Assyria. I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able to find riders for them. ⁹How could you resist even one captain of the least of my master's servants? You have put your trust in Egypt for chariots and horsemen! ¹⁰Now then, have I traveled up here without Yahweh to fight against this land and destroy it? Yahweh said to me, "Attack this land and destroy it.'"

¹¹Then Eliakim son of Hilkiyah, and Shebna, and Joah said to the chief commander, "Please speak to your servants in the Aramean language, Aramaic, for we understand {it}. Do not speak with us in the language of Judah in the ears of the people who are on the wall." ¹²But the chief commander 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 on the wall, who will have to eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?"

¹³Then the chief commander stood and shouted in a loud voice in the Jews' language, saying, "Listen to the words of the great king, the king of Assyria. ¹⁴The king says, 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to rescue you. ¹⁵Do not let Hezekiah make you trust in Yahweh, saying, "Yahweh will surely rescue us; this city will not

be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.” ¹⁶Do not listen to Hezekiah, for this is what the king of Assyria says: ‘Make {peace} with me and come out to me. Then every one of you will eat from his own vine and from his own fig tree, and drink from the water in his own cistern. ¹⁷You will do this until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.’ ¹⁸Do not let Hezekiah mislead you, saying, ‘Yahweh will rescue us.’ Has any of the gods of the peoples rescued them from the hand of the king of Assyria? ¹⁹Where {are} the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where {are} the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they rescued Samaria from my power? ²⁰Among all the gods of these lands, is there any god who has rescued his land from my power, as if Yahweh could save Jerusalem from my power?”

²¹But the people remained silent and did not respond, for the king’s order was, “Do not answer him.” ²²Then Eliakim son of Hilkiyah, who {was} over the household, Shebna the scribe, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with {their} clothes torn, and reported to him the words of the chief commander.

Chapter 37

¹It came about that when King Hezekiah heard {their report}, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of Yahweh. ²He sent Eliakim, who {was} over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, all covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah son of Amoz, the prophet. ³They said to him, “Hezekiah says, ‘This day {is} a day of distress, rebuke, and disgrace, like when a child is ready to be born, but the mother {has} no strength to give birth to her child. ⁴It may be Yahweh your God will hear the words of the chief commander, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to defy the living God, and will rebuke the words which Yahweh your God has heard. Now lift up {your} prayer for the remnant that is still here.’”

⁵So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, ⁶and Isaiah said to them, “Say to your master: ‘Yahweh says, “Do not be afraid of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have insulted me. ⁷Look, I will put a spirit in him, and he will hear a certain report and go back to his own land. I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.’”

⁸Then the chief commander returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he had heard that the king had gone away from Lachish. ⁹Then Sennacherib heard that Tirhakah king of Cush and Egypt had mobilized to fight against him, so he sent messengers again to Hezekiah with a message: ¹⁰“Say to Hezekiah, king of Judah, ‘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.” ¹¹See, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by destroying them completely. So will you be rescued? ¹²Have the gods of the nations rescued them, the nations that my fathers destroyed: Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the people of Eden in Tel Assar? ¹³Where {is} the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, the king of the cities of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?”

¹⁴Hezekiah received this letter from the hand of the messengers and read it. Then he went up to the house of Yahweh and spread it before him. ¹⁵Hezekiah prayed to Yahweh: ¹⁶“Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, you who sit above the cherubim, you are God alone over all the kingdoms of the earth. You made the heavens and the earth. ¹⁷Turn your ear, Yahweh, and listen. Open your eyes, Yahweh, and see, and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God. ¹⁸It is true, Yahweh, the kings of Assyria have destroyed all the nations and their lands. ¹⁹They have put their gods into the fire, for they {were} not gods but the work of men’s hands, just wood and stone. So the Assyrians have destroyed them. ²⁰So now, Yahweh our God, save us from his power, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you {are} Yahweh alone.”

²¹Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah, saying, “Yahweh, the God of Israel says, ‘Because you have prayed to me concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria, ²²this {is} the word that Yahweh has spoken about him:

“The virgin daughter of Zion despises you and laughs you to scorn;

the daughter of Jerusalem shakes {her} head at you.

23Whom have you defied and insulted? Against whom have you exalted {your} voice and lifted up your eyes in pride? Against the Holy One of Israel.

24By your servants you have defied the Lord and have said, 'With the multitude of my chariots I have gone up to the heights of the mountains, to the highest elevations of Lebanon. I will cut down its tall cedars and choice cypress trees there, and I will enter into its farthest high places, its most fruitful forest.

25I have dug wells and drunk water;^[1] I dried up all the rivers of Egypt under the soles of my feet.'

26Have you not heard how I determined it long ago and worked it out in ancient times? Now I am bringing it to pass. You are here to reduce impregnable cities {into} heaps of ruins.

27Their inhabitants, of little strength, are shattered and ashamed. They are plants in the field, green grass, the grass on the roof or in the field, before the east wind.

28But I know your sitting down, your going out, your coming in, and your raging against me.

29Because of your raging against me, and because your arrogance has reached my ears, I will put my hook in your nose, and my bit in your mouth; I will turn you back the way you came."

30This {will be} the sign for you: This year you will eat what grows wild, and in the second year what grows from that. But in the third year you must plant and harvest, plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

31The remnant of the house of Judah that survives will again take root and bear fruit.

32For from Jerusalem a remnant will come out; from Mount Zion survivors will come. The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will do this."

33Therefore Yahweh says this about the king of Assyria:

"He will not come into this city and he will not shoot an arrow here.

He will not come before it with shield or build up a siege ramp against it.

34The way by which he came will be the same way he will leave; he will not enter this city—this is Yahweh's declaration.

35For I will defend this city and rescue it, for my own sake and for David my servant's sake." **36**Then the angel of Yahweh went out and attacked the camp of the Assyrians, putting to death 185,000 soldiers. When {the men} arose

early in the morning, dead bodies lay everywhere. ³⁷So Sennacherib king of Assyria left Israel and went {home} and stayed in Nineveh. ³⁸Later, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisrok his god, his sons Adrammelek and Sharezer killed him with the sword. Then they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

37:25 ^[1].

Chapter 38

¹In those days Hezekiah was sick to the point of dying. So Isaiah son of Amoz, the prophet, came to him, and said to him, "Yahweh says, 'Set your house in order; for you will die, not live.'" ²Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to Yahweh. ³He said, "Please, Yahweh, call to mind how I have faithfully walked before you with my whole heart, and how I have done {what was} good in your sight." Then Hezekiah wept loudly. ⁴Then the word of Yahweh came to Isaiah, saying, ⁵"Go and say to Hezekiah, the leader of my people, 'This is what Yahweh, the God of David your ancestor, says: I have heard your prayer, and I have seen your tears. See, I am about to add fifteen years to your life. ⁶Then I will rescue you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city. ⁷This will be the sign to you from Yahweh, that I will do what I have promised. ⁸Look, I will cause the shadow on the stairs of Ahaz to go back ten steps.'" So the shadow went back ten steps of the stairs on which it had advanced.

⁹This was the written prayer of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick and then recovered:

¹⁰"I said that halfway through my life

I will go through the gates of Sheol; I am sent there for the rest of my years.

¹¹I said that I will no longer see Yahweh, Yahweh in the land of the living;

I will no longer look on mankind or the inhabitants of the world.^[1]

¹²My life is removed and carried away from me like a shepherd's tent;

I have rolled up my life like a weaver; you are cutting me off from the loom;

between day and night you are ending my life.

¹³I cried out^[2] until the morning;

like a lion he breaks all my bones.

Between day and night you are ending my life.

¹⁴Like a swallow I chirp; I coo like a dove;

my eyes grow tired {with} {looking} upward. Lord, I am oppressed; help me.

¹⁵What shall I say? He has both spoken to me, and has done {it};

I will walk slowly all my years because I am overcome with grief.

¹⁶Lord, the sufferings you send are good for me; may my life be given back to me;

you have restored my life and health.

¹⁷{It was} for {my} benefit that I experienced such grief.

You have {rescued} me from the pit of destruction;

for you have thrown all my sins behind your back.

¹⁸For Sheol does not thank you; death does not praise you;
those who go down into the pit do not hope in your trustworthiness.

¹⁹The living person, the living person, he is the one who gives you thanks, as I {do} this day;
a father makes known to children your trustworthiness.

²⁰Yahweh {is about} to save me, and we will celebrate with music
all the days of our lives in the house of Yahweh."

²¹Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs and put {it} on the boil, and he will recover." ²²Hezekiah also had said, "What {will be} the sign that I should go up to the house of Yahweh?"

38:11 ^[1] : (that is, brief existence).

38:13 ^[2] or .

Chapter 39

¹At that time Marduk-Baladan son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a gift to Hezekiah; for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick and had recovered. ²Hezekiah was pleased by these things; he showed the messengers his storehouse of valuable things—the silver, the gold, the spices and precious oil, the storehouse of his weapons, and all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house, nor in all his kingdom, that Hezekiah did not show them. ³Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and asked him, "What did these men say to you? Where did they come from?" Hezekiah said, "They came to me from the distant country of Babylon." ⁴Isaiah asked, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen everything in my house. There is nothing among my valuable things that I have not shown them." ⁵Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Listen to the word of Yahweh of hosts: ⁶Look, the days are about to come when everything in your palace, the things that your ancestors stored away until this present day, will be carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says Yahweh. ⁷The sons born from you, whom you yourself have fathered—they will take them away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon." ⁸Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of Yahweh that you have spoken {is} good." For he thought, "There will be peace and stability in my days."

Chapter 40

¹"Comfort, comfort my people," says your God.

²"Speak tenderly to Jerusalem; and proclaim to her
that her warfare has ended, that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received double from Yahweh's hand for all her sins."

³A voice cries out,
"In the wilderness prepare the way of Yahweh;
make straight in the Arabah a highway for our God."^[1]

⁴Every valley will be lifted up, and every mountain and hill will be leveled;
and the rugged land will be made level, and the rough places a plain;

⁵and the glory of Yahweh will be revealed, and all people will see {it} together; for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it.

⁶A voice says, "Cry." Another answers, "What should I cry?"

"All flesh {is} grass, and all their covenant faithfulness {is} like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers and the flower wilts when the breath of Yahweh blows on it; surely humanity {is} grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower wilts, but the word of our God will stand forever."

⁹Go up on a high mountain, Zion, bearer of good news.^[2]

Shout out loud, Jerusalem. You who bring good news, {raise your voice}, do not be afraid.^[3]

Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

¹⁰Look, the Lord Yahweh comes as a victorious warrior, and his strong arm rules for him.

See, his reward is with him, and those he has rescued go before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather in his arm the lambs,

and carry {them} close to his heart,

{and} will gently lead the ewes nursing their young.

¹²Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, measured the sky with the span of his hand,

held the dust of the earth in a basket, weighed the mountains in scales,

or the hills in a balance?

¹³Who has comprehended the mind of Yahweh, or instructed him {as} his counselor?

¹⁴{From whom} did he ever receive instruction? Who taught him the correct way to do things,

and taught him knowledge, or showed to him the way of understanding?

¹⁵Look, the nations {are} like a drop in a bucket, and are regarded like the dust on the scales;

see, he weighs the isles as a speck.

¹⁶Lebanon {is} not sufficient fuel,

nor its wild animals sufficient for a burnt offering.

¹⁷All the nations {are} insufficient before him; they are regarded by him as nothing.

¹⁸To whom then will you compare God? To what idol will you liken him?

¹⁹An idol! A craftsman casts it: The goldsmith overlays it with gold

and forges silver chains for it.

²⁰To make an offering one chooses a wood {that} will not rot;

he seeks a skillful artisan to make an idol {that} will not fall over.

²¹Have 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?

²²He is the one who sits above the horizon of the earth; and the inhabitants {are} like grasshoppers before him.

He stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out as a tent to live in.

²³He reduces rulers to nothing and makes the rulers of the earth insignificant.

²⁴They are barely planted, barely sown, their stem has barely taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them and they wither, and the wind carries them away like straw.

²⁵“To whom then will you compare me, {whom} do I resemble?” says the Holy One.

²⁶Look up at the sky! Who has created all these stars?

He leads out {their} {formations} and calls them all by name.

By the greatness of his might and by the strength of {his} power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, Jacob, and declare, Israel,

“My way is hidden from Yahweh, and my God is not concerned about my vindication”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The everlasting God, Yahweh, the Creator of the ends of the earth,
does not get tired or weary; there is no limit to his understanding.

²⁹He gives strength {to the tired}; and to the weak he gives renewed energy.

³⁰Even young people become tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall:

³¹but those who wait for Yahweh will renew {their} strength; they will soar with wings like eagles;
they will run and not be weary; they will walk and not faint.

40:3 ^[1] .

40:9 ^[2] , some versions have .

40:9 ^[3] , some versions have .

Chapter 41

¹“Listen before me in silence, you coastlands; let the nations renew {their} strength;
let them come near and speak; let us come near together to argue a dispute.

²Who has stirred up one from the east, calling him in righteousness to his service?

He hands nations over to him and helps {him} subdue kings.

He turns {them} to dust with his sword, like windblown stubble with his bow.

³He pursues them {and} passes by safely, by a swift path {that} his feet scarcely touch.

⁴Who has performed and accomplished {these deeds}? Who has summoned the generations from the beginning?

I, Yahweh, the first, and with the last ones, I {am} he.

⁵The isles have seen and are afraid; the ends of the earth tremble;
they approach and come.

⁶Everyone helps his neighbor, and every one says to one another, 'Be encouraged.'

⁷So the carpenter {encourages} the goldsmith, and he who works with the hammer encourages him who works with an anvil,

saying of the welding, 'It {is} good.' They fasten it with nails {so} it will not topple over.

⁸But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham my friend,

⁹{you} whom I am bringing back from the ends of the earth, and whom I called from the far away places,

and to whom I said, 'You {are} my servant;' I have chosen you and not rejected you. ¹⁰Do not fear, for I {am} with you. Do not be anxious, for I {am} your God.

I will strengthen you, and I will help you, and I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

¹¹See, they will be ashamed and disgraced, all who have been angry with you;
they will be as nothing and will perish, those who oppose you.

¹²You will seek and will not find those who contended with you;
those who warred against you will be like nothing, absolutely nothing.

¹³For I, Yahweh your God, will hold your right hand,
saying to you, 'Do not fear; I am helping you.'

¹⁴Do not fear, Jacob you worm, and you men of Israel;
I will help you—this is Yahweh's declaration, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁵Look, I am making you like a sharp threshing sledge, new and two-edged;
you will thresh the mountains and crush them; you will make the hills like chaff.

¹⁶You will winnow them, and the wind will carry them away; the wind will scatter them.
You will rejoice in Yahweh, you will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁷The oppressed and needy look for water, but {there is} none, and their tongues are parched for thirst;
I, Yahweh, will respond to their prayers; {I}, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.

¹⁸I will make streams to flow down the slopes, and springs in the middle of the valleys;
I will make the desert into a pool of water, and the dry land into springs of water.

¹⁹In the wilderness I will set the cedar, the acacia, and the myrtle, and the olive tree.
I will set the cypress in the desert plain, {with} the pines and the cypress box trees.

²⁰I will do this so that the people may see, recognize, and understand together,

that the hand of Yahweh has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it.

²¹“Present your case,” says Yahweh,

“present your best {arguments} for your idols,” says the King of Jacob.

²²Let them bring us their own arguments; have them come forward and declare to us what will happen, so we may know these things well.

Have them tell us of earlier predictive declarations, so we can reflect on them and know how they {were} fulfilled.

²³Tell things about the future, that we may know if you {are} gods; do something good or evil, that we may be frightened and impressed.

²⁴See, you idols {are} nothing and your deeds {are} nothing; {the one} {who} chooses you {is} detestable.

²⁵I have raised up one from the north, and he comes; from the sun’s rising I summon him who calls on my name, and he will trample the rulers like mud, like a potter who is treading on the clay.

²⁶Who announced this from the beginning, that we might know? Before this time, that we may say, “{He is} right”? Indeed none of them decreed it, yes, none heard you say anything.

²⁷{I} first {said} to Zion, “Look here they are;” I sent a herald to Jerusalem.

²⁸When I look, {there is} no one, not one among them who can give good advice, who, when I ask, can answer a word.

²⁹Look, all of them {are} nothing, and their deeds {are} nothing; their cast metal figures {are} wind and emptiness.

Chapter 42

¹Behold, my servant, whom I uphold; my chosen one, in him I take delight.

I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring justice to the nations.

²He will not cry out nor shout, nor make {his voice} heard in the streets.

³A crushed reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench: he will faithfully execute justice.

⁴He will not grow faint nor be discouraged until he has established justice on the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

⁵This is what God Yahweh says—

the one who created the heavens and stretched them out, the one who made the earth and all that it produces, the one who gives breath to the people on it and life to those who live on it:

⁶"I, Yahweh, have called you in righteousness and will hold your hand.

I will keep you and set you as a covenant for the people, as a light for the Gentiles,

⁷to open the eyes of the blind, to release the prisoners from the dungeon,

and from the house of confinement those who sit in darkness.

⁸I {am} Yahweh, that {is} my name;

and my glory I will not share with another nor my praise with carved idols.

⁹See, the previous things came to pass,

now I am about to declare new events.

Before they begin to occur I will tell you about them."

¹⁰Sing to Yahweh 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 those who live there.

¹¹Let the desert and the cities {cry out}, {the villages} where Kedar lives, shout for joy!

Let the inhabitants of Sela sing; let them shout from the mountaintops.

¹²Let them give glory to Yahweh and declare his praise in the coastlands.

¹³Yahweh will go out as a warrior; as a man of war he will stir up {his} zeal.

He will shout, yes, he will roar his battle cries; he will show his enemies his power.

¹⁴I have kept quiet for a long time; I have been still and restrained myself;

{now} I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation;

and I will turn the rivers into islands and will dry up the marshes.

¹⁶I will bring the blind by a way that they do not know; in paths that they do not know I will lead them.

I will turn the darkness into light before them, and make the crooked places straight.

These things I will do, and I will not abandon them.

¹⁷They will be turned back, they will be completely put to shame, those who trust in carved figures,

who say to cast metal figures, "You {are} our gods."

¹⁸Listen, you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see.

¹⁹Who {is} blind but my servant? Or deaf like my messenger I send?

{Who} {is} as blind as my covenant partner, or blind as Yahweh's servant?

²⁰You see many things, but do not comprehend; ears are open, but no one hears.

²¹It pleased Yahweh to praise {his justice} and to make his law glorious.

²²But this {is} a people robbed and plundered;

they are all trapped in pits, held captive in prisons;
 they have become a plunder with no one to rescue them, and no one says, "Bring them back!"

²³Who among you will listen to this? {Who} will listen and hear in the future?

²⁴Who gave Jacob over to the robber, and Israel to the looters?

Was it not Yahweh, against whom we have sinned,
 in whose ways they refused to walk, and whose law they refused to obey?

²⁵Therefore he poured out on them his fierce anger and the violence of war,

Its flames encircled them, yet they did not understand;

it consumed them, but they did not take {it} to heart.

Chapter 43

¹But now this is what Yahweh says, he who created you, Jacob, and he who formed you, Israel:

"Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you; I have called {you} by your name, you {are} mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I {will be} with you; and through the rivers, they will not overwhelm you.

When you walk through the fire you will not be burned, and the flames will not destroy you.

³For I {am} Yahweh your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Since you are precious and special in my sight, I love you;

therefore I will give people in exchange for you, and other peoples in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not be afraid, for I {am} with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east, and gather you from the west.

⁶I will say to the north, 'Hand them over;' and to the south, 'Do not hold any back;'

Bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the remote regions of the earth,

⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I have created for my glory, whom I have formed, yes, whom I have made.

⁸Bring out the people who are blind, even though they have eyes, and the deaf, even though they have ears.

⁹All the nations gather together, and the peoples assemble.

Who among them could have declared this and announced to us earlier events?

Let them bring their witnesses to prove themselves right, let them listen and affirm, {'It is} true.'

¹⁰You {are} my witnesses," declares Yahweh, "and my servant whom I have chosen,

so that you may know and believe in me, and understand that I am he.

Before me there was no god formed, and there will be none after me.

¹¹I, I {am} Yahweh, and there is no savior but me.

¹²I have declared, saved, and proclaimed, and there is no other {god} among you.

You {are} my witnesses," declares Yahweh, "I {am} God.

¹³From this day on I am he,

and no one can rescue anyone from my hand. I act, and who can turn it back?"

¹⁴This is what Yahweh says, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

"For your sake I send to Babylon and lead them all down as fugitives,
turning the Babylonians' expressions of joy into songs of lamentation.

¹⁵I {am} Yahweh, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King."

¹⁶This is what Yahweh says (who opened a way through the sea and a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷who led out the chariot and horse, the army and the mighty host. They fell down together;
they will never rise again; they are extinguished, quenched like a burning wick.)

¹⁸"Do not think about these former things, nor consider the things of long ago.

¹⁹Look, I am about to do a new thing; now it begins to happen; do you not perceive it?

I will make a road in the desert {and} streams of water in the wilderness.

²⁰The wild animals of the field will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches,

because I give water in the wilderness, {and} rivers in the desert,

for my chosen people to drink,

²¹this people whom I formed for myself,

that they might recount my praises.

²²But you have not called on me, Jacob; you have become tired of me, Israel.

²³You have not brought me any of your sheep as burnt offerings,

or honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with grain offerings, nor wearied you with demands for incense.

²⁴You have bought me no sweet-smelling cane with money, neither have you poured out to me the fat of your sacrifices;

but you have burdened me with your sins, you have wearied me with your evil deeds.

²⁵I, yes, I, {am} he who blots out your offenses for my own sake; and I will not call to mind your sins any longer.

²⁶Remind me of what happened. Let us debate together; present {your cause}, that you may be proved innocent.

²⁷Your first father sinned, and your leaders have transgressed against me.

²⁸Therefore I will defile the holy officials; I will hand Jacob over to complete destruction, and Israel to abusive humiliation.”

Chapter 44

¹Now listen, Jacob my servant, and Israel, whom I have chosen:

²This is what Yahweh says, he who made you and formed you in the womb and {who} will help you: “Do not fear, Jacob my servant; and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

³For I will pour water on the thirsty ground, and flowing streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your children.

⁴They will spring up among the grass, like willows by the streams of water.

⁵{One} will say, ‘I {belong to} Yahweh,’ and another will call out the name of Jacob, and another will write {on} his hand {‘Belonging to} Yahweh,’ and name {himself} by the name of Israel.”

⁶This is what Yahweh says—the King of Israel and his Redeemer, Yahweh of hosts: “I {am} the first, and I {am} the last; and {there is} no God but me.

⁷Who is like me? Let him announce it and explain to me the events that occurred since I established my ancient people, and let them declare the events to come.

⁸Do not fear or be afraid. Have I not declared to you long ago, and announced {it}? You {are} my witnesses: Is there any God besides me? {There is} no other Rock; I know of none.”

⁹All who fashion idols are nothing; the things they delight in {are} worthless; their witnesses cannot see or know anything, and they will be put to shame.

¹⁰Who would form a god or cast an idol that is worthless?

¹¹Look, all his associates will be put to shame; the craftsmen {are} only men. Let them take their stand together; they will cower and be put to shame.

¹²The smith works with his tools, forming it, working over the coals. He shapes it with hammers and works it with his strong arm.

He is hungry, and his strength wanes; he {drinks} no water and becomes faint.

¹³The carpenter measures the wood with a line, and marks it with a stylus. He shapes it with {his} tools and marks it out with a compass.

He shapes it after the figure of a man, like an attractive human, so it may stay in a house.

¹⁴He cuts down cedars, or chooses a cypress tree or an oak tree.

He picks for himself trees in the forest. He plants a fir tree and the rain makes it grow.

15Then a man uses {it} for a fire and warms himself. Yes, he kindles a fire and bakes bread.

Then he makes from {it} a god and bows down to {it}; he makes an idol and bows down to {it}.

16He burns part of the wood for the fire, roasting his meat over it. He eats and is satisfied.

He warms {himself} and says, "Ah, I am warm, I have seen the fire."

17With the rest of the wood he makes a god, his carved image; he bows down to it and reverences it, and prays to it saying, "Rescue me, for you {are} my god."

18They do not know, nor do they understand, for their eyes are blind and cannot see, and their hearts cannot perceive.

19No one thinks, nor do they comprehend and say,

"I have burned part of the wood in the fire; yes, I have also baked bread upon its coals. I have roasted meat over its coals and eaten.

Now should I make the other part of the wood into something disgusting to worship? Should I bow down to a block of wood?"

20It is as if he were eating ashes; his deceived heart misleads him. He cannot rescue himself, nor does he say, "This thing in my right hand {is} a false god."

21Think about these things, Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant:

I have formed you; you are my servant: Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.

22I have blotted out, like a {thick} cloud, your rebellious deeds, and like a cloud, your sins; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

23Sing, you heavens, for Yahweh has done {this}; shout, you depths of the earth.

Break out into singing, you mountains, you forest with every tree in it;

for Yahweh has redeemed Jacob, and will show his glory in Israel.

24This is what Yahweh says, your Redeemer, he who formed you from the womb:

"I {am Yahweh,} who made {everything},

who alone stretched out the heavens, who alone fashioned the earth.

25I who frustrate the omens of the empty talkers and who disgrace those who read omens;

I who overturn the wisdom of the wise and make their advice foolish.

26I, Yahweh, who confirmed the words of his servant and brings to pass the predictions of his messengers,

who says of Jerusalem, 'She will be inhabited,' and of the towns of Judah, 'They will be built again, and I will raise up their ruins';

27who says to the deep sea, 'Be dry, and I will dry up your currents.'

28Yahweh is the one who says of Cyrus, '{He is} my shepherd, he will do my every wish; he will decree about Jerusalem, 'She will be rebuilt,' and about the temple, 'Let its foundations be laid.'"

Chapter 45

¹This is what Yahweh says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I hold,
in order to subdue nations before him, to disarm kings,
and to open the doors before him, so that gates remain open:

²"I will go before you and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut in pieces their iron bars,

³and I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden away,
that you may know that it is I, Yahweh, who call you by your name, I, the God of Israel.

⁴For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel my chosen,
I have called you by your name, giving you a title of honor, though you have not known me.

⁵I am Yahweh, and there is no other; there is no God but me.
I will arm you for battle, though you have not known me;

⁶that people may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that {there is} no god but me:
I {am} Yahweh, and {there is} no other.

⁷I form the light and create darkness;
I bring peace and create disaster; I am Yahweh, who does all these things.

⁸You heavens, rain down from above! Let the skies rain down righteousness.
Let the earth absorb it, that salvation may sprout up,
and righteousness spring up together with it. I, Yahweh, have created them both.

⁹Woe to anyone who argues with the one who formed him, to him who is like any other earthen pot among all the earthen pots in the ground!

Does the clay say to the potter, 'What are you making?' or 'Your work has no handles on it?'

¹⁰Woe to him who {says} to a father, 'What are you fathering?' or to a woman, 'What are you giving birth to?'

¹¹This is what Yahweh says, the Holy One of Israel, his Maker:

'Why do you ask questions about what I will do for my children? Do you tell me what to do concerning the work of my hands?'

¹²I made the earth and created man on it.

It was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all the stars to appear.

¹³I stirred Cyrus up in righteousness, and I will smooth out all his paths.

He will build my city; he will let my exiled people go home, and not for price nor bribe,'" says Yahweh of hosts.

¹⁴This is what Yahweh says,

"The earnings of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush with the Sabeans, men of tall stature, will be brought to you. They will be yours. They will follow after you, coming in chains.

They will bow down to you and plead with you {saying,}

'Surely God {is} with you, and {there is} no other except him.'"

¹⁵Truly you {are} a God who hides yourself, God of Israel, Savior.

¹⁶They will all be ashamed and disgraced together; those {who} {carve} idols will walk in humiliation.

¹⁷{But} Israel will be saved by Yahweh with an everlasting salvation; you will never again be ashamed or humiliated.

¹⁸This is what Yahweh says, who created the heavens, the true God who created the earth and made it, who established it.

He created it, not as a waste, but designed it to be inhabited:

"I {am} Yahweh, and {there is} no other.

¹⁹I have not spoken in private, in some hidden place;

I did not say to Jacob's descendants, 'Seek me in vain!'

I am Yahweh, who speaks sincerely; I declare the {things} that are right.

²⁰Assemble yourselves and come! Gather together, you {refugees} from among the nations!

They have no knowledge, those who carry carved images and pray to gods {that} cannot save.

²¹Come close and declare it to me, bring {the} {evidence}! Let them conspire together.

Who has shown this from long ago? {Who} announced it?

Was it not I, Yahweh? {There is} no God except me, a just God and a Savior; {there is} no one besides me.

²²Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth;

for I {am} God, and {there is} no other.

²³By myself I swear,

speaking my just decree, and it will not turn back:

'To me every knee will bend, every tongue will swear.

²⁴They will say of me, "In Yahweh alone are salvation and strength.'"

They will all be ashamed who are angry at him.

²⁵In Yahweh all the descendants of Israel will be justified; they will take pride in him.

Chapter 46

¹Bel bows down, Nebo stoops; their idols

are carried by animals and beasts of burden. These idols that you carry {are} a heavy burden for weary {animals}.

²Together they bend low, kneel down; they cannot rescue the images,
and they themselves have gone off into captivity.

³Listen to me, house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel,
who have been carried {by me} from before your birth, carried from the womb.

⁴Even to {your} old age I {am} he, and until your hair is gray I will carry {you}.
I made you and I will bear you; I will carry {you} and I will rescue you.

⁵To whom will you compare me? Who do you think I resemble, so that we may be compared?

⁶People pour out gold from the bag and weigh silver on the scale.
They hire a metalsmith, and he makes it into a god; they bow down and worship it.

⁷They lift it on their shoulder and carry it; they set it in its place, and it stands in its place and does not move from it.

{They} cry out to it, but it cannot answer nor save anyone from his trouble.

⁸Think about these things; never ignore them, you rebels!

⁹Think about the earlier things, those of times past,
for I {am} God, and {there is} no other, {I am} God, and {there is} no one like me.

¹⁰I announce the end from the beginning, and beforehand {what} has not {yet} happened;
I say, "My plan will happen, and I will do as I desire."

¹¹I call a bird of prey from the east, the man of my choice from a distant land;
yes, I have spoken; I will also accomplish it; I have purposed, I will also do it.

¹²Listen to me, you stubborn people, who {are} far from doing what is right.

¹³I am bringing my righteousness near; it is not far away, and my salvation does not wait;
and I will give salvation to Zion and my beauty to Israel.

Chapter 47

¹Come down and sit in the dust, virgin daughter of Babylon;
sit on the ground without a throne, daughter of the Chaldeans.
You will no longer be called dainty and delicate.

²Take the millstone and grind flour; remove your veil,
strip off your flowing robe, uncover your legs, cross the streams.

³Your nakedness will be uncovered, yes, your shame will be seen:

I will take vengeance and will not spare a man.

⁴Our Redeemer, Yahweh of hosts {is} his name, the Holy One of Israel.

⁵Sit in silence and go into darkness, daughter of the Chaldeans;
for you will no longer be called queen of kingdoms.

⁶I was angry with my people; I defiled my heritage
and gave them over into your hand, but you showed them no mercy;
you placed a very heavy yoke on the old people.

⁷You said, "I will rule forever as sovereign queen."
You did not take these {things} to heart, nor did you consider how they would turn out.

⁸So now hear this, {you who} love pleasure and sit securely;
you who say in your heart, "I {exist}, and there is no one else like me;
I will never sit as a widow, nor will I ever experience loss of children."

⁹But these two {things} will come to you in a moment in one day:
the loss of children and widowhood; in full force they will come on you,
despite your sorceries and your many incantations and amulets.

¹⁰You have trusted in your wickedness; you have said, "No one sees me";
your wisdom and your knowledge lead you astray,
but you say in your heart, "I {exist}, and {there is} no one else {like me}."

¹¹Disaster will overcome you; you will not be able to drive it away with your incantations.
Destruction will fall on you; you will not be able to ward it off.
Calamity will strike you suddenly, before you know it.

¹²Persist in casting your spells and your many sorceries
{which} you have faithfully recited since your childhood;
perhaps you will be successful, perhaps you will scare away disaster.

¹³You are tired out with your many consultations; let those men stand up
and save you—those who chart the heavens and look at the stars,
those who declare the new moons—let them save you from what will happen to you.

¹⁴See, they will become like stubble. The fire will burn them up.
They will not save themselves from the hand of the flame.
There are no coals to warm them and no fire for them to sit {by}!

¹⁵This is what they have become to you—

those with whom you have worked,
and you have bought and sold with them since your youth—
they wandered about each one in his own direction;
there is no one who can rescue you.”

Chapter 48

¹Hear this, house of Jacob,
who are called by the name Israel, and have come from the sperm of Judah;
you who swear by the name of Yahweh and invoke the God of Israel,
{but} not sincerely nor in a righteous manner.

²For they call themselves people of the holy city
and trust in the God of Israel. Yahweh of hosts {is} his name.

³“I have declared the things from long ago; they came out from my mouth, and I made them known;
then suddenly I did {them}, and they came to pass.

⁴Because I knew that you {were} obstinate,
your neck muscles tight as iron, and your forehead like bronze,

⁵therefore I declared {these things} to you beforehand; before they happened I informed you,
so you could not say, ‘My idol has done them,’ or ‘My carved figure and my cast metal figure has ordained these things.’

⁶You heard about these things; look at all this evidence; and you, will you not admit what I said is true? From now on, I am showing you new things, hidden things that you have not known.

⁷Now, and not from previously, they come into being, and before today you have not heard about them,
so you will not be able to say, ‘Yes, I knew about them.’

⁸You never heard; you did not know; these things were not unfolded to your ears beforehand.
For I knew that you have been very deceitful, and that you have been a rebel from birth.

⁹For the sake of my name I will defer my anger, and {for} my honor I will hold back from destroying you.

¹⁰Look, I refined you, but not as silver; I have purified you in the furnace of affliction.

¹¹For my own sake, for my own sake I will act; for how can I allow {my name} to be profaned?
I will not give my glory to anyone else.

¹²Listen to me, Jacob, and Israel, whom I called:
I {am} he; I {am} the first, I also {am} the last.

¹³Yes, my hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens;

{when} I call to them, they stand up together.

¹⁴Assemble yourselves, all of you, and listen! Who among you has announced these {things}?

Yahweh's ally {will} accomplish his purpose against Babylon. He will carry out Yahweh's will {against} the Chaldeans.

¹⁵I, I have spoken, yes, I have summoned him, I have brought him, and he will succeed.

¹⁶Come near to me, listen to this:

From the beginning I have not spoken in secret; when it happens, I {am} there."

Now the Lord Yahweh has sent me, and his Spirit.

¹⁷This is what Yahweh, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel says,

"I {am} Yahweh your God, who teaches you how to succeed,

who leads you by the way that you should go.

¹⁸If only you had obeyed my commandments!

Then your peace and prosperity would have flowed like a river, and your salvation like the waves of the sea.

¹⁹Your descendants would have been as numerous as the sand, and the children from your womb as numerous as the grains of sand;

their name would not have been cut off nor blotted out from before me.

²⁰Come out from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans!

With the sound of a ringing cry announce it! Make this known, make it go out to the ends of the earth!

Say, 'Yahweh has redeemed his servant Jacob.'

²¹They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts;

he made the water to flow out of the rock for them;

he split open the rock, and the waters gushed out.

²²{There is} no peace for the wicked—says Yahweh."

Chapter 49

¹Listen to me, you coastlands! Now give me your attention, you distant peoples.

Yahweh has called me from birth by name, when my mother brought me into the world.

²He has made my mouth like a sharp sword; he hid me in the shadow of his hand;

he has made me into a polished arrow; in his quiver he has hidden me.

³He said to me, "You {are} my servant, Israel, through whom I show my glory."

⁴But I replied, "Though I thought I have labored in vain, I have spent my energy for nothing, yet my justice {is} with Yahweh, and my reward is with my God."

⁵Now Yahweh has spoken—he who formed me from birth {to be} his servant,
to restore Jacob again to himself, so that Israel would be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the eyes of Yahweh, and my God has become my strength—

⁶and he says, “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to reestablish the tribes of Jacob,
and to restore the survivors of Israel. I will make you a light to the Gentiles,
that you may be my salvation to the ends of the earth.”

⁷This is what Yahweh says, the Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One,
to the one whose life is despised, hated by the nations, and a slave of rulers,
“Kings will see you and arise, and princes will see you and bow down,
because of Yahweh who is faithful, even the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

⁸This is what Yahweh says,
“At a time I decide to show my favor I will answer you, and in a day of salvation I will help you;
I will protect you, and give you as a covenant for the people,
to rebuild the land, to reassign the desolate inheritance.

⁹You will say to the prisoners, ‘Come out;’ to those in dark dungeons, ‘Show yourselves.’
They will graze along the roads, and on all the bare slopes {will be} their pasture.

¹⁰They will not be hungry or thirsty; nor will the heat or sun beat on them,
for he who has mercy on them will lead them; he will guide them to springs of water.

¹¹Then I will make all my mountains into a road, and make my highways level.”

¹²Look, these will come from far away, some from the north and the west; and others from the land of Sinim.

¹³Sing, heavens, and be joyful, earth; break into singing, you mountains!
For Yahweh comforts his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted.

¹⁴But Zion said, “Yahweh has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me.”

¹⁵“Can a woman forget her baby, nursing at her breast, so she does not have compassion on the son she has borne?

Yes, they may forget, but I will not forget you.

¹⁶Look, I have inscribed your name on my palms; your walls {are} continually before me.

¹⁷Your children are hurrying back, while those who destroyed you are going away.

¹⁸Look around and see, they are all gathering {and} coming to you.

As surely {as} I live—this is Yahweh’s declaration—you will surely wear them like jewelry, and you will put them on like a bride.

¹⁹Though you were a waste and desolate, a land that was in ruins,

now you will be too small for the inhabitants, and those who devoured you will be far away.

²⁰The children born during the time of your bereavement will say in your hearing,

'The place {is} too cramped for us, make room for us, so we may live here.'

²¹Then you will ask yourself, 'Who has borne these children for me?

I was bereaved and barren, exiled and divorced. Who has raised these children?

Look, I was left all alone; where did these come from?"

²²This is what the Lord Yahweh says,

"Look, I will raise my hand to the nations; I will raise my signal flag to the peoples.

They will bring your sons in {their} arms and carry your daughters on {their} shoulders.

²³Kings will be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursemaids;

they will bow down to you with {their} faces to the earth and lick the dust of your feet;

and you will know that I {am} Yahweh; those who wait for me will not be put to shame."

²⁴Can the spoils be taken from the warrior, or captives be rescued from the fierce?^[1]

²⁵But this is what Yahweh says,

"Yes, the captives will be taken away from the warrior, and spoils will be rescued;

for I will oppose your adversary and save your children.

²⁶I will feed your oppressors with their own flesh; and they will get drunk on their own blood, as if it were wine.

Then all mankind will know that I, Yahweh, {am} your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

49:24 ^[1], the Hebrew text has , but most modern versions correct it to .

Chapter 50

¹This is what Yahweh says,

"Where {is} the certificate of divorce with which I divorced your mother?

To {which} of my creditors did I sell you?

Look, you were sold because of your sins, and because of your rebellion, your mother was sent away.

²{Why} did I come but {there was} no one there? {Why} did I call but no one answered?

Was my hand too short to ransom you? {Was there} no power in me to rescue you?

Look, at my rebuke I dry up the sea; I make the rivers a desert;

their fish die for lack of water and rot.

³I clothe the sky with darkness; I cover it with sackcloth."

⁴The Lord Yahweh has given me a tongue as one of those who are taught,

so that I speak a sustaining word to the weary one;
 he wakes me morning by morning; he awakens my ear to hear like those who are taught.

⁵The Lord Yahweh has opened my ear,
 and I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who beat {me}, and my cheeks to those who plucked out my beard;
 I did not hide my face from acts of shame and spitting.

⁷For the Lord Yahweh will help me; therefore I am not disgraced;
 so I have made my face like flint, for I know that I will not be put to shame.

⁸{He} who will justify me {is} close by. Who will oppose me? Let us stand and confront one another.
 Who {is} my accuser? Let him come near to me.

⁹See, the Lord Yahweh will help me. {Who} will declare me guilty?
 See, they will all wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

¹⁰Who among you fears Yahweh? Who obeys the voice of his servant?
 Who walks in deep darkness without light?
 He should trust in the name of Yahweh and lean on his God.

¹¹Look, all you who light fires, who equip {yourselves} with torches:
 walk in the light of your fire and in the flames that you have ignited.
 This is what you have received from me: You will lie down in a place of pain.

Chapter 51

¹Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek Yahweh:
 look at the rock {from which} you were chiseled and to the quarry {from which} you were cut.

²Look at Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who bore you; for {when} he was a {lone} individual,
 I called him. I blessed him and made him many.

³Yes, Yahweh will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places;
 her wilderness he made like Eden, and her desert plains beside the Jordan River valley like the garden of Yahweh;
 joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving, and the sound of singing.

⁴"Be attentive to me, my people; and listen to me, my people!
 For I will issue a decree, and I will make my justice to be a light for the nations.

⁵My righteousness is near; my salvation will go out, and my arm will judge the nations;
 the coastlands will wait for me; for my arm they will eagerly wait.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the sky, and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish away like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and its inhabitants will die like flies.

But my salvation will continue forever, and my righteousness will never stop working.

⁷Listen to me, you who know what is right, you people who {have} my law in your heart:
Do not fear the insults of men, nor be disheartened by their abuse.

⁸For 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 to all generations.”

⁹Awake, awake, clothe yourself with strength, arm of Yahweh.
Awake as in the days of old, the generations of ancient times.

Is it not you who crushed Rahab, you who pierced the monster?

¹⁰Did you not dry up the sea, the waters of the great deep,
and make the depths of the sea into a way for the redeemed to pass through?

¹¹The ransomed of Yahweh will return and come to Zion with cries of joy
and with gladness forever on their heads; and gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and mourning will flee away.

¹²“I, I, {am} he who comforts you.

Why {are} you afraid of men, {who} will die, the sons of mankind, {who} are made like grass?

¹³Why have you forgotten Yahweh your Maker, who stretched out the heavens
and laid the foundations of the earth? You are in constant dread every day
because of the hot fury of the oppressor when {he} {decides} to destroy. Where {is} the fury of the oppressor?

¹⁴The one who is bent down, Yahweh will hurry to release; he will not die and go down to the pit, nor will he lack bread.

¹⁵For I {am} Yahweh your God, who churns up the sea so that its waves roar—Yahweh of hosts {is} his name.

¹⁶I have placed my words in your mouth, and I have covered you in the shadow of my hand,
that I may plant the heavens, lay the foundations of the earth, and say to Zion, “You {are} my people.””

¹⁷Awake, awake, stand up, Jerusalem,
you who have drunk out of the hand of Yahweh from the bowl of his anger;
you who have drunk out of the bowl, down to the dregs from the cup of staggering.

¹⁸{There is} no one among all the sons she has born to guide her;
{there is} no one among all the sons that she has raised to take her by the hand.

¹⁹These two {troubles} happened to you—who will grieve with you?—

desolation and destruction, and the famine and the sword. {Who} will comfort you?^[1]

²⁰Your sons have fainted; they lie at every street corner, like an antelope in a net; they are filled with the anger of Yahweh, the rebuke of your God.

²¹But now hear this, you oppressed one and drunken one, but not drunk with wine:

²²Your Lord Yahweh, your God, {who} pleads the cause of his people, says this,

“See, I have taken the cup of staggering from your hand—

the bowl, which is the cup of my anger—so that you will not drink it again.

²³I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, those who have said to you, ‘Lie down, that we may walk over you’; you made your back like the ground and like the street for them to walk on.”

51:19 ^[1], most modern versions correct this passage to

Chapter 52

¹Awake, awake, put on your strength, Zion;
put on your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, holy city;
for never again will the uncircumcised or the unclean enter you.

²Shake yourself off from the dust; arise and sit, Jerusalem;
take off the chain from your neck, captive, daughter of Zion.

³For this is what Yahweh says, “You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money.”

⁴For this is what the Lord Yahweh says, “In the beginning my people went down to live temporarily in Egypt; and Assyria has oppressed them for no good {reason}.”

⁵Now what do I have here—this is Yahweh’s declaration—seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Those who rule over them mock—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and my name {is} blasphemed continually all day long.^[1]

⁶Therefore my people will know my name;
{they will know} in that day that I {am} the one who says, “Yes, {it is} I!”

⁷How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news,
who announces peace, who bears good tidings, who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”

⁸Listen, your watchmen raise {their} voices, together they shout for joy,
for they will see, every eye of theirs, Yahweh’s return to Zion.

⁹Break out into joyful singing together, you ruins of Jerusalem;
for Yahweh has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰Yahweh has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations;

all the earth will see the salvation of our God.

¹¹Leave, leave, go out from there; touch nothing unclean;
leave from her midst; purify yourselves, you who carry the vessels of Yahweh.

¹²For you will not go out in a rush, nor will you leave in a panic;
for Yahweh will go before you; and the God of Israel {will be} your rearguard.

¹³Look, my servant will act wisely;
he will be high and lifted up, and he will be exalted.

¹⁴As many were horrified at you—
his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man, and his form no longer looked like anything human.

¹⁵Even so, my servant will sprinkle many nations and kings will shut their mouths because of him.
For that which they had not been told, they will see, and that which they had not heard, they will understand.

52:5 ^[1], some versions identify a different Hebrew word meaning .

Chapter 53

¹Who has believed what they heard from us, and to whom has the arm of Yahweh been revealed?

²For he grew up before Yahweh like a sapling, and like a sprout out of parched earth;
he had no remarkable appearance or splendor; when we saw him, {there was} no beauty to attract us.

³He was despised and rejected by people; a man of sorrows, and one familiar with pain.
Like one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised; and we considered him insignificant.

⁴But surely he has borne our sicknesses and carried our sorrows;
yet we thought he was being punished by God, struck by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was pierced because of our rebellious deeds; he was crushed because of our sins.
The punishment for our peace was on him, and with his wounds we are healed.

⁶We all like sheep have gone astray; we have each turned to his own way,
and Yahweh has placed on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed; yet when he humbled himself, he did not open his mouth;
as a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By coercion and judgment he was condemned; who from that generation thought anymore about him?
But he was cut off from the land of the living; because of the offenses of my people the penalty was put on him.

⁹They placed his grave with the criminals, with a rich man in his death,

although he had done no violence, nor {had there been any} deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was Yahweh's will to crush him and make {him} ill. When he makes his life an offering for sin, he will see {his} offspring, he will prolong {his} days, and Yahweh's purpose will be accomplished through him.

¹¹After the suffering of his life, he will see light {and} be satisfied by his knowledge.^[1]

My righteous servant will justify many; he will bear their iniquities.^[2]

¹²Therefore will I give him his portion among the multitudes, and he will divide the spoils with the many, because he exposed himself to death and was numbered with the transgressors.

He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors.

53:11 ^[1] , some modern versions have .

53:11 ^[2] . Some modern versions have .

Chapter 54

¹"Sing, you barren woman, you {who} have not given birth; break into joyful singing and cry aloud, you {who} have never been in birth labor.

For the children of the desolate one {are} more than the children of the married woman," says Yahweh.

²"Make your tent larger and spread your tent curtains farther out, unsparingly; lengthen your ropes and strengthen your stakes.

³For you will spread out to the right hand and to the left, and your descendants will conquer nations and resettle desolate cities.

⁴Do not fear for you will not be ashamed, nor be discouraged for you will not be disgraced; you will forget the shame of your youth and the disgrace of your abandonment. ⁵For your Maker {is} your husband; Yahweh of hosts is his name.

The Holy One of Israel {is} your Redeemer; he is called the God of the whole earth.

⁶For Yahweh has called you back as a wife abandoned and grieved in spirit, like a woman married young and rejected," says your God.

⁷"For a short time I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you.

⁸In a flood of anger I hid my face from you momentarily; but with everlasting covenant faithfulness I will have mercy on you— says Yahweh, the one who rescues you.

⁹For this is like the waters of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah would never again pass over the earth, so have I sworn that I will not be angry with you or rebuke you.

¹⁰Though the mountains may fall and the hills be shaken,
yet my steadfast love will not turn away from you, nor will my covenant of peace be shaken—
says Yahweh, who has mercy on you.

¹¹Afflicted one, storm-driven {and} uncomforted one,
look, I will set your pavement in turquoise, and lay your foundations with sapphires.

¹²I will make your pinnacles of rubies and your gates of sparkling stones,
and your outer wall of beautiful stones.

¹³Then all your children {will be} taught by Yahweh;
and the peace of your children {will be} great.

¹⁴In righteousness you will be established, and you will be far from oppression, for you will not fear; and from
terror, for it will not come near to you.

¹⁵Look, if anyone stirs up trouble, it will not be from me; anyone who stirs up trouble with you will fall in defeat.

¹⁶See, I have created the craftsman, who blows the burning coals
and forges weapons as his work, and I have created the destroyer to destroy.

¹⁷No weapon that is formed against you will succeed;
and you will condemn everyone who accuses you.

This {is} the heritage of the servants of Yahweh, and their vindication from me—this is Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 55

¹"Come, everyone who is thirsty, come to the water,
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

²Why do you weigh out silver for {what is} not bread, and why do you labor for {what} does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in fatness.

³Turn your ears and come to me! Listen, that you may live!
I will make an everlasting covenant with you—my reliable, faithful love that I promised to David.

⁴Look, I have placed him {as} a witness to the nations, as a leader and commander to the peoples.

⁵Look, you will call to a nation that you did not know; and a nation that did not know you will run to you
because of Yahweh your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you."

⁶Seek Yahweh while he may be found; call on him while he is nearby.

⁷Let the wicked leave his path, and the man of sin his thoughts.

Let him return to Yahweh, and he will pity him, and to our God, who will abundantly forgive him.

⁸“For my thoughts {are} not your thoughts, nor {are} your ways my ways—this is Yahweh’s declaration—

⁹for {as} the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰For as the rain and snow come down from heaven

and do not return there unless they saturate the earth

and make it produce and sprout and give seed to the farmer who sows and bread to the eater,

¹¹so also my word will be that goes from my mouth—it will not return to me empty,

but it will achieve {the purpose} for which I sent it.

¹²For you will go out in joy and be led along peacefully;

the mountains and the hills will break out in joyful shouts before you, and all the trees of the fields will clap {their} hands.

¹³Instead of the thornbushes, the cypress will grow; and instead of the brier, the myrtle tree will grow,

and it will be for Yahweh, for his name, as an everlasting sign that will not be cut off.”

Chapter 56

¹This is what Yahweh says, “Observe what is right, do what is just;

for my salvation {is} near, and my righteousness is about to be revealed.

²Blessed {is} the man {that} does this, and {who} holds it tightly.

He observes the Sabbath, not defiling it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.”

³Let no foreigner who has become a follower of Yahweh say,

“Yahweh will certainly exclude me from his people.”

The eunuch should not say, “See, I {am} a dry tree.”

⁴For this is what Yahweh says, “To the eunuchs who observe my Sabbaths

and choose what pleases me, and hold fast my covenant,

⁵to them I will set up in my house and within my walls a monument that is better than having sons and of daughters.

I will give them an everlasting monument that will never be cut off.

⁶Also foreigners who join themselves to Yahweh—

to serve him, and who love the name of Yahweh, to worship him,

every one who observes the Sabbath and who keeps from defiling it, and who holds fast my covenant—

⁷I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices {will be} accepted on my altar.

For my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations,

⁸this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh, who gathers the outcasts of Israel—

I will still gather {others} in addition to them.”

⁹All you wild beasts of the field, come and devour, all you beasts in the forest!

¹⁰All their watchmen {are} blind, they do not understand.

They {are} all silent dogs who cannot bark.

They dream, and lying down they love to sleep.

¹¹The dogs have big appetites; they can never get enough;

{they are} shepherds without discernment;

they have all turned to their own way, each one covetous for unjust gain.

¹²“Come,” {they say}, “let us drink wine and liquor.

Tomorrow will be like today, a day great beyond measure.”

Chapter 57

¹The righteous perish, but no one considers it,

and the people of covenant faithfulness are gathered away, but no one understands

that the righteous is gathered away from the evil.

²He enters into peace;

they rest in their beds, those who walk {in} their uprightness.

³But come here, you sons of the sorceress,

children of the adulterer and the woman who has prostituted herself.

⁴Whom are you merrily mocking?

Against whom are you opening the mouth {and} sticking out the tongue?

{Are} you not children of rebellion, children of deceit?

⁵You heat yourselves up sleeping together under the oaks, under every green tree,

you who kill your children in the dry riverbeds, under the rocky overhangs.

⁶Among the smooth {things} of the river valley {are} the things that have been assigned to you. They {are} the object of your devotion.

You pour out your drink offering to them and raise up a grain offering. In these things should I take pleasure?

⁷You prepared your bed on a high mountain;

you also went up there to offer sacrifices.

⁸Behind the door and the doorposts you set up your symbols;
you deserted me, made yourselves naked, and went up; you made your bed wide.
You made {a covenant} with them; you loved their beds; you saw {their} private parts.

⁹You went to Molech with oil; you multiplied perfumes.^[1]
You send your ambassadors far away; you went down to Sheol.

¹⁰You were tired from your long journey, {but} you never said, "It is hopeless."
You found life in your hand; therefore you did not weaken.

¹¹"Whom are you worried about? Whom do you fear so much that has caused you to act so deceitfully,
so much that you would not remember me or think about me?
{Because} I was silent for so long, you are no longer afraid of me.

¹²I will proclaim all your righteous acts and tell all that you have done,
but they will not help you.

¹³When you cry out, let your collection {of idols} rescue you.
Instead the wind will carry {them} all away, a breath will carry them all away.
Yet he who takes refuge in me will inherit the land and will take possession of my holy mountain.

¹⁴He will say,
'Build, build! Clear a way! Remove all the stumbling blocks from the path of my people!'"

¹⁵For this is what the high and elevated One says, who lives eternally, whose name {is} holy,
"I live in the exalted and holy {place}, with him also {that} is of a crushed and humble spirit,
to revive the spirit of the humble ones, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

¹⁶For I will not accuse forever, nor will I be angry forever,
for then man's spirit would faint before me, the lives {that} I have made.

¹⁷Because of the sin of his violent gain, I was angry, and I punished him; I hid my face and was angry,
but he went backward in the way of his heart.

¹⁸I have seen his ways,
but I will heal him. I will lead him and comfort and console those who mourn for him,

¹⁹and I create the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to {those who are} far off and to {those who are near}—says
Yahweh—I will heal them.

²⁰But the wicked {are} like the tossing sea, which cannot rest,
and its waters churn up mire and mud.

²¹{There is} no peace for the wicked one—says God.”

57:9 ^[1] , some versions have .

Chapter 58

¹“Cry loudly; do not hold back. Lift up your voice like a trumpet.

Confront my people with their rebellion, and the house of Jacob with their sins.

²Yet they seek me daily and delight in the knowledge of my ways,

like a nation that practiced righteousness and did not abandon the law of their God.

They ask me for righteous judgments; they take pleasure in the thought of God coming near.

³‘Why have we fasted,’ {they say,} ‘but you do not see it? {Why} have we humbled ourselves, but you do not notice?’

Look, on the day of your fast you find your own pleasure and oppress all your laborers.

⁴Look, you fast to quarrel and fight, and to hit with your fist of wickedness;

{you do} not fast today to make your voice heard above.

⁵{Is this} really the kind of fast that I would want: A day for anybody to humble himself,

for him to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under himself?

Do you really call this a fast, a day that pleases Yahweh?

⁶{Is} not this the fast that I choose:

To release wicked bonds, to undo the ropes of the yoke,

to set the crushed ones free, and to break every yoke?

⁷{Is it} not to break your bread with the hungry and to bring the poor and homeless into your house?”

When you see someone naked, you should clothe him; and you should not hide yourself from your own relatives.

⁸Then your light would be broken open like the sunrise, and your healing would quickly sprout up;

your righteousness would go before you, and the glory of Yahweh would be your rearguard.

⁹Then you would call, and Yahweh would answer; you would cry out for help, and he would say, “Here I {am.}”

If you take away from among yourselves the yoke, the accusing finger, and the speech of wickedness,

¹⁰{if} you yourselves provide for the hungry and satisfy the need of the distressed;

then your light will rise in the darkness, and your darkness will {be} like the noonday.

¹¹Then Yahweh will lead you continually and satisfy you in regions where there is no water,

and he will strengthen your bones. You will be like a watered garden,

and like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

¹²Some of you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the ruins of many generations;

you will be called "The repairer of the wall," "The restorer of streets to live on."

¹³Suppose that you turn back your feet from traveling on the Sabbath day, and {from} doing your own pleasure on my holy {day}.

Suppose that you call the Sabbath a delight, and that you call the matters of Yahweh holy and honored.

Suppose that you honor the Sabbath by leaving your own business, and by not finding your own pleasure and by not speaking {your own} words.

¹⁴Then you will find delight in Yahweh; and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;

I will feed you from the inheritance of Jacob your father—for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken."

Chapter 59

¹Look, Yahweh's hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor his ear so dull, that it cannot hear.

²Your sinful acts, however, have separated you from your God,
and your sins have made him hide {his} face from you and from hearing you.

³For your hands are stained with blood and your fingers with sin.
Your lips speak lies and your tongue speaks maliciously.

⁴No one calls in righteousness, and none pleads his case in truth.
They trust in empty {words}, and tell lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to sin.

⁵They hatch eggs of a poisonous snake and weave a spider's web.
Whoever eats of their eggs dies, and if an egg is crushed, it hatches into a poisonous snake.

⁶Their webs cannot be used for garments, nor can they cover themselves with their works.
Their works {are} works of sin, and deeds of violence are in their hands.

⁷Their feet run to evil, and they run to pour out innocent blood.
Their thoughts {are} thoughts of sin; violence destruction {are} their roads.

⁸The way of peace they do not know, and {there is} no justice in their paths.
They have made crooked paths; whoever travels these paths does not know peace.

⁹Therefore justice is far from us, nor does righteousness reach us.
We wait for light, but see darkness; we look for brightness, but we walk in darkness.

¹⁰We grope for the wall like the blind, like those who cannot see.
We stumble at noonday as in the twilight; among the strong we are like dead men.

¹¹We growl like bears and moan like doves;
we wait for justice, but {there is} none; for rescue, but it is far from us.

¹²For our many transgressions are before you, and our sins testify against us;

for our transgressions {are} with us, and we know our sins.

¹³We have rebelled, denying Yahweh and turning away from following our God.

We have spoken extortion and turning aside, conceived complaining from the heart and words of lying.

¹⁴Justice is driven back, and righteousness stands far off;

for truth stumbles in the public square, and right cannot come.

¹⁵Trustworthiness has gone away, and he {who} turns away from evil makes himself a victim.

Yahweh saw {it} and was displeased that {there was} no justice.

¹⁶He saw that {there was} no man, and wondered that {there was} no one to intervene.

Therefore his own arm brought salvation for him, and his righteousness sustained him.

¹⁷He put on righteousness as a breastplate and a helmet of salvation upon his head.

He clothed himself with garments of vengeance and wore zeal as a mantle.

¹⁸He repaid them for what {they} had done, angry judgment to his adversaries, vengeance to his enemies, to the islands punishment as their reward.

¹⁹So they will fear the name of Yahweh from the west, and his glory from the sun's rising; for he will come as a rushing stream, driven by the breath of Yahweh.

²⁰"A redeemer will come to Zion and to those who turn from their rebellious deeds in Jacob—this is Yahweh's declaration. ²¹As for me, this is my covenant with them—says Yahweh—my spirit who is upon you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, will not leave your mouth, or go out of the mouth of your children, or go out of the mouth of your children's children—says Yahweh—from this time and forever."

Chapter 60

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of Yahweh has risen on you.

²Though darkness will cover the earth, and thick darkness the nations;

yet Yahweh will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen on you.

³Nations will come to your light, and kings to your bright light that is rising.

⁴Look all around and see. They all gather themselves together and come to you.

Your sons will come from far, and your daughters will be carried in their arms.

⁵Then you will look and be radiant, and your heart shall rejoice and overflow,

because the abundance of the sea will be poured out to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you.

⁶Camel caravans will cover you, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;

all of them will come from Sheba;

they will bring gold and frankincense, and will sing the praises of Yahweh.

⁷All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth will serve your needs;

they will be acceptable offerings on my altar; and I will glorify my glorious house.

⁸Who {are} these {who} fly along like a cloud, and like the doves to their shelters?

⁹The coastlands look for me, and the ships of Tarshish {lead},
to bring your sons from far, their silver and their gold with them,
for the name of Yahweh your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has honored you.

¹⁰Sons of foreigners will rebuild your walls, and their kings will serve you;
though in my wrath I punished you, yet in my favor I will have compassion on you.

¹¹Your gates also will remain open continually; they will not be shut day or night,
so that the wealth of the nations may be brought, with their kings being led.

¹²Indeed, nations and kingdoms that will not serve you will perish; {those} nations will be completely destroyed.

¹³The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the cypress tree, the fir, and the cypress box tree together,
to beautify my sanctuary; and I will glorify the place of my feet.

¹⁴They will come to you to bow down, the sons of those who humbled you; they will bow at your feet;
they will call you The City of Yahweh, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁵Instead of you remaining abandoned and hated, with no one passing through {you},
I will make you a thing of pride forever, a joy from generation to generation.

¹⁶You will also drink the milk of the nations, and will nurse at the breast of kings;
you will know that I, Yahweh, {am} your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. ¹⁷Instead of bronze I
will bring gold, instead of iron I will bring silver;
instead of wood, bronze, and instead of stones, iron. I will appoint peace as your governors, and justice your rulers.

¹⁸Violence will no longer be heard in your land, or devastation nor shattering within your borders;
but you will call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise.

¹⁹The sun will no longer be your light by day,
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you;
but Yahweh will be your everlasting light, and your God your glory.

²⁰Your sun will no longer set, nor will your moon withdraw and disappear;
for Yahweh will be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning will be ended.

²¹All your people {will be} righteous; they will take possession of the land for all time,
the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

²²The little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation;
I, Yahweh, will swiftly accomplish these things when the time comes.

Chapter 61

¹The Spirit of the Lord Yahweh {is} on me, because Yahweh has anointed me to proclaim good news to the afflicted. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison for {those who are} bound.

²He has sent me to proclaim the year of Yahweh's favor, the day of vengeance of our God, and to comfort all who mourn.

³He has sent me—to give to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a turban instead of ashes, oil of joy instead of mourning, a mantle of praise in place of a spirit of dullness, to call them oaks of righteousness, the planting of Yahweh, that he may be glorified.

⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins; they will restore the former desolations. They will restore the ruined cities, the desolations from many former generations.

⁵Foreigners will stand and feed your flocks, and sons of foreigners {will work} your fields and vineyards.

⁶You will be called the priests of Yahweh; they will call you servants of our God. You will eat the wealth of the nations, and you will boast in their riches.

⁷{Instead of} your shame {you will have} double; and instead of dishonor they will rejoice over their share. So they will have a double share of their land; everlasting joy will be theirs.

⁸For I, Yahweh, love justice, and I hate robbery and violent injustice. I will faithfully repay them, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants will be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge them, that they {are} the people {whom} Yahweh has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in Yahweh; in my God I will be very glad. For he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has clothed me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns {himself} with a turban, and as a bride adorns {herself} with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth produces its sprouting plants, and as the garden makes its planting grow, so the Lord Yahweh will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up in front of all the nations.

Chapter 62

¹For Zion's sake I will not be silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness proceeds brightly, and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory.

You will be called by a new name that Yahweh will choose.

³You will also be a crown of beauty in the hand of Yahweh, and a turban of kingship in the hand of your God.

⁴It will no more be said of you, "Abandoned"; nor of your land any longer will it be said, "Desolate."

Indeed, you will be called "My delight is in her;" and your land "Married,"

for Yahweh delights in you, and your land will be married.

⁵Truly, {as} a young man marries a young woman, {so} your sons will marry you,

and {as} a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, your God will rejoice over you.

⁶I have put watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem;

they are not silent day or night.

You who keep reminding Yahweh, do not pause.

⁷Do not allow him to rest until he reestablishes

Jerusalem and makes it a praise on earth.

⁸Yahweh has sworn by his right hand and by the arm of his strength,

"Surely I will no longer give your grain {as} food for your enemies.

Foreigners will not drink your new wine, for which you have worked.

⁹For those who harvest the grain will eat it and praise Yahweh,

and those who pick the grapes will drink the wine in the courts of my holy sanctuary."

¹⁰Come through, come through the gates! Prepare the way for the people!

Build it, build the highway! Gather out the stones!

Raise up a signal flag for the nations!

¹¹Look, Yahweh announces to the ends of the earth,

"Say to the daughter of Zion: Look, your Savior is coming!

See, his reward {is} with him, and his recompense is going before him."

¹²They will call you, "The holy people; the redeemed of Yahweh," and you will be called "Sought after; a city not abandoned."

Chapter 63

¹Who {is} this {who comes} from Edom, clothed in red from Bozrah?

{Who is} he in royal clothing, marching confidently because of his great strength?

It is I, speaking righteousness and powerfully able to save.

²Why {are} your clothes red, and why do they look like you have been treading grapes in a winepress?

³I have trodden grapes in the winepress alone, and no one from the nations joined me.

I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my fury.

Their blood is spattered on my clothes and stained all my clothes.

⁴For I looked forward to the day of vengeance, and the year for my redemption had arrived.

⁵I looked, and {there was} no one to help. I wondered that {there was} none to help,
but my own arm brought victory for me, and my strong anger drove me on.

⁶I trampled down the peoples in my anger and made them drunk in my wrath,
and I poured out their blood on the earth.

⁷I will tell of the acts of Yahweh's covenant faithfulness, the praiseworthy deeds of Yahweh.

I will tell of all that Yahweh has done for us, {and} of his great goodness to the house of Israel.

This compassion he has shown us because of his mercy, and with many deeds of covenant faithfulness.

⁸For he said, "For certain they {are} my people, children {who} are not disloyal."

He became their Savior.

⁹Through all their suffering,

he suffered too, and the angel from his presence saved them.

In his love and mercy he saved them,

and he lifted them up and carried them through all the ancient times.

¹⁰But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit.

So he became their enemy {and} fought against them.

¹¹His people thought about the ancient times of Moses.

{They said}, "Where {is} God, who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock?

Where {is} God, who put his Holy Spirit among them?

¹²Where is God, who made his glorious power go with the right hand of Moses,

and divided the water before them, to make an everlasting name for himself?

¹³Where is God, who led them through the deep water? Like a horse running on flat land, they did not stumble.

¹⁴As the cattle that go down into the valley, the Spirit of Yahweh gave them rest.

So you led your people, to make yourself a name of praise.

¹⁵Look down from heaven and take notice from your holy and glorious habitation.

Where {are} your zeal and your mighty acts?

Your pity and your compassionate actions are kept from us.

¹⁶For you {are} our father,

though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not recognize us,
you, Yahweh, {are} our father. 'Our Redeemer' {has been} your name from ancient times.

¹⁷Yahweh, why do you make us wander from your ways {and} harden our hearts, so we do not obey you?

Return for your servants' sake, the tribes of your inheritance.

¹⁸Your people possessed your holy place for a short time, but then our enemies trampled it.

¹⁹We have become {like} those over whom you never ruled, like those who were never called by your name."

Chapter 64

¹"Oh, if you had split open the heavens and come down! The mountains would have shaken at your presence,

²as when fire kindles the brushwood, or the fire makes water boil.

Oh, that your name would be known by your adversaries, that the nations would tremble at your presence!

³Previously, when you did marvelous things that we had not expected, you came down, and the mountains trembled at your presence.

⁴Since ancient times no one has heard or perceived,

nor eye seen any God besides you, who does things for him who waits for him.

⁵You come to help those who rejoice in doing what is right, those {who} call to mind your ways and obey them.

You were angry when we sinned. In your ways we will always be rescued.

⁶For we have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds {are} like a menstrual rag.

We have all withered like leaves; our iniquities, like the wind, carry us away.

⁷{There are} none who calls on your name, who makes an effort to take hold of you.

For you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away in the hand of our iniquities.

⁸Yet, Yahweh, you {are} our father;

we {are} the clay. You {are} our potter; and we all {are} the work of your hand.

⁹Be not too angry, Yahweh, nor always call to mind against us our sins.

Please look at us all, your people.

¹⁰Your holy cities have become a wilderness;

Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.

¹¹Our holy and beautiful temple, where our fathers praised you,

has been destroyed by fire, and all that was so dear is in ruins.

¹²How can you still hold back, Yahweh? How can you remain silent and continue to humiliate us?"

Chapter 65

¹"I was ready to be sought out by {those who} did not ask; I was ready to be found by {those who} did not seek.

I said, 'Here I am! Here I am!' to a nation that did not call on my name.

²I have spread out my hands all day to a stubborn people,

who walk in a way {that is} not good, who have walked after their own thoughts and plans!

³They are a people who continually offend me,

offering sacrifices in gardens, and burning incense on brick tiles.

⁴They sit among the graves and keep watch all night,

and eat pork with the broth of foul meat in their dishes.

⁵They say, 'Stand away, do not come near to me, for I am holier than you.'

These things {are} smoke in my nose, a fire that burns all day long.

⁶Look, {it is} written before me:

I will not keep quiet, for I will pay them back; I will repay them into their laps,

⁷for their sins and the sins of their fathers together;" says Yahweh.

"I will repay them for burning incense on the mountains and for mocking me on the hills.

I will therefore measure out their past deeds into their laps."

⁸This is what Yahweh says, "As when juice is found in a cluster of grapes,

when {one} says, 'Do not ruin it, for there is good in it,'

this is what I will do for my servants' sake: I will not ruin them all.

⁹I will bring descendants from Jacob, and from Judah ones who will possess my mountains.

My chosen ones will possess the land, and my servants will live there.

¹⁰Sharon will become a pasture for the flocks, and the Valley of Achor a resting place for herds,

for my people who seek me.

¹¹But you who abandon Yahweh, who forget my holy mountain,

who prepare a table for Fortune,

and fill wine glasses of mixed wine for Destiny.

¹²I will appoint you for the sword, and you will all bow down to the slaughter,

because when I called, you did not answer; when I spoke, you did not listen.

But you did what was evil in my sight and chose to do what displeases me."

¹³This is what the Lord Yahweh says,

"Look, my servants will eat, but you will be hungry;

look, my servants will drink, but you will be thirsty;

look, my servants will rejoice, but you will be put to shame.

14Look, my servants will shout with joy because of gladness of heart,

but you will cry because of the pain of the heart, and will wail because of the crushing of the spirit.

15You will leave behind your name as a curse for my chosen ones to speak; I, the Lord Yahweh, will kill you;

I will call my servants by another name.

16Whoever pronounces a blessing on the earth will be blessed by me, the God of truth.

Whoever takes an oath on the earth will swear by me, the God of truth,

because the former troubles will be forgotten, for they will be hidden from my eyes.

17For see, I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;

and the former things will not be remembered or be brought to mind.

18But you will be glad and rejoice forever in what I am about to create. See, I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and her people {as} a delight.

19I will rejoice over Jerusalem and be glad over my people;

weeping and cries of distress will no longer be heard in her.

20Never again will an infant {live} there {only a few} days;

nor will an old man die before his time.

One who dies at one hundred years old will be considered a young person.

Anyone who fails to reach the age of one hundred years old will {be} considered cursed.

21They will build houses and inhabit {them}, and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22No longer will they build a house and another live in it; they will not plant, and another eat;

for as the days of trees {will be} the days of my people. My chosen will fully outlive the work of their hands.

23They will not labor in vain, nor give birth to dismay.

For they are the children of those blessed by Yahweh, and their descendants with them.

24Before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear.

25The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox;

but dust {will be} the serpent's food.

They will no longer hurt nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says Yahweh.

Chapter 66

¹This is what Yahweh says,

“Heaven {is} my throne, and the earth {is} my footstool. Where then {is} the house you will build for me? Where {is} the place where I may rest?

²My hand has made all these things; that is how these things came to be—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

This is the man of whom I approve, the broken and contrite in spirit, and who trembles at my word.

³He who slaughters an ox {also} murders a man; he who sacrifices a lamb {also} breaks a dog’s neck; he who offers a grain offering offers swine’s blood; he who offers a memorial of incense {also} blesses wickedness.

They have chosen their own ways, and they take pleasure in their abominations.

⁴In the same way I will choose their own punishment; I will bring on them what they fear,

because when I called, no one answered; when I spoke, no one listened.

They did what was evil in my sight, and chose to do {what} displeases me.”

⁵Hear the word of Yahweh, you who tremble at his word,

“Your brothers who hate and exclude you for my name’s sake have said,

‘May Yahweh be glorified, then we will see your joy,’

but they will be put to shame.

⁶A sound of battle tumult comes from the city, a sound from the temple,

the sound of Yahweh paying back his enemies.

⁷Before she goes into labor, she gives birth;

before pain is upon her, she gave birth to a {son.}

⁸Who has heard of such a thing? Who has seen such things?

Will a land be born in one day? Can a nation be established in one moment?

Yet as soon as Zion goes into labor, she gives birth to her children. ⁹Do I bring a baby to the birth opening and not permit the child to be born?—asks Yahweh.

Or do I bring a child to the moment of delivery and then hold it back?—asks your God.”

¹⁰Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her;

rejoice with her, all you who mourned over her!

¹¹For you will nurse and be satisfied; with her breasts you will be comforted;

for you will drink them to the full and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

¹²This is what Yahweh says,

“I am about to spread prosperity over her like a river,

and the riches of the nations like an overflowing stream.

You will nurse at {her} side, be carried in {her} arms, and be dandled on {her} knees.

13As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you, and you will be comforted in Jerusalem.”

14You will see {this}, and your heart will rejoice, and your bones will sprout like the tender grass.

The hand of Yahweh will be made known to his servants, but he will show {his} anger against his enemies.

15For look, Yahweh is coming with fire, and his chariots are coming like the windstorm to bring the heat of his anger and his rebuke with flames of fire.

16For Yahweh executes judgment on mankind by fire and with his sword. Those killed by Yahweh will be many.

17They consecrate themselves and make themselves pure, {so they may} enter the gardens, following the one in the middle of those who

eat the flesh of pig and abominable things like mice.^[1]

“They will come to an end—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

18For I {know} their deeds and their thoughts. The time is coming when I will gather all nations and languages.

They will come and will see my glory.^[2] **19**I will set a sign among them. Then I will send survivors from them to the nations: {To} Tarshish, Put, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal, Javan, and {to} the distant coastlands where they have not heard about me nor seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. **20**They will bring back all your brothers out of all the nations, as an offering to Yahweh. They will come on horses, and in chariots, in wagons, on mules, and on camels, to my holy mountain Jerusalem—says Yahweh. For the people of Israel will bring a grain offering in a clean vessel into the house of Yahweh.

21Some of these I will even choose as priests {and} Levites—says Yahweh.

22For just as the new heavens and the new earth that I will make

will remain before me—this is Yahweh’s declaration—so your descendants will remain, and your name will remain.

23From one month to the next, and from one Sabbath to the next,

all people will come to bow down to me—says Yahweh.

24They will go out and see the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against me,

for the worms that eat them will not die, and the fire that consumes them will not be quenched;

and it will be an abhorrence to all flesh.”

66:17 ^[1]

66:18 ^[2]

Jeremiah

Chapter 1

¹These are the words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiyah, one of the priests at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin. ²The word of Yahweh came to him in the days of Josiah son of Amon, king of Judah, in the 13th year of his reign. ³It also came in the days of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the fifth month of the 11th year of Zedekiah son of Josiah, king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem were taken away as prisoners.

⁴The word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

⁵"Before I formed you in the womb, I chose you;

before you came out from the womb I set you apart; I made you a prophet to the nations."

⁶"Ah, Lord Yahweh!" I said, "Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a young boy."

⁷But Yahweh said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a young boy.' You must go everywhere I send you,

and you must say whatever I command you!

⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to rescue you—this is Yahweh's declaration." ⁹Then Yahweh reached out with his hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, "Now, I have placed my word in your mouth.

¹⁰Look, I am appointing you today over nations and over kingdoms,

to uproot and break down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and plant."

¹¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" I said, "I see an almond branch."

¹²Yahweh said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to carry it out."

¹³The word of Yahweh came to me a second time, saying, "What do you see?" I said, "I see a heated pot, whose surface is churning, tipping away from the north." ¹⁴Yahweh said to me, "Disaster will be released out of the north on all who live in this land. ¹⁵For behold, I am calling all the tribes of the northern kingdoms, declares Yahweh.

They will come, and everyone will set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, against all the walls that surround it, and against all the cities of Judah. ¹⁶I will pronounce sentence against them for all their evil in forsaking me, in burning incense to other gods, and in worshiping what they made with their own hands. ¹⁷Get yourself ready! Stand up and say to them whatever I command you. Do not be shattered before them, or I will shatter you before them! ¹⁸Behold! Today I have made you a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls against the whole land—against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land. ¹⁹They will fight against you, but they will not defeat you, for I will be with you to rescue you—this is Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 2

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

²"Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem. Say, 'Yahweh says this:

I have called to mind on your behalf the covenant faithfulness in your youthfulness, your love at the time when we were engaged,

when you went after me in the wilderness, the land that was not sown.

³Israel was set apart to Yahweh, the firstfruits of his harvest!

All who ate from the firstfruits were held guilty; disaster came upon them—this is Yahweh's declaration."

⁴Hear the word of Yahweh, house of Jacob, all you clans of the house of Israel.

⁵Yahweh says this, "What did your fathers find wrong with me, that they went far from following me?

That they went after useless idols and became useless themselves?

⁶They did not say, 'Where is Yahweh, who brought us up from the land of Egypt?

Where is Yahweh, who led us to the wilderness, into the land of the Arabah and pits,

in a land of drought and deep darkness,

a land through which no one passes and where no one lives?'

⁷But I brought you to the land of Carmel, to eat its fruit and other good things!

Yet when you came, you defiled my land, you made my inheritance an abomination!

⁸The priests did not say, 'Where is Yahweh?' and the experts in the law did not know me!

The shepherds transgressed against me. The prophets prophesied for Baal and walked after unprofitable things.

⁹So I will still accuse you—this is Yahweh's declaration—and I will accuse your sons' sons.

¹⁰For cross over to the coasts of Kittim and look. Send messengers out to Kedar and find out

and see if there has ever before been anything like this.

¹¹Has a nation exchanged gods, even though they were not gods?

But my people have exchanged their glory for what cannot help them.^[1]

¹²Shudder, heavens, because of this! Be shocked and horrified—this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹³For my people have committed two evils against me: They have abandoned the springs of living waters,

and they have dug out cisterns for themselves,

broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

¹⁴Is Israel a slave? Was he born in his master's home? So why has he become plunder?

¹⁵Young lions roared against him. They made a lot of noise and made his land a horror.

His cities are destroyed without any inhabitants.

¹⁶Also, the people of Memphis and Tahpanhes will shave your skull.

¹⁷Did you not do this to yourselves

when you abandoned Yahweh your God, while he was leading you along the way?

18So now, why take the road to Egypt and drink the waters of Shihor?

Why take the road to Assyria and drink the waters of the Euphrates River?

19Your wickedness rebukes you, and your faithlessness punishes you. So think about it and understand that it is wicked and bitter

when you forsake Yahweh your God, and have no fear of me—this is the declaration of Lord Yahweh of hosts.

20For I broke your yoke that you had in ancient days; I tore your fetters off you. Still you said,

'I will not serve!' since you bowed down on every high hill and beneath every leafy tree, you adulterer.

21I planted you as a choice vine, completely from pure seed.

How then have you changed yourself into a corrupt, worthless vine?

22For even if you clean yourself with lye or wash with strong soap,

your iniquity is a stain before me—this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh.

23How can you say, 'I am not defiled! I have not walked after the Baals'?

Look at what you did in the valleys! Consider what you have done—you are a swift female camel running here and there,

24a wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness, in her heat sniffing the wind!

Who can restrain her lust? None of the males need wear themselves out pursuing her; at mating time they will find her.

25You must restrain your feet from becoming bare and your throat from being thirsty!

But you have said, 'It is hopeless! No, I love strangers and go after them!'

26Like the shame of a thief when he is found, so the house of Israel will be ashamed—

they, their kings, their princes, and their priests and prophets!

27These are the ones who say to the tree, 'You are my father,' and to the stone, 'You gave birth to me.'

For their back faces me and not their faces. Nevertheless, they say in the time of troubles, 'Arise and save us!'

28Yet where are the gods that you made for yourselves? Let them arise if they wish to save you in your time of troubles,

for your idols equal your cities in number, Judah!

29So why do you accuse me of doing wrong? All of you have sinned against me—this is Yahweh's declaration.

30I have punished your people in vain. They would not accept discipline.

Your sword has devoured your prophets like a destructive lion!

31You who belong to this generation! Pay attention to the word of Yahweh! Have I been a wilderness to Israel?

Or a land of deep darkness? Why would my people say, 'Let us wander around, we will not go to you anymore?'

32Will a virgin forget her jewelry, a bride her veils?

Yet my people have forgotten me for days without number!

³³How well you make your way to look for love.

You have even taught your ways to wicked women.

³⁴The blood that was the life of innocent, poor people has been found on your clothes.

These people were not discovered in acts of burglary.

³⁵Yet you say, 'I am innocent; surely his anger has turned away from me.'

But look! I will bring down judgment on you because you say, 'I have not sinned.'

³⁶Why do you treat so very lightly this change in your ways?

You will also be disappointed by Egypt, just as you were by Assyria.

³⁷You will also go out from there dejected, with your hands on your head,

for Yahweh has rejected the ones whom you trusted, so you will not be helped by them."

2:11 ^[1], some ancient copies have .

Chapter 3

¹"If a man divorces his wife and she goes from him and becomes another man's wife,

will he return to her again? Would that land not be greatly polluted?

You have lived as a prostitute who has many lovers; and would you return to me?—this is Yahweh's declaration.

²Lift up your eyes to the barren heights and look! Is there any place where you have not had illicit sex?

By the roadsides you sat waiting for your lovers, as an Arab in the wilderness.

You have polluted the land with your prostitution and wickedness.

³So the showers have been withheld and the spring rains have not come;

yet you have the forehead of a prostitute; you refuse to be ashamed.

⁴Have you not just now called to me: 'My father! My closest friend even from my youth!

⁵Will he always be angry? Will he always keep his wrath to the end?'

Behold! This is what you have said, but you do all the evil you can!"

⁶Then Yahweh said to me in the days of Josiah the king, "Do you see what faithless Israel has done? She has gone up every high hill and under every leafy tree, and there she has acted like a prostitute. ⁷I said, 'After she does all these things, she will return to me,' but she did not return. Then her faithless sister Judah saw these things. ⁸So I saw that, in the same way that faithless Israel had committed adultery and I had sent her away and had given a bill of divorce against her, her faithless sister Judah did not fear; she also went out and acted like a prostitute. ⁹Her prostitution was nothing to her; she defiled the land, and she committed adultery with stones and trees. ¹⁰Then after all of this, her faithless sister Judah returned to me, not with all her heart, but with a lie—this is Yahweh's declaration."

¹¹Then Yahweh said to me, "Faithless Israel has been more righteous than faithless Judah! ¹²Go and proclaim these words to the north. Say,

'Return, faithless Israel!—this is Yahweh's declaration—I will not always be angry with you.

Since I am faithful—this is Yahweh's declaration—I will not stay angry forever.

¹³Acknowledge your iniquity, for you have transgressed against Yahweh your God;

you have shared your ways with strangers under every leafy tree!

For you have not listened to my voice!—this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁴Return, faithless people!—this is Yahweh's declaration—I am your husband!

I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion! ¹⁵I will give you shepherds after my heart, and they will shepherd you with knowledge and insight. ¹⁶Then it will happen that you will increase and bear fruit in the land in those days—this is Yahweh's declaration—they will no longer say, "The Box of the Covenant of Yahweh!" This matter will no longer come up in their hearts or be remembered; it will not be missed, and another one will not be made.' ¹⁷In that time they will proclaim about Jerusalem, 'This is Yahweh's throne,' and all the other nations will gather at Jerusalem in Yahweh's name. They will no longer walk in the stubbornness of their wicked hearts.

¹⁸In those days, the house of Judah will walk with the house of Israel. They will come together from the land of the north to the land that I gave your ancestors as an inheritance.

¹⁹As for me, I said, 'How I want to treat you as my son and give you a pleasant land,

an inheritance more beautiful than what is in any other nation! I would have said, 'You will call me "my father".'

I would have said that you would not turn from following me.

²⁰But like a woman faithless to her husband,

you have betrayed me, house of Israel—this is Yahweh's declaration."

²¹A voice is heard on the plains, the weeping and pleading of the people of Israel!

For they have changed their ways; they have forgotten Yahweh their God.

²²"Return, faithless people! I will heal you of treachery!"

"Behold! We will come to you, for you are Yahweh our God! ²³Surely lies come from the hills, a confusing noise from the mountains;

surely Yahweh our God is the salvation of Israel.

²⁴Yet from the time of our youthfulness shameful idols have consumed what our ancestors have worked for—

their flocks and cattle, their sons and daughters!

²⁵Let us lie down in shame. May our shame cover us, for we have sinned against Yahweh our God!

We ourselves and our ancestors, from the time of our youthfulness to this present day, have not listened to the voice of Yahweh our God!"

Chapter 4

¹"If you return, Israel—this is Yahweh's declaration—then it should be to me that you return.

If you remove your detestable things from before me and do not wander from me again,

²You must be truthful, just, and righteous when you swear, 'As Yahweh lives.'

Then the nations will bless themselves in him, and in him they will glory."

³For Yahweh says this to each person in Judah and Jerusalem:

'Plow your own ground,

and do not sow among thorns.

⁴Circumcise yourselves to Yahweh,

and remove the foreskins of your heart,

men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, or else my fury will break out like fire,

and burn with no one to quench it,

because of the wickedness of your deeds.

⁵Report in Judah and let it be heard in Jerusalem.

Say, "Blow the trumpet in the land."

Proclaim, "Gather together. Let us go to the fortified cities."

⁶Lift up the signal flag and point it toward Zion,

and run for safety!

Do not stay, for I am bringing disaster

from the north and a great collapse. ⁷A lion is coming out from his thicket

and someone who will destroy nations is setting out.

He is leaving his place to bring horror to your land,

to turn your cities into ruins, where no one will live.

⁸Because of this, wrap yourself in sackcloth, lament and wail.

For the force of Yahweh's anger has not turned away from us.

⁹Then it will happen in that day—this is Yahweh's declaration—that the hearts of the king and his officials will die.

The priests will be appalled, and the prophets will be horrified." ¹⁰So I said, "Ah! Lord Yahweh. Surely you have completely deceived this people and Jerusalem by saying, 'There will be peace for you.' Yet the sword is striking against their life."

¹¹In that time it will be said of this people and Jerusalem, "A burning wind from the plains of the desert will make its way to the daughter of my people. It will not winnow or cleanse them. ¹²A wind far stronger than that will come at my command, and I will now pass sentence against them. ¹³See, he is attacking like clouds, and his chariots are like a storm. His horses are faster than eagles. Woe to us, for we will be devastated! ¹⁴Cleanse your heart from

wickedness, Jerusalem, so that you might be saved. How long will your deepest thoughts be about how to sin?

¹⁵For a voice is bringing news from Dan, and the coming disaster is heard from the mountains of Ephraim. ¹⁶Make the nations think about this: See, announce to Jerusalem that besiegers are coming from a distant land to shout in battle against the cities of Judah. ¹⁷They will be like the watchmen of a cultivated field against her all around, since she has been rebellious against me—this is Yahweh's declaration— ¹⁸and your conduct and your deeds have done these things to you. This will be your punishment. How terrible it will be! It will strike your very heart.

¹⁹My heart! My heart! I am in anguish in my heart. My heart is turbulent within me. I cannot keep quiet for I hear the sound of the horn, an alarm for battle. ²⁰Disaster follows after disaster; for all the land lies in ruins. Suddenly my tents are destroyed, my curtains in a moment. ²¹How long will I see the standard? Will I hear the sound of the horn? ²²For the foolishness of my people—they do not know me. They are idiotic people and they have no understanding. They have skill at evil, but do not know to do good.

²³I saw the land. Behold! It was formless and empty. For there was no light for the heavens. ²⁴I looked at the mountains. Behold, they were trembling, and all the hills were shaking about. ²⁵I looked. Behold, there was no one, and all the birds of the heavens had fled. ²⁶I looked. Behold, the orchards were a wilderness and all the cities had been pulled down before Yahweh, before the fury of his wrath." ²⁷This is what Yahweh says, "All the land will become a devastation, but I will not completely destroy it. ²⁸For this reason, the land will mourn, and the heavens above will darken. For I have declared my intentions; I will not hold back; I will not turn from carrying them out. ²⁹Every city will flee from the noise of the cavalry and the archers with a bow; they will run into the forests. Every city will climb up into the rocky places. The cities will be abandoned, for there will be no one to inhabit them. ³⁰Now that you have been devastated, what will you do? For though you dress in scarlet, adorn yourself with gold jewelry, and make your eyes look bigger with paint, you are making yourself lovely in vain. The men who lusted for you now reject you. Instead, they are trying to take away your life. ³¹So I hear the sound of anguish, distress as in the birth of a firstborn child, the sound of the daughter of Zion. She is gasping for breath. She spreads out her hands, 'Woe to me! I am fainting because of these murderers.'"

Chapter 5

¹"Rush about through the streets of Jerusalem; search in her city squares, too. Then look and think about this:

If you can find a man or anyone who is acting justly and trying to act faithfully,
then I will forgive Jerusalem.

²Although they say, 'As Yahweh lives,' yet they are swearing falsely."

³Yahweh, do your eyes not look for faithfulness? You struck the people, but they do not feel pain.

You have completely defeated them, but they still refuse to receive discipline. They make their faces harder than rock, for they refuse to return.

⁴So I said, "Surely these are only poor people.

They are foolish, for they do not know Yahweh's ways, nor their God's decrees.

⁵I will go to the important people and declare God's messages to them, for they at least know Yahweh's ways, the decrees of their God."

But they all broke their yoke together; they all tore apart the chains.

⁶So a lion from a thicket will attack them. A wolf from the Arabah will ruin them.

A lurking panther will come against their cities. Anyone who goes outside his city will be torn apart.

For their transgressions increase. Their acts of faithlessness are unlimited.

⁷Why should I pardon you?

Your sons have abandoned me and have made oaths by what are not gods.

I fed them fully, but they committed adultery and walked in great numbers to the houses of prostitutes.

⁸They were horses in heat. They roamed about wanting to mate. Each man neighed to his neighbor's wife.

⁹So should I not punish them—this is Yahweh's declaration—
and should I not avenge myself on a nation that is like this?

¹⁰Go up onto her vineyards' terraces and destroy. But do not bring complete destruction to them.

Trim their vines, since those vines do not come from Yahweh.

¹¹For the houses of Israel and Judah have completely betrayed me—this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹²They have spoken falsely about Yahweh and they said, "He will do nothing;
no harm will come upon us, and we will not see sword or famine.

¹³The prophets will become wind, the word is not in them, so let what they say be done to them."

¹⁴So Yahweh, the God of hosts says this, "Because you have said this, see,

I am about to place my word in your mouth. It will be like a fire, and this people will be like wood! For it will consume them.

¹⁵Behold! I am about to bring a nation against you from far away, house of Israel—this is Yahweh's declaration—
it is a lasting nation, an ancient nation! It is a nation whose language you do not know,
nor will you understand what they say.

¹⁶Its quiver is like an open tomb. They are all soldiers.

¹⁷So your harvest will be consumed, your sons and daughters also, and your food.

They will eat your flocks and cattle; they will eat the fruit from your vines and fig trees.

They will beat down with a sword your fortified cities that you trusted in. ¹⁸But even in those days—this is Yahweh's declaration—I do not intend to destroy you completely. ¹⁹When you, Israel and Judah, say, 'Why has Yahweh our God done all these things to us?' then you, Jeremiah, will say to them, 'Just as you abandoned Yahweh and served foreign gods in your land, so you must also serve strangers in a land that is not your own.'

²⁰Report this to the house of Jacob and let it be heard in Judah. Say,

²¹Hear this, you foolish people who have no understanding;
who have eyes but you cannot see, and you have ears but you cannot hear.

²²Do you not fear me—this is Yahweh's declaration—or tremble before my face?

I have placed a border of sand against the sea, an ongoing decree that it does not violate—
even though the sea rises and falls, still it does not violate it. Even though its waves roar, they do not cross it.

²³But this people has a stubborn heart. It turns away in rebellion and goes away.

²⁴For they do not say in their hearts, "Let us fear Yahweh our God, the one who brings the rain—the early rain and the late rains—in their right time, keeping the fixed weeks of the harvest for us."

²⁵Your iniquities kept these things from happening. Your sins have stopped good from coming to you.

²⁶For wicked men are found with my people. They watch like someone who crouches to capture birds; they set a trap and catch people.

²⁷Like a cage full of birds, their houses are full of deceit.

So they grow large and become rich.

²⁸They have become fat; they shine with well-being. They crossed over all bounds of wickedness. They do not plead the cause of the people,

or the cause of the orphan. They prosper even though they have not given justice to the needy.

²⁹Should I not punish them for these things—this is Yahweh's declaration—and will I not take vengeance for myself on a nation like this?

³⁰Atrocities and horrors have occurred in the land.

³¹The prophets prophesy with deceit, and the priests rule with their own power.

My people love it this way, but what will happen in the end?"

Chapter 6

¹Find safety, people of Benjamin, by leaving Jerusalem. Blow a trumpet in Tekoa.

Raise up over Beth Hakkerem a signal, since wickedness is appearing from the north; a great crushing is coming.

²The daughter of Zion, the beautiful and delicate woman, will be destroyed.

³The shepherds and their flocks will go to them;

they will set up tents against her all around; each man will shepherd with his own hand.

⁴"Dedicate yourselves to the gods for the battle. Arise, let us attack at noon.

Woe to us for the daylight is fading away, for the evening shadows are falling.

⁵But let us attack at night and destroy her fortresses."

⁶For Yahweh of hosts says this: Cut her trees, and heap up siegeworks against Jerusalem.

This is the right city to attack, because it is filled with oppression.

⁷As a well pours out fresh water, so this city keeps producing wickedness.

Violence and disorder are heard within her; sickness and wounds are continually before my face.

⁸Accept discipline, Jerusalem, or I will turn away from you

and make you into a ruin, an uninhabited land.”

⁹Yahweh of hosts says this, “They will certainly glean those who are left in Israel like a vineyard.

Reach out again with your hand to pick grapes from the vines.

¹⁰To whom should I declare and warn so they will listen?

Look! Their ears are uncircumcised; they are not able to pay attention!

Look! The word of Yahweh has come to them to correct them, but they do not want it.”

¹¹But I am filled with Yahweh’s fury. I am tired of holding it in. He said, to me, “Pour it out on the children in the streets

and on the groups of young men. For every man will be taken away with his wife;

and every old person heavy with years.

¹²Their houses will be turned over to others, both their fields and their wives together.

For I will attack the inhabitants of the land with my hand—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

¹³Yahweh declares that from the least to the greatest, all of them are greedy for dishonest gain.

From the prophet to the priest, all of them practice deceit.

¹⁴They have healed the wounds of my people lightly,

saying, ‘Peace, Peace,’ when there is no peace.

¹⁵Were they ashamed when they practiced abominations? They were not ashamed; they did not even know how to blush!

So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when they are punished, says Yahweh.

¹⁶Yahweh says this, “Stand at the road crossing and look; ask for the ancient pathways.

‘Where is this good way?’ Then go on it and find a resting place for yourselves.

But the people say, ‘We will not go.’

¹⁷I appointed for you watchmen to listen for the sound of the trumpet.

But they said, ‘We will not listen.’

¹⁸Therefore, nations, listen! See, you witnesses, what will happen to them.

¹⁹Hear, earth! See, I am about to bring disaster to this people—the fruit of their thoughts.

They paid no attention to my word or law, but instead they rejected it.”

²⁰“What does this frankincense going up from Sheba mean to me? Or these sweet smells from a distant land?

Your burnt offerings are not acceptable to me, nor are your sacrifices.

²¹So Yahweh says this, ‘See, I am about to place a stumbling block against this people.

They will stumble over it—fathers and sons together. Inhabitants and their neighbors will also perish.’

²²Yahweh says this, ‘See, a people is coming from the land of the north,

a great nation is being stirred up from the farthest parts of the earth.

²³They will pick up bows and spears. They are cruel and have no compassion.

Their sound is like the sea roar,

and they are riding on horses,

set out in order as men for battle, against you,

daughter of Zion.”

²⁴We have heard the reports about them and our hands fall limp in distress.

Anguish seizes us as a woman giving birth.

²⁵Do not go out to the fields, and do not walk on the roads,

for the swords of the enemy and terror are all around.

²⁶Daughter of my people, put on sackcloth and roll in ashes;

mourn with painful sobs as for an only son,

for the destroyer will suddenly come upon us.

²⁷“I have made you, Jeremiah, one who tests my people like one would test metal, so you will inspect and test their ways.

²⁸They are all the most stubborn of people, who go about slandering others.

All of them are bronze and iron, acting corruptly.

²⁹The bellows are scorched by the fire that is burning them; the lead is consumed in the flames.

The refining continues among them, but it is useless, because the evil is not removed.

³⁰They will be called rejected silver, for Yahweh has rejected them.”

Chapter 7

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, ²“Stand at the gate of Yahweh’s house and proclaim there this word! Say, ‘Hear the word of Yahweh, all you of Judah, you who enter these gates to worship Yahweh. ³Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: Make your ways and practices good, and I will let you continue to live in this place.

⁴Do not entrust yourself to deceitful words and say, “Temple of Yahweh! Temple of Yahweh! Temple of Yahweh!”

⁵For if you actually make your ways and practices good; if you completely execute justice between a man and his neighbor— ⁶if you do not exploit the one staying in the land, the orphan, or the widow and do not pour out innocent blood in this place, and do not walk after other gods to your own harm— ⁷then I will let you stay in this place, in the land that I gave to your ancestors from ancient times and forever.

⁸Behold! You are trusting in deceitful words that do not help you. ⁹Do you steal, kill, and commit adultery? Do you swear deceitfully and offer incense to Baal and walk after other gods whom you have not known? ¹⁰Then do you come and stand before me in this house that is called by my name and say, “We are saved,” so you can do all of these abominations? ¹¹Is this house, which carries my name, a den of bandits in your eyes? But behold, I have seen it—this is Yahweh’s declaration.’

¹²So go to my place that was in Shiloh, where I allowed my name to stay there in the beginning, and look at what I did to it because of the wickedness of my people Israel. ¹³So now, on account of your doing all of these practices—this is Yahweh's declaration—I spoke to you time and time again, but you did not listen. I summoned you, but you did not answer. ¹⁴Therefore, what I did to Shiloh, I will also do to this house that is called by my name, the house in which you have trusted, this place that I gave to you and your ancestors. ¹⁵For I will send you out from before me just as I had sent out all your brothers, all the descendants of Ephraim.'

¹⁶As for you, Jeremiah, do not pray for this people, and do not lift up a lamenting wail or say a prayer on their behalf, and do not petition me, for I will not listen to you. ¹⁷Do you not see what they are doing in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? ¹⁸The children are gathering wood and the fathers kindling the fire! The women are kneading dough to make cakes for the queen of the heavens and pour out drink offerings for other gods so that they will provoke me. ¹⁹Are they truly provoking me?—this is Yahweh's declaration—is it not themselves whom they are provoking, so that shame is on them? ²⁰Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, 'See, my anger and wrath will gush out onto this place, on both man and beast, on the tree in the fields and the fruit on the ground. It will burn and never be extinguished.'

²¹Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel says this, 'Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat the meat from them. ²²For I did not speak with your ancestors and I gave them no command about matters of burnt offerings and sacrifices, when I brought them out from the land of Egypt. ²³I only gave them this command, "Listen to my voice, and I will be your God and you will be my people. So walk in all the ways that I am commanding you, so that it may go well with you." ²⁴But they did not listen or pay attention. They lived by their own stubborn plans of their wicked hearts, so they went backwards, not forward. ²⁵Ever since the day when your ancestors went out from the land of Egypt until this day, I have sent every one of my servants, my prophets, to you. I persisted in sending them. ²⁶But they did not listen to me. They paid no attention. Instead, they hardened their necks. They were more wicked than their ancestors.'

²⁷So proclaim all these words to them, but they will not listen to you. Proclaim these things to them, but they will not answer you. ²⁸Say to them: This is a nation that does not listen to the voice of Yahweh its God and does not receive discipline. Truth is destroyed and cut off from their mouths.

²⁹Cut off your hair and shave yourself, and throw away your hair. Sing a funeral song over the open places. For Yahweh has rejected and abandoned this generation in his rage. ³⁰For the sons of Judah have done evil in my sight—this is Yahweh's declaration—they have set their detestable things in the house that is called by my name, in order to defile it. ³¹Then they built the high place of Topheth that is in the Valley of Ben Hinnom. They did this to burn their sons and daughters in fire—something that I did not command, nor did it enter my mind. ³²So see, days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when it will no longer be called Topheth or Valley of Ben Hinnom. It will be the Valley of Slaughter; they will bury bodies in Topheth until there is no room left. ³³The corpses of this people will be food for the birds of the skies and the beasts of the earth, and there will be no one to frighten them away. ³⁴I will put an end to, from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem, the sound of joy and the sound of gladness, the voice of the groom and the voice of the bride. For the land will become a desolation."

Chapter 8

¹"At that time—this is Yahweh's declaration—they will bring out from the graves the bones of the kings of Judah and its officials, the bones of the priests and the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ²Then they will spread them out in the sun and moon and all the stars of the skies; these things in the sky that they have followed and served, that they have walked after and sought, and that they have worshiped. The bones will not be gathered or buried again. They will be like dung on the surface of the earth. ³In every remaining place where I have driven them, they will choose death instead of life for themselves, all who are still left over from this evil nation—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

⁴So say to them, 'Yahweh says this: Does anyone fall and not get up? Does anyone get lost and not try to return?

⁵Why has this people, Jerusalem, turned away in permanent faithlessness?

They hold on to treachery and refuse to repent.

⁶I paid attention and listened, but they did not speak right; no one was sorry for his wickedness, no one who says, "What have I done?" All of them go where they wish, like a stallion rushing toward battle.

⁷Even the stork in heaven knows the right times; and the doves, swifts, and cranes.

They go on their migrations at the right time, but my people do not know Yahweh's decrees.

⁸How can you say, "We are wise, for the law of Yahweh is with us"?

Indeed, see! The deceitful pen of the scribes has created deceit.

⁹The wise men will be ashamed. They are dismayed and trapped.

Behold! They reject Yahweh's word, so what use is their wisdom?

¹⁰So I will give their wives to others, and their fields to those who will possess them,

because from the least to the greatest, all of them are greedy for dishonest gain! From the prophet to the priest, all of them practice deceit.

¹¹They healed the wounds of the daughter of my people lightly,

saying, "Peace, Peace," when there was no peace.

¹²Were they ashamed when they practiced abominations? They were not ashamed; they did not know how to blush! So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when they are punished, says Yahweh.

¹³I will remove them completely—this is Yahweh's declaration—there will be no grapes on the vine, nor will there be figs on the fig trees. For the leaf will wither, and what I have given to them will pass away.

¹⁴Why are we sitting here? Come together; let us go to the fortified cities, and we will become silent there in death.

For Yahweh our God will silence us. He will make us drink poison, since we have sinned against him.

¹⁵We are hoping for peace, but there will be nothing good.

We are hoping for a time of healing, but see, there will be terror. ¹⁶The snorting of his stallions is heard from Dan. The whole earth shakes at the sound of the neighing of his strong horses.

For they will come and consume the land and its wealth, the city and the ones living in it.

¹⁷For see, I am sending out snakes among you, vipers that you cannot charm.

They will bite you—this is Yahweh's declaration."

¹⁸My sorrow has no end, and my heart is sick.

¹⁹Behold! The screaming voice of the daughter of my people from a land far away! Is Yahweh not in Zion?

Is her king no longer there? Why then do they provoke me to anger with their carved figures and their worthless foreign idols?

²⁰The harvest has passed on, summer is over. But we have not been saved.

²¹I am hurt because of the hurt of the daughter of my people. I mourn at the horrible things that have happened to her; I am dismayed.

²²Is there no medicine in Gilead? Is there no healer there?

Why will the healing of the daughter of my people not happen?

Chapter 9

¹If only my head could produce water, and my eyes be a fountain of tears!

For I wish to weep day and night for those among the daughter of my people who have been killed.

²If only someone would give me a place for travelers in the wilderness to stay, where I could go to abandon my people.

If only I could leave them, since all of them are adulterers, a band of traitors!

³Yahweh declares, "They tread on their bows of lies with their tongues, but it is not because of any faithfulness of theirs that they grow strong on the earth.

They go from one wicked act to another. They do not know me."

⁴Each of you, be on guard against your neighbor and do not trust in any brother.

For every brother is certainly a deceiver, and every neighbor walks in slander.

⁵Each man mocks his neighbor and does not speak the truth.

Their tongues teach deceitful things. They are exhausted from committing iniquity.

⁶Your dwelling is in the midst of deception; in their deceit they refuse to acknowledge me—this is Yahweh's declaration."

⁷Therefore, Yahweh of hosts says this, "See, I am about to refine them and test them, for what else can I do, because of what my people have done?

⁸Their tongues are sharpened arrows; they speak unfaithful things.

With their mouths they proclaim peace with their neighbors, but with their hearts they lie in wait for them.

⁹Should I not punish them because of these things—this is Yahweh's declaration— and should I not avenge myself on a nation that is like this?

¹⁰I will sing a song of mourning and wailing for the mountains, and a funeral song will be sung for the oases in the wilderness.

For they are burned so no one can pass through them. They will not hear the sound of any cattle.

The birds of the skies and the animals have all fled away.

¹¹So I will turn Jerusalem into piles of ruins, a hideout for jackals.

I will make Judah's cities ruined places without inhabitants."

¹²What man is wise enough to understand this? To whom has the mouth of Yahweh spoken, and he will declare it? Why has the land perished and been destroyed like the wilderness that no one can pass through?

¹³Yahweh says, "It is because they have abandoned my law that I set before them, because they do not listen to my voice or walk by it. ¹⁴It is because they have walked by their stubborn hearts and have followed the Baals as their fathers taught them to do. ¹⁵Therefore Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, says this, 'See, I am about to make this people eat wormwood and drink poisonous water. ¹⁶Then I will scatter them among the nations that they have not known, neither they nor their ancestors. I will send out a sword after them until I have completely destroyed them.'"

¹⁷Yahweh of hosts says this, "Think about this: Summon funeral singers; let them come. Send out for women skilled at lamenting; let them come.

¹⁸Let them hurry and sing a mournful song over us, so our eyes may run with tears and our eyelids flow with water.

¹⁹For the sound of wailing is heard in Zion, 'How we are devastated. We are greatly ashamed, for we have abandoned the land since they tore down our houses.'

²⁰So you women, hear Yahweh's word; pay attention to the messages that come from his mouth. Then teach your daughters a mourning song, and each neighbor woman a funeral song.

²¹For death has come through our windows; it goes into our palaces. It destroys children from outside, and young men in the city squares.

²²Declare this, 'This is Yahweh's declaration—the corpses of men will fall like dung in the fields, and like grain stalks after the reapers, and there will be no one to gather them.'"

²³Yahweh says this, "Do not let the wise man take pride in his wisdom, or the warrior in his might. Do not let the wealthy man take pride in his riches.

²⁴For if a man takes pride in anything, let it be in this, that he has insight and knows me.

For I am Yahweh, who acts with covenant faithfulness, justice and righteousness on earth. For it is in these that I take pleasure—

this is Yahweh's declaration."

²⁵"See, days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will punish all the circumcised who are such only in their body. ²⁶I will punish Egypt and Judah, Edom, the people of Ammon, Moab, all the people who cut the hair on their heads very short, and those dwelling in the desert. For all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel has an uncircumcised heart."

Chapter 10

¹"Hear the word that Yahweh is announcing to you, house of Israel.

²Yahweh says this, 'Do not learn the ways of the nations,

and do not be dismayed by the signs in the heavens, for the nations are dismayed by these.

³For the religious customs of these people are worthless.

They cut down a tree in the forest, and the craftsman carves the wood.

⁴Then they decorate it with silver and gold. They strengthen it with hammer and nails so it will not fall over.

⁵What they make with their hands is like scarecrows in a cucumber field, because they, too, can say nothing, and they have to be carried because they cannot walk.

Do not fear them, for they cannot bring about evil, nor are they able to do anything good.”

⁶There is no one like you, Yahweh. You are great, and your name is great in power.

⁷Who does not fear you, king of the nations? For this is what you deserve,

for there is no one like you among all the wise men of the nations or all their royal kingdoms.

⁸They are all the same, they are brutish and stupid, disciples of idols that are nothing but wood.

⁹They bring hammered silver from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz made by artificers,

the hands of refiners. Their clothes are blue and purple cloth. Their skillful men made all of these things.

¹⁰But Yahweh is the true God. He is the living God and eternal king.

The earth quakes at his anger, and the nations cannot endure his anger.

¹¹You will speak to them like this, “The gods that did not make the heavens and earth will perish from the earth and from under these heavens.”

¹²But it was he who made the earth by his power, and he established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding he stretched out the heavens.

¹³His voice makes the roar of waters in the heavens, and he brings up the mists from the ends of the earth.

He makes lightning for the rain and sends out wind from his storehouse.

¹⁴Every man has become ignorant, without knowledge. Every metalworker is put to shame by his idols.

For his cast images are frauds; there is no life in them.

¹⁵They are useless, the work of mockers; they will perish at the time of their punishment.

¹⁶But God, the portion of Jacob, is not like these, for he is the molder of all things.

Israel is the tribe of his inheritance; Yahweh of hosts is his name.

¹⁷Gather your bundle and leave the land, you people who have been living under the siege.

¹⁸For Yahweh says this, “See, I am about to throw the inhabitants of the land out this time.

I will cause them distress, and they will find it to be so.”

¹⁹Woe to me! Because of my broken bones, my wound is infected.

So I said, “Surely this is agony, but I must bear it.”

²⁰My tent is devastated, and all of my tent cords are cut in two.

They have taken my children away from me, so they no longer exist. There is no longer anyone to spread out my tent or to raise up my tent curtains.

²¹For the shepherds are stupid and they do not seek Yahweh;

so they have not prospered, and all their flock has been scattered.

²²The report of news has arrived, "See! It is coming, a great earthquake is coming from the land of the north To make the cities of Judah into ruins, hideouts for jackals."

²³I know, Yahweh, that the way of a man does not come from himself. No person walking directs his own steps.

²⁴Discipline me, Yahweh, nevertheless with justice, not in your anger or you would destroy me.

²⁵Pour your fury on the nations that do not know you and on the families that do not call on your name.

For they have devoured Jacob and consumed him so as to completely destroy him and demolish his habitation.

Chapter 11

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, ²"Listen to the words of this covenant, and declare them to each man in Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ³Say to them, 'Yahweh, God of Israel says this: Cursed is anyone who does not listen to the words of this covenant. ⁴This is the covenant that I commanded your ancestors to keep the day I brought them out from the land of Egypt, from the furnace for smelting iron. I said, "Listen to my voice and do all of these things just as I have commanded you, for you will be my people and I will be your God."

⁵So that I may confirm the oath that I swore to your ancestors, the oath that I would give them the land flowing with milk and honey, where you live today.'" Then I, Jeremiah, answered and said, "Yes, Yahweh!"

⁶Yahweh said to me, "Proclaim all these things in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. Say, 'Listen to the words of this covenant and carry them out. ⁷For I have been giving solemn commands to your ancestors from the day I brought them up from the land of Egypt until this present time, persistently warning them and saying, "Listen to my voice.'" ⁸But they did not listen or pay attention. Each person has been walking in the stubbornness of his wicked heart. So I brought all the curses in this covenant that I commanded to come against them. But the people still did not obey."

⁹Next Yahweh said to me, "A conspiracy has been discovered among the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁰They have turned to the iniquities of their earliest ancestors, who refused to listen to my word, who instead walked after other gods to worship them. The house of Israel and the house of Judah broke my covenant that I established with their ancestors. ¹¹Therefore Yahweh says this, 'See, I am about to bring disaster on them, disaster from which they will not be able to escape. Then they will call out to me, but I will not listen to them. ¹²The cities of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem will go and call out to the gods to which they had given offerings, but they will certainly not be saved by them at the time of their disaster. ¹³For you Judah, the number of your gods has increased to equal the number of your cities. You have made the number of shameful altars in Jerusalem, incense altars for Baal, equal to the number of her streets.

¹⁴So you yourself, Jeremiah, must not pray for this people. You must not wail or pray on their behalf. For I will not be listening when they call on me in their disaster.

¹⁵Why is my beloved one, the one who has had so many wicked intentions, in my house?

The meat of your sacrifices cannot help you. You rejoice because of your evil actions.

¹⁶In the past Yahweh called you a leafy olive tree, beautiful with lovely fruit.

But he will light a fire on it that will sound like the roar of a storm; its branches will be broken. ¹⁷For Yahweh of hosts, the one who planted you, has decreed disaster against you because of the wicked acts that the house of Israel and the house of Judah have committed—they have angered me by giving offerings to Baal.”

¹⁸Yahweh made me know these things, so I know them. Yahweh made me see their deeds. ¹⁹I was like a gentle lamb being led to a butcher. I did not know that they had formed plans against me, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit! Let us cut him off from the land of the living so his name will be no longer remembered.”

²⁰Yet Yahweh of hosts is the righteous judge who examines the heart and the mind.

I will witness your vengeance against them, for I have presented my case to you.

²¹Therefore Yahweh says this concerning the people of Anathoth who are seeking your life, “They say, ‘You must not prophesy in the name of Yahweh, or you will die by our hand.’” ²²Therefore Yahweh of hosts says this, ‘See, I am about to punish them. Their vigorous young men will die by the sword. Their sons and their daughters will die by famine. ²³None of them will be left, because I am bringing disaster against the people of Anathoth, a year of their punishment.’”

Chapter 12

¹You are righteous, Yahweh, whenever I bring disputes to you.

I must certainly tell you of my reason to complain: Why do the ways of the wicked succeed? All the faithless people are successful.

²You planted them and they took root. They continue also to produce fruit.

You are near to them in their mouths, but far away from their hearts. ³Yet you, Yahweh, know me. You see me and you test my heart toward you.

Take them away like sheep to the slaughter, and set them apart for the day of slaughter!

⁴How long will the land go on drying up, and the plants in every field wither because of the wickedness of its inhabitants?

The animals and the birds have been taken away. Indeed, the people say, “God will not see what happens to us.”

⁵Yahweh said, “Indeed, if you have run with foot soldiers and they have tired you out, how can you compete against horses?”

If you fall down in the safe countryside, how will you do in the thickets along the Jordan?

⁶For even your brothers and your father’s family have betrayed you and have loudly denounced you.

Do not trust in them, even if they say nice things to you.

⁷I have abandoned my house; I have forsaken my inheritance.

I have given my beloved into the hands of her enemies.

⁸My inheritance has become to me like a lion in a thicket;

she sets herself against me with her own voice, so I hate her.

⁹Has not my inheritance become a speckled bird, that other birds of prey go against her all around?

Go and gather all the wild beasts and bring them to devour her.

¹⁰Many shepherds have destroyed my vineyard. They have stomped all over my portion of land; they turned my delightful portion into a wilderness, a desolation.

¹¹They have made her a desolation. I mourn for her; she is desolate.

All the land has been made desolate, for there is no one who takes it to heart.

¹²Destroyers have come against all the bare places in the wilderness, for Yahweh's sword is devouring from one end of the land to the other. There is no safety for any living creature.

¹³They have sown wheat but harvest thornbushes. They are exhausted from work but have gained nothing. So be ashamed of your gain because of Yahweh's anger."

¹⁴Yahweh says this against all my neighbors, the wicked ones who strike at the possession that I made my people Israel inherit, "See, I am the one who is about to uproot them from their own ground, and I will pull up the house of Judah from among them. ¹⁵Then after I uproot those nations, it will happen that I will have compassion on them and bring them back; I will return them—each man to his inheritance and his land. ¹⁶It will come about that if those nations carefully learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name 'As Yahweh lives' just as they have taught my people to swear by Baal, then they will be built up in the midst of my people. ¹⁷But if any do not listen, then I will uproot that nation. It will certainly be uprooted and destroyed—this is Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 13

¹Yahweh said this to me, "Go and buy a linen undergarment and put it on around your waist, but do not put it in water first." ²So I bought an undergarment as Yahweh directed, and I put it on around my waist. ³Then the word of Yahweh came to me a second time, saying, ⁴"Take the undergarment that you purchased that is around your waist, get up and go now to Perath.^[1] Hide it there in a rock crevice." ⁵So I went and hid it in Perath, just as Yahweh had commanded me. ⁶After many days, Yahweh said to me, "Get up and go back to Perath. Take from there the undergarment that I had told you to hide." ⁷So I went back to Perath^[2] and dug out the undergarment from where I had hid it, and behold, it was destroyed and completely useless.

⁸Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁹"Yahweh says this: In the same way I will destroy the great arrogance of Judah and Jerusalem. ¹⁰This wicked people who refuses to listen to my word, who walk in the hardness of their heart, who go after other gods to worship them and bow down to them—they will be like this undergarment that is good for nothing. ¹¹For just as an undergarment clings to someone's hips, so I have made all the house of Israel and all the house of Judah cling to me—this is Yahweh's declaration—to be my people, to bring me fame, praise, and honor. But they would not listen to me.

¹²So you must speak this word to them, 'Yahweh, the God of Israel, says this: Every jar will be filled with wine.' They will say to you, 'Do we not indeed know that every jar will be filled with wine?' ¹³So say to them, 'Yahweh says this: See, I am about to fill with drunkenness every inhabitant of this land, the kings who sit on David's throne, the priests, prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁴Then I will smash each man against his brother, fathers and children together—this is Yahweh's declaration—I will not pity them or have compassion, and I will not spare them from destruction."

¹⁵Listen and pay attention. Do not be arrogant, for Yahweh had spoken.

¹⁶Give honor to Yahweh your God before he brings darkness,

and before he causes your feet to stumble on the mountains at twilight.

For you are hoping for light, but he will turn the place into a deep darkness, into a dark cloud.

¹⁷So if you will not listen, I will weep alone because of your arrogance.

My eyes will certainly weep and flow with tears, for Yahweh's flock has been taken captive.

¹⁸"Say to the king and to the queen, 'Come down from your thrones,
for your splendid crowns have fallen from your heads.'

¹⁹The cities in the Negev will be shut up, with no one to open them. All Judah will be taken captive, completely taken captive.

²⁰Lift up your eyes and look at the ones coming from the north.

Where is the flock he gave to you, the flock that was so beautiful to you?

²¹What will you say when God sets over you those you had trained to be your special allies?

Are these not the beginnings of the labor pains that will seize you just like a woman in childbirth?

²²Then you might say in your heart, 'Why are these things happening to me?'

It will be for the multitude of your iniquities that your skirts are raised up and you have been violated.

²³Can the people of Cush change their skin color, or can a leopard change its spots?

If so, then you yourself, although accustomed to wickedness, would be able to do good.

²⁴So I will scatter them like chaff that perishes in the desert wind.

²⁵This is what I have given to you, the portion I have decreed for you—this is Yahweh's declaration—
because you have forgotten me and trusted in deceit.

²⁶So also I myself will strip your skirts off you, and your private parts will be seen.

²⁷I have seen your adultery and neighing,
the wickedness of your prostitution on the hills and in the fields,
these detestable things!

Woe to you, Jerusalem! How long until you are made clean again?"

13:4 ^[1] as .

13:7 ^[2] as .

Chapter 14

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Jeremiah regarding the drought,

²"Let Judah mourn; let her gates fall apart. They are wailing for the land;
their cries for Jerusalem are going up.

³Their mighty ones send out their servants for water.

When they go to the trenches, they cannot find water. They all return with empty vessels; they cover their heads ashamed and dishonored.

⁴Because of this the ground is cracked, for there is no rain in the land.

The plowmen are ashamed and cover their heads.

⁵For even the doe abandons her young in the fields, for there is no grass.

⁶The wild donkeys stand on the bare plains and they pant in the wind like jackals.

Their eyes fail to work, for there is no vegetation.”

⁷Even though our iniquities testify against us, Yahweh, act for the sake of your name.

For our faithless actions increase; we have sinned against you.

⁸You are the Hope of Israel, the one who saves him in the time of distress.

Why will you be like a stranger in the land, like a foreign wanderer who stretches out and spends just one night?

⁹Why are you like someone who is astounded, or like a warrior who has no power to rescue?

You are in our midst, Yahweh, and your name is called over us. Do not leave us!

¹⁰Yahweh says this to this people: “Since they love to wander, they have not held back their feet from doing so.”

Yahweh is not pleased with them. Now he calls to mind their iniquity and has punished their sins. ¹¹Yahweh said to me, “Do not pray for good on behalf of this people. ¹²For if they fast, I will not listen to their wailing, and if they offer up burnt offerings and food offerings, I will not take pleasure in them. For I will put an end to them by sword, famine, and plague.”

¹³Then I said, “Oh, Lord Yahweh! Behold! The prophets are saying to the people, ‘You will not see the sword; there will be no famine for you, for I will give you true security in this place.’” ¹⁴Yahweh said to me, “The prophets prophesy deceit in my name. I did not send them out, nor did I give them any command or speak to them. But deceitful visions and useless, deceitful divination coming from their own minds are what they are prophesying to you.” ¹⁵Therefore Yahweh says this, “About the prophets prophesying in my name but whom I did not send out—those who say there will be no sword or famine in this land: These prophets will perish by sword and famine.

¹⁶Then the people to whom they prophesied will be thrown out in the streets of Jerusalem because of famine and sword, for there will be no one to bury them—them, their wives, their sons, or their daughters—for I will pour out their wickedness on them.

¹⁷Say this word to them: ‘Let my eyes flow with tears, night and day.

Do not let them stop, for there will be a great collapse of the virgin daughter of my people—a great and incurable wound.

¹⁸If I go out to the field, there are the ones who were killed by the sword!

If I come to the city, there are the diseases that are caused by famine.

Both the prophet and the priest wander about the land, and they do not know.”

¹⁹Have you completely rejected Judah? Do you hate Zion?

Why will you afflict us when there is no healing for us? We hoped for peace, but there was nothing good—

and for a time of healing, but see, there is only terror.

²⁰We admit, Yahweh, our offenses, the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you.

²¹Do not reject us! For the sake of your name, do not make your glorious throne a disgrace.

Remember and do not break your covenant with us.

²²Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Or can the skies themselves send down showers?

Are you not the one, Yahweh our God? We wait for you, for you are the one who does all these things.

Chapter 15

¹Then Yahweh said to me, "Even if Moses or Samuel were standing in front of me, I would still not be in favor of this people. Send them out from before me, for them to go away. ²It will happen that they will say to you, 'Where should we go?' Then you must say to them, 'Yahweh says this:

Those who are for death should go to death; those who are for the sword should go to the sword.

Those who are for famine should go to famine; and those who are for captivity should go to captivity.'

³For I will assign them to four groups—this is Yahweh's declaration—the sword to slaughter some, the dogs to drag some away, the birds of the skies and the beast of the earth to consume and destroy some. ⁴I will make of them a horrifying thing to all the kingdoms of the earth, because of what Manasseh son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, did in Jerusalem.

⁵For who will have compassion for you, Jerusalem? Who will grieve for you? Who will turn aside to ask about your well-being?

⁶You have forsaken me—this is Yahweh's declaration—you have gone back from me.

So I will strike you with my hand and destroy you. I am tired of having mercy on you.

⁷So I will winnow them with a pitchfork at the gates of the land.

I will bereave them. I will destroy my people since they will not turn from their ways.

⁸I will make their widows number more than the sands of the seashore. Against the mothers of young men I will send

the destroyer at noonday. I will make shock and horror suddenly fall on them.

⁹The mother who has borne seven children will waste away. She will gasp. Her sun will set while it is still day.

She will be ashamed and embarrassed, for I will give those who remain to the sword in the presence of their enemies—

this is Yahweh's declaration."

¹⁰Woe to me, my mother! For you have borne me, I who am a man of controversy and argument through all the land.

I have not lent, nor has anyone lent to me, but they all curse me.

¹¹Yahweh said: "Will I not rescue you for good?

I will certainly make your enemies beg for help in the time of calamity and distress.

¹²Can one smash iron? Especially iron from the north that is mixed with bronze?

¹³I will give to your enemies your wealth and treasures as free plunder.

I will do this because of all your sins committed within all your borders.

¹⁴Then I will make you serve your enemies in a land that you do not know,

for a fire will ignite, kindled in my wrath against you."^[1]

¹⁵Yahweh, you know! Remember me and help me. Bring vengeance for me against those who persecute me.

You are patient, but do not allow them to take me away; know that I suffer reproach for your sake.

¹⁶Your words have been found, and I consumed them. Your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart,

for I bear your name, Yahweh, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the circle of those who celebrated or rejoiced.

I sat in solitude because of your powerful hand, for you filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain ongoing and my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

Will you be like deceitful waters to me, waters that dry up?

¹⁹Therefore Yahweh said this, "If you repent, then I will restore you, and you will stand before me.

For if you separate the foolish things from the precious things, you will be like my mouth. The people will come back to you,

but you yourself must not go back to them.

²⁰I will make you like an impenetrable bronze wall to this people, and they will wage war against you.

But they will not defeat you, for I am with you to save and rescue you—this is Yahweh's declaration—

²¹for I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the hand of the tyrant."

15:14 ^[1], some ancient copies have .

Chapter 16

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Do not take a wife for yourself, and do not have sons or daughters for yourself in this place. ³For Yahweh says this to the sons and daughters who are born in this place, to the mothers who bear them, and to the fathers who caused them to be born in this land, ⁴They will die diseased deaths. They will not be mourned or buried. They will be like dung on the ground. For they will come to an end by sword and famine, and their corpses will be food for the birds of the skies and the beasts of the earth.'

⁵For this says Yahweh, 'Do not enter a house where there is mourning. Do not go to mourn or to show sympathy for them, for I have taken away my peace from this people—this is Yahweh's declaration—and my covenant faithfulness and mercy. ⁶Both the great and the small will die in this land. They will not be buried, and no one will mourn for them or cut themselves or shave their heads for them. ⁷No one must share any food in mourning to comfort them because of the deaths, and none must give a comforting cup to his father or his mother. ⁸You must not go to a banquet house to sit with them in order to eat or drink.' ⁹For Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this,

'See, before your eyes, in your days and in this place, I am about to put an end to the sound of joy and the sound of gladness, the sound of the groom and the sound of the bride.'

¹⁰Then it will happen that you will report all these words to this people, and they will say to you, 'Why has Yahweh decreed all this great disaster against us? What is our iniquity and sin that we sinned against Yahweh our God?'

¹¹So say to them, 'Because your ancestors abandoned me—this is Yahweh's declaration—and they went after other gods and worshiped and bowed down to them. They abandoned me and have not kept my law. ¹²But you yourselves have brought about more wickedness than your ancestors, for see, each person is walking by the stubbornness of his wicked heart; there is no one who listens to me. ¹³So I will throw you from this land to a land that you have not known, neither you nor your ancestors, and you will worship other gods there by day and night, for I will not give any favor to you.'

¹⁴Therefore, behold, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when it will no longer be said, 'As Yahweh lives, the one who brought up the people of Israel from the land of Egypt.' ¹⁵but, 'As Yahweh lives, the one who brought up the people of Israel from the land of the north and from the lands where he had scattered them.' For I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their ancestors.

¹⁶Behold! I will send for many fishermen—this is Yahweh's declaration—so they will fish the people out. After this I will send for many hunters so they will hunt for them among all the mountains and hills, and in rock crevices. ¹⁷For my eye is on all their ways; they cannot be hidden from before me. Their iniquity cannot be concealed from before my eyes. ¹⁸I will first pay back double for their iniquity and sin for their polluting of my land with their disgusting idol figures, and for their filling my inheritance with their disgusting idols."

¹⁹Yahweh, you are my stronghold and my refuge, my place of safety in the day of distress.

The nations will go to you from the ends of the earth and say, "Surely our ancestors inherited deceit.

They are empty; there is no profit in them.

²⁰Do people make gods for themselves? But they are not gods."

²¹Therefore see! I will cause them to know in this time, I will cause them to know my hand and my power, so they will know that Yahweh is my name.

Chapter 17

¹"The sin of Judah is written with an iron stylus having a diamond point.

It is engraved on the tablet of their hearts and on the horns of your altars.

²Even their children remember their altars and their Asherah poles that were beside the spreading trees and on the high hills.

³My mountain in the open country,
and your wealth and all your treasures I will give away as plunder,
together with your high places,
because of the sin you committed in all your territories.

⁴You will lose the inheritance that I gave to you.

I will enslave you to your enemies in a land that you do not know,

for you have ignited a fire in my wrath, which will burn forever.”

⁵Yahweh says, “The person who trusts in mankind is accursed;
he makes flesh his strength but turns his heart away from Yahweh.

⁶For he will be like a small bush in the Arabah and will not see anything good coming.

He will stay in the arid places in the wilderness, barren land without inhabitants.

⁷But the person who trusts in Yahweh is blessed, for Yahweh is his reason for confidence.

⁸For he will be like a tree planted by water, its roots will spread out by the stream.

It will not fear the heat when it comes, for its leaves are always green.

It is not anxious in a year of drought, and it will not stop producing fruit.

⁹The heart is more deceitful than anything else. It is sick; who can understand it?

¹⁰I am Yahweh, the one who searches through the mind, who tests the hearts.

I give to each person according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

¹¹A partridge hatches an egg that she did not lay. Someone may become rich unjustly,
but when half his days are over, those riches will abandon him, and in the end he will be a fool.”

¹²“The place of our temple is a glorious throne, elevated from the beginning.

¹³Yahweh is the hope of Israel. All who abandon you will be put to shame; those who turn away from you will be written in the earth,

for they have forsaken Yahweh, the fountain of living waters.

¹⁴Heal me, Yahweh, and I will be healed! Rescue me, and I will be rescued. For you are my song of praise.

¹⁵See, they are saying to me, “Where is the word of Yahweh? Let it come!”

¹⁶As for me, I did not run from being a shepherd following you. I did not long for the day of disaster.

You know the proclamations that came from my lips. They were made in your presence.

¹⁷Do not be a terror to me. You are my refuge on the day of disaster.

¹⁸May my pursuers be ashamed, but do not let me be ashamed. May they be dismayed, but do not let me be dismayed.

Send the day of disaster against them and shatter them with a double share of destruction.”

¹⁹Yahweh said this to me: “Go and stand in the gate of the people where the kings of Judah enter and where they exit, then in all the other gates of Jerusalem. ²⁰Say to them, ‘Hear the word of Yahweh, kings of Judah and all you people of Judah, and every resident of Jerusalem who comes in through these gates. ²¹Yahweh says this: “Be careful for the sake of your lives and do not carry a burden on the Sabbath day to bring it to the gates of Jerusalem. ²²Do not bring a load out from your house on the Sabbath day. Do not do any work, but set apart the Sabbath day, just as I commanded your ancestors to do.”’ ²³They did not listen or pay attention, but stiffened their neck so they would not hear me nor accept discipline.

²⁴It will happen that if you truly listen to me—this is Yahweh's declaration—and do not bring a load to the gates of this city on the Sabbath day but instead set apart the Sabbath day to Yahweh and not do any work on it, ²⁵then kings, princes, and those who sit on David's throne will come to the gates of this city in chariots and with horses, they and their leaders, men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, and this city will be inhabited forever. ²⁶They will come from the cities of Judah and from all around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin and the lowlands, from the mountains, and from the Negev, bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices, grain offerings and frankincense, thank offerings to the house of Yahweh. ²⁷But if you do not listen to me—to set apart the Sabbath day and to not carry heavy loads and to not enter the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day—then I will light a fire in its gates, and it will consume the fortresses of Jerusalem, and it cannot be put out."

Chapter 18

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, ²"Arise and go out to the potter's house, for I will have you hear my word there." ³So I went out to the potter's house, and behold! The potter was working on the potter's wheel. ⁴But the pot he was making from the clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, so he returned the clay and formed it into another pot, and he made it into an object that was pleasing in his eyes.

⁵Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁶"Should I not be able to act like this potter with you, house of Israel?—this is Yahweh's declaration. Behold! Like clay in a potter's hand—that is how you are in my hand, house of Israel. ⁷At one moment, I may proclaim something about a nation or a kingdom, that I will drive it out, tear it down, or destroy it. ⁸But if the nation about which I have made that proclamation turns from its evil, then I will relent from the disaster that I was planning to bring upon it.

⁹At another moment, I may proclaim something about a nation or a kingdom, that I will build it up or plant it. ¹⁰But if it does evil in my eyes by not listening to my voice, then I will stop the good that I had said I would do for them.

¹¹So now, speak to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and say, 'Yahweh says this: See, I am about to form disaster against you. I am about to devise a plan against you. Repent, each person from his wicked way, so your ways and your practices will bring good to you.' ¹²But they will say, 'This is no use. We will act according to our own plans. Each one of us will do what his evil, stubborn heart desires.'

¹³Therefore Yahweh says this, 'Ask the nations, who has ever heard of such a thing as this?

The virgin Israel has committed a horrible act.

¹⁴Does the snow in Lebanon ever leave the rocky hills on its sides?

Are the mountain streams coming from far away ever destroyed, those cold streams?

¹⁵Yet my people have forgotten me. They have made offerings to useless idols and been made to stumble in their paths;

they have left the ancient paths to walk lesser paths.

¹⁶Their land will become a horror, an object of everlasting hissing.

Everyone who passes by her will shudder and shake his head.

¹⁷I will scatter them before their enemies like an eastern wind. I will show them my back, and not my face, on the day of their disaster:"

¹⁸So the people said, "Come, let us make plots against Jeremiah, since the law will never perish from the priests, or advice from the wise men, or words from the prophets. Come, let us attack him with our words and no longer pay attention to anything he proclaims."

¹⁹Pay attention to me, Yahweh, and listen to the voice of my enemies.

²⁰Will disaster from them really be my reward for being good to them? For they have dug a pit for me.

Remember how I stood before you to speak for their welfare, to cause your fury to turn away from them.

²¹Therefore give their children over to famine, and give them to the hands of those who use the sword.

So let their women become bereaved and widows, and their men be killed, and their young men killed by the sword in battle.

²²Let a distressed shout be heard from their houses, as you suddenly bring raiders against them.

For they have dug a pit to capture me and have hidden traps for my feet.

²³But you, Yahweh, you know all of their plans against me to kill me.

Do not forgive their iniquities and sins. Do not wipe their sins away from you.

Instead, let them be overthrown before you. Act against them in the time of your wrath.

Chapter 19

¹Yahweh said this, "Go and purchase a potter's clay flask while you are with the elders of the people and the priests. ²Then go out to the Valley of Ben Hinnom at the entry of the Broken Pottery Gate, and there proclaim the words that I will tell you. ³Say, 'Hear the word of Yahweh, kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, "See, I am about to bring disaster on this place, and the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle. ⁴I will do this because they have abandoned me and profaned this place. In this place they offer sacrifices to other gods that they did not know. They, their ancestors, and the kings of Judah have also filled this place with innocent blood. ⁵They built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to him—something that I did not command or mention, nor did it enter my mind.

⁶Therefore, see, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when this place will no longer be called Topheth, the Valley of Ben Hinnom, for it will be the Valley of Slaughter. ⁷In this place I will make the plans of Judah and Jerusalem useless. I will make them to fall by the sword before their enemies and by the hand of the ones seeking their lives. Then I will give their corpses as food to the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the earth.

⁸Then I will make this city a ruin and the object of hissing, for everyone passing by it will shudder and hiss regarding all of its plagues. ⁹I will make them eat the flesh of their sons and daughters; each man will consume the flesh of his neighbor in the siege and in the anguish brought on them by their enemies and the ones seeking their lives."

¹⁰Then you will break the clay flask in the sight of the men who went with you. ¹¹You will say to them, 'Yahweh of hosts says this: I will do this same thing to this people and this city just as Jeremiah shattered the clay flask so that it could not be repaired again. People will bury the dead in Topheth until there is no place left for any more dead.

¹²This is what I will do to this place and its inhabitants when I make this city like Topheth—this is Yahweh's declaration— ¹³so the houses of Jerusalem and of the kings of Judah will become like Topheth—all the houses on whose rooftops the unclean people worship all the stars of the heavens and pour out drink offerings to other gods."

¹⁴Then Jeremiah went from Topheth, where Yahweh had sent him to prophesy. He stood in the courtyard of Yahweh's house and he said to all the people, ¹⁵"Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, 'See, I am about to bring to this city and to all of its towns all the disaster that I have proclaimed against it, since they stiffened their neck and refused to listen to my words.'"

Chapter 20

¹Pashhur son of Immer the priest—he was a leading officer—heard Jeremiah prophesying these words before Yahweh's house. ²So Pashhur beat Jeremiah the prophet and then placed him in the stocks that were at the Upper Gate of Benjamin in Yahweh's house. ³It happened on the next day that Pashhur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah said to him, "Yahweh has not called your name Pashhur, but you are Magor Missabib. ⁴For Yahweh says this, 'Look, I will make you an object of horror, you and all of your loved ones, for they will fall by the sword of their enemies and your eyes will see it. I will give all of Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon. He will make them captives in Babylon or attack them with the sword. ⁵I will give him all the wealth of this city and all of its riches, all of its precious items and all the treasures of the kings of Judah. I will place these things in the hand of your enemies, and they will seize them. They will take them and bring them to Babylon. ⁶But you, Pashhur, and all the inhabitants of your house will go into captivity. You will go to Babylon and die there. You and all of your loved ones to whom you prophesied deceitful things will be buried there.'"

⁷"Yahweh, you deceived me, and I was deceived. You are stronger than I, and you overpowered me.

I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I have spoken, I have called out and proclaimed, 'Violence and destruction.'

Then Yahweh's word has become for me reproach and mocking every day.

⁹If I say, 'I will not think about Yahweh anymore. I will not speak any longer in his name.'

Then it is like a consuming fire in my heart, held within my bones. So I struggle to contain it but I cannot.

¹⁰I have heard rumors of terror from many people all around. 'Report! We must report it!'

Those who are close to me watch to see if I will fall. 'Perhaps he can be tricked.

If so, we can overpower him and take our revenge on him.'

¹¹But Yahweh is with me like a powerful warrior, so the ones pursuing me will stagger.

They will not defeat me. They will be greatly ashamed, because they will not succeed.

They will have unending shame, it will never be forgotten.

¹²But Yahweh of hosts, you examine the righteous and see the mind and the heart.

Let me see your vengeance on them for I have committed my cause to you.

¹³Sing to Yahweh! Praise Yahweh!

For he has rescued the lives of those who are oppressed from the hand of evildoers.

¹⁴Let the day when I was born be cursed.

Do not let the day that my mother bore me be blessed.

¹⁵Let the man who informed my father be cursed,

the one who said, 'A male child has been born to you,' causing great joy.

¹⁶Let that man be like the cities that Yahweh overthrew and he did not have compassion on them.

Let him hear a cry for help in the dawn, a battle cry at noontime,

¹⁷because he did not kill me in the womb, making my mother to be my tomb,
a womb that was pregnant forever.

¹⁸Why is it that I came out from the womb to see troubles and agony,
so that my days are filled with shame?"

Chapter 21

¹The word came to Jeremiah from Yahweh when King Zedekiah sent Pashhur son of Malkijah and Zephaniah son of Maaseiah the priest to him, and they said, ²"Please seek advice from Yahweh on our behalf, for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon is making war on us. Perhaps Yahweh will do miracles for us, as in times past, and will make him withdraw from us."

³So Jeremiah said to them, "This is what you must say to Zedekiah, ⁴Yahweh, God of Israel, says this: See, I am about to turn back the instruments of war that are in your hand, with which you are fighting against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who are closing you in from outside the walls! For I will gather them in the middle of this city. ⁵Then I myself will fight against you with a raised hand and a strong arm, and with wrath, fury, and great anger. ⁶For I will attack the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast. They will die in a severe plague. ⁷After this—this is Yahweh's declaration—Zedekiah king of Judah, his servants, the people, and whoever remains in this city after the plague, the sword, and the famine, I will give them all into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those seeking their life. Then he will kill them with the edge of the sword. He will not pity them, spare them, or have compassion.'

⁸Then to this people you must say, 'Yahweh says this: See, I am about to place before you the way of life and the way of death. ⁹Anyone staying in this city will die by the sword, famine, and plague; but anyone going out and falling on his knees before the Chaldeans who have closed in against you will live. He will escape with his life. ¹⁰For I have set my face against this city in order to bring disaster and not to bring good—this is Yahweh's declaration. It has been given into the hand of the king of Babylon and he will burn it.'

¹¹Concerning the house of the king of Judah, listen to the word of Yahweh.

¹²House of David, Yahweh says, 'Bring about justice in the morning.

Rescue the one who has been robbed by the hand of the oppressor,

or my fury will go out like fire and burn,

and there is no one who can quench it, because of your evil deeds.

¹³See, inhabitant of the valley! I am against you, rock of the plain—this is Yahweh's declaration—

I am against anyone who is saying, "Who will come down to attack us?" or "Who will enter our houses?"

¹⁴I have assigned the fruit of your practices to come against you—this is Yahweh's declaration—

and I will light a fire in the thickets, and it will consume everything around it."

Chapter 22

¹This is what Yahweh says, "Go down to the house of the king of Judah and proclaim this word there. ²Say, 'King of Judah, listen to the word of Yahweh—you who sit on David's throne—you, and your servants, and your people who come through these gates. ³Yahweh says this, "Perform justice and righteousness, and anyone who has been

robbed—rescue him from the hand of the oppressor. Do not mistreat any foreigner in your land, or any orphan or widow. Do not commit violence or pour out innocent blood in this place. ⁴For if you truly do these things, then kings sitting on David's throne will enter the gates of this house riding in a chariot and on horses, he, his servants, and his people! ⁵But if you do not listen to these words from me that I have announced—this is Yahweh's declaration—then this royal house will become a ruin.” ⁶For Yahweh says this concerning the house of the king of Judah,

‘You are like Gilead, or like the summit of Lebanon to me. Yet I will turn you into a wilderness, into cities with no inhabitants.

⁷For I have designated destroyers to come against you! Men with their weapons

will cut off the best of your cedars and let them fall into the fire. ⁸Then many nations will pass by this city. Each person will say to the next, “Why has Yahweh acted in this way toward this great city?”

⁹Then the other will answer, “Because they abandoned the covenant of Yahweh their God and bowed down to other gods and worshiped them.”

¹⁰Do not weep for the one who is dead or mourn for him; but weep bitterly for him who is about to go away, because he will never return and see his native land again.’

¹¹For Yahweh says this about Jehoahaz son of Josiah king of Judah, who served as king instead of Josiah his father, ‘He has gone from this place and will not come back. ¹²He will die there in the place to where they have exiled him, and he will never again see this land.’

¹³Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, his upper rooms by injustice, who makes his neighbor work for him for nothing, and he does not give him his wages;

¹⁴he says, ‘I will build for myself a large house with spacious upper rooms.’

So he cuts out large windows for it, and he panels it with cedar, and he paints it red. ¹⁵Is this what makes you a good king, that you wanted to have boards of cedar?

Did not your father also eat and drink, yet do justice and righteousness? Then things went well for him.

¹⁶He judged in favor of the poor and needy. It was good then. Is this not what it means to know me?—this is Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁷But there is nothing in your eyes and heart except worry for your unjust profit and for pouring out innocent blood,

for producing oppression and crushing of others.

¹⁸Therefore this is what Yahweh says about Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah:

They will not lament for him, saying,

‘Woe, my brother!’ or ‘Woe, my sister!’

They will not lament for him, saying,

‘Woe, master!’ or ‘Woe, majesty!’

¹⁹He will be buried with a donkey's burial,

dragged away and thrown out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

²⁰Go up Lebanon's mountains and shout. Lift your voice in Bashan.

Shout from the Abarim mountains, for all of your friends will be destroyed.

²¹I spoke to you when you were safe, but you said, 'I will not listen.'

This was your custom since your youth, for you have not listened to my voice.

²²The wind will shepherd away all your shepherds, and your friends will go into captivity.

Then you will certainly be ashamed and humiliated by all of your evil deeds.

²³You who live in 'Lebanon,' who is nestled in cedar buildings,

how you will be pitied when the labor pains come upon you, pain like that of a woman in labor!"

²⁴"As I live—this is Yahweh's declaration—even if you, Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, were the signet on my right hand, I would tear you off. ²⁵For I have given you to the hand of the ones seeking your life and to the hand of those before whom you are afraid, even to the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and the Chaldeans. ²⁶I will throw you and your mother who bore you into another land, a country where you were not born, and there you will die. ²⁷About this land to which they will want to return, they will not come back here.

²⁸Is this a despised and shattered vessel? Is this man Jehoiachin a pot that pleases no one?

Why have they thrown him and his descendants out, and have poured them out into a land that they did not know?

²⁹Land, Land, Land! Hear the word of Yahweh!

³⁰Yahweh says this, 'Write about this man Jehoiachin: He will be childless.

He will not prosper during his days, and no one among his descendants will achieve success or ever again sit on David's throne and rule over Judah.'"

Chapter 23

¹"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture—this is Yahweh's declaration."

²Therefore Yahweh, the God of Israel, says this concerning the shepherds who are shepherding his people, "You have scattered my flock and have driven them away. You have not cared for them. So I am about to punish you for the evil you have done—this is Yahweh's declaration. ³I myself will gather the remnant of my flock from all of the lands where I have driven them, and I will return them to a grazing place, where they will be fruitful and increase.

⁴Then I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them so they will no longer fear or be shattered. None of them will go missing—this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁵See, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will raise up for David a righteous branch.

He will reign as king; he will act wisely and cause justice and righteousness in the land.

⁶In his days Judah will be rescued, and Israel will live in security.

Then this is the name by which he will be called: Yahweh is our righteousness.

⁷Therefore see, days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when they will no longer say, 'As Yahweh lives, who brought the people of Israel up from the land of Egypt.' ⁸Instead they will say, 'As Yahweh lives, who brought up and who led back the descendants of the house of Israel from the northern land and all the lands where they had been driven.' Then they will live in their own land."

⁹Regarding the prophets, my heart is broken in me, and all of my bones tremble. I have become like a drunk man,

like a man whom wine has overpowered, because of Yahweh and his holy words.

10For the land is full of adulterers. Because of these the land is dried up.

The meadows in the wilderness dry up. These prophets' paths are wicked; their power is not used in a right manner.

11"For both the prophets and the priests are polluted. I even found their wickedness in my house!—this is Yahweh's declaration—

12therefore their way will be like a slippery place in the darkness. They will be pushed down. They will fall in it.

For I will send disaster against them in the year of their punishment—this is Yahweh's declaration.

13For I have seen the prophets in Samaria doing what is repulsive:

They prophesied by Baal and led my people Israel astray.

14Among the prophets in Jerusalem I have seen horrible things:

They commit adultery and walk in deceit.

They strengthen the hands of evildoers; no one turns back from his evildoing.

All of them have become like Sodom to me and its inhabitants like Gomorrah!"

15Therefore Yahweh of hosts says this concerning the prophets,

"Look, I am about to make them eat wormwood and drink poisonous water,

for pollution has gone out from the prophets of Jerusalem to all the land."

16Yahweh of hosts says this, "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you.

They have deluded you! They are announcing visions from their own minds, not from Yahweh's mouth.

17They are constantly saying to those who dishonor me, 'Yahweh declares there will be peace for you.'

For everyone walking in the stubbornness of his own heart says, 'Disaster will not come upon you.'

18Yet who has stood in Yahweh's council meeting? Who sees and hears his word?

Who pays attention to his word and listens?

19See, there is a storm coming from Yahweh! His fury is going out, and a tempest is whirling about.

It is whirling around the heads of the wicked.

20Yahweh's wrath will not return until it has carried out and brought into being his heart's intentions.

In the final days, you will understand it.

21I did not send out these prophets. They just appeared.

I did not proclaim anything to them, but they have still prophesied.

22For if they had stood in my council meeting, they would have caused my people to hear my word;

they would have caused them to turn from their wicked words and corrupt practices.

23Am I only a God nearby—this is Yahweh's declaration—and not also a God far away?

²⁴Can anyone hide in a secret place so I cannot see him?—this is Yahweh’s declaration—
and do I not fill the heavens and the earth?—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said, those who were prophesying deceit in my name. They said, ‘I had a dream! I had a dream!’ ²⁶How long will this go on, prophets who prophesy lies from their minds, and who prophesy from the deceit in their hearts? ²⁷They are planning on making my people forget my name with the dreams that they report, each one to his neighbor, just as their ancestors forgot my name in favor of Baal’s name.

²⁸The prophet who has a dream, let him report the dream. But the one to whom I have declared something, let him declare my word truthfully. What does straw have to do with grain?—this is Yahweh’s declaration— ²⁹Is not my word like fire?—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and like a hammer that shatters a rock into pieces? ³⁰So see, I am against the prophets—this is Yahweh’s declaration—anyone who steals words from another person and says they come from me. ³¹See, I am against the prophets—this is Yahweh’s declaration—who use their tongues to prophesy proclamations. ³²See, I am against the prophets who dream deceitfully—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and then proclaim them and in this way mislead my people with their deceit and boasting. I am against them, for I have not sent them out nor given them commands. So they will certainly not help this people—this is Yahweh’s declaration.

³³When these people, or a prophet, or a priest asks you, ‘What is the burden of Yahweh?’ you will say to them, ‘You are the burden, and I will cast you off’—this is Yahweh’s declaration. ³⁴As for the prophets, priests, and people who are saying, ‘This is the burden of Yahweh’ I will punish that man and his house. ³⁵You continue to say, each person to his neighbor and each man to his brother, ‘What did Yahweh answer?’ and ‘What did Yahweh declare?’ ³⁶But you must no longer talk about the ‘burden of Yahweh,’ for the burden is every man’s own word, and you have perverted the words of the living God, Yahweh of hosts, our God. ³⁷This is what you will say to the prophet, ‘What answer did Yahweh give you?’ or ‘What did Yahweh say?’ ³⁸But if you say, ‘The burden of Yahweh,’ this is what Yahweh says:

‘Because you have said these words, ‘The burden of Yahweh,’ when I sent to you, saying, ‘You will not say, “The burden of Yahweh,”’

³⁹therefore, behold, I am about to pick you up and throw you away from me, along with the city that I gave you and your ancestors.

⁴⁰Then I will put everlasting shame and insult on you that will not be forgotten.”

Chapter 24

¹Yahweh showed me something. Behold, two baskets of figs were placed before Yahweh’s temple. (This vision happened after Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, took into exile Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, the officials of Judah, the craftsmen and the metalworkers from Jerusalem and brought them to Babylon.) ²One basket of figs was very good, like first ripe figs, but the other basket of figs was so very bad that they could not be eaten. ³Yahweh said to me, “What do you see, Jeremiah?” I said, “Figs. Figs that are very good and figs that are so very bad they cannot be eaten.”

⁴Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁵“Yahweh, God of Israel, says this: I will look on the exiles of Judah for their benefit, just like these good figs, the exiles whom I have sent out from this place to the land of Chaldea. ⁶I will set my eyes on them for good and restore them to this land. I will build them up, and not tear them down. I will plant them, and not uproot them. ⁷Then I will give them a heart to know me, for I am Yahweh. They will be my people and I will be their God, so they will turn to me with all their heart.

⁸But like the bad figs that are too bad to be eaten—this is what Yahweh says—I will act in this way with Zedekiah, king of Judah, with his officials, and with the rest of Jerusalem who remain in this land or go to stay in the land of Egypt. ⁹I will turn them into a frightening thing, a disaster, in the sight of all the kingdoms on earth, a disgrace and

a subject for proverbs, taunts, and curses in every place where I will have driven them. ¹⁰I will send out sword, famine, and plague against them, until they are destroyed from the land that I gave them and their ancestors.”

Chapter 25

¹This is the word that came to Jeremiah about all the people of Judah. It came in the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah. That was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. ²Jeremiah the prophet proclaimed this to all the people of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ³He said, “For twenty-three years, from the thirteenth year of Josiah son of Amon, king of Judah until this day, Yahweh’s words have been coming to me and I have spoken to you again and again, but you have not listened. ⁴Yahweh sent out all his servants the prophets to you again and again, but you have not listened or paid any attention. ⁵These prophets said, ‘Let each man turn from his wicked way and the corruption of his practices and return to the land that Yahweh gave in ancient times to your ancestors and to you, as a permanent gift. ⁶So do not walk after other gods to worship them or bow down to them, and do not provoke him with the work of your hands so that he does you harm.’ ⁷But you have not listened to me—this is Yahweh’s declaration—so you have provoked me with the work of your hands to do harm to you. ⁸So Yahweh of hosts says this, ‘Because you did not listen to my words, ⁹see, I am about to send out a command to gather all the peoples of the north—this is Yahweh’s declaration—with Nebuchadnezzar my servant, king of Babylon, and bring them against this land and its inhabitants, and against all the nations around you. For I will set them apart for destruction. I will turn them into a horror, an object for hissing, and an unending desolation. ¹⁰I will put an end to the sound of joy and sound of gladness, the sound of the groom and the sound of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. ¹¹Then all of this land will become a desolation and a horror, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon for seventy years.

¹²Then it will happen when seventy years have been completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans—this is Yahweh’s declaration—for their iniquity and make it an unending desolation. ¹³Then I will carry out against that land all the words that I had spoken, and everything written in this book that Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations. ¹⁴For also many other nations and great kings will make slaves out of these nations. I will repay them for their deeds and the works of their hands.”

¹⁵For Yahweh, God of Israel, said this to me, “Take this cup of the wine of fury from my hand and make all the nations to which I am sending you drink it. ¹⁶For they will drink and then stagger about and rant madly before the sword that I am sending out among them.” ¹⁷So I took the cup from Yahweh’s hand, and I made all the nations to which Yahweh had sent me drink it: ¹⁸Jerusalem, the cities of Judah and her kings and officials—to turn them into ruins and something terrifying, and into an object for hissing and cursing, as they are at this present day. ¹⁹Other nations also had to drink it: Pharaoh king of Egypt and his servants; his officials and all his people; ²⁰all people of mixed heritage and all the kings of the land of Uz; all the kings of the land of Philistia—Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod; ²¹Edom and Moab and the people of Ammon. ²²The kings of Tyre and Sidon, the kings of the coasts on the other side of the sea, ²³Dedan, Tema, and Buz with all the ones who cut the hair on the sides of their heads, they also had to drink it. ²⁴All the kings of Arabia and all the kings of people of mixed heritage who live in the wilderness; ²⁵all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes; ²⁶all the kings of the north, the ones close by and the ones far away—everyone with his brother and all the kingdoms of the world that are on the surface of the earth, all of them had to drink the cup from Yahweh’s hand. Finally, the king of Babylon will also drink from that cup.

²⁷Yahweh said to me, “Now you must say to them, ‘Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: Drink and become drunk, then vomit, fall down, and do not rise before the sword that I am sending among you.’ ²⁸Then it will happen that if they refuse to take the cup from your hand to drink, you will say to them, ‘Yahweh of hosts says this: You must certainly drink it. ²⁹For see, I am about to bring disaster on the city that is called by my name, and should you yourselves be free from punishment? You will not be free, for I am calling a sword against all the inhabitants of the land!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.’

30You must prophesy all these words against them, and say to them,

‘Yahweh will roar from the heights

and he will shout with his voice from his holy dwelling,

and he will roar mightily against his fold;

and he will shout, like those who tread the grapes

against all those who live on the earth.

31The sound of battle will resound to the ends of the earth,

for Yahweh brings charges against the nations,

and he brings judgment on all flesh,

and the wicked ones he will put to the sword—this is Yahweh’s declaration.’

32Yahweh of hosts says this,

‘See, disaster is going out from nation to nation,

and a great storm is beginning from the farthest parts of the earth.

33Then those killed by Yahweh will on that day extend from one end of the earth to the other;

they will not be mourned, gathered, or buried.

They will be like dung on the ground.

34Wail, shepherds, and shout for help!

Roll about in the dust,

you leaders of the flock,

for the days of your slaughter have come;

you will be scattered when you fall like fine pottery.

35There is no refuge for the shepherds, there will be no escape for the leaders of the flock.

36Hear the cries of the shepherds and the wails of the leaders of the flock,

for Yahweh is destroying their pastures.

37So the peaceful pastures will be devastated because of Yahweh’s fierce anger.

38Like a young lion, he has left his den, for their land will become a horror because of the oppressor’s anger,

because of his angry wrath.”^[1]

25:38 ^[1], some ancient copies and modern versions have .

Chapter 26

¹In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, this word came from Yahweh, saying, ²‘Yahweh says this: Stand in the courtyard of my house and speak about all the cities of Judah who come to worship at my house.

Proclaim all the words that I have commanded you to say to them. Do not cut short any word! ³It may be that they will listen, that each man will turn from his wicked ways, so I will relent concerning the disaster that I am planning to bring on them because of the wickedness of their practices. ⁴So you must say to them, ‘Yahweh says this: If you do not listen to me so as to walk in my law that I have placed before you— ⁵if you do not listen to the words of my servants the prophets whom I am persistently sending to you—but you have not listened!— ⁶then I will make this house like Shiloh; I will turn this city into a curse in the sight of all the nations on earth.’”

⁷The priests, the prophets, and all the people heard Jeremiah announcing these words in Yahweh’s house. ⁸So it happened that when Jeremiah had finished announcing all that Yahweh commanded him to say to all the people, the priests, prophets, and all the people seized him and said, “You will certainly die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in Yahweh’s name and said that this house will become like Shiloh and this city will become desolate, with no inhabitant?” For all the people had formed a mob against Jeremiah in Yahweh’s house.

¹⁰Then the officials of Judah heard these words and went up from the king’s house to Yahweh’s house. They sat in the gateway at the New Gate of Yahweh’s house. ¹¹The priests and the prophets spoke to the officials and to all the people. They said, “It is right for this man to die, for he prophesied against this city, just as you heard with your own ears!” ¹²So Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people and said, “Yahweh has sent me out to prophesy against this house and this city, to say all the words that you have heard. ¹³So now, improve your ways and your practices, and listen to the voice of Yahweh your God so that he will relent concerning the disaster that he has proclaimed against you. ¹⁴I myself—look at me!—am in your hand. Do to me what is good and right in your eyes. ¹⁵But you must surely know that if you kill me, then you are bringing innocent blood on yourselves and on this city and its inhabitants, for Yahweh has truly sent me to you to proclaim all these words for your ears.”

¹⁶Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and prophets, “It is not right for this man to die, for he has proclaimed things to us in the name of Yahweh our God.” ¹⁷Then men from the elders of the land rose up and spoke to the entire assembly of the people. ¹⁸They said, “Micah the Morashite was prophesying in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah. He spoke to all the people of Judah and said, ‘Yahweh of hosts says this:

Zion will become a plowed field,

Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble,

and the hill of the temple will become a thicket.’ ¹⁹Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all of Judah put him to death? Did he not fear Yahweh and appease the face of Yahweh so that Yahweh would relent concerning the disaster that he proclaimed to them? So will we do greater evil against our own lives?”

²⁰Meanwhile there was another man who prophesied in the name of Yahweh—Uriah son of Shemaiah from Kiriath Jearim—he also prophesied against this city and this land, agreeing with all of Jeremiah’s words. ²¹But when King Jehoiakim and all his soldiers and officials heard his word, then the king tried to put him to death, but Uriah heard and was afraid, so he ran away and went to Egypt. ²²Then King Jehoiakim sent out men to go to Egypt—Elnathan son of Akbor and men to go into Egypt after Uriah. ²³They took Uriah out from Egypt and brought him to King Jehoiakim. Then Jehoiakim killed him with a sword and sent his corpse out to the graves of the ordinary people. ²⁴But the hand of Ahikam son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, so he was not given into the hand of the people to be put to death.

Chapter 27

¹In the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from Yahweh.^[1]

²This is what Yahweh said to me, “Make fetters and a yoke for yourself. Place them on your neck. ³Then send them out to the king of Edom, the king of Moab, the king of the people of Ammon, the king of Tyre, and to the king of Sidon. Send them by the hand of those kings’ ambassadors who have come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah.

⁴Give commands to them for their masters and say, ‘Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: This is what you must

say to your masters, ⁵I myself made the earth by my great strength and my raised arm. I also made the people and animals on the earth, and I give it to anyone who is right in my eyes. ⁶So now, I myself am giving all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, my servant. Also, I am giving the living things in the fields to him to serve him. ⁷For all the nations will serve him, his son, and his grandson until the time for his land comes. Then many nations and great kings will subdue him. ⁸So the nation and the kingdom that does not serve Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, and that does not put its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon—I will punish that nation with the sword, with famine, and with the plague—this is Yahweh's declaration—until I have destroyed it by his hand. ⁹So do not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your seers, your soothsayers, and sorcerers, who have been speaking to you and saying, 'Do not serve the king of Babylon.' ¹⁰For they are prophesying deceit to you in order to send you far away from your lands, for I will drive you away, and you will die. ¹¹But the nation that places its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serves him, I will allow it to rest in its land—this is Yahweh's declaration—and they will cultivate it and make their homes in it."¹¹

¹²So I spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah and gave him this message, "Place your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him and his people, and you will live. ¹³Why will you die—you and your people—by the sword, famine, and plague, just as I have declared about the nation that refuses to serve the king of Babylon? ¹⁴Do not listen to the words of the prophets who speak to you and say, 'Do not serve the king of Babylon,' for they are prophesying lies to you. ¹⁵For I have not sent them out—this is Yahweh's declaration—for they are prophesying deceit in my name so that I will drive you out and you will perish, both you and the prophets who are prophesying to you."

¹⁶I proclaimed this to the priests and all the people and said, "Yahweh says this: Do not listen to the words of your prophets who prophesy to you and say, 'Look! The objects belonging to Yahweh's house are being returned from Babylon now!' They are prophesying lies to you. ¹⁷Do not listen to them. You should serve the king of Babylon and live. Why should this city become a ruin? ¹⁸If they are prophets, and if the word of Yahweh has truly come to them, let them beg Yahweh of hosts not to send to Babylon the objects that remain in his house, the house of the king of Judah, and Jerusalem. ¹⁹Yahweh of hosts says this about the pillars, the large basin known as "The Sea" and its base, and the rest of the objects that remain in this city— ²⁰the objects that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon did not take when he carried Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon with all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem. ²¹Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this about the objects that remain in the house of Yahweh, the house of the king of Judah, and Jerusalem, ²²They will be brought to Babylon, and they will remain there until the day I have set to come for them—this is Yahweh's declaration—then I will bring them up and restore them to this place."

27:1 ^[1], most modern versions have , because the events in this chapter occur during his reign.

Chapter 28

¹It happened in that year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year and the fifth month, Hananiah son of Azzur the prophet, who was from Gibeon, spoke to me in Yahweh's house in front of the priests and all the people. He said, ²Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: I have broken the yoke imposed by the king of Babylon. ³Within two years I will bring back to this place all the objects belonging to Yahweh's house that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took from this place and transported to Babylon. ⁴Then I will bring back to this place Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and all the captives of Judah who were sent to Babylon—this is Yahweh's declaration—for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon."

⁵So Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Hananiah the prophet in front of the priests and to all the people who stood in Yahweh's house. ⁶Jeremiah the prophet said, "May Yahweh do this! May Yahweh confirm the words that you prophesied and bring back to this place the objects belonging to Yahweh's house, and all the captives from Babylon. ⁷However, listen to the word that I am proclaiming in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who existed before me and you from long ago also prophesied about many nations and against

great kingdoms, about war, famine^[1], and plague. ⁹So the prophet who prophesies that there will be peace—if his word comes true, then it will be known that he is indeed a prophet sent out by Yahweh.” ¹⁰But Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from the neck of Jeremiah the prophet and broke it. ¹¹Then Hananiah spoke in front of all the people and said, “Yahweh says this: Just like this, within two years I will break from off the neck of every nation the yoke imposed by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.” Then Jeremiah the prophet went on his way.

¹²After Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from the neck of Jeremiah the prophet, the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ¹³“Go and speak to Hananiah and say, ‘Yahweh says this: You broke a yoke of wood, but I will make instead a yoke of iron.’ ¹⁴For Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: I have placed a yoke of iron on the neck of all of these nations to serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and they will serve him. I have also given him the wild beasts in the fields to rule over.” ¹⁵Next Jeremiah the prophet said to Hananiah the prophet, “Listen Hananiah! Yahweh has not sent you, but you yourself have caused this people to believe in lies. ¹⁶So Yahweh says this: Look, I am about to send you out from the earth. You will die this year, since you proclaimed rebellion against Yahweh.” ¹⁷In the seventh month of that same year, Hananiah the prophet died.

28:8 ^[1] instead of .

Chapter 29

¹These are the words in the scroll that Jeremiah the prophet sent out from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the captives and to the priests, prophets, and all the people that Nebuchadnezzar exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon. ²This was after Jehoiachin the king, the queen mother, and the high officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, and the craftsmen had been sent away from Jerusalem. ³He sent this scroll by the hand of Elasah son of Shapan and Gemariah son of Hilkiah whom Zedekiah, king of Judah, had sent to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. ⁴The scroll said, “Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this to all the captives whom I caused to be exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon, ⁵Build houses and live in them. Plant gardens and eat their fruit. ⁶Take wives and give birth to sons and daughters. Then take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands. Let them give birth to sons and daughters and increase there so you do not become too few. ⁷Seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be exiled, and intercede with me on its behalf since there will be peace for you if it is at peace.’ ⁸For Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, ‘Do not let your prophets who are in your midst and your diviners deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that you yourselves are having. ⁹For they are prophesying deceitfully to you in my name. I did not send them—this is Yahweh’s declaration.’

¹⁰For Yahweh says this, ‘When Babylon has ruled you for seventy years, I will help you and carry out my good word for you to bring you back to this place. ¹¹For I myself know the plans that I have for you—this is Yahweh’s declaration—plans for peace and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call to me, and go and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³For you will seek me and find me, since you will seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴Then I will be found by you—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and I will bring back your fortunes; I will gather you from all the nations and places where I scattered you—this is Yahweh’s declaration—for I will bring you back to the place from where I caused you to be exiled.’

¹⁵Since you said that Yahweh has raised up prophets for us in Babylon, ¹⁶Yahweh says this to the king who sits on the throne of David and to all the people who are staying in that city, your brothers who have not gone out with you into captivity— ¹⁷Yahweh of hosts says this, ‘See, I am about to send sword, famine, and disease on them. For I will make them like rotten figs that are too bad to be eaten. ¹⁸Then I will pursue them with sword, famine, and plague and make them a horrible sight to all the kingdoms on earth—a horror, an object of curses and hissing, and a shameful thing among all the nations where I scattered her. ¹⁹This is because they did not listen to my word—this is Yahweh’s declaration—that I sent out to them through my servants the prophets. I repeatedly sent them, but you would not listen—this is Yahweh’s declaration.’ ²⁰So you yourselves listen to the word of Yahweh, all you exiles whom he has sent out from Jerusalem to Babylon,

²¹Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this about Ahab son of Kolaiah and Zedekiah son of Maaseiah, who prophesy falsely to you in my name: See, I am about to put them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. He will kill them before your eyes. ²²Then a curse will be spoken about these persons by all the captives of Judah in Babylon. The curse will say: May Yahweh make you like Zedekiah and Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in fire. ²³This will happen because of the shameful things they did in Israel when they committed adultery with their neighbor's wives and declared false words in my name, things that I never commanded them to say. For I am the one who knows; I am the witness—this is Yahweh's declaration."

²⁴About Shemaiah the Nehelamite, say this: ²⁵Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: Because you sent out letters in your own name to all the people in Jerusalem, to Zephaniah son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, and said, ²⁶"Yahweh has made you priest instead of Jehoiada the priest, for you to be in charge of Yahweh's house. You are in control of all the people who rave and make themselves into prophets. You should put them in stocks and chains. ²⁷So now, why have you not rebuked Jeremiah of Anathoth, who makes himself into a prophet against you? ²⁸For he has sent to us in Babylon and said, 'It will be a long time. Build houses and live in them, and plant gardens and eat their fruit.'"²⁹Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the hearing of Jeremiah the prophet. ³⁰Then the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ³¹"Send word to all the exiles and say, 'Yahweh says this about Shemaiah the Nehelamite: Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you when I myself did not send him, and he has led you to believe lies, ³²therefore Yahweh says this: Look, I am about to punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite and his descendants. There will not be a man for him to stay among this people. He will not see the good that I will do for my people—this is Yahweh's declaration—for he has proclaimed rebellion against Yahweh.'"

Chapter 30

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, ²"This is what Yahweh, God of Israel, says, 'Write in a scroll all the words that I have spoken to you. ³For look, days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah. I, Yahweh, have said it. For I will bring them back to the land that I gave their ancestors, and they will possess it.'"

⁴These are the words that Yahweh declared concerning Israel and Judah, ⁵"For Yahweh says this,

'We have heard a trembling voice of dread and not of peace.

⁶Ask and see if a man bears a child.

Why do I see every young man with his hand on his loins like a woman bearing a child?

Why have all their faces become pale?

⁷Woe! For that day will be great, with none like it.

It will be a time of anxiety for Jacob, but he will be rescued from it.

⁸For it will be in that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—that I will break the yoke off your neck, and I will shatter your chains, so foreigners will no longer enslave you.

⁹But they will worship Yahweh their God and serve David their king, whom I will make king over them.

¹⁰So you, my servant Jacob, do not fear—this is Yahweh's declaration—and do not be dismayed, Israel.

For see, I am about to bring you back from far away, and your descendants from the land of captivity.

Jacob will return and be at peace; he will be secure, and there will be no more terror.

¹¹For I am with you—this is Yahweh's declaration—to save you. Then I will bring a complete end

to all the nations where I have scattered you. But I will certainly not put an end to you, though I discipline you justly and will certainly not leave you unpunished.'

¹²For Yahweh says this, 'Your injury is incurable; your wound is infected.

¹³There is no one to plead your case; there is no remedy for your wound to heal you.

¹⁴All of your lovers have forgotten you. They will not look for you, for I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy and the discipline of a cruel master because of your many iniquities and your innumerable sins.

¹⁵Why do you call for help for your injury? Your pain is incurable. Because of your many iniquities, your innumerable sins, I have done these things to you.

¹⁶So everyone who consumes you will be consumed, and all of your adversaries will go into captivity. For the ones who have plundered you will become plunder, and I will make all of the ones despoiling you a spoil.

¹⁷For I will bring healing on you; I will heal you of your wounds—this is Yahweh's declaration—I will do this because they called you: Outcast. No one cares for this Zion.'"

¹⁸Yahweh says this, "See, I am about to bring back the fortunes of Jacob's tents and have compassion on his homes.

Then a city will be built on the heap of ruins, and a stronghold will exist again where it used to be.

¹⁹Then a song of praise and a sound of merriment will go out from them, for I will increase them and not diminish them; I will honor them so they will not be humbled.

²⁰Then their people will be like before, and their assembly will be established before me when I punish all the ones who are now tormenting them.

²¹Their leader will come from among them. He will emerge from their midst when I draw him near and when he approaches me. If I do not do this, who would dare come close to me?—this is Yahweh's declaration.

²²Then you will be my people, and I will be your God.

²³See, the tempest of Yahweh, his fury, has gone out. It is a continual tempest. It will whirl on the heads of the wicked people.

²⁴Yahweh's wrath will not return until it has carried out and brought into being his heart's intentions. In the final days, you will understand it."

Chapter 31

¹"At that time—this is Yahweh's declaration—I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they will be my people."

²Yahweh says this,

"The people who have survived the sword have found favor in the wilderness; I will go out to give rest to Israel."

³Yahweh appeared to me in the past and said, "I have loved you, Israel, with everlasting love.

So I have drawn you toward myself with covenant faithfulness.

⁴I will build you up again so you will be built, virgin Israel.

You will again pick up your tambourines and go out with happy dances.

⁵You will plant vineyards again on the mountains of Samaria; the farmers will plant and put the fruit to good use.

⁶For a day will come when the watchmen in the mountains of Ephraim will proclaim,

'Arise, let us go up to Zion to Yahweh our God.'

⁷For Yahweh says this, "Shout for joy over Jacob! Shout in gladness for the chief people of the nations! Let praise be heard. Say, 'Yahweh has rescued his people, the remnant of Israel.'

⁸See, I am about to bring them from the northern lands. I will gather them from the farthest parts of the earth.

The blind and lame will be among them;

pregnant women and those who are about to give birth will be with them.

A great assembly will return here.

⁹They will come weeping; I will lead them as they make their pleas. I will have them journey to streams of water

on a straight road. They will not stumble on it, for I will be a father to Israel,

and Ephraim will be my firstborn."

¹⁰"Hear the word of Yahweh, nations. Report along the coasts in the distance.

You nations must say, 'The one who scattered Israel is gathering her up and keeping her as a shepherd keeps his sheep.'

¹¹For Yahweh has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from the hand that was too strong for him.

¹²Then they will come and rejoice on the heights of Zion. Their faces will shine because of Yahweh's goodness,

over the corn and the new wine, over the oil and the offspring of the flocks and herds.

For their lives will become like a watered garden, and they will never again feel any more sorrow.

¹³Then virgins will rejoice with dancing, and young and old men will be together.

For I will change their mourning into celebration. I will have compassion on them and cause them to rejoice instead of sorrowing.

¹⁴Then I will saturate the lives of the priests in abundance.

My people will fill themselves with my goodness—this is Yahweh's declaration."

¹⁵Yahweh says this: "A voice is heard in Ramah, wailing and bitter weeping.

It is Rachel weeping for her children. She refuses to be comforted over them, for they live no longer."

¹⁶Yahweh says this, "Hold your voice back from weeping and your eyes from tears;

there is a reward for your work—this is Yahweh's declaration—your children will return from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷There is hope for your future—this is Yahweh's declaration—your descendants will return inside their borders.”

¹⁸I have certainly heard Ephraim sorrowing, ‘You punished me, and I have been punished like an untrained calf.

Bring me back and I will be brought back, for you are Yahweh my God.

¹⁹For after I turned back to you, I was sorry; after I was trained, I slapped my thigh.

I was ashamed and humiliated, for I have borne the guilt of my youth.’

²⁰Is not Ephraim my precious child? Is he not my dear, delightful son?

For whenever I speak against him, I certainly still call him to my loving mind. In this way my heart longs for him.

I will certainly have compassion on him—this is Yahweh's declaration.”

²¹Place road signs for yourself. Set up guideposts for yourself. Set your mind on the right path,

the way you should take. Come back, virgin Israel! Come back to these cities of yours.

²²How long will you waver, faithless daughter?

For Yahweh has created something new on earth—a woman surrounds a strong man.

²³Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, says this, “When I bring back the people to their land, they will say this in the land of Judah and its cities, ‘May Yahweh bless you, you righteous place where he lives, you holy mountain.’ ²⁴For Judah and all its cities will live together there, as will farmers and those who set out with flocks. ²⁵For I will cause those who are weary to drink, and I fill up those who are faint.” ²⁶After this I awoke, and I realized that my sleep had been refreshing.

²⁷“Look, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will sow the houses of Israel and Judah with the descendants of man and beast. ²⁸In the past, I kept them under surveillance in order to uproot them and to tear them down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring them harm. But in the coming days, I will watch over them, in order to build them up and to plant them—this is Yahweh's declaration. ²⁹In those days no one will say any longer,

‘Fathers have eaten sour grapes, but the children's teeth are dulled.’ ³⁰For each man will die in his own iniquity; everyone who eats sour grapes, his teeth will be dulled.

³¹Look, the days are coming—

this is Yahweh's declaration—

when I will establish a new covenant

with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

³²It will not be like the covenant

that I established with their fathers in the days

when I took them by their hand

to bring them out from the land of Egypt,

because they broke my covenant,

although I was a husband for them—

this is Yahweh's declaration.

³³This is the covenant

that I will establish with the house of Israel

after these days

—this is Yahweh's declaration.

I will place my law within them

and will write it on their heart,

for I will be their God,

and they will be my people.

³⁴Then each man will no longer teach his neighbor,

or a man teach his brother and say, 'Know Yahweh!'

For all of them will know me,

from the smallest of them to the greatest

—this is Yahweh's declaration—

for I will forgive their iniquity

and will no longer call their sins to mind."

³⁵Yahweh says this,

it is he who makes the sun to shine by day

and fixes the moon and stars to shine by night.

He is the one who sets the sea in motion

so that its waves roar—

Yahweh of hosts is his name.

³⁶"Only if these permanent things vanish from my sight—this is Yahweh's declaration—

will Israel's descendants ever stop from forever being a nation before me."

³⁷Yahweh says this, "Only if the highest heavens can be measured,

and only if the earth's foundation below can be discovered, will I reject all of Israel's descendants

because of all that they have done—this is Yahweh's declaration."

³⁸"Look, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when the city will be rebuilt for me, from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. ³⁹Then the measuring line will go out again farther, to the hill of Gareb and around Goah. ⁴⁰The whole valley of the dead bodies and the ashes, and all the terraced fields going out to the Kidron Valley as far as the corner of the Horse Gate on the east, will be set apart for Yahweh. The city will not be pulled up or overthrown again, forever."

Chapter 32

¹This is the word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. ²At that time, the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was imprisoned in the courtyard of the guard at the house of the king of Judah. ³Zedekiah king of Judah had imprisoned him and said, "Why do you prophesy and say, 'Yahweh says this: Look, I am about to give over this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he will capture it. ⁴Zedekiah king of Judah will not escape from the hand of the Chaldeans, for he will certainly be given into the hand of the king of Babylon. His mouth will speak to the king's mouth, and his eyes will see the king's eyes. ⁵He will take Zedekiah to Babylon, and he will remain there until I have dealt with him—this is Yahweh's declaration. Though you fight against the Chaldeans, you will not succeed.'"

⁶Jeremiah said, "The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁷Look, Hanamel son of Shallum your uncle is coming to you and will say, "Buy my field that is in Anathoth for yourself, for the right to buy it belongs to you.'"⁸ Then, as Yahweh had declared, Hanamel, the son of my uncle, came to me in the courtyard of the guard, and he said to me, "Buy my field that is in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of inheritance is yours, and the right to buy it belongs to you. Buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was Yahweh's word. ⁹So I bought the field in Anathoth from Hanamel, the son of my uncle, and I weighed out for him the silver, seventeen shekels in weight. ¹⁰Then I wrote in a scroll and sealed it, and had witnesses witness it. Then I weighed the silver in the scales. ¹¹Next I took the deed of purchase that was sealed, following the command and the statutes, as well as the unsealed deed. ¹²I gave the sealed scroll to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah in front of Hanamel, the son of my uncle, and the witnesses who had written in the sealed scroll, and in front of all the Judeans who sat in the courtyard of the guard. ¹³So I gave a command to Baruch before them. I said, ¹⁴"Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: Take these documents, both this receipt of purchase that is sealed and the unsealed copies of the deed of purchase, and put them in a clay jar so they will last for a long time. ¹⁵For Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: Houses, fields, and vineyards will again be bought in this land."

¹⁶After I gave the receipt of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah, I prayed to Yahweh and said, ¹⁷"Woe, Lord Yahweh! Look! You alone have made the heavens and the earth by your great strength and with your raised arm. Nothing you say is too difficult for you to do. ¹⁸You show covenant faithfulness to thousands and pour the guilt of men into the laps of their children after them. You are the great and mighty God; Yahweh of hosts is your name. ¹⁹You are great in wisdom and mighty in deeds, for your eyes are open to all the ways of people, to give to each man what his conduct and deeds deserve. ²⁰You did signs and wonders in the land of Egypt. To this present day here in Israel and among all mankind, you have made your name famous. ²¹For you brought your people Israel out from the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand, with a raised arm, and with great terror. ²²Then you gave them this land—which you had sworn to their ancestors to give to them—a land flowing with milk and honey. ²³So they entered and took possession of it. But they did not obey your voice or live in obedience to your law. They did nothing of what you had commanded them to do, so you brought all this disaster on them. ²⁴Look! The siege mounds have reached up to the city to capture it. For because of sword, famine, and plague, the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans who are fighting against it. For what you have said would happen is happening, and see, you are watching. ²⁵Then you yourself said to me, "Purchase a field for yourself with silver and have witnesses witness it, even though this city is being given into the hand of the Chaldeans."

²⁶The word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ²⁷"Look! I am Yahweh, God of all mankind. Is anything too difficult for me to do? ²⁸Therefore Yahweh says this, 'See, I am about to give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans and Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. He will capture it. ²⁹The Chaldeans who are fighting against this city will come and set fire to this city and burn it, along with the houses on the roofs of which the people worshiped Baal and poured out drink offerings to other gods in order to provoke me. ³⁰For the people of Israel and Judah have certainly been people who have been doing evil before my eyes since their youth. The people of Israel have certainly offended me with the practices of their hands—this is Yahweh's declaration. ³¹Yahweh declares that this city has been a provocation of my wrath and fury since the day that they built it. It has been that right up to this

present day. So I will remove it from before my face ³²because of all the wickedness of the people of Israel and Judah, the things that they have done to provoke me—they, their kings, princes, priests, prophets, and every person in Judah and inhabitant of Jerusalem. ³³They turned their backs to me instead of their faces, though I had eagerly taught them. I tried to teach them, but not one of them listened in order to receive correction. ³⁴They set up their abominable idols in the house that is called by my name, to defile it. ³⁵They built high places for Baal in the Valley of Ben Hinnom in order to put their sons and daughters in the fire for Molech. I did not command them. It never entered my mind that they should do this detestable thing and so cause Judah to sin.'

³⁶So now therefore, I, Yahweh, the God of Israel, say this concerning this city, the city about which you are saying, 'It is given into the hand of the king of Babylon by sword, famine, and plague.' ³⁷See, I am about to gather them from every land where I had driven them in my wrath, fury, and great anger. I am about to bring them back to this place and enable them to live in security. ³⁸Then they will be my people, and I will be their God. ³⁹I will give them one heart and one way to honor me every day so it will be good for them and their descendants after them. ⁴⁰Then I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. I will set honor for me in their hearts, so that they will never turn away from me. ⁴¹Then I will rejoice in doing good to them. I will faithfully plant them in this land with all my heart and all my life.

⁴²For Yahweh says this, 'Just as I have brought all this great disaster on this people, so I will bring on them all the good things that I have said I would do for them. ⁴³Then fields will be bought in this land, about which you are saying, "This is a ruined land, which has neither man nor beast. It has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans."

⁴⁴They will buy fields with silver and write in sealed scrolls. They will assemble witnesses in the land of Benjamin, all around Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, in the cities in the hill country and in the lowlands, and in the cities of the Negev. For I will bring back their fortunes—this is Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 33

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah a second time, while he was still shut within the courtyard of the guard, saying, ²'Yahweh the maker, says this—Yahweh, who forms in order to establish—Yahweh is his name, ³Call to me, and I will answer you. I will demonstrate great things to you, mysteries that you do not understand.' ⁴For Yahweh, God of Israel, says this concerning the houses in this city and the houses of the kings of Judah that are torn down because of the siege ramps and the sword, ⁵The Chaldeans are coming to fight and to fill the houses with corpses of people whom I will kill in my wrath and fury, when I hide my face from this city because of all their wickedness. ⁶But see, I am about to bring healing and a cure, for I will heal them and will bring to them abundance, peace, and faithfulness. ⁷For I will bring back the fortunes of Judah and Israel; I will build them up as in the beginning. ⁸Then I will purify them from all the iniquity that they have committed against me. I will pardon all the iniquities that they have done against me, and all the ways that they rebelled against me. ⁹For this city will become for me an object of joy, a song of praise and honor for all the nations of the earth who will hear of all the good things that I am going to do for it. Then they will fear and tremble because of all the good things and the peace that I will give to it.'

¹⁰Yahweh says this, 'In this place about which you are now saying, "It is desolate, a place with neither man nor beast," in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate having neither man nor beast, there will be heard again ¹¹the sound of joy and the sound of gladness, the sound of the groom and the sound of the bride, the sound of those who say, while they bring thank offerings to the house of Yahweh, "Give thanks to Yahweh of hosts, for Yahweh is good, and his unfailing love lasts forever!" For I will restore the fortunes of the land to what they were before,' says Yahweh.

¹²Yahweh of hosts says this: 'In this desolate place, where now there is neither man nor beast—in all its cities there will again be pastures where shepherds can rest their flocks. ¹³In the cities in the hill country, the lowlands, and the Negev, in the land of Benjamin and all around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, the flocks will again pass under the hands of the ones counting them,' says Yahweh.

¹⁴Look! Days are coming—this is Yahweh’s declaration—when I will do what I have promised for the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and in that time I will make a righteous branch to grow for David, and he will carry out justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in security, for this is what she will be called, “Yahweh is our righteousness.” ¹⁷For Yahweh says this: ‘A man from David’s line will never be lacking to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, ¹⁸nor will a man from the Levitical priests be lacking before me to raise burnt offerings, to burn food offerings, and to perform grain offerings all the time.’”

¹⁹The word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ²⁰“Yahweh says this: ‘If you can break my covenant with day and night so that there will no longer be day or night at their proper times, ²¹then you will be able to break my covenant with David my servant, so that he will no longer have a son to sit on his throne, and my covenant with the Levitical priests, my servants. ²²As the hosts of heaven cannot be counted, and as the sand of the seashores cannot be measured, so I will increase the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who serve before me.’”

²³The word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ²⁴“Have you not considered what this people has declared when they said, ‘The two families that Yahweh chose, now he has rejected them? In this way they despise my people, saying that they are no longer a nation in their sight. ²⁵I, Yahweh, say this, ‘If I have not established the covenant of day and night, and if I have not fixed the laws of heaven and earth, ²⁶then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant, and not bring from them a person to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and show mercy to them.’”

Chapter 34

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all of his army, together with all the kingdoms of the earth, the domains under his power, and all their people were waging war against Jerusalem and all of her cities, saying: ²“Yahweh, God of Israel, says this: Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah and say to him, ‘Yahweh says this: Look, I am about to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon. He will burn it. ³You will not escape from his hand, for you will certainly be seized and given into his hand. Your eyes will look at the eyes of the king of Babylon; he will speak directly to you as you go to Babylon.’ ⁴Listen to the word of Yahweh, Zedekiah king of Judah! Yahweh says this concerning you, ‘You will not die by the sword. ⁵You will die in peace. As in the funeral burning of your ancestors, the kings who were before you, they will burn your body. They will say, “Woe, master!” They will lament for you. Now I have spoken—this is Yahweh’s declaration.’”

⁶So Jeremiah the prophet proclaimed to Zedekiah king of Judah all these words in Jerusalem. ⁷The army of the king of Babylon made war against Jerusalem and all the remaining cities of Judah: Lachish and Azekah. These cities of Judah remained as fortified cities.

⁸The word came to Jeremiah from Yahweh after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people in Jerusalem, to proclaim freedom to them, ⁹that each man must free his Hebrew slaves, both male and female, so one was to make a slave of a Jew, who was his brother. ¹⁰So all the leaders and people entered into the covenant that each person would free his male and female slaves so that they would not be enslaved any longer. They obeyed and set them free. ¹¹But after this they changed their minds. They brought back the slaves whom they had freed. They forced them to become slaves again.

¹²So the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ¹³“Yahweh, God of Israel, says this, ‘I myself made a covenant with your ancestors on the day that I brought them out from the land of Egypt, out from the house of slavery. That was when I said, ¹⁴“At the end of every seven years, each man must send away his brother, his fellow Hebrew who had sold himself to you and served you for six years. Send him away in freedom.” But your ancestors did not listen to me or incline their ears to me. ¹⁵Now you yourselves repented and began to do what is right in my eyes. You proclaimed freedom, each man to his neighbor, and you made a covenant before me in the house that is called by my name. ¹⁶But then you turned and polluted my name; you caused each man to bring back his male and female slaves, the ones whom you had sent out to go where they wished. You forced them to become your slaves again.’”

¹⁷Therefore Yahweh says this, 'You yourselves have not listened to me. You should have proclaimed freedom, every one of you, to your brothers and fellow Israelites. So look! I am about to proclaim freedom to you—this is Yahweh's declaration—freedom for the sword, the plague, and famine, for I am going to make you a horrible thing in the sight of every kingdom on earth. ¹⁸Then I will deal with the people who have broken my covenant, who did not keep the words of the covenant that they established before me when they cut a bull in two and walked between its parts, ¹⁹and then the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the eunuchs and the priests, and all the people of the land walked between the parts of the bull. ²⁰I will give them into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those who are seeking their lives. Their bodies will be food for the birds of the skies and the beasts on the earth. ²¹So I will give Zedekiah king of Judah and his leaders into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those who are seeking their life, and into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon that has risen up against you. ²²Look, I am about to give a command—this is Yahweh's declaration—and will bring them back to this city to wage war against it and take it, and to burn it. For I will turn the cities of Judah into ruined places in which there will be no inhabitants.'"

Chapter 35

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh in the days of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, saying, ²"Go to the family of the Rekabites and speak with them. Then bring them to my house, into one of the rooms there, and give them wine to drink." ³So I took Jaazaniah son of Jeremiah son of Habazziniah and his brothers, all his sons, and all the family of the Rekabites. ⁴I took them to the house of Yahweh, into the rooms of the sons of Hanan son of Igdaliah, the man of God. These rooms were beside the room of the leaders, which was above the room of Maaseiah son of Shallum, the gatekeeper. ⁵Then I placed bowls and cups full of wine in front of the Rekabites and said to them, "Drink some wine." ⁶But they said, "We will not drink any wine, for our ancestor, Jonadab son of Rekab, commanded us, 'Do not drink any wine, neither you nor your descendants, forever. ⁷Also, do not build any houses, sow any seeds, or plant any vineyards; this is not for you. For you must live in tents all your days, so that you might live many days in the land where you are staying as foreigners.' ⁸We have obeyed the voice of Jonadab son of Rekab, our ancestor, in all that he commanded us, to never drink wine all of our days, we, our wives, our sons, and our daughters. ⁹We will never build houses to live in, and there will be no vineyard, field, or seed in our possession. ¹⁰We have lived in tents and we have obeyed and done all that Jonadab our ancestor commanded us. ¹¹But when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon attacked the land, we said, 'Come, we must go to Jerusalem to escape from the Chaldean and Aramean armies.' So we are living in Jerusalem."

¹²Then the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, ¹³"Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, 'Go and say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, "Will you not receive correction and listen to my words? —this is Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁴The words of Jonadab son of Rekab that he gave to his sons as a command, not to drink any wine, have been observed to this very day. They have obeyed their ancestor's command. But as for me, I myself have been making persistent proclamations to you, but you do not listen to me. ¹⁵I sent out to you all my servants, the prophets. I was persistent in sending them to say, 'Let each person turn from his wicked way and do good deeds; let no one walk any longer after other gods and worship them. Instead, come back to the land that I gave to you and your ancestors.' Yet you will not listen to me or pay attention to me. ¹⁶For the descendants of Jonadab son of Rekab have observed the commands of their ancestor that he gave them, but this people refuses to listen to me.'" ¹⁷So Yahweh, God of hosts and God of Israel, says this, 'Look, I am bringing upon Judah and on everyone living in Jerusalem, all the disasters I pronounced against them because I spoke to them, but they did not listen; I called to them, but they did not answer.'"

¹⁸Jeremiah said to the family of the Rekabites, "Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: You have listened to the commands of Jonadab your ancestor and have kept them all—you have obeyed all that he commanded you to do—¹⁹so Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, 'There will always be someone descended from Jonadab son of Rekab to serve me.'"

Chapter 36

¹It came about in the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, and he said, ²“Take a scroll for yourself and write on it all the words that I have told you concerning Israel and Judah, and every nation. Do this for everything I have told from the days of Josiah until this very day. ³Perhaps the people of Judah will listen to all the disasters that I intend to bring on them. Perhaps everyone will turn away from his wicked way, so I can forgive their iniquity and their sin.”

⁴Then Jeremiah called Baruch son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote in a scroll, at Jeremiah’s dictation, all the words of Yahweh spoken to him. ⁵Next Jeremiah gave a command to Baruch. He said, “I am in prison and cannot go to Yahweh’s house. ⁶So you must go and read from the scroll that you wrote at my dictation. On the day of the fast, you must read Yahweh’s words in the hearing of the people in his house, and also in the hearing of all of Judah who have come from their cities. Proclaim these words to them. ⁷Perhaps their pleas for mercy will come before Yahweh. Perhaps each person will turn from his wicked way, since the wrath and fury that Yahweh has proclaimed against this people are severe.” ⁸So Baruch son of Neriah did everything that Jeremiah the prophet had commanded him to do. He read aloud the words of Yahweh in the house of Yahweh.

⁹It came about in the fifth year and ninth month of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah, that all the people in Jerusalem and the people who came to Jerusalem from the cities of Judah proclaimed a fast before Yahweh.

¹⁰Baruch read aloud Jeremiah’s words in the house of Yahweh, from the room of Gemariah son of Shaphan the scribe, in the upper courtyard, by the gate of the entrance to the house of Yahweh. He did this in the hearing of all the people.

¹¹Now Micaiah son of Gemariah son of Shaphan heard all of Yahweh’s words in the scroll. ¹²He went down to the house of the king, to the secretary’s room. Look, all the officials were sitting there: Elishama the secretary, Delaiah son of Shemaiah, Elnathan son of Akbor, Gemariah son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah son of Hananiah, and all the officials. ¹³Then Micaiah reported to them all the words that he had heard that Baruch read aloud in the hearing of the people. ¹⁴So all the officials sent Jehudi son of Nethaniah son of Shelemiah son of Cushi, to Baruch. Jehudi said to Baruch, “Take the scroll in your hand, the scroll from which you were reading in the hearing of the people, and come.” So Baruch son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand and went to the officials. ¹⁵Then they said to him, “Sit down and read this in our hearing.” So Baruch read the scroll. ¹⁶It happened that when they heard all these words, each man turned in fear to the one next to him and said to Baruch, “We must certainly report all of these words to the king.” ¹⁷Then they asked Baruch, “Tell us, how did you come to write all these words at Jeremiah’s dictation?” ¹⁸Baruch said to them, “He dictated all these words to me, and I wrote them in ink on this scroll.” ¹⁹Then the officials said to Baruch, “Go, hide yourself, and Jeremiah, too. Do not let anyone know where you are.”

²⁰So they put the scroll in the room of Elishama the secretary, and they went to the king in the courtyard and they reported everything in the hearing of the king. ²¹Then the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll. Jehudi took it from the room of Elishama the secretary. Then he read it in the hearing of the king and all the officials who were standing beside him. ²²Now the king was staying in the winter house in the ninth month, and a brazier was burning in front of him. ²³It happened that as Jehudi read three or four columns, the king would cut it off with a knife and throw it into the fire in the brazier until all of the scroll was destroyed. ²⁴But neither the king nor any of his servants who heard all these words were frightened, nor did they tear their clothes. ²⁵Elnathan, Delaiah, and Gemariah had even urged the king not to burn the scroll, but he did not listen to them. ²⁶Then the king commanded Jerahmeel, a relative, Seraiah son of Azriel, and Shelemiah son of Abdeel to arrest Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet, but Yahweh had hidden them.

²⁷Then the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah after the king had burned the scroll and the words that Baruch had written at Jeremiah’s dictation, saying, ²⁸“Go back, take another scroll for yourself, and write in it all the words that were on the original scroll, the one that Jehoiakim king of Judah burned. ²⁹Then you must say this to Jehoiakim king of Judah: ‘You burned that scroll, saying, “Why have you written on it, ‘The king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land, for he will destroy both man and beast in it?’”’” ³⁰Therefore Yahweh says this concerning you,

Jehoiakim king of Judah: "No descendant of yours will ever sit on the throne of David. As for you, your corpse will be thrown out into the heat of day and the frost of night." ³¹For I will punish you, your descendants, and your servants for the iniquity of you all. I will bring on you, on all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and on every person in Judah all the disasters with which I have threatened you with, but to which you paid no attention." ³²So Jeremiah took another scroll and gave it to Baruch son of Neriah the scribe. Baruch wrote on it at Jeremiah's dictation all the words that had been in the scroll burned by Jehoiakim king of Judah. Furthermore, many other similar words were added to this scroll.

Chapter 37

¹Now Zedekiah son of Josiah reigned as king instead of Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim. Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had made Zedekiah king over the land of Judah. ²But Zedekiah, his servants, and the people of the land did not listen to the words of Yahweh that he proclaimed by the hand of Jeremiah the prophet.

³So King Zedekiah, Jehukal son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah son of Maaseiah the priest sent a message to Jeremiah the prophet. They said, "Pray on our behalf to Yahweh our God." ⁴Now Jeremiah was coming and going among the people, for he had not yet been put in prison. ⁵Pharaoh's army came out from Egypt, and the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard the news about them and left Jerusalem.

⁶Then the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah the prophet, saying, ⁷"Yahweh, God of Israel, says this: This is what you will say to the king of Judah, because he has sent you to seek advice from me, 'See, Pharaoh's army, which came to help you, is about to go back to Egypt, its own land. ⁸The Chaldeans will return. They will fight against this city, capture it, and burn it.' ⁹Yahweh says this: Do not deceive yourselves by saying, 'Surely the Chaldeans are leaving us,' for they will not leave. ¹⁰Even if you had defeated the entire Chaldean army that is fighting you so that only wounded men were left in their tents, they would get up and burn this city."

¹¹So it was when the Chaldean army had left Jerusalem as Pharaoh's army was coming, ¹²then Jeremiah went out from Jerusalem to go to the land of Benjamin. He wanted to take possession of a tract of land there among his people. ¹³As he was in the Benjamin Gate, a chief guard was there. His name was Irijah son of Shelemiah son of Hananiah. He grabbed hold of Jeremiah the prophet and said, "You are deserting to the Chaldeans." ¹⁴But Jeremiah said, "That is not true. I am not deserting to the Chaldeans." But Irijah did not listen to him. He took Jeremiah and brought him to the officials. ¹⁵The officials were angry with Jeremiah. They beat him and put him in prison, which had been the house of Jonathan the scribe, for they had turned it into a prison.

¹⁶So Jeremiah was put into an underground cell, where he stayed for many days. ¹⁷Then King Zedekiah sent someone who brought him to the palace. In his house, the king asked him privately, "Is there any word from Yahweh?" Jeremiah answered, "There is a word: You will be given into the hand of the king of Babylon." ¹⁸Then Jeremiah said to King Zedekiah, "How have I sinned against you, your servants, or this people so that you have placed me in prison? ¹⁹Where are your prophets, the ones who prophesied for you and said the king of Babylon will not come against you or against this land? ²⁰But now listen, my master the king! Let my pleas come before you. Do not return me to the house of Jonathan the scribe, or I will die there." ²¹So King Zedekiah gave an order. His servants confined Jeremiah in the courtyard of the guard. A loaf of bread was given him every day from the street of the bakers, until all the bread in the city was gone. So Jeremiah stayed in the courtyard of the guard.

Chapter 38

¹Shephatiah son of Mattan, Gedaliah son of Pashhur, Jehukal son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur son of Malkijah heard the words that Jeremiah was declaring to all the people. He was saying, ²"Yahweh says this: Anyone staying in this city will be killed by sword, famine, and plague. But anyone who goes out to the Chaldeans will survive. He will escape with his own life, and live. ³Yahweh says this: This city will be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon, and he will capture it." ⁴So the officials said to the king, "Let this man die, for in this way he is weakening

the hands of the fighting men who remain in this city, and the hands of all the people. He is proclaiming these words, for this man is not working for safety for this people, but disaster." ⁵So King Zedekiah said, "Look, he is in your hand since there is no king able to resist you." ⁶Then they took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern of Malkijah, son of the king. The cistern was in the courtyard of the guard. They lowered Jeremiah down on ropes. There was no water in the cistern, but it was muddy, and he sank down into the mud.

⁷Now Ebed-Melek the Cushite was one of the eunuchs in the king's house. He heard that they had placed Jeremiah in the cistern. Now the king was sitting at the Benjamin Gate. ⁸So Ebed-Melek went from the king's house and spoke with the king. He said, ⁹"My master the king, these men have done evil with the way they have treated Jeremiah the prophet. They threw him into a cistern for him to die in it from hunger, since there is no more food in the city." ¹⁰Then the king gave a command to Ebed-Melek the Cushite. He said, "Take command of thirty men from here and take Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies." ¹¹So Ebed-Melek took command of those men and went to the king's house, to a storeroom for clothing under the house. From there he took rags and worn-out clothing and then let them down by ropes to Jeremiah in the cistern. ¹²Ebed-Melek the Cushite said to Jeremiah, "Put the rags and worn-out clothing under your arms and on top of the ropes." So Jeremiah did so. ¹³Then they pulled Jeremiah by the ropes. In this way they brought him up from the cistern. So Jeremiah stayed in the courtyard of the guard.

¹⁴Then King Zedekiah sent word and brought Jeremiah the prophet to himself, to the third entrance in Yahweh's house. The king said to Jeremiah, "I want to ask you something. Do not keep the answer from me." ¹⁵Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "If I answer you, will you not certainly kill me? But if I give you advice, you will not listen to me." ¹⁶But King Zedekiah swore to Jeremiah in private and said, "As Yahweh lives, the one who made us, I will not kill you or give you into the hand of those men who are seeking your life."

¹⁷So Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "Yahweh, God of hosts, God of Israel, says this: If you indeed go out to the officials of the king of Babylon then you will live, and this city will not be burned. You and your family will live. ¹⁸But if you do not go out to the officials of the king of Babylon, then this city will be given into the hand of the Chaldeans. They will burn it, and you will not escape from their hand." ¹⁹King Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "But I am afraid of the people of Judah who have deserted to the Chaldeans, because I might be given over into their hand, for them to treat me badly." ²⁰Jeremiah said, "They will not give you over to them. Obey the message from Yahweh that I am telling you, so that things will go well for you, and so that you will live. ²¹But if you refuse to go out, this is what Yahweh has shown me. ²²Look! All the women who are left in your house, king of Judah, will be brought out to the officials of the king of Babylon. These women will say to you,

'You have been deceived by your friends; they have ruined you.

Your feet are now sunk into the mud, and your friends will run away.'

²³For all of your wives and children will be brought out to the Chaldeans, and you yourself will not escape from their hand. You will be captured by the hand of the king of Babylon, and this city will be burned."

²⁴Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "Do not inform anyone about these words, so that you do not die. ²⁵If the officials hear that I have talked with you, and if they come and say to you, 'Tell us what you said to the king and do not hide it from us, or we will kill you,' ²⁶then you must say to them, 'I made a humble plea before the king that he would not return me to the house of Jonathan to die there.'" ²⁷Then all the officials came to Jeremiah and questioned him, so he answered them as the king had instructed him. So they stopped talking with him, because they had not heard the conversation between Jeremiah and the king. ²⁸So Jeremiah remained in the courtyard of the guard until the day Jerusalem was captured.

Chapter 39

¹In the ninth year and tenth month of Zedekiah king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem and besieged it. ²In the eleventh year and fourth month of Zedekiah, on the ninth day of the month, the city was broken into. ³Then all the officials of the king of Babylon came and sat in the middle gate: Nebo-Sarsekim, Samgar Nebo, and Sarsechim, an important official. Nebo-Sarsekim was a high official and all the rest were the officials of the king of Babylon.

⁴It happened that when Zedekiah, king of Judah, and all his fighting men saw them, they fled. They went out at night from the city by the king's garden path, through the gate between the two walls. The king went out in the direction of the Arabah. ⁵But the army of Chaldeans pursued them and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of the Jordan River valley near Jericho. Then they captured him and brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, at Riblah in the land of Hamath, where Nebuchadnezzar passed sentence on him. ⁶The king of Babylon slaughtered Zedekiah's sons before his own eyes at Riblah. He also slaughtered all the noblemen of Judah. ⁷Then he put out Zedekiah's eyes and bound him in bronze chains in order to take him to Babylon. ⁸Then the Chaldeans burned the king's house and the people's houses. They also tore down the walls of Jerusalem. ⁹Nebuzaradan, the commander of the king's bodyguards, took into exile the rest of the people who were left in the city. This included the people who had deserted to the Chaldeans and the rest of the people who were left in the city. ¹⁰But Nebuzaradan the commander of the king's bodyguards allowed the poorest people who had nothing for themselves to remain in the land of Judah. He gave them vineyards and fields on that same day.

¹¹Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had given an order about Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the commander of the king's bodyguards. He had said, ¹²"Take him and care for him. Do not harm him. Do for him anything he tells you." ¹³So Nebuzaradan the commander of the king's bodyguards, Nebushazban the high eunuch, Nergal-Sharezer the high official, and all the most important officials of the king of Babylon sent men out. ¹⁴Their men took Jeremiah from the courtyard of the guard and entrusted him to Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan, to take him home, so Jeremiah stayed among the people.

¹⁵Now the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah while he was under arrest in the courtyard of the guard, saying, ¹⁶"Speak to Ebed-Melek the Cushite and say, 'Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: See, I am about to carry out my words against this city for disaster and not for good. For they will all come true before you on that day. ¹⁷But I will rescue you on that day—this is Yahweh's declaration—and you will not be given into the hand of the men whom you fear. ¹⁸For I will certainly rescue you. You will not fall by the sword. You will escape with your life, since you trust in me—this was Yahweh's declaration.'"

Chapter 40

¹The word came to Jeremiah from Yahweh after Nebuzaradan the commander of the king's bodyguards had released him at Ramah. He had found Jeremiah bound with chains among all the captives of Jerusalem and Judah who were being carried into exile to Babylon. ²The chief guard took Jeremiah and said to him, "Yahweh your God decreed this disaster for this place. ³So Yahweh brought it about. He did just as he had decreed, since you people sinned against him and did not obey his voice. That is why this thing has happened to you people. ⁴But now look! I have released you today from the chains that were on your hands. If it is good in your eyes to come with me to Babylon, come, and I will take care of you. But if it is not good in your eyes to come with me to Babylon, then do not do so. Look at all the land before you. Go where it is good and right in your eyes to go." ⁵When Jeremiah did not reply, Nebuzaradan said, "Go to Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon has put in charge of the cities of Judah. Stay with him among the people or go wherever it is good in your eyes to go." The commander of the king's bodyguards gave him food and a gift, and then sent him away. ⁶So Jeremiah went to Gedaliah son of Ahikam, at Mizpah. He stayed with him among the people who were left behind in the land.

⁷Now some commanders of Judean soldiers who were still in the countryside—they and their men—heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah son of Ahikam governor over the land. They also heard that he had put him in charge of the men, women, and children who were the poorest people in the land, those who had not been exiled to Babylon. ⁸So they went to Gedaliah at Mizpah. These men were Ishmael son of Nethaniah; Johanan and Jonathan, sons of Kareah; Seraiah son of Tanhumeth; the sons of Ephai the Netophathite; and Jaazaniah son of the Maakathite—they and their men. ⁹Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan took an oath to them and to their men and said to them, “Do not be afraid to serve the Chaldean officials. Live in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well with you. ¹⁰Look, I am living in Mizpah to meet with the Chaldeans who came to us. So harvest wine, summer fruit, and oil and store them in your containers. Live in the cities that you have occupied.” ¹¹Then all the Judeans in Moab, among the people of Ammon, and in Edom, and in every land heard that the king of Babylon had allowed a remnant of Judah to stay, that he had appointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan over them. ¹²So all the Judeans returned from every place where they had been scattered. They came back to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah at Mizpah. They harvested wine and summer fruit in great abundance.

¹³Johanan son of Kareah and all the army commanders in the countryside came to Gedaliah at Mizpah. ¹⁴They said to him, “Do you realize that Baalis king of the people of Ammon sent Ishmael son of Nethaniah to murder you?” But Gedaliah son of Ahikam did not believe them. ¹⁵So Johanan son of Kareah spoke privately to Gedaliah in Mizpah and said, “Allow me to go kill Ishmael son of Nethaniah. No one will suspect me. Why should he kill you? Why allow all of Judah that has been gathered to you to be scattered and the remnant of Judah destroyed?” ¹⁶But Gedaliah son of Ahikam said to Johanan son of Kareah, “Do not do this thing, for you are telling lies about Ishmael.”

Chapter 41

¹But it happened that in the seventh month Ishmael son of Nethaniah son of Elishama, from the royal family, and some officers of the king, came—ten men were with him—to Gedaliah son of Ahikam, at Mizpah. They ate food together there in Mizpah. ²But Ishmael son of Nethaniah, and the ten men who were with him rose up and attacked Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan, with the sword. Ishmael killed Gedaliah, whom the king of Babylon had put in charge of the land. ³Then Ishmael killed all the Judeans who were with Gedaliah in Mizpah and the Chaldean fighting men found there.

⁴Then it was the second day after the killing of Gedaliah, but no one knew. ⁵Some men came from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria—eighty men who had shaved their beard, torn their clothes, and cut themselves—with food offerings and frankincense in their hands to go to Yahweh’s house. ⁶So Ishmael son of Nethaniah went out from Mizpah to meet them as they went, walking and weeping. Then it happened that as he encountered them, he said to them, “Come to Gedaliah son of Ahikam!” ⁷It came about that when they came into the city, Ishmael son of Nethaniah slaughtered them and threw them into a pit, he and the men who were with him. ⁸But there were ten men among them who said to Ishmael, “Do not kill us, for there are provisions of ours in a field: Wheat and barley, oil and honey.” So he did not kill them with their other companions. ⁹The cistern where Ishmael threw all the dead bodies that he had killed, was a large cistern that King Asa dug to make a defense against King Baasha of Israel. Ishmael son of Nethaniah filled it in with the dead. ¹⁰Next Ishmael captured all the other people who were in Mizpah, the king’s daughters and all the people who were left in Mizpah whom Nebuzaradan the chief guard had assigned to Gedaliah son of Ahikam. So Ishmael son of Nethaniah captured them and went to cross over to the people of Ammon.

¹¹But Johanan son of Kareah and all the army commanders with him heard of all the harm that Ishmael son of Nethaniah had done. ¹²So they took all their men and went to fight against Ishmael son of Nethaniah. They found him at the great pool of Gibeon. ¹³Then it happened that when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan son of Kareah and all the army commanders who were with him, they were very happy. ¹⁴So all the people whom Ishmael had captured at Mizpah turned around and went to Johanan son of Kareah.

¹⁵But Ishmael son of Nethaniah fled with eight men from Johanan. He went to the people of Ammon. ¹⁶Johanan son of Kareah and all the army commanders with him took from Mizpah all the people who had been rescued from

Ishmael son of Nethaniah. This was after Ishmael had killed Gedaliah son of Ahikam. Johanan and his companions took the strong men, the fighting men, the women and children, and the eunuchs who had been rescued at Gibeon. ¹⁷Then they went and stayed for a while in Geruth Kimham, which is near Bethlehem. They were going to go to Egypt ¹⁸because of the Chaldeans. They were afraid of them since Ishmael son of Nethaniah had killed Gedaliah son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon had put in charge of the land.

Chapter 42

¹Then all the army commanders and Johanan son of Kareah, Jezaniah son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least to the greatest approached Jeremiah the prophet. ²They said to him, "Let our pleas come before you. Pray for us to Yahweh your God for these people who remain since we are so few in number, as you see. ³Ask Yahweh your God to tell us the way we should go and what we should do." ⁴So Jeremiah the prophet said to them, "I have heard you. Look, I will pray to Yahweh your God as you have requested. Whatever Yahweh answers, I will tell you. I will keep nothing back from you." ⁵They said to Jeremiah, "May Yahweh be a true and faithful witness against us, if we do not do everything that Yahweh your God tells us to do. ⁶Whether it is good or if it is bad, we will obey the voice of Yahweh our God, to whom we are sending you, so that it may be well with us when we obey the voice of Yahweh our God."

⁷At the end of ten days, the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah. ⁸So Jeremiah called to Johanan son of Kareah and all the army commanders with him, and to all the people from the least to the greatest. ⁹Then he said to them, "This is what Yahweh, the God of Israel—to whom you sent me so I might lay your pleas before him—says, ¹⁰If you go back and live in this land, then I will build you and not tear you down; I will plant you and not pull you up, for I will turn back the disaster that I have brought on you. ¹¹Do not fear the king of Babylon, whom you are fearing. Do not fear him—this is Yahweh's declaration—since I am with you to save you and rescue you from his hand. ¹²For I will give you mercy. I will have compassion on you, and I will bring you back to your land. ¹³But suppose that you say, "We will not stay in this land"—if you do not listen to my voice, the voice of Yahweh your God. ¹⁴Suppose that you say, "No! We will go to the land of Egypt, where we will not see any war, where we will not hear the sound of the trumpet, and we will not go hungry for food. We will live there." ¹⁵Now listen to this word of Yahweh, you remnant of Judah. Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, 'If you actually set out to go to Egypt, to go and live there, ¹⁶then the sword that you fear will overtake you there in the land of Egypt. The famine that you are worrying about will pursue you to Egypt, and you will die there. ¹⁷So it will happen that all the men who set out to go to Egypt to live there will die by sword, famine, or plague. There will be no survivor of them, no one to escape the disaster that I will bring on them.

¹⁸For Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: Just as my wrath and my fury were poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, in the same way my fury will be poured out on you if you go to Egypt. You will become an object of cursing and a horror, an object for speaking curses, and something dishonorable, and you will not see this place again." ¹⁹Then Jeremiah said, "Yahweh has spoken concerning you—the remnant of Judah. Do not go to Egypt! You certainly know that I have been a witness against you today. ²⁰For you fatally deceived yourselves when you sent me to Yahweh your God and said, 'Pray to Yahweh our God for us. Everything that Yahweh our God says, tell us, and we will carry it out.' ²¹For I have reported to you today, but you have not listened to the voice of Yahweh your God or to anything about which he sent me to you. ²²So now, you should certainly know that you will die by sword, famine, and plague in the place where you desired to go to live."

Chapter 43

¹It happened that Jeremiah finished proclaiming to all the people all the words of Yahweh their God that Yahweh their God had told him to say. ²Azariah son of Hoshaiah, Johanan son of Kareah, and all the arrogant men said to Jeremiah, "You are telling lies. Yahweh our God has not sent you to say, 'Do not go to Egypt to live there.' ³For Baruch son of Neriah is inciting you against us to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, for you to cause our

death and to make us captives in Babylon.”⁴ So Johanan son of Kareah, all the princes of the army, and all the people refused to listen to Yahweh’s voice to live in the land of Judah.⁵ Johanan son of Kareah and all the army commanders took away all the remnant of Judah who had returned from all the nations where they had been scattered to live in the land of Judah.⁶ They took the men and women, the children and the king’s daughters, and every person whom Nebuzaradan, the commander of the king’s bodyguards, had let remain with Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan. They also took Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch son of Neriah.⁷ They went to the land of Egypt, to Tahpanhes, because they did not listen to Yahweh’s voice.

⁸So the word of Yahweh came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,⁹ “Take some large stones in your hand, and, in the sight of the people of Judah, hide them in the mortar in the pavement at the entrance to Pharaoh’s house in Tahpanhes.”¹⁰ Then say to them, “Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, ‘See, I am about to send messengers to take Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon as my servant. I will place his throne over these stones that you, Jeremiah, have buried. Nebuchadnezzar will place his pavilion over them.’¹¹ For he will come and attack the land of Egypt. Anyone who is assigned to death will be given to death. Anyone who is assigned to captivity will be taken captive. Anyone who is assigned to the sword will be given to the sword.”¹² Then I will light a fire in the temples of Egypt’s gods. Nebuchadnezzar will burn them or capture them. He will clean out the land of Egypt just as shepherds clean vermin off their clothes. He will go out from that place in victory.^[1]¹³ He will break the stone pillars at Heliopolis in the land of Egypt. He will burn the temples of Egypt’s gods.”

43:12 ^[1], some ancient and modern versions have .

Chapter 44

¹The word came to Jeremiah concerning all the Judeans who lived in the land of Egypt, the ones staying in Migdol, Tahpanhes, Memphis, and in Upper Egypt:² “Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says, ‘You yourselves have seen all the disasters that I brought on Jerusalem and all the cities of Judah. See, they are ruins today. There is no one to live in them.’³ This is because of the wicked things they did to offend me by going to burn incense and to worship other gods. These were gods that neither they themselves, nor you, nor your ancestors knew.’⁴ So I repeatedly sent all of my servants the prophets to them. I sent them to say, ‘Stop doing these abominable things that I hate.’⁵ But they did not listen. They refused to pay attention or turn from their wickedness in burning incense to other gods.⁶ So my fury and my wrath were poured out and kindled a fire in the cities of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem. So they became ruins and devastations, as at this present day.’⁷ So now Yahweh, the God of hosts and the God of Israel, says this, ‘Why are you doing great wickedness against yourselves? Why are you causing yourselves to be cut off from among Judah—men and women, children and babies? No remnant of you will be left.’⁸ By your wickedness you have offended me with the deeds of your hands, by burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt, where you have gone to live. You have gone there so that you will be destroyed, so that you will be a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth.⁹ Have you forgotten the wickedness committed by your ancestors and the wickedness committed by the kings of Judah and their wives? Have you forgotten the evil committed by yourselves and your wives in the land of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem?¹⁰ To this day, they still are not humbled. They do not honor my law or decrees that I placed before them and their ancestors, nor do they walk in them.’

¹¹Therefore Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, ‘See, I am about to set my face against you to bring disaster to you and to destroy all of Judah.’¹² For I will take the remnant of Judah that has set out to go to the land of Egypt to live there. I will do this so that they will all perish in the land of Egypt. They will fall by sword and famine. From the least to the greatest they will perish by sword and famine. They will die and will become an object of swearing, cursing, reproaching, and a horrible thing.¹³ For I will punish the people inhabiting the land of Egypt just as I punished Jerusalem with the sword, with famine, and with the plague,¹⁴ so that none of the remnant of Judah who have gone to live in the land of Egypt will escape or survive or return to the land of Judah, to which they desire to return and live; and none of them will return except a few who escaped from there.”

¹⁵Then all the men who knew that their wives were burning incense to other gods, and all the women who were in the great assembly, and all the people who were living in Lower and Upper Egypt, answered Jeremiah.¹⁶ They said,

"About the word that you have told us in Yahweh's name—we will not listen to you. ¹⁷For we will certainly do all the things that we said we would do—burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her just as we, our ancestors, our kings, and our leaders did in the cities of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem. Then we will be filled with food and will prosper, without experiencing any disaster. ¹⁸When we refrained from doing these things, not offering incense to the queen of heaven and not pouring out drink offerings to her, we were all suffering poverty and were dying by sword and famine." ¹⁹The women said, "When we were making incense offerings before the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, was it against our husbands that we did these things, making cakes in her image and pouring out drink offerings to her?"

²⁰Then Jeremiah said to all the people—to the men and women, and all the people who answered him—he proclaimed and said, ²¹"Did not Yahweh remember the incense that you burned in the cities of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem—you and your ancestors, your kings and leaders, and the people of the land? For Yahweh calls this to mind; it comes to his thoughts. ²²Then he was no longer able to bear it because of your wicked practices, because of the abominations that you did. Then your land became a desolation, a horror, and a curse so there was no longer an inhabitant as at this present day. ²³Because you burned incense and sinned against Yahweh, and because you would not listen to his voice, his law, his statutes, or his covenant decrees, this disaster against you has happened as at this present day."

²⁴Then Jeremiah said to all the people and all the women, "Hear the word of Yahweh, all of Judah who are in the land of Egypt. ²⁵Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this, 'You and your wives both have said with your mouths and carried out with your hands what you said, "We will certainly carry out the vows that we made to worship the queen of heaven, to pour out drink offerings to her." Now fulfill your vows; carry them out.' ²⁶So then, hear the word of Yahweh, all of Judah who are staying in the land of Egypt, 'See, I have sworn by my great name—says Yahweh. My name will no longer be called upon by the mouths of any of the men of Judah in all the land of Egypt, you who now say, "As the Lord Yahweh lives." ²⁷See, I am watching over them for disaster and not for good. Every person of Judah in the land of Egypt will perish by sword and famine until they are all finished. ²⁸Then the survivors of the sword will return from the land of Egypt to the land of Judah, only a small number of them. So all the remnant of Judah who went to the land of Egypt to live there will know whose word will stand—mine or theirs. ²⁹This will be the sign for you—this is Yahweh's declaration—that I am setting against you in this place, so that you will know that my words will certainly attack you with disaster.' ³⁰Yahweh says this, 'Look, I am about to give Pharaoh Hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies and into the hand of those who seek to kill him. It will be the same as when I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, his enemy who sought his life.'"

Chapter 45

¹This is the word that Jeremiah the prophet told Baruch son of Neriah. This happened when he wrote in a scroll these words at Jeremiah's dictation—this was in the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah, and he said, ²"Yahweh, God of Israel, says this to you, Baruch: ³You have said, 'Woe is me, for Yahweh has added agony to my pain. My groaning has wearied me; I find no rest.' ⁴This is what you must say to him: 'Yahweh says this: See, what I built, I am now tearing down. What I planted, I am now pulling up—I will do this throughout all the earth. ⁵But are you hoping for great things for yourself? Do not hope for that. For see, disaster is coming on all humanity—this is Yahweh's declaration—but I am giving you your life as your plunder everywhere you will go.'"

Chapter 46

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Jeremiah the prophet concerning the nations. ²For Egypt: "This is about the army of Pharaoh Necho, king of Egypt that was at Carchemish by the Euphrates river. This was the army that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah:

³Get the small shields and the large shields ready, and go forward to fight.

⁴Put the harness on the horses; mount up on the horses and take your stand with your helmets on; polish the spears and put on your armor.

⁵What am I seeing here? They are filled with terror and are running away, for their soldiers are defeated. They are running for safety and are not looking back. Terror is all around—this is Yahweh's declaration—

⁶the swift cannot run away, and the soldiers cannot escape.

They stumble in the north and fall beside the Euphrates River.

⁷Who is this who rises like the Nile, whose waters toss up and down like the rivers?

⁸Egypt rises like the Nile, like rivers of water that rise and fall.

Egypt says, 'I will go up and I will cover the earth. I will destroy cities and their inhabitants.

⁹Go up, horses. Be angry, you chariots. Let the soldiers go out,

Cush and Put, men skillful with a shield, and Ludim, men skillful at bending their bows.'

¹⁰That day will be the day of vengeance for the Lord Yahweh of hosts, and he will avenge himself on his foes.

The sword will devour and be satisfied. It will drink its fill of their blood. For there will be a sacrifice to the Yahweh Lord of hosts in the northern land by the Euphrates River.

¹¹Go up to Gilead and obtain medicine, virgin daughter of Egypt.

It is useless that you put much medicine on yourself. There is no cure for you.

¹²The nations have heard of your disgrace. The earth is filled with your laments, for soldier stumbles against soldier; both of them fall together."

¹³This is the word that Yahweh told Jeremiah the prophet when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came and attacked the land of Egypt:

¹⁴"Announce in Egypt, and proclaim it in Migdol, Memphis, and Tahpanhes.

'Take your station and prepare yourself, for the sword will devour those around you.'

¹⁵Why are your mighty ones face-down on the ground? They will not stand, because I, Yahweh, have pushed them to the ground.

¹⁶He increases the numbers of those who stumble. Each soldier falls against the next one. They are saying, 'Get up. Let us go home.

Let us go back to our own people, to our native land. Let us leave this sword that is beating us down.'

¹⁷They proclaimed there, 'Pharaoh the king of Egypt is only a noise, one who has let his opportunity slip away.'

¹⁸As I live—declares the King, whose name is Yahweh of hosts—someone will come like Mount Tabor and Mount Carmel by the sea.

¹⁹Pack for yourselves baggage to carry into exile, you who live in Egypt.

For Memphis will become a waste, it will lie in ruins and no one will live there.

²⁰Egypt is a very beautiful young cow, but a stinging insect is coming from the north. It is coming.

²¹The hired soldiers in her midst are like a fattened bull, but they will also turn away and run away.

They will not stand together, for the day of their disaster is coming against them, the time of their punishment.

²²Egypt hisses like a snake and crawls away, for her enemies are marching against her.

They are going toward her like woodcutters with axes.

²³They will cut down the forests—this is Yahweh's declaration—although it is very dense.

For the enemies will be more numerous than locusts, unable to be counted.

²⁴The daughter of Egypt will be made ashamed. She will be given into the hand of people from the north."

²⁵Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, says, "See, I am about to punish Amon of Thebes, Pharaoh, Egypt and her gods, her kings the Pharaohs, and those who trust in them. ²⁶I am giving them into the hand of the ones seeking their lives, and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and his servants. Then after this Egypt will be inhabited as in previous days—this is Yahweh's declaration.

²⁷But you, my servant Jacob, do not fear. Do not be dismayed, Israel, for see, I am about to bring you back from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Then Jacob will return, find peace, and be secure, and there will be no one to terrify him. ²⁸You, my servant Jacob, do not fear—this is Yahweh's declaration—for I am with you, so I will bring complete destruction against all the nations where I scattered you. But I will not destroy you completely. Yet I will discipline you justly and will certainly not leave you unpunished."

Chapter 47

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Jeremiah the prophet concerning the Philistines. This word came to him before Pharaoh attacked Gaza.

²"Yahweh says this: See, floods of water are rising in the north. They will be like an overflowing river!

Then they will overflow the land and everything in it, its cities and its inhabitants! So everyone will shout for help, and all the inhabitants of the land will lament.

³At the sound of the stamping of their strong horses' hooves,

at the roar of their chariots and the noise of their wheels,

fathers will not help their children because of their own weakness.

⁴For the day is coming that will devastate all of the Philistines, to cut off from Tyre and Sidon

every survivor who wants to help them. For Yahweh is devastating the Philistines,

those who remain from the island of Caphtor. ⁵Baldness will come upon Gaza. As for Ashkelon, the people who are left in their valley will be made silent.

How long will you cut yourself in mourning?

⁶Woe, sword of Yahweh! How long will it be until you become silent?

Go back to your scabbard! Stop and be silent.

⁷How can it rest when Yahweh has commanded it,
when he has ordered it to attack Ashkelon and the coastlands along the sea?"

Chapter 48

¹To Moab, Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this,

"Woe to Nebo, for it has been devastated. Kiriathaim has been humiliated and captured.
Her fortress has been disgraced and crushed.

²The honor of Moab is no more. Their enemies in Heshbon plotted disaster against her.

They said, 'Come and let us destroy her as a nation. Madmen will also perish—a sword will go after you.'

³Listen! A sound of screaming is coming from Horonaim, where there is ruin and great destruction.

⁴Moab has been destroyed. Her children have made their cries heard.

⁵They go up the hill of Luhith weeping,

for on the way down to Horonaim, screams are heard because of the destruction.

⁶Flee! Save your lives and become like a juniper bush in the wilderness.

⁷For because of your trust in your practices and your wealth, you also will be captured.

Then Chemosh will go away into captivity, together with his priests and leaders.

⁸For the destroyer will come to every city; no city will escape.

So the valley will perish and the plain will be devastated, as Yahweh has said.

⁹Give wings to Moab, for she must certainly fly away.

Her cities will become a wasteland, where there is no one to live in them.

¹⁰May anyone who is lazy in doing Yahweh's work be cursed! May anyone who keeps his sword back from shedding blood be cursed!

¹¹Moab has felt secure since he was young. He is like his wine

that has never been poured from pot to pot. He has never gone into captivity.

Therefore he tastes as good as ever; his flavor remains unchanged.

¹²So see, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will send him those who will tip him over and pour out all his pots and shatter his jars.

¹³Then Moab will be ashamed of Chemosh just as the house of Israel was ashamed of Bethel, their object of trust.

¹⁴How can you say, 'We are soldiers, powerful fighting men?'

¹⁵Moab will be devastated and its cities attacked. For its finest young men have gone down to the place of slaughter. This is the king's declaration! Yahweh of hosts is his name.

¹⁶Moab's disaster is soon to happen; calamity is hurrying quickly.

¹⁷All you who are around Moab, wail; and all you who know its fame, shout this, 'Woe, the strong staff, the honored rod, has been broken.'

¹⁸Come down from your honored place and sit on the dry ground, you daughter living in Dibon.

For the one who will destroy Moab is attacking you,

the one who will destroy your strongholds.

¹⁹Stand on the road and watch, you people who live in Aroer.

Ask the ones who are fleeing and escaping. Say, 'What has happened?'

²⁰Moab has been shamed, for it has been shattered.

Howl and lament; shout for help.

Tell it to people by the Arnon River that Moab has been devastated.

²¹Now punishment has come to the hill country,

to Holon, Jahzah, and Mephaath,

²²to Dibon, Nebo, and Beth Diblathaim,

²³to Kiriathaim, Beth Gamul, and Beth Meon,

²⁴To Kerioth and Bozrah,

and to all the cities in the land of Moab—

the farthest and the closest cities.

²⁵The horn of Moab has been hacked off; its arm has been broken—this is Yahweh's declaration.

²⁶Make him drunk, because he acted proudly against Yahweh. Let Moab wallow in his vomit, and let him be an object of ridicule. ²⁷For did not Israel become an object for laughter to you? Was he found among thieves, so that you shook your head at him as often as you spoke about him?

²⁸Abandon the cities and camp on the cliffs, inhabitants of Moab.

Become like a dove that is nesting over the mouth of a hole in the rocks.

²⁹We have heard of Moab's pride—his arrogance,

his haughtiness, his pride, his self-glory and the conceit in his heart. ³⁰This is Yahweh's declaration—I myself know his defiant speech, which amounts to nothing, like his deeds.

³¹So I will howl a lament for Moab, and I will shout in sorrow for all of Moab.

I will lament for the people of Kir Hareseth.

³²I will weep for you more than I did for Jazer, vine of Sibmah! Your branches passed across the Salt Sea and reached

as far as Jazer. The destroyers have attacked your summer fruit and your wine.

³³So celebration and rejoicing have been taken away from the fruit trees and the land of Moab.

I have put an end to the wine from their winepresses. They will not tread with joyful shouts. Any shouts will not be shouts of joy.

³⁴From the shouts at Heshbon as far as Elealeh, their sound is heard at Jahaz, from Zoar to Horonaim and Eglath Shelishiyah, since even the waters of Nimrim have dried up. ³⁵For I will put an end to anyone in Moab who makes sacrifices on the high places and burns incense to his gods—this is Yahweh's declaration. ³⁶So my heart is lamenting for Moab like a flute. My heart is lamenting like flutes for the people of Kir Hareseth. The riches they gained are gone. ³⁷For every head is bald and every beard shaved. Incisions are on every hand, and sackcloth is around their waists. ³⁸There is mourning everywhere, on every flat roof of Moab and in Moab's plazas. For I have destroyed Moab like pots that no one wants—this is Yahweh's declaration.

³⁹How it has been shattered! How they howl in their lamenting! Moab turns its back in shame! So Moab will become an object of derision and a terror to all those who are around him." ⁴⁰For Yahweh says this, "See, the enemy will come flying like an eagle, spreading out his wings over Moab.

⁴¹Kerioth has been captured, and its strongholds have been seized.

For in that day the hearts of Moab's soldiers will be like the hearts of women in birth labor.

⁴²So Moab will be destroyed and be no longer a people, because he made himself to be great against Yahweh.

⁴³Terror and the pit, and a trap are coming on you, inhabitant of Moab—this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁴⁴Anyone who flees because of terror will fall into the pit,

and anyone who climbs out of the pit will be caught in the trap, for I will bring this on them

in the year of my vengeance against them—this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁴⁵The ones who flee will stand in the shadow of Heshbon without any strength, for fire will go out from Heshbon, flame from the middle of Sihon. It will devour the forehead of Moab and the top of the heads of the boastful people.

⁴⁶Woe to you, Moab! Chemosh's people are destroyed,

For your sons are taken as captives and your daughters into captivity.

⁴⁷But I will restore the fortunes of Moab in later days—this is Yahweh's declaration."

The judgment on Moab ends here.

Chapter 49

¹About the people of Ammon, Yahweh says this,

"Does Israel have no children? Is there no one to inherit anything in Israel?

Why does Molech occupy Gad, and his people live in its cities?^[1]

²So look, the days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will sound the signal for battle against Rabbah among the people of Ammon, so it will become a deserted heap and its villages will be set on fire. For Israel will possess those who possessed him," says Yahweh.

³"Howl in lament, Heshbon, for Ai will be devastated! Shout out, daughters of Rabbah! Put on sackcloth.

Lament and run about in futility, for Molech is going into captivity,
together with his priests and leaders.

⁴Why do you brag about your valleys, your valleys that are so fruitful, faithless daughter?
you who trust in your wealth and say, 'Who will come against me?'

⁵See, I am about to bring terror on you—this is the declaration of Lord Yahweh of hosts—
this terror will come from all those who surround you. Each one of you will be scattered before it.
There will be no one to gather those running away.

⁶But after this I will restore the fortunes of the people of Ammon—this is Yahweh's declaration."

⁷About Edom, Yahweh of hosts says this, "Is there no longer any wisdom to be found in Teman?
Has good advice disappeared from those who have understanding? Has their wisdom become corrupted?

⁸Flee! Turn back! Stay in holes in the ground, inhabitants of Dedan.

For I am bringing the disaster of Esau on him at the time that I punish him.

⁹If grape harvesters came to you, would they not leave a little bit behind?
If thieves came in the night, would they not steal only as much as they wanted?

¹⁰But I have stripped Esau bare. I have revealed his hiding places.

So he will not be able to hide himself. His children, his brothers, and his neighbors are destroyed, and he is gone.

¹¹Leave your orphans behind. I will take care of their lives, and your widows can trust in me."

¹²For Yahweh says this, "See, those who did not deserve it must certainly drink some of the cup. Do you yourself
think you will go without punishment? You will not, for you will certainly drink. ¹³For I have sworn by myself—this is
Yahweh's declaration—that Bozrah will become a horror, a disgrace, a devastation, and an object for cursing. All of
its cities will become devastations forever.

¹⁴I have heard news from Yahweh, and a messenger has been sent out to the nations,
'Gather together and attack her. Get ready for battle.'

¹⁵"For see, I have made you small compared to the other nations, despised by people.

¹⁶As for your fearsomeness, your heart's pride has deceived you, inhabitants of places on the cliff,
you who have occupied the highest hills so that you may make your nest high like an eagle.
I will bring you down from there—this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁷Edom will become a horror to everyone passing by it.
Every such person will tremble and hiss because all of its disasters.

¹⁸Like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbors," says Yahweh,
'no one will live there; no person will stay there.

¹⁹See, he will go up like a lion from the forests of the Jordan to the green pasturelands.

For I will quickly make Edom run from it, and I will put someone who will be chosen in charge of it.

For who is like me, and who will summon me? What shepherd is able to resist me?"

²⁰So listen to the plans that Yahweh has decided against Edom,

the plans that he has formed against the inhabitants of Teman.

They will certainly be dragged away, even the smallest flock.

Their pasturelands will be turned into ruined places.

²¹At the sound of their falling the earth shakes. The sound of distressed shouts is heard at the Sea of Reeds.

²²See, someone will attack like an eagle, and swoop down and spread his wings over Bozrah.

Then on that day, the hearts of Edom's soldiers will become like the heart of a woman in birth labor."

²³About Damascus: "Hamath and Arpad will be ashamed, for they have heard news of disaster.

They melt away! They become as troubled as the sea, which cannot stay calm.

²⁴Damascus has become very weak. It turns away to flee; terror seizes it.

Distress and pain seize it, like the pain of a woman giving birth.

²⁵How has the city of praise not been forsaken, the town of my joy?

²⁶Therefore its young men will fall in its plazas,

and all the fighting men will perish on that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts."

²⁷"For I will light a fire on the wall of Damascus, and it will devour the strongholds of Ben Hadad."

²⁸About Kedar and the kingdoms of Hazor, Yahweh says this to Nebuchadnezzar (now Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon was going to attack these places):

"Arise and attack Kedar and destroy those people of the east.

²⁹Their tents and their flocks will be taken,

along with their tent curtains and all of their equipment;

their camels will be led away from them,

and men will shout to them, "Terror is on every side!"

³⁰Flee! Wander far away! Stay in holes in the ground, inhabitants of Hazor—this is Yahweh's declaration—

for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has devised a plan against you. Flee! Turn back!

³¹Arise! Attack the nation at ease, that lives in safety," says Yahweh.

"They have no gates or bars in them, and its people live by themselves.

³²For their camels will become plunder, and the abundance of their property will become war plunder.

Then I will scatter to every wind those who cut the corners of their hair,

and I will bring disaster on them from every side—this is Yahweh's declaration.

³³Hazor will become a lair of jackals, a permanent wasteland.

No one will live there; no human being will stay there.”

³⁴This is the word of Yahweh that came to Jeremiah the prophet about Elam. This happened at the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, and he said, ³⁵“Yahweh of hosts says this: See, I am about to break the bowmen of Elam, the main part of their power.

³⁶For I will bring the four winds from the four corners of the heavens, and I will scatter the people of Elam to all of those winds. There is no nation to which those scattered from Elam will not go.

³⁷So I will shatter Elam before their enemies and before those who seek their lives. for I will bring disaster against them, the fury of my wrath—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and I will send the sword after them until I have annihilated them.

³⁸Then I will put my throne in Elam and will destroy its king and leaders from there—this is Yahweh’s declaration—

³⁹and it will happen in later days that I will bring back the fortunes of Elam—this is Yahweh’s declaration.”

49:1 ^[1], some modern versions have .

Chapter 50

¹This is the word that Yahweh declared about Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, by the hand of Jeremiah the prophet,

²“Report to the nations and cause them to listen. Lift up a signal and cause them to listen. Do not conceal it.

Say, ‘Babylon is taken. Bel is made ashamed. Marduk is dismayed. Its idols are put to shame; its images are dismayed.’

³A nation from the north will arise against it, and make her land a desolation.

No one will live in it; both man and beast will flee away.

⁴In those days and at that time—this is Yahweh’s declaration—the people of Israel and the people of Judah will come together to go with weeping and seek Yahweh their God.

⁵They will ask the way to Zion and will set off toward it, saying, We will go and join ourselves to Yahweh in an everlasting covenant that will not be forgotten.”

⁶My people have been a lost flock. Their shepherds have led them astray in the mountains; they have turned them around from hill to hill. They went, they forgot the place where they had lived.

⁷Everyone who went out to them devoured them. Their adversaries said, ‘We are not guilty, because they sinned against Yahweh, their true home—Yahweh, the hope of their ancestors.’

⁸Leave from the midst of Babylon; go out from the land of the Chaldeans; be like male goats that leave before the rest of the flock does.

⁹For see, I am about to set in motion and raise up a group of great nations from the north against Babylon. They will arrange themselves against her. Babylon will be captured from there. Their arrows are like a skilled warrior who does not return empty-handed.

¹⁰Chaldea will become plunder. All those who plunder it will be satisfied—this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹¹You rejoice, you celebrate the plundering of my inheritance; you jump around like a calf stamping in its pasture; you neigh like a powerful horse.

¹²So your mother will be greatly ashamed; the one who bore you will be embarrassed. See, she will be the least of nations, a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert.

¹³Because of Yahweh's anger, Babylon will not be inhabited, but will be a complete devastation. Everyone who passes by will shudder because of Babylon and will hiss because all of its wounds.

¹⁴Arrange yourselves against Babylon all around her. Everyone who bends a bow must shoot at her. Do not keep back any of your arrows, for she has sinned against Yahweh.

¹⁵Raise a shout against her all around! She has surrendered; her towers have fallen; her walls are torn down, for this is Yahweh's vengeance. Take vengeance on her! Do to her just as she has done!

¹⁶Destroy both the farmer who sows seed and the one who uses a sickle at the time of harvest in Babylon. Let each person turn back to his own people from the oppressor's sword; let them flee to their own land.

¹⁷Israel is a sheep scattered and driven away by lions. First the king of Assyria devoured him; then after this, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon broke his bones. ¹⁸Therefore Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, says this: See, I am about to punish the king of Babylon and his land, just as I punished the king of Assyria.

¹⁹I will restore Israel to his homeland; he will graze on Carmel and Bashan. Then he will be satisfied in the hill country of Ephraim and Gilead.

²⁰In those days and at that time, says Yahweh, iniquity will be looked for in Israel, but none will be found. I will inquire about the sins of Judah, but none will be found, for I will forgive the remnant that I spare."

²¹"Arise against the land of Merathaim, against it and the ones inhabiting Pekod. Put them to the sword and set them apart for destruction—this is Yahweh's declaration—do everything that I am commanding you.

²²The sounds of battle and enormous destruction are in the land.

²³How the hammer of all the lands has been cut apart and destroyed. How Babylon has become a destroyed place among the nations.

24I have set a trap for you and you were taken, Babylon, and you did not know it!

You were found and captured, because you opposed Yahweh.

25Yahweh has opened his armory and is bringing out the weapons for carrying out his anger.

There is work for the Lord Yahweh of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans.

26Attack her from far away. Open her granaries and pile her up like heaps of grain.

Set her apart for destruction. Leave no remnant of her.

27Kill all her bulls. Send them down to the place of slaughter.

Woe to them, for their day has come—the time for their punishment.

28There is the sound of those fleeing, of those who are survivors, from the land of Babylon.

These will report the vengeance of Yahweh our God for Zion, and vengeance for his temple.”

29“Summon the archers against Babylon—all those who bend their bows.

Camp against her, and let no one escape.

Repay her for what she has done.

Do to her by the measure she has used.

For she had defied Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel.

30So her young men will fall in the city squares,

and all her fighting men will be destroyed on that day—

this is Yahweh’s declaration.”

31“See, I am against you, proud one—this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh of hosts—

for your day has come, proud one, the time when I will punish you.

32So the proud ones will stumble and fall. No one will raise them up.

I will light a fire in their cities; it will devour everything around him.

33Yahweh of hosts says this: The people of Israel are oppressed, together with the people of Judah.

All the ones who captured them still hold them; they refuse to let them go.

34The one who rescues them is strong. Yahweh of hosts is his name. He will truly plead their case,

in order to bring rest to the land, and to bring strife to the ones inhabiting Babylon.

35A sword is against the Chaldeans—this is Yahweh’s declaration—

and against the inhabitants of Babylon, her leaders, and her wise men.

36A sword against those who say empty words! They will become fools!

A sword against her soldiers! They will be filled with terror.

37A sword is coming against their horses, their chariots and all of the people who are in the midst of Babylon,

so they will become like women. A sword is coming against her storerooms, and they will be plundered.

³⁸A drought is coming on her waters, so they will become dry.

For she is a land of worthless idols, and they act like people made insane by their dreadful idols.

³⁹So desert beasts with the jackals will inhabit there, and the young of ostriches will live in her.

For all time, she will no longer be inhabited. From generation to generation, she will not be lived in.

⁴⁰Just as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbors—this is Yahweh's declaration—no one will live there; no person will stay in her."

⁴¹"See, a people is coming from the north;

a great nation and many kings

are being stirred up from the farthest parts of the earth.

⁴²They will pick up bows and spears. They are cruel and have no compassion.

Their sound is like the sea roar,

and they are riding on horses,

set out in order as men for battle, against you,

daughter of Babylon.

⁴³The king of Babylon heard the reports about them and his hands fell limp in distress.

Anguish seized him like a woman giving birth.

⁴⁴Behold! He goes up like a lion from the heights of the Jordan to the enduring grazing place

For I will quickly cause them to run from it, and I will put someone who will be chosen in charge of it.

For who is like me, and who will summon me? What shepherd is able to resist me?

⁴⁵So listen to the plans that Yahweh has decided against Babylon,

the plans that he has planned against the land of the Chaldeans. They will certainly be dragged away, even the smallest flock. Their pasturelands will be turned into ruined places.

⁴⁶At the sound of conquered Babylon the earth shakes, and their shout of distress is heard among the nations."

Chapter 51

¹"Yahweh says this: See, I am about to stir up a wind of destruction against Babylon and against those who live in Leb Kamai.

²I will send foreigners to Babylon. They will scatter her and devastate her land, for they will come against her from all around on the day of disaster.

³Do not let the archers bend their bows; do not let them put on armor.

Do not spare her young men; set her whole army apart for destruction.

⁴For the wounded people will fall in the land of the Chaldeans; those who are killed will fall in her streets.

⁵For Israel and Judah are not forsaken by their God, by Yahweh of hosts, although their land is filled with offenses committed against the Holy One of Israel.

⁶Flee from the midst of Babylon; let each man save himself. Do not perish in her iniquity. For it is the time of Yahweh's vengeance. He will repay all of it to her.

⁷Babylon was a golden cup in the hand of Yahweh that made all the world drunk; nations drank her wine and became insane.

⁸Babylon will fall suddenly and be destroyed.

Wail for her! Give her medicine for her pain; perhaps she can be healed.

⁹We wished to heal Babylon, but she is not healed. Let us all leave her and go away, to our own land. For her guilt reaches up to the heavens; it is piled up to the clouds.

¹⁰Yahweh has declared our innocence. Come, let us tell in Zion the deeds of Yahweh our God.'

¹¹Sharpen the arrows and take up the shields. Yahweh is stirring up the spirit of the king of the Medes in a plan to destroy Babylon.

This is for Yahweh's vengeance, vengeance for the destruction of his temple.

¹²Lift up a banner over Babylon's walls; make the watch strong; set up watchmen; prepare the ambushes; for the LORD will do what he has said concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.

¹³You people who live by many streams of water, you people who are rich with treasures, your end has come. The thread of your life is now cut short.

¹⁴Yahweh of hosts has sworn by his own life, 'I will fill you with men, like a swarm of locusts, and they will raise a battle cry against you.'

¹⁵He has made the earth by his power; he set in place the world by his wisdom. By his understanding he stretched out the heavens.

¹⁶When he thunders, there is the roar of waters in the heavens, for he brings up the mist from the ends of the earth.

He makes lightning for rain and sends out wind from his storehouses.

¹⁷Every man has become ignorant, without knowledge. Every metalworker is put to shame by his idols. For his cast images are frauds, and there is no life in them.

¹⁸They are useless, the work of mockers; they will perish at the time of their punishment.

¹⁹But God, the portion of Jacob, is not like these, for he is the molder of all things. Israel is the tribe of his inheritance;

Yahweh of hosts is his name.

²⁰You are my war hammer, my weapon for battle.

With you I will smash nations and destroy kingdoms.

²¹With you I will smash horses and their riders; with you I will smash chariots and their drivers.

²²With you I will smash each man and woman; with you I will smash the old and the young.

With you I will smash the young men and the virgin girls.

²³With you I will smash the shepherds and their flocks; with you I will smash the plowmen and their teams.

With you I will smash the governors and officials.

²⁴For in your sight I will pay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea

for all of the evil that they did in Zion—this is Yahweh's declaration.

²⁵See, I am against you, mountain of destruction—this is Yahweh's declaration—which destroys the whole earth.

I will stretch out my hand against you, and roll you down from the cliffs,

and make you a burned-out mountain.

²⁶So they will not take from you any stone to construct a building's corner or foundation;

for you will become an everlasting devastation—this is Yahweh's declaration.

²⁷Lift up a banner over the earth. Blow the trumpet over the nations. Call the nations to attack her:

Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz.

Appoint a commander to attack her; bring up horses like swarming locusts.

²⁸Prepare the nations to attack her: The kings of the Medes and his governors,

all of his officials and all the lands under his rule.

²⁹For the land will shake and be in anguish, since Yahweh's plans continue against Babylon,

to make the land of Babylon a wasteland where there is no inhabitant.

³⁰The soldiers in Babylon have stopped fighting; they stay in their strongholds.

Their strength has failed; they have become women—her homes are on fire, the bars of her gates are broken.

³¹A messenger runs to proclaim to another messenger, and a runner tells another runner

to report to the king of Babylon that his city has been taken from end to end.

³²So the fords over the river are seized; the enemy is burning the reed marshes,

and Babylon's fighting men are confused.

³³For Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, says this: The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor.

It is time to trample her down. In a little while the time of harvest will come to her.

³⁴Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has devoured me,
he has driven me into confusion and has made me an empty pot.

Like a monster he has swallowed me,
he has filled his stomach with my delicious foods,
and then he has spit me out.'

³⁵The one who lives in Zion will say, 'May the violence done to me and my flesh be on Babylon.'
Jerusalem will say, 'May my blood be on the inhabitants of Chaldea.'

³⁶Therefore Yahweh says this: See, I am about to plead your case and bring about vengeance for you.
For I will dry up Babylon's waters and make her springs run dry.

³⁷Babylon will become heaps of rubble, a den of jackals, a horror,
an object of hissing, where there are no inhabitants.

³⁸The Babylonians will roar together like young lions. They will growl like lion cubs.

³⁹When they become hot with greed, I will make a feast for them; I will make them drunk so they become happy,
and then sleep an unending sleep and not wake up—this is Yahweh's declaration—

⁴⁰I will send them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with male goats.

⁴¹How Babylon has been captured! So the praise of all the earth is seized.
How Babylon has become a ruined place among the nations.

⁴²The sea has come up over Babylon! She is covered with its roaring waves.

⁴³Her cities have become a desolation, a dry land and a wilderness,
a land that no one inhabits, and no human being passes through.

⁴⁴So I will punish Bel in Babylon; I will bring out from his mouth what he swallowed,
and the nations will no longer flow to him with their offerings. The walls of Babylon will fall.

⁴⁵Go out from her midst, my people. Let each of you save his own life from the fury of my wrath.

⁴⁶Do not let your hearts be timid or fear the news that is heard in the land,
for the news will come one year. After it in the next year there will be news,
and violence will be in the land. Ruler will be against ruler.

⁴⁷Therefore, see, days are coming when I will punish the carved idols of Babylon.
All of her land will be ashamed, and all of her slaughtered ones will fall in her midst.

⁴⁸Then the heavens and the earth, and all that is in them will rejoice over Babylon.
For destroyers will come for her from the north—this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁴⁹As Babylon has made the killed of Israel fall,
so the killed of all her land will fall in Babylon.

⁵⁰Survivors of the sword, go away! Do not stay still.
Call Yahweh to mind from far away; let Jerusalem come to mind.

⁵¹We are ashamed, for we have heard insults; reproach has covered our faces,
for foreigners have entered the holy places of Yahweh's house.

⁵²Therefore, see, days are coming—this is Yahweh's declaration—when I will punish her carved idols,
and the wounded people will groan in all of her land.

⁵³For even if Babylon went up to the heavens or fortified her highest fortresses,
destroyers would come from me to her—this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁵⁴A shout of distress came from Babylon, a great collapse from the land of the Chaldeans.

⁵⁵For Yahweh is destroying Babylon. He is causing her loud voice to perish.
Their enemies roar like the waves of many waters; their noise becomes very strong.

⁵⁶For the destroyers have come against her—against Babylon!—and her warriors have been captured.
Their bows are broken, for Yahweh is the God of vengeance; he will surely carry out this repayment.

⁵⁷For I will make her princes, her sages, her officials, and her soldiers drunk,
and they will sleep in an unending sleep and never wake up—
this is the King's declaration: Yahweh of hosts is his name.

⁵⁸Yahweh of hosts says this: The thick walls of Babylon will be completely demolished,
and her high gates will be burned.

Then the peoples coming to her aid will labor uselessly; everything that the nations try to do for her will be burned up."

⁵⁹This is the word that Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah son of Neriah
son of Mahseiah when he went with Zedekiah king of Judah to Babylon

in the fourth year of his reign. Now Seraiah was a chief officer. ⁶⁰For Jeremiah had written in a scroll about all the disaster that was going to come on Babylon—all these words that were written about Babylon. ⁶¹Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "When you go to Babylon, then you will see and you will read these words aloud. ⁶²Then you will say, 'Yahweh, you yourself have declared that you would destroy this place, and that no man or animal will live in it, and it will be desolate forever.' ⁶³Then when you have finished reading this scroll, tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates. ⁶⁴Say, 'Babylon will sink like this. It will not arise because of the disaster that I am sending against it, and they will fall.'" Jeremiah's words end here.

Chapter 52

¹Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign; he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal; she was the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. ²He did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh; he did everything that Jehoiakim had done. ³Through Yahweh's anger, all these events happened in Jerusalem and Judah, until he drove them from before himself. Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon. ⁴It happened that in the ninth year of the reign of King Zedekiah, in the tenth month, and on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came with all his army against Jerusalem. They camped opposite it, and they built a siege wall around it. ⁵So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah's reign. ⁶By the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. ⁷Then the city was broken into, and all the fighting men fled and went out of the city at night by the way of the gate that was between the two walls, by the king's garden, although the Chaldeans were all around the city. So they went in the direction of the Arabah. ⁸But the army of Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of the Jordan River valley near Jericho. All his army was scattered away from him. ⁹They captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he passed sentence on him. ¹⁰The king of Babylon slaughtered Zedekiah's sons before his own eyes, and at Riblah he also slaughtered all the leaders of Judah. ¹¹Then he put out Zedekiah's eyes, bound him in bronze chains, and brought him to Babylon. The king of Babylon put him in prison until the day of his death.

¹²Now in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan came to Jerusalem. He was the commander of the king's bodyguards and a servant of the king of Babylon. ¹³He burned the house of Yahweh, the king's palace, and all the houses of Jerusalem; also every important building in the city he burned. ¹⁴As for the walls around Jerusalem, all the army of the Babylonians who were with the commander of the bodyguards destroyed them. ¹⁵As for the poorest people, the rest of the people who were left in the city, those who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the craftsmen— Nebuzaradan, the commander of the bodyguards, took some of them away into exile. ¹⁶But Nebuzaradan, the commander of the bodyguards, left some of the poorest of the land to work the vineyards and fields.

¹⁷As for the bronze pillars that belonged to the house of Yahweh, and the stands, and the large bronze basin called "The Sea" that were in the house of Yahweh, the Chaldeans broke them into pieces and carried all the bronze back to Babylon. ¹⁸The pots, shovels, lamp trimmers, bowls, and all the utensils of bronze with which the priests had served in the temple—the Chaldeans took them all away. ¹⁹The basins and the incense burners, the bowls, pots, lampstands, pans, and basins that were made of gold, and those made of silver—the commander of the king's guard took them away as well. ²⁰The two pillars, the large bronze basin known as "The Sea," and the twelve bronze bulls that were under the stands, things that Solomon had made for the house of Yahweh, contained more bronze than could be weighed. ²¹The pillars were eighteen cubits high each, and a line around each one measured twelve cubits. Each was four fingers thick and hollow. ²²A capital of bronze was on top of it. The capital was five cubits high, with latticework and pomegranates all around. It was all made of bronze. The other pillar and its pomegranates were the same as the first. ²³So there were ninety-six pomegranates on the capital's sides, and one hundred pomegranates above the surrounding latticework.

²⁴The commander of the bodyguards took prisoner Seraiah, the high priest, together with Zephaniah, the second priest, and the three gatekeepers. ²⁵From the city he took prisoner an officer who was in charge of soldiers, and seven men of those who advised the king, who were still in the city. He also took prisoner the king's army officer responsible for drafting men into the army, along with sixty important men from the land who were in the city. ²⁶Then Nebuzaradan, the commander of the bodyguards, took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. ²⁷The king of Babylon put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. In this way, Judah went out of its land into exile.

²⁸These were the people who Nebuchadnezzar exiled: In the seventh year, 3,023 Judeans. ²⁹In the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar he took 832 people from Jerusalem. ³⁰In the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar,

Nebuzaradan, the commander of the king's bodyguards, exiled 745 Judean people. All the exiled people totaled 4,600.

³¹It happened later in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin, king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, that Awel-Marduk, king of Babylon released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison. This happened in the year that Awel-Marduk began to reign. ³²He spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat more honorable than that of the other kings who were with him in Babylon. ³³Awel-Marduk removed Jehoiachin's prison clothes, and Jehoiachin ate regularly at the king's table for the rest of his life, ³⁴and a regular food allowance was given to him every day for the rest of his life until his death.

Lamentations

Chapter 1

¹O how she sits alone, that city, a mighty people.

She has become like a widow, mighty among nations.

A princess among the provinces, she became a slave.

²She weeps excessively in the night and her tears are on her cheeks.

Of all her lovers, no one brings her comfort.

All her friends betrayed her. They have become for her enemies.

³Judah is exiled, for affliction and great servitude.

She sits among the nations. She finds no rest.

All of her pursuers overtake her in the midst of distress.

⁴The roads of Zion mourn; no one is coming to the appointed time.

All her gates are desolate. Her priests are groaning.

Her virgins are grieving and she makes herself bitter.

⁵Her adversaries have become a chief; her enemies prosper

for Yahweh has afflicted her because of her many transgressions.

Her children go into captivity before the adversary.

⁶All her splendor was sent out from the daughter of Zion.

Her princes have become like deer; they do not find a pasture

and they go without strength before the pursuer.

⁷Jerusalem remembers the days of her affliction and her homelessness,

all her treasures which were from former days.

When her people fell into the hand of the adversary and there was no one to help her,

the adversaries saw her. They laughed over her destruction.

⁸Jerusalem sinned greatly; therefore, she became filth.

All her glory is scorned, for they have seen her nakedness; again, she groans and turns away.

⁹Her uncleanness is in her skirt. She did not remember her end

and her descent was marvelous. There was no comforter for her.

“O, Yahweh, see my affliction, for the enemy is great!”

10The adversary spread his hand over all her treasures.

So, she saw the nations; they entered her sanctuary,
those whom you ordered they not enter into your assembly.

11All her people are groaning, searching for bread.

They give their treasures to restore life with food.
“O, Yahweh, look and see, for I have become worthless.

12Is it nothing to you, all those passing by the way?

Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which has been forced on me,
which Yahweh inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

13From on high, he sent fire into my bones and brought it down.

He spread a net for my feet and turned me away.
He made me desolate, every day of menstration.

14The yoke of my transgressions is bound.

They are knit by his hand. They are placed upon my neck. My strength is made to stumble.
The Lord appointed me with hands I cannot raise.

15The Lord has rejected all my mighty men in my midst.

He has spoken against me an appointed time to destroy my young men.
The Lord has tread the winepress for the virgin daughter of Judah.

16Because of these things, I weep. O my eyes, my eyes overflow with water;

for the comforter is far from me, one who restores my life.
My sons have become desolate, for the enemy is made mighty.”

17Zion has spread her hands wide; there is no comforter for her.

Yahweh commanded that those surrounding Jacob be his adversaries.
Jerusalem has become filth in their midst.

18“Yahweh is surely righteous, for I disobeyed his word.

Hear, all peoples, and see my sorrow.
My virgins and my young men have gone into captivity.

19I called to my lovers; they deceived me.

My priests and my elders perished in the city,
while they sought their food and restored their life.

20Look, O Yahweh, for I am engulfed; my stomach churns,

my heart is undone within me, for I have disobeyed grievously.

From the outside, the sword makes a barren womb inside a house like death.

²¹Hear, for I am groaning. There is no comforter for me.

All my enemies heard my trouble. They rejoiced that you did it.

You brought about the day you declared. Yet, may they become like me.

²²May all their evil come before you

and deal with them just as you have dealt with me because of all my transgressions.

For my groans are many and my heart is faint.”

Chapter 2

¹O how the Lord engulfed in his anger the daughter of Zion.

He has thrown down from heaven to earth the splendor of Israel.

And he has not remembered the footstool of his feet on the day of his anger.

²The Lord devoured; he did not show compassion on all the pastures of Jacob.

In his fury, he threw down the fortifications of the daughter of Judah.

He struck the earth with disgrace, the kingdom and its princes.

³With fierce anger he cut off every horn of Israel.

He turned away his right hand from before the enemy.

And he has burned Jacob; like a flame of fire it devoured the surrounding.

⁴He has bent his bow like an enemy;

his right hand is posed like an adversary.

And he has slain all those precious to the eye in the tent of the daughter of Zion.

he has poured out his wrath like fire.

⁵The Lord has become like an enemy. He has swallowed up Israel.

He has swallowed up all her palaces. He has destroyed its fortifications.

And he has multiplied mourning and lamentation within the daughter of Judah.

⁶And he was violent with his garden tabernacle. He ruined his appointed place.

Yahweh has caused the appointed festival and Sabbath to be forgotten in Zion.

And he has despised the king and priest in his indignant anger.

⁷The Lord has rejected his altar. He abandoned his sanctuary.

He has closed in the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces.

They raised a shout in the house of Yahweh, as a day of the appointed festival.

⁸Yahweh planned to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion.

He stretched out the measuring line. He did not withhold his hand from devouring.

And he has brought the ramparts and wall to mourning. Together they wasted away.

⁹Her gates sank into the ground. He has destroyed and shattered her bars.

Her king and her princes are among the nations. There is no law.

Also, her prophets do not find a vision from Yahweh.

¹⁰They sit on the ground. The elders of the daughter of Zion are silenced.

They have thrown up dust on their heads and put on sackcloth.

The virgins of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground.

¹¹My eyes have failed with tears. My stomach churns.

My inner parts are poured out to the ground, because of the destruction of the daughter of my people, when child and infant faint in the streets of the town.

¹²They say to their mothers, "Where is grain and wine?"

when they faint like the slain in the streets of the city,

when their lives are poured out in the lap of their mothers.

¹³What can I testify to you? To what can I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem?

To what can I liken you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion?

For your brokenness is as great as the sea. Who can heal you?

¹⁴Your prophets have seen for you false and worthless visions.

And they did not expose your iniquity, to restore your fortunes,

but they have seen for you false and enticing oracles.

¹⁵All those passing on the road clap their hands at you.

They hiss and shake their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem.

"Is this the city that they called 'the fullness of beauty, the joy of all the earth?'"

¹⁶All your enemies opened their mouths against you.

They hiss and grind their teeth. They say, "We have devoured!

Surely this is the day we have waited for! We have found, we have seen!"

¹⁷Yahweh has done what he planned to finish.

His word, which he commanded from days before, he has overthrown and showed no compassion.

And the enemy rejoiced over you. He has lifted up the horn of your adversaries.

¹⁸Their heart cried out to the Lord,

“O walls of the daughter of Zion.”

Like a tearful river, let your tears flow down day and night.

Do not give relief to yourself. Do not rest your eyes.

¹⁹Arise, shout in the night, at the center of the night watches!

Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord.

Lift up your hands to him for the life of your children, those fainting with hunger at the center of every street.”

²⁰Look, O Yahweh, and see those you have dealt with in this way.

Should women eat their fruit, newborn children?

Should priest and prophet be slaughtered in the sanctuary of the Lord?

²¹The young and the old lie down in the dirt of the streets.

My young women and my young men have fallen by the sword.

You have struck down; in the day of your anger you slaughtered. You showed no compassion.

²²You have summoned, as a festival day, my surrounding terrors.

And there was not an escapee nor survivor on the day of the anger of Yahweh.

Those I birthed and multiplied, my enemy has ended them.

Chapter 3

¹I am the man seeing affliction by the rod of his fury.

²He led me and brought about darkness and not light.

³Surely, against me he turned; his hand twisted all day.

⁴He exhausted my flesh and my skin; he shattered my bones.

⁵He built up against me and made a surrounding of bitterness and hardship.

⁶He makes me dwell in dark places like the dead of long ago.

⁷He built a wall around me and I cannot escape. He made my chains heavy.

⁸Even though I call out and cry for help, he blocks my prayer.

⁹He built a wall around my way with hewn stone; he perverted my paths.

¹⁰He is a bear ready to ambush me, a lion in hiding.

¹¹He disordered my paths and tore me apart; he has made me desolate.

¹²He bent his bow and set me up like a target for an arrow.

¹³He pierced my kidneys with the arrows of his quiver.

- ¹⁴I became a joke to all the peoples, their taunt all day.
- ¹⁵He filled me with bitterness; he forced me to drink wormwood.
- ¹⁶And he made my teeth grind with gravel; he made me cower in the dust.
- ¹⁷And my soul is deprived of peace; I have forgotten good.
- ¹⁸And I said, "My endurance has perished and my hope in Yahweh."
- ¹⁹Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and bitterness.
- ²⁰It continually remembers and my soul melts within me.
- ²¹This I return to my heart; therefore, I have hope.
- ²²The steadfast love of Yahweh does not cease; his mercy does not end.
- ²³They are new morning by morning; great is your faithfulness.
- ²⁴"Yahweh is my portion," my soul said; therefore, I will hope in him.
- ²⁵Yahweh is good to those who wait for him, to the soul seeking him.
- ²⁶It is good to wait and be silent for the salvation of Yahweh.
- ²⁷It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.
- ²⁸Let him sit alone and be silent when it is laid upon him.
- ²⁹Let him put his mouth in the dust; perhaps there is hope.
- ³⁰Let him give his cheek to the one striking him; let him be filled with reproach.
- ³¹For the Lord will not withhold forever.
- ³²Though he brings grief, he will be merciful according to the abundance of his steadfast love.
- ³³For he does not afflict from his heart or grieve the sons of man.
- ³⁴Crushing under his feet all the prisoners of the earth;
- ³⁵denying a man justice before the face of the Most High;
- ³⁶perverting a man in his dispute—the Lord does not approve.
- ³⁷Who has spoken this and it happened, if the Lord did not command?
- ³⁸Did not trouble and good come forth from the mouth of the Most High?
- ³⁹How can a person, a living man, complain about his guilt?
- ⁴⁰Let us examine our ways and let us seek and return to Yahweh.
- ⁴¹Let us lift up our hearts with our hands to God in heaven.
- ⁴²We have surely transgressed and disobeyed you; you did not pardon.

- ⁴³You wrapped in anger and pursued us; you slayed; you showed no pity.
- ⁴⁴You wrapped yourself in a cloud, from a prayer passing through.
- ⁴⁵You made us an outcast and garbage among the nations.
- ⁴⁶They open their mouth against us, all our enemies.
- ⁴⁷Panic and pitfall have come for us, ruin and destruction.
- ⁴⁸My eyes flow with streams of water because the daughter of my people are destroyed.
- ⁴⁹My eye pours forth and it does not cease. There was no relief,
- ⁵⁰until he looked down and Yahweh saw from heaven.
- ⁵¹My eyes grieve my soul because of all the daughters of my city.
- ⁵²Surely, my enemies hunted me like a bird without cause.
- ⁵³They silenced my life with a pit and threw a stone on me.
- ⁵⁴They made water overflow over my head. I said, 'I have been cut off!'
- ⁵⁵I called your name, O Yahweh, from the depths of the pit.
- ⁵⁶You heard my voice. 'Do not shut your ear to my relief, to my cry for help.'
- ⁵⁷You came near in the day I called you; you said, 'Do not fear.'
- ⁵⁸O Lord, you defended the dispute of my soul; you saved my life.
- ⁵⁹O Yahweh, you saw my affliction; judge my case.
- ⁶⁰You have seen all their insults, all their plots against me.
- ⁶¹You have heard their scorn, O Yahweh, all their plots against me.
- ⁶²The lips of my assailants and their songs are against me all day.
- ⁶³Look! their sitting and rising, their songs are against me.
- ⁶⁴You, O Yahweh, will return to them a payment according to the deeds of their hands.
- ⁶⁵Give them an insolent heart; your condemnation be upon them!
- ⁶⁶You pursue in anger and destroy them from under heaven, O Yahweh.

Chapter 4

- ¹O how the gold is tarnished; the pure gold has changed.
The holy stones are scattered at the corner of every street.
- ²The precious sons of Zion were weighed with fine gold.
O how they are regarded as clay jars, the work of potter's hands!

³Even the jackals offer the breast; they nurse their cubs.

The daughter of my people are fierce like the ostriches in the wilderness.

⁴The tongue of the nursing baby sticks to the roof of his mouth with thirst.

The children ask those dispersing for food; there is none for them.

⁵Those eating the finest food are desolate in the streets.

Those attended with scarlet cloth embrace piles of garbage.

⁶The guilt of the daughter of my people is greater than the sin of Sodom.

It was overthrown as a moment and no hands were wrung for her.

⁷Her Nazarites were more pure than snow; they were more white than milk.

Their bones were more ruddy than coral; their parts were sapphire.

⁸Blackness has darkened their form;

they are not recognized in the streets.

Their skin has shriveled on their bones;

it has become dry as wood.

⁹Those slain by the sword were happier than those slain by hunger,

those who slowly wasted away from the piercing of the field's produce.

¹⁰The hands of compassionate women boiled their children;

they became for them a meal in the destruction of the daughter of my people.

¹¹Yahweh brought to completion his wrath; he poured out his fierce anger.

And he kindled a fire in Zion that consumed her foundations.

¹²The kings of the earth did not believe,

nor any of the inhabitants of the world,

that the adversary and enemy would enter into the gates of Jerusalem.

¹³The sins of her prophets were more than the iniquities of her priests;

they poured out in her midst the blood of the righteous.

¹⁴They stumble blind in the streets.

They are defiled with blood.

There were none able to touch their clothes.

¹⁵"Away! Unclean!" they shouted at them. "Away! Away! Do not touch!"

So they fled, even stumbling. They said among the nations, "They shall not prolong the sojourn."

¹⁶The face of Yahweh scattered them; he will not continue to watch over them.

The face of the priests will no longer rise up; the elders show no grace.

¹⁷In our waiting, our eyes closed in vain for our helper.

In our watchtowers, we looked to the nations. He did not rescue.

¹⁸They tracked our steps,

walking in our paths.

Our end drew near. Our days were fulfilled, for our end has come.

¹⁹Our pursuers became more swift than eagles of heaven.

They set us ablaze on the mountains; they lay in wait for us in the wilderness.

²⁰A breath of our nostrils, Yahweh's anointed was captured in their pits;

of whom we said, "In his shadow, we will live among the nations."

²¹Rejoice and be glad, O Daughter of Edom,

who dwells in the land of Uz.

Against you also the cup will pass;

you will be drunk and go about naked.

²²O Daughter of Zion, your guilt will finish;

he will not extend your exile.

He will visit your guilt, O Daughter of Edom;

he will uncover your sins.

Chapter 5

¹Remember, O Yahweh, what has happened to us;

look and see our disgrace.

²Our inheritance has been turned over to strangers;

our houses to foreigners.

³We have become orphans, there is no father,

and our mothers are like widows.

⁴We drink our water with silver;

we bring in our wood with a price.

⁵We are pressed on our necks.

We toil; there is no rest for us.

⁶We have given a hand to Egypt,

Assyria to satisfy bread.

⁷Our fathers sinned; they are no more.

We ourselves bear their iniquities.

⁸Slaves rule over us;

there is no one to deliver from their hand.

⁹We bring in our bread by our lives,

from the sword blade of the wilderness.

¹⁰Our skin grows hot as an oven,

from the burning of hunger.

¹¹Women are raped in Zion;

virgins in the cities of Judah.

¹²Princes are hung by their hands;

they show no honor to the face of elders.

¹³Young men lift the grind stone

and boys stagger with wood.

¹⁴The elders cease from the gate,

the young men from their songs.

¹⁵Our hearts cease from joy;

our dancing has turned to mourning.

¹⁶The crown of our head has fallen.

Woe to us, for we have sinned!

¹⁷On account of this, our hearts have become sick;

on account of these things, our eyes grow dim.

¹⁸On account of Mount Zion, which is desolate, jackals tread over it.

¹⁹You, O Yahweh, are forever.

You will sit upon your throne from generation to generation.

²⁰Why do you forget us for so long?

You forsake us for many days?

²¹Return us to yourself, O Yahweh, and we will be restored.

Renew our days as long ago—

²²unless you have utterly rejected us,

are angry with us beyond measure.

Ezekiel

Chapter 1

¹In the thirtieth year, the fourth month, and the fifth day of the month, it came about that I was living among the captives by the Kebar Canal. The heavens opened, and I saw visions of God. ²On the fifth day of that month—it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin—³the word of Yahweh came to Ezekiel son of Buzi the priest, in the land of the Chaldeans by the Kebar Canal, and the hand of Yahweh was upon him there.

⁴Then I looked, and there was a windstorm coming from the north; a great cloud with fire flashing within it and brightness surrounding it and inside of it, and the fire was the color of amber inside the cloud. ⁵In the middle was the likeness of four living creatures. This was their appearance: They had the likeness of a man, ⁶but they had four faces each, and each of the creatures had four wings. ⁷Their legs were straight, but the soles of their feet were like the hooves of a calf that shone like polished bronze. ⁸Yet they had human hands under their wings on all four sides. For all four, their faces and wings were like this: ⁹their wings were touching the wings of the next creature, and they did not turn as they went; instead, each one went straight forward. ¹⁰The likeness of their faces was like the face of a man. The four of them had the face of a lion to the right side, and the four of them had the face of an ox on the left side. They four had also the face of an eagle. ¹¹Their faces were like that, and their wings were spread out above, so that each creature had a pair of wings that touched another creature's wing, and also a pair of wings that covered their bodies. ¹²Each went straight forward, so that wherever the Spirit directed them to go, they went without turning. ¹³As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches; bright fire also moved about among the creatures, and there were flashes of lightning. ¹⁴The living creatures were moving swiftly back and forth, and they had the appearance of lightning!

¹⁵Then I looked at the living creatures; and I saw one wheel on the ground beside each of living creatures with its four faces. ¹⁶This was the appearance and structure of the wheels: Each wheel was like beryl, and the four had the same likeness; their appearance and structure was like a wheel intersecting another wheel. ¹⁷As they moved, they went in any of their four directions, without turning as they went. ¹⁸As for their rims, they were high and fearsome, for the rims were full of eyes round about. ¹⁹Whenever the living creatures moved, the wheels moved beside them. When the living creatures rose up from the earth, the wheels also rose up. ²⁰Wherever the Spirit would go, they went, and the wheels rose up beside them, for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. ²¹Whenever the creatures moved, the wheels also moved; and when the creatures stood still, the wheels stood still; when the creatures rose up from the earth, the wheels rose up beside them, because the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

²²Over the heads of the living creatures was the likeness of an expansive dome; it looked like awe-inspiring crystal stretched out over their heads above. ²³Beneath the dome, each one of the creature's wings stretched out straight and touched another creature's wings. Each of the living creatures also had a pair to cover themselves; each had a pair to cover his own body. ²⁴Then I heard the sound of their wings. Like the noise of many waters. Like the voice of the Almighty whenever they moved. Like the sound of a rainstorm. Like the sound of an army. Whenever they stood still, they lowered their wings. ²⁵A voice came from above the dome over their heads whenever they stood still and lowered their wings.

²⁶Above the dome over their heads was the likeness of a throne that was like the appearance of a sapphire stone, and on the likeness of the throne was a likeness like the appearance of a man. ²⁷I saw a figure with the appearance of glowing metal with fire in it from the appearance of his hips up; I saw from the appearance of his hips downward the appearance of fire and brightness all around. ²⁸Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day

was the appearance of the bright light surrounding it. It was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of Yahweh. When I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice speaking.

Chapter 2

¹He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet; then I will speak to you." ²Then, as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, "Son of man, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to rebellious nations that have rebelled against me—both they and their ancestors have sinned against me up to this very day! ⁴Their descendants have stubborn faces and hard hearts. I am sending you to them, and you will say to them, 'This is what the Lord Yahweh says.' ⁵Either they will listen or they will not listen. They are a rebellious house, but they will at least know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶You, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be afraid, although you are with briars and thorns and although you live with scorpions. Do not fear their words or be dismayed by their faces, since they are a rebellious house. ⁷But you will speak my words to them, whether they listen or not, because they are most rebellious.

⁸But you, son of man, listen to what I am saying to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I am about to give to you!" ⁹Then I looked, and a hand was extended out to me; in it was a written scroll. ¹⁰He spread it out before me; it had been written on both its front and back, and written on it were lamentations, mourning, and woe.

Chapter 3

¹He said to me, "Son of man, what you have found, eat. Eat this scroll, then go speak to the house of Israel." ²So I opened my mouth, and he fed me that scroll. ³He said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly and fill your stomach with this scroll that I have given to you!" So I ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth.

⁴Then he said to me, "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak my words to them. ⁵For you are not being sent to a people of strange speech or difficult language, but to the house of Israel— ⁶not to many peoples of strange speech or a difficult language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely if I sent you to them, they would have listened to you. ⁷But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me. So all the house of Israel is strong browed and hard hearted. ⁸Behold! I have made your face as hard as their faces and your brow as hard as their brows. ⁹I have made your brow like a diamond, harder than flint! Do not fear them or be discouraged by their faces, since they are a rebellious house." ¹⁰Then he said to me, "Son of man, all the words that I announce to you—take them into your heart and hear them with your ears! ¹¹Then go to the captives, to your people, and speak to them. Say to them, 'This is what the Lord Yahweh says,' whether they will listen or not."

¹²Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me the sound of a great earthquake: "Blessed be the glory of Yahweh from his place!" ¹³It was the sound of the wings of the living creatures as they touched one another, and the sound of the wheels that were with them, and the sound of a great earthquake. ¹⁴The Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went with bitterness in my spirit's rage, for the hand of Yahweh was powerfully pressing on me! ¹⁵So I went to the captives at Tel Aviv who lived along the Kebar Canal, and I stayed there among them for seven days, overwhelmed in amazement.

¹⁶Then it happened after seven days that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁷"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel, so listen to the word from my mouth, and give them my warning. ¹⁸When I say to the wicked, 'You will surely die' and you do not warn him or speak a warning to the wicked about his evil deeds so he might live—the wicked one will die for his sin, but I will require his blood from your hand. ¹⁹But if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his wicked deeds, then he will die for his sin, but you

will have rescued your own life. ²⁰If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and acts unjustly, and I set a stumbling block before him, he will die. Because you did not warn him, he will die in his sin, and I will not call to mind the righteous deeds that he performed, but I will require his blood from your hand. ²¹But if you warn the righteous man to stop sinning so that he no longer sins, he will surely live since he was warned; and you will have rescued your own life."

²²So the hand of Yahweh was on me there, and he said to me, "Arise! Go out into the plain, and I will speak with you there!" ²³I arose and went out into the plain, and there the glory of Yahweh was staying, like the glory that I had seen beside the Kebar Canal; so I fell on my face. ²⁴The Spirit came to me and stood me up on my feet; and he spoke with me, and said to me, "Go and shut yourself up within your house, ²⁵for now, son of man, they will place ropes upon you and tie you so you cannot go out among them. ²⁶I will make your tongue stick to the roof of your mouth, so you will be mute, and you will not be able to rebuke them, since they are a rebellious house. ²⁷But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth so you will say to them, 'This is what the Lord Yahweh says.' The one who will hear will hear; the one who will not listen will not listen, for they are a rebellious house!"

Chapter 4

¹"But you, son of man, take a brick for yourself and place it before you. Then carve the city of Jerusalem on it. ²Then lay siege against it, and build forts against it. Raise up an assault ramp against it and set camps around it. Place battering rams all around it. ³Then take for yourself an iron pan and use it as an iron wall between yourself and the city and set your face against it, for it will be under siege, and you are to put the siege against it. This will be a sign to the house of Israel.

⁴Then, lie on your left side and put the sin of the house of Israel on it; you will carry their sin for the number of the days that you lie down against the house of Israel. ⁵I myself am assigning to you one day to represent each year of their punishment: 390 days! In this way, you will carry the sin of the house of Israel. ⁶When you have completed these days, then lie down a second time on your right side, for you will carry the sin of the house of Judah for forty days. I am assigning to you one day for each year. ⁷Set your face toward Jerusalem that is under siege, and with your arm uncovered prophesy against it. ⁸For behold! I am placing bonds on you so you will not turn from one side to the other until you have completed the days of your siege.

⁹Take for yourself wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet, and spelt; put them in a single container and make bread for yourself according to the number of the days that you will lie upon your side. For 390 days you will eat it. ¹⁰The food you will eat will be by weight, twenty shekels per day, and you will eat it at set times each day. ¹¹Then you will drink water, measured out to a sixth of a hin, and you will drink it at set times. ¹²You will eat it as barley cakes, but you will bake it on excrement of human dung within their sight!" ¹³For Yahweh says, "This means that the bread that the people of Israel will eat will be unclean, there among the nations where I will banish them." ¹⁴But I said, "Alas, Lord Yahweh! I have never been unclean! I have never eaten either anything that died or anything killed by animals, from my youth until now, and foul meat has never entered my mouth!" ¹⁵So he said to me, "Look! I have given you cow manure instead of human dung so you can prepare your bread over that." ¹⁶He also said to me, "Son of man! Behold! I am breaking the staff of bread in Jerusalem, and they will eat bread while rationing it in anxiety and drink water while rationing it in trembling. ¹⁷Because they will lack bread and water, every man will be dismayed at his brother and waste away because of their iniquity."

Chapter 5

¹"Then you, son of man, take a sharp sword as a barber's razor for yourself, and pass the razor over your head and your beard, then take scales to weigh and divide your hair. ²Burn a third of it with fire in the midst of the city when the days of the siege are completed, and take a third of the hair and strike it with the sword all around the city. Then scatter a third of it to the wind, and I will draw out a sword to chase after the people. ³But take a small

number of hairs from them and tie them into the folds of your robe. ⁴Then take more of the hair and throw it into the midst of the fire; and burn it in the fire; from there a fire will go out to all the house of Israel."

⁵The Lord Yahweh says this, "This is Jerusalem in the midst of the nations, where I have placed her, and where I have surrounded her with other lands. ⁶But she has in wickedness rejected my decrees more than the nations have, and my statutes more than the countries that surround her. The people have rejected my judgments and have not walked in my statutes." ⁷Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, "Because you are more troublesome than the nations that surround you and have not walked in my statutes or acted according to my decrees, or even acted according to the decrees of the nations that surround you," ⁸therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, "Behold! I myself will act against you. I will execute judgments within your midst for the nations to see. ⁹I will do to you what I have not done and the like of which I will not do again, because of all your disgusting actions. ¹⁰Therefore fathers will eat the children in your midst, and sons will eat their fathers, since I will execute judgment on you and scatter to every direction all of you who are left. ¹¹Therefore, as I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—it is certainly because you have defiled my sanctuary with all your hateful things and with all your disgusting deeds, that I myself will reduce you in number; my eye will not have pity on you, and I will not spare you. ¹²A third of you will die by plague, and they will be consumed by famine in your midst. A third will fall by the sword surrounding you. Then I will scatter a third in every direction, and draw out a sword to chase after them as well.

¹³Then my wrath will be completed, and I will cause my fury toward them to rest. I will be satisfied, and they will know that I, Yahweh, have spoken in my wrath when I have completed my fury against them. ¹⁴I will make you a desolation and a reproach to the nations that surround you in the sight of everyone who passes by. ¹⁵So Jerusalem will become something for other people to condemn and to mock, a warning and a horror to the nations that surround you. I will execute judgments against you in wrath and fury, and with a furious rebuke—I, Yahweh have declared this! ¹⁶I will send out harsh arrows of famine against you that will become the means with which I will destroy you. For I will increase the famine on you and break your staff of bread. ¹⁷I will send a famine and disasters against you so you will be childless. Plague and blood will pass through you, and I will bring a sword against you—I, Yahweh, have declared this."

Chapter 6

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, set your face against the mountains of Israel and prophesy to them. ³Say, 'Mountains of Israel, listen to the word of the Lord Yahweh! The Lord Yahweh says this to the mountains and to the hills, to the streambeds, and to the valleys: Behold! I am bringing a sword against you, and I will destroy your high places. ⁴Then your altars will become desolate and your pillars will be destroyed, and I will throw down your dead in front of their idols. ⁵I will lay the dead bodies of the people of Israel before their idols, and scatter your bones around your altars. ⁶Everywhere you live, cities will be laid waste and the high places ruined, so that your altars will be laid waste and made desolate. Then they will be broken and disappear, your pillars will be cut down and your works will be wiped away. ⁷The dead will fall down in your midst and you will know that I am Yahweh.

⁸But I will preserve a remnant among you, and there will be some who escape the sword among the nations, when you are scattered throughout the countries. ⁹Then those who escape will think of me among the nations where they will be held captive, that I was grieved by their promiscuous heart that turned away from me, and by their eyes that whored after their idols. Then they will show loathing on their face for the wickedness which they have committed with all their abominations. ¹⁰So they will know that I am Yahweh. It was for a reason that I said I would bring this evil to them.

¹¹The Lord Yahweh says this: Clap your hands and stomp your foot! Say, 'Alas!' because of all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! For they will fall by sword, famine, and plague. ¹²The one far away will die by plague, and the one who is near will fall by the sword. Those who remain and survive will die by famine. In this way I will accomplish my fury against them. ¹³Then you will know that I am Yahweh, when their dead lie among their idols,

around their altars, on every high hill—on all the mountain peaks, and under every flourishing tree and thick oak—the places where they burned incense to all their idols. ¹⁴I will strike with my hand and make the land desolate and a waste, from the wilderness to Diblah, throughout all the places where they live. Then they will know that I am Yahweh.”^[1]

6:14 ^[1], some ancient copies and modern versions have .

Chapter 7

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“You, son of man—the Lord Yahweh says this to the land of Israel.”

‘An end! An end has come to the four borders of the land.

³Now the end is upon you, for I am sending out my wrath on you, and I will judge you according to your ways; then I will bring all your abominations upon you.

⁴For my eyes will not pity you, and I will not spare you. Instead, I will bring your ways upon you, and your abominations will be in your midst, so you will know that I am Yahweh.

⁵The Lord Yahweh says this:

Disaster! A unique disaster! Behold, it is coming.^[1]

⁶An end is surely coming. The end has woken up against you. Behold, it is coming!

⁷Your doom is coming to you who inhabit the land.

The time has come; the day of destruction is near, and the mountains will no longer be joyful.

⁸Now before long I will pour out my fury against you and fill up my wrath upon you when I judge you according to your ways and bring all your abominations upon you.

⁹For my eye will not look compassionately, and I will not spare you. As you have done, I will do to you; and your abominations will be in your midst so you will know that I am Yahweh, the one punishing you.

¹⁰Behold, the day! Behold, it is coming!

Doom has gone out! The rod has blossomed, arrogance has budded!

¹¹Violence has grown up into a rod of wickedness—

none of them, and none of their multitude, none of their wealth, and none of their importance will last!

¹²The time is coming; the day has come close. Do not let the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn, since my anger is on the entire multitude!

¹³For the seller will not return to the land he sold as long as they both live, because the vision concerning the entire multitude will not be reversed; and because of their sins, none of them will be strengthened!

¹⁴They have blown the trumpet and made everything ready, but there is no one marching to battle;

since my anger is on the entire multitude.

¹⁵The sword is on the outside, and plague and famine are inside the building.

Those who are in the field will die by the sword, while famine and plague will consume those in the city.

¹⁶But some survivors will escape from among them, and they will go to the mountains.

Like doves of the valleys, all of them will moan—each man for his iniquity.

¹⁷Every hand will falter and every knee will be weak as water,

¹⁸and they will wear sackcloth, and terror will cover them;

and shame will be on every face, and baldness on all of their heads.

¹⁹They will throw their silver into the streets and their gold will be like refuse. Their silver and their gold

will not be able to rescue them in the day of Yahweh's rage. Their lives will not be saved,

and their hunger will not be satisfied, because their iniquity has become a stumbling block.

²⁰In their pride they took the beauty of his jeweled ornaments, and with them they made their idolatrous figures, and their detestable things. Therefore, I am turning these into an unclean thing to them.

²¹Then I will give those things into the hand of strangers as plunder and to the wicked of the earth as plunder, and they will defile them.

²²Then I will turn my face away from them when they defile my cherished place;

bandits will enter it and defile it.

²³Make a chain, because the land is filled with the judgment of blood,

and the city is full of violence.

²⁴So I will bring the most wicked of the nations, and they will possess their houses,

and I will bring an end to the pride of the mighty, for their holy places will be defiled!

²⁵Fear will come! They will seek peace, but there will be none.

²⁶Disaster upon disaster will come, and there will be rumor after rumor.

Then they will seek a vision from the prophet, but the law will perish from the priest and advice from the elders.

²⁷The king will mourn and the prince will dress in despair,

while the hands of the people of the land will tremble in fear. According to their own ways I will do this to them!

I will judge them with their own standards until they know that I am Yahweh.”

7:5 ^[1] some ancient copies have

Chapter 8

¹So it came about in the sixth year and 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 Yahweh again fell upon me there. ²So I looked, and

behold, there was a likeness with the appearance of a man. From the appearance of his hips downward there was fire. And from his hips upward there was the appearance of something shining, like glowing metal. ³Then he reached out the form of a hand and took me by the hair of my head; the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and in visions from God, he brought me to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the inner northern gate, where the idol that provokes great jealousy was standing. ⁴Then behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision I had seen on the plain.

⁵Then he said to me, "Son of man, lift up your eyes to the north." So I lifted up my eyes to the north, and to the north of the gate leading to the altar, there in the entrance, was the idol of jealousy. ⁶So he said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they are doing? These are great abominations that the house of Israel is doing here to make me go far from my own sanctuary. But you will turn and see even greater abominations."

⁷Then he brought me to the doorway of the courtyard, and I looked, and there was a hole in the wall. ⁸He said to me, "Son of man, dig into this wall." So I dug into the wall, and there was a door. ⁹Then he said to me, "Go and see the wicked abominations that they are doing here." ¹⁰So I went in and looked, and behold! There was every form of creeping thing and detestable beast! Every idol of the house of Israel was carved into the wall all around. ¹¹Seventy elders of the house of Israel were there, and Jaazaniah son of Shaphan was standing in their midst. They were standing in front of the images, and each man had his censer in his hand so that the smell of the cloud of incense went up. ¹²He said to me, "Son of man, do you see what the elders of the house of Israel are doing in the dark? Each one does this in the hidden chamber of his idol, for they say, 'Yahweh does not see us! Yahweh has forsaken the land.'" ¹³Then he said to me, "Turn again and see the other great abominations that they are doing."

¹⁴Next he brought me to the entrance of the gate of Yahweh's house that was on the north side, and behold! The women were sitting there mourning for Tammuz. ¹⁵So he said to me, "Do you see this, son of man? Turn again and see even greater abominations than these."

¹⁶He brought me into the inner courtyard of Yahweh's house, and behold! at the entrance of the temple of Yahweh between the portico and the altar, there were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of Yahweh and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun. ¹⁷He said to me, "Do you see this, son of man? Is it a little thing for the house of Judah to do these abominations that they are doing here? For they have filled the land with violence and they have turned again to provoke me to anger, putting the branch to their noses. ¹⁸So I will also act among them; my eye will not have compassion, and I will not spare them. Though they cry in my ears with a loud voice, I will not hear them."

Chapter 9

¹Then he cried in my hearing with a loud voice, and said, "Let the guards come up to the city, each with his weapon of destruction in his hand." ²Then behold! Six men came from the pathway of the upper gate that faces north, each with his weapon of slaughter in his hand. There was a man in their midst dressed in linen with a scribe's equipment at his side. So they went in and stood beside the bronze altar.

³Then the glory of the God of Israel went up from the cherubim where it had been to the threshold of the house. He called to the man dressed in linen who had the scribe's equipment at his side. ⁴Yahweh said to him, "Pass through the midst of the city—the midst of Jerusalem—and make a mark on the foreheads of those who groan and sigh about all the abominations being performed in the midst of the city." ⁵Then he spoke to the others within my hearing, "Pass through the city after him and kill. Do not let your eyes have compassion, and do not spare ⁶either old man, young man, virgin, little children or women. Kill all of them! But do not approach anyone who has the mark on his head. Begin at my sanctuary!" So they began with the elders who were in front of the house. ⁷He said to them, "Defile the house, and fill its courtyards with the dead. Proceed!" So they went out and attacked the city. ⁸As they were attacking it, I found myself alone and I fell on my face and cried out and said, "Ah, Lord Yahweh, will you destroy all the remnant of Israel in the outpouring of your wrath on Jerusalem?"

⁹He said to me, "The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great. The land is full of blood and the city full of perversions, since they say, 'Yahweh has forgotten the land,' and 'Yahweh does not see!'" ¹⁰So then, my eye will not look with compassion, and I will not spare them. I will instead bring it all on their heads." ¹¹Behold! The man dressed in linen who had the scribe's equipment by his side came back. He reported and said, "I have done all that you have commanded."

Chapter 10

¹As I looked toward the dome that was over the heads of the cherubim; something appeared above them like a sapphire with the appearance of the likeness of a throne. ²Then Yahweh spoke to the man dressed in linen and said, "Go between the wheels underneath the cherubim, and fill both your hands with fiery coals from between the cherubim and scatter them over the city." Then the man went in as I watched. ³The cherubim stood on the right side of the house when the man went in, and a cloud filled the inner courtyard. ⁴The glory of Yahweh rose up from the cherubim and stood over the threshold of the house. It filled the house with the cloud, and the courtyard was full of the brightness of Yahweh's glory. ⁵The sound of the cherubim's wings was heard as far as the outer courtyard, like the voice of God Almighty when he speaks. ⁶It came about, when God commanded the man dressed in linen and said, "Take fire from between the wheels that are between the cherubim," the man went in and stood beside a wheel. ⁷A cherub reached out his hand between the cherubim to the fire that was among the cherubim, and lifted it up and placed it into the hands of the one dressed in linen. The man took it and went back out. ⁸I saw on the cherubim something like a man's hand under their wings.

⁹So I looked, and behold! Four wheels were beside the cherubim—one wheel beside each cherub—and the appearance of the wheels was like a beryl stone. ¹⁰Their appearance was the same likeness for all four of them, like a wheel intersecting another wheel. ¹¹When they moved, they went in any of their four directions, without turning as they went; but whatever direction the head faced, they followed after it without turning as they went. ¹²Their whole body—including their backs, their hands, and their wings—was covered with eyes, and eyes covered the four wheels all around also. ¹³As I listened, the wheels were called, "Whirling." ¹⁴They had four faces each; the first face was the face of a cherub, the second face was the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

¹⁵Then the cherubim—these were the living creatures that I had seen by the Kebar Canal—rose up. ¹⁶Whenever the cherubim moved, the wheels would go beside them, and whenever the cherubim lifted up their wings to rise up from the earth, the wheels did not turn. They still stayed beside them. ¹⁷When the cherubim stood still, the wheels stood still, and when they rose up, the wheels rose up with them, for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

¹⁸Then the glory of Yahweh went out from over the threshold of the house and stood over the cherubim. ¹⁹The cherubim lifted up their wings and rose from the earth in my sight when they went out, and the wheels did the same beside them. They stood at the eastern entrance to Yahweh's house, and the glory of the God of Israel came upon them from above.

²⁰These were the living creatures that I had seen below the God of Israel by the Kebar Canal, so I knew that they were cherubim! ²¹They had four faces each and four wings each, and the likeness of human hands under their wings, ²²and the likeness of their faces was like the faces that I had seen in the vision at the Kebar Canal, and each of them went straight ahead.

Chapter 11

¹Then the Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the eastern gate of Yahweh's house, facing east, and behold, in the doorway of the gate there were twenty-five men. I saw Jaazaniah son of Azzur and Pelatiah son of Benaiah, leaders of the people, among them. ²God said to me, "Son of man, these are the men who devise iniquity, and who decide

wicked plans in this city. ³They are saying, 'The time to build houses is not now; this city is the pot, and we are the meat.' ⁴Therefore prophesy against them. Prophesy, son of man."

⁵Then the Spirit of Yahweh fell on me and he said for me to say: This is what Yahweh says, "That is what you are saying, house of Israel; for I know what goes through your mind. ⁶You have multiplied the people you have killed in this city and filled its streets with them. ⁷Therefore, the Lord Yahweh says this: The people you have killed, whose bodies you have laid in the midst of Jerusalem, are the meat, and this city is the pot. But you are going to be brought out from the midst of this city. ⁸You have feared the sword, so I am bringing the sword upon you—this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh. ⁹I will bring you out of the midst of the city, and put you into the hands of foreigners, for I will bring judgment against you. ¹⁰You will fall by the sword. I will judge you within the borders of Israel so you will know that I am Yahweh. ¹¹This city will not be your cooking pot, nor will you be the meat within her midst. I will judge you within the borders of Israel. ¹²Then you will know that I am Yahweh, the one whose statutes you have not walked in and whose decrees you have not carried out. Instead, you have carried out the decrees of the nations that surround you."

¹³It came about that as I was prophesying, Pelatiah son of Benaiah, died. So I fell on my face and cried out with a loud voice and said, "Alas, Lord Yahweh, will you completely destroy the remnant of Israel?" ¹⁴The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁵"Son of man, your brothers! Your brothers! The men of your clan and all the house of Israel! All of them are those of whom it is said by those living in Jerusalem, 'They are far away from Yahweh! This land was given to us as our possession.' ¹⁶Therefore say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Though I have removed them far off among the nations, and though I have scattered them among the lands, yet I have been a sanctuary for them for a little while in the lands where they have gone.' ¹⁷Therefore say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: I will gather you from the peoples, and assemble you from the lands where you were scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.' ¹⁸Then they will go there and remove every detestable thing and every abomination from that place. ¹⁹I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them. I will take out the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰so that they will walk in my statutes, they will carry out my decrees and do them. Then they will be my people, and I will be their God. ²¹But to those who walk with affection toward their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their conduct on their own heads—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

²²The cherubim lifted up their wings and the wheels that were beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel was high up over them. ²³Then the glory of Yahweh went up from within the midst of the city and stood on the mountain to the east of the city. ²⁴The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into Chaldea, to the exiles, in the vision from the Spirit of God, and the vision that I had seen went up from upon me. ²⁵Then I declared to the exiles all the things of Yahweh that I had seen.

Chapter 12

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, you live in the midst of a rebellious house, where they have eyes to see but they do not see; and where they have ears to hear but do not listen, because they are a rebellious house. ³Therefore as for you, son of man, prepare your things for exile, and begin going out by day in their sight, for I will exile you in their sight from your place to another place. Perhaps they will begin to see, though they are a rebellious house. ⁴You will bring out your things for an exile in the day in their sight; go out in the evening in their sight in the way that anyone goes into exile. ⁵Dig a hole through the wall in their sight, and go out through it. ⁶In their sight, lift up your things onto your shoulder, and bring them out in the darkness. Cover your face, for you must not see the land, since I have set you as a sign to the house of Israel."

⁷So I did this, just as I was commanded. I brought out my things of exile in the daytime, and in the evening I dug a hole through the wall by hand. I brought my things out in the dark, and lifted them up on my shoulder in their sight. ⁸Then the word of Yahweh came to me in the morning, saying, ⁹"Son of man, is the house of Israel, that rebellious house, not asking, 'What are you doing?' ¹⁰Say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: this prophetic action concerns the prince in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel in whose midst they are.' ¹¹Say, 'I am a sign to you.' As

I have done, so it will be done to them; they will go into exile and into captivity. ¹²The prince who is among them will lift up his things upon his shoulder in the dark, and will go out through the wall. They will dig through the wall and bring out their things. He will cover his face, so he will not see the land with his eyes. ¹³I will spread out my net over him and he will be caught in my snare; then I will bring him to Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, but he will not see it. He will die there. ¹⁴I will also scatter in every direction all of those around him who were to assist him and his entire army, and I will send out a sword after them. ¹⁵Then they will know that I am Yahweh, when I scatter them among the nations and disperse them throughout the lands. ¹⁶But I will spare a few men from among them from the sword, famine, and plague, so they may record all of their abominations in the lands where I take them, so they will know that I am Yahweh."

¹⁷The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁸"Son of man, eat your bread with trembling, and drink your water with shaking and worry. ¹⁹Then say to the people of the land, 'The Lord Yahweh says this concerning the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the land of Israel, "They will eat their bread with trembling and drink their water while shaking, since the land will be despoiled of its fullness because of the violence of all those who live there. ²⁰So the cities that were inhabited will be desolate, and the land will become a wasteland; so you will know that I am Yahweh.'"

²¹Again the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²²"Son of man, what is this proverb that you have in the land of Israel that says, 'The days are prolonged, and every vision fails?' ²³Therefore, say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: I will put an end to this proverb, and the people of Israel will no longer use it.' Say to them, 'The days have drawn near when every vision will be fulfilled. ²⁴For there will no longer be any false visions or favorable divinations within the house of Israel. ²⁵For I am Yahweh! I speak, and I carry out the words that I speak. The matter will no longer be delayed. For I will speak this word in your days, rebellious house, and I will carry it out!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.'"

²⁶Again the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²⁷"Son of man! Behold, the house of Israel has said, 'The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of far off times.' ²⁸Therefore say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: My words will not be delayed any longer, but the word that I have spoken will be done—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.'"

Chapter 13

¹Again, the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, prophesy against the prophets who are prophesying in Israel, and say to those who are prophesying out of their own imaginations, 'Listen to the word of Yahweh. ³The Lord Yahweh says this: Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit, but who have seen nothing! ⁴Israel, your prophets have been like jackals in the wastelands. ⁵You have not gone to the breaks in the wall around the house of Israel in order to repair it, in order to resist in battle on the day of Yahweh. ⁶The people have false visions and make false predictions, those who say, "Such and such is Yahweh's declaration." Yahweh has not sent them, but they nevertheless have made people hope that their messages would come true. ⁷Have you not had false visions and made false predictions, you who say, "Such and such is Yahweh's declaration" when I myself have not spoken?'

⁸Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Because you have had false visions and have told lies—therefore this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration against you: ⁹My hand will be against the prophets who have lying visions and who make false predictions. They will not be in the assembly of my people, or enrolled in the record of the house of Israel; they must not go to the land of Israel. For you will know that I am the Lord Yahweh! ¹⁰Because of this, and because they led my people astray and said, "Peace!" when there is no peace, they are building a wall that they will paint with whitewash.' ¹¹Say to those who are whitewashing the wall, 'It will fall down; there will be a downpour of rain, and I will send hailstones to make it fall down, and a windstorm wind to break it down. ¹²See, the wall will fall down. Have others not said to you, "Where is the whitewash that you put on it?" ¹³Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: I will bring a windstorm in my rage, and there will be floods of rain in my wrath! Hailstones in my rage will

completely destroy it. ¹⁴For I will tear down the wall that you have covered with whitewash, and I will demolish it to the ground and lay bare its foundations. So it will fall, and you will be annihilated in the middle of it all. Then you will know that I am Yahweh. ¹⁵For I will annihilate in my fury the wall and those who whitewashed it. I will say to you, "The wall exists no more, nor do the people who whitewashed it— ¹⁶the prophets of Israel who prophesied about Jerusalem and who had visions of peace for her. But there is no peace!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

¹⁷So you, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who prophesy out of their own minds, and prophesy against them. ¹⁸Say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Woe to the women who sew magic charms onto every part of their hand and make veils for their heads of every size, used to hunt down people. Will you hunt down my people but save your own lives? ¹⁹You have profaned me among my people for handfuls of barley and crumbs of bread, to kill people who should not die, and to preserve the lives of those who should not continue to live, because of your lies to my people who heard you.

²⁰Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: I am against the magic charms that you have used to ensnare the people's lives as if they were birds. Indeed, I will tear them from your arms; and the people whom you have trapped like birds—I will let them go free. ²¹I will tear away your veils and rescue my people from your hand, so they will no longer be trapped in your hands. You will know that I am Yahweh. ²²Because you discourage the heart of the righteous person with lies, even though I did not desire his discouragement, and because you encourage instead the actions of the wicked person so that he will not turn from his way to save his life— ²³therefore you will no longer have false visions or continue to make predictions, for I will rescue my people out of your hand. You will know that I am Yahweh."

Chapter 14

¹Some of the elders of Israel came to me and sat before me. ²Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ³"Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts and have put the stumbling block of their iniquity before their own faces. Should I be inquired of at all by them? ⁴Therefore announce this to them and say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Every man of the house of Israel who takes his idols into his heart, or who puts the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and who then comes to a prophet—I, Yahweh, will answer him according to the number of his idols. ⁵I will do this so that I may take back the house of Israel in their hearts that have been driven far from me through their idols.'

⁶Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Repent and turn away from your idols! Turn back your faces from all your abominations. ⁷For every one from the house of Israel and every one of the foreigners staying in Israel who deserts me, who takes his idols into his heart and puts the stumbling block of his iniquity before his own face, and who then comes to a prophet to seek me—I, Yahweh, will answer him myself. ⁸So I will set my face against that man and make him a sign and a proverb, for I will cut him off from the midst of my people, and you will know that I am Yahweh. ⁹If a prophet is deceived and speaks a message, then I, Yahweh, will deceive that prophet; I will reach out with my hand against him and destroy him from the midst of my people Israel. ¹⁰They will carry their own iniquity; the iniquity of the prophet will be the same as the iniquity of the one who inquires from him. ¹¹Because of this, the house of Israel will no longer wander away from following me nor defile themselves any longer through all their transgressions. They will be my people, and I will be their God—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

¹²Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹³"Son of man, when a land sins against me by committing a sin so that I reach out with my hand against it and break the staff of its bread, and send out over it a famine and cut off both man and beast from the land; ¹⁴then even if these three men—Noah, Daniel, and Job—were in the land's midst, they could only rescue their own lives by their righteousness—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁵If I send evil beasts through the land and make it barren so that it becomes a wasteland where no man may pass through because of the beasts, ¹⁶then even if these same three men were in it—as I live, declares the Lord Yahweh—they would not be able to rescue even their own sons or daughters; only their own lives would be rescued, but

the land would become a wasteland. ¹⁷Or if I bring a sword against that land and say, 'Sword, go through the land and cut off both man and beast from it', ¹⁸then even if these three men were in the midst of the land—as I live, declares the Lord Yahweh—they would not be able to rescue even their own sons or daughters; only their own lives would be rescued. ¹⁹Or if I send a plague against this land and pour out my fury against it through bloodshed, in order to cut off both man and beast, ²⁰then even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were in that land—as I live, declares the Lord Yahweh—they would not be able to rescue even their own sons or daughters; only their own lives would be rescued by their righteousness.

²¹For the Lord Yahweh says this: I will certainly make things worse by sending my four punishments—famine, sword, wild animals, and plague—against Jerusalem to cut off both man and beast from her. ²²Yet, behold! A remnant will be left in her, survivors who will go out with sons and daughters. Behold! They will go out to you, and you will see their ways and actions and be comforted concerning the punishment that I have sent to Jerusalem, and about everything else that I have sent against the land. ²³The survivors will comfort you when you see their ways and their actions, so you will know all these things I have done against her, that I have not done them in vain!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 15

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, how is a vine better than any tree with branches that is among the trees in a forest? ³Do people take wood from a vine to make anything? Or do they make a peg from it to hang anything on it? ⁴See! If it is thrown into a fire as fuel, and if the fire has burned both of its ends and also the middle, is it good for anything? ⁵See! When it was complete, it could not make anything; surely then, when the fire has burned, then it still will not make anything useful. ⁶Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: Unlike the trees in the forests, I have given the vine as fuel for fires; I will act in the same way toward the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ⁷For I will set my face against them. Though they come out from the fire, yet the fire will consume them; so you will know that I am Yahweh, when I set my face against them. ⁸Then I will make the land into an abandoned wasteland because they have committed sin—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 16

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, inform Jerusalem about her abominations, ³and declare, 'The Lord Yahweh says this to Jerusalem: Your beginning and your birth took place in the land of Canaan; your father was an Amorite, and your mother was a Hittite. ⁴On the day of your birth, your mother did not cut your navel, nor did she purify you in water or rub you down with salt, or wrap cloth around you. ⁵No eye had compassion for you to do any of these things for you, to be compassionate toward you. On the day that you were born, with loathing for your life, you were thrown out into the open field.

⁶But I passed by you, and I saw you writhing in your own blood; so I said to you in your blood, "Live!" I said to you in your blood, "Live!"^[1] ⁷I made you grow like a plant in a field. You multiplied and became great, and you became the jewel of jewels. Your breasts became firm, and your hair grew thick, though you had been naked and bare. ⁸I passed by you again, and I saw you. See! the time of love came for you, so I spread my robe over you and covered your nakedness. Then I swore to you and brought you into a covenant—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—and you became mine. ⁹So I washed you with water and rinsed your blood off you, and I anointed you with oil. ¹⁰I dressed you in embroidered clothes and placed leather sandals on your feet. I wrapped you with fine linen and covered you with silk. ¹¹Next I adorned you with jewelry, and I put bracelets on your hands, and a chain around your neck. ¹²I put a nose ring in your nostrils and earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head. ¹³So you were adorned with gold and silver, and you were dressed in fine linen, silk, and embroidered clothes; you ate fine flour, honey, and oil, and you were very beautiful, and you became a queen. ¹⁴Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect in the majesty that I had given to you—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁵But you trusted in your own beauty, and you acted like a prostitute because of your fame; you poured out your acts of prostitution on everyone who passed by, so that your beauty became his. ¹⁶Then you took your clothes and with them you made high places for yourself decorated in various colors, and there you acted like a prostitute. This should not have happened. Nor should such a thing exist. ¹⁷You took the fine jewels of the gold and silver that I gave you, and you made for yourself male figures, and you did with them as a prostitute would do. ¹⁸You took your embroidered garments and covered them, and you set my oils and perfumes before them. ¹⁹My bread I gave you—made with fine flour, oil, and honey—you set before them for a fragrant aroma, for this is what happened—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ²⁰Then you took your sons and daughters whom you bore for me, and you sacrificed them to the images to be devoured as food. Are your acts of prostitution a small matter? ²¹You slaughtered my children to the idols and made them pass through the fire. ²²In all your abominations and your acts of prostitution you have not thought about the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare as you thrashed about in your blood.

²³Woe! Woe to you!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—therefore, in addition to all this wickedness, ²⁴you built yourself a mound and made yourself a lofty shrine in every public place. ²⁵You built your high place at the head of every road and made your beauty a disgrace, and you spread your legs to anyone who passed by, and you multiplied your acts of prostitution. ²⁶You have acted like a prostitute with the Egyptians, your lustful neighbors, and you committed many more acts of prostitution, provoking me to anger. ²⁷See! I will strike you with my hand and cut off your food. I will hand your life over to your enemies, the daughters of the Philistines, who were ashamed of your obscene behavior. ²⁸You have acted like a prostitute with the Assyrians because you could not be satisfied. You acted like a prostitute and still were not satisfied. ²⁹You performed many more acts of prostitution in the land of the merchants of Chaldea, and even this did not satisfy you.

³⁰How sick is your heart—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—that you would do all these things, deeds of a shameless prostitute? ³¹You have built your mounds at the head of every street and made your lofty shrines in every public square. Yet you were not like a prostitute because you scoffed at taking payment. ³²You adulterous woman, you accept strangers instead of your husband. ³³People give payment to every prostitute, but you give your wages to all your lovers and bribe them to come to you from all around for your acts of prostitution. ³⁴So there is a difference between you and other women. No one offers payment for you to act as a prostitute. You are the very opposite. You gave them payment and none was given to you.

³⁵Therefore, you prostitute, listen to the word of Yahweh. ³⁶The Lord Yahweh says this: Because you have poured out your lust and uncovered your nakedness through your acts of prostitution with your lovers and with all your detestable idols, and because you gave them your children's blood, ³⁷therefore, behold, I will gather all your lovers that you have met, all those whom you loved and all those whom you hated, and I will gather them against you on every side. I will uncover your nakedness to them so they see all your nakedness. ³⁸For I will punish you for adultery and the shedding of blood, and I will bring on you the bloodshed of my anger and passion. ³⁹I will give you into their hands so they will throw down your vaulted chamber and break down your high places and they will strip you of your clothes and take all of your jewelry. They will leave you naked and bare. ⁴⁰Then they will bring up a crowd against you and stone you with stones, and they will cut you apart with their swords. ⁴¹They will burn your houses and will perform many acts of punishment on you in the sight of many women, for I will put a stop to your prostitution, and you will no longer pay your lovers. ⁴²Then I will calm my fury against you; my anger will leave you, for I will be satisfied, and will no longer be angry. ⁴³Because you did not call to mind the days of your youth and have made me shake with anger because of all these things, therefore, behold! I myself will bring down on your own head the punishment for what you have done—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. Have you not added prostitution to all your other detestable practices?

⁴⁴Behold! Everyone who speaks proverbs concerning you will say, "As the mother is, so also is her daughter." ⁴⁵You are the daughter of your mother, who detested her husband and her children, and you are the sister of your sisters who detested their husbands and their children. Your mother was a Hittite, and your father was an Amorite. ⁴⁶Your older sister was Samaria and her daughters were the ones living in the north, while your younger sister was the one living south of you, that is, Sodom and her daughters. ⁴⁷You not only walked in their ways and copied their

behavior and practices, but in all your ways you have been worse than they were. ⁴⁸As I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—your sister Sodom and her daughters, have not done as much evil as you and your daughters have done. ⁴⁹Behold! This was the sin of your sister Sodom that she was arrogant in her leisure, careless and unconcerned about anything. She did not strengthen the hands of the poor and needy people. ⁵⁰She was arrogant and committed disgusting actions before me, so I took them away just as you have seen. ⁵¹Neither did Samaria commit even half of your sins; instead, you have done many more disgusting things than they did, and you have shown that your sisters were better than you because of all the disgusting things that you do! ⁵²Especially you, show your own shame; in this way you have shown that your sisters were better than you, because of the sins you committed in all those disgusting ways. Your sisters now seem better than you. Especially you, show your own shame, for in this way you have shown that your sisters were better than you.

⁵³For I will restore their fortunes—the fortunes of Sodom and her daughters, and the fortunes of Samaria and her daughters; but your fortunes will be among them. ⁵⁴On account of these things you will show your shame; you will be humiliated because of everything that you have done, and in this way you will be a comfort to them. ⁵⁵So your sister Sodom and her daughters will be restored to their former condition, and Samaria and her daughters will be restored to their former estate. Then you and your daughters will be restored to your former condition. ⁵⁶Sodom your sister was not even mentioned by your mouth in the days when you were proud, ⁵⁷before your wickedness was revealed. But now you are an object of scorn to the daughters of Edom and to all the daughters of the Philistines around her. People all about despise you.^[2] ⁵⁸You will show your shame and your disgusting actions!—this is Yahweh's declaration! ⁵⁹The Lord Yahweh says this: I will deal with you as you deserve, you who have despised your oath by breaking the covenant.

⁶⁰But I myself will call to mind my covenant with you made in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you. ⁶¹Then you will call to mind your ways and be ashamed when you receive your older sisters and your younger sisters. I will give them to you as daughters, but not because of your covenant. ⁶²I myself will establish my covenant with you, and you will know that I am Yahweh. ⁶³Because of these things, you will call everything to mind and be ashamed, so you will no longer open your mouth to speak because of your shame, when I have forgiven you for all that you have done—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.”

16:6 ^[1].

16:57 ^[2], some ancient copies and modern versions have , that is, Syria.

Chapter 17

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, present a riddle and speak a parable to the house of Israel. ³Say, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this:

A large eagle with large wings and long pinions, full of feathers,
and that was multicolored went to Lebanon and took hold of the top of a cedar tree.

⁴It broke off the tips of the branches and took them to the land of Canaan;
he planted it in a city of merchants.

⁵He also took some seed of the land and planted it in fertile soil.
He placed it beside a large body of water like a willow.

⁶Then it sprouted and became a spreading vine low to the ground.
Its branches turned toward him, and its roots grew under it.

So it became a vine and produced branches and sent out shoots.

⁷But there was another great eagle with large wings and many feathers.

Behold! This vine turned its roots toward the eagle,

and it spread out its branches toward the eagle from the place it had been planted so it would be watered.

⁸It had been planted in good soil beside a large body of water

so it would produce branches and sprout fruit, to become a magnificent vine.'

⁹Say to the people, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Will it prosper?

Will it not be uprooted and stripped of its fruit so that it withers, and all its fresh growth will wither?

No strong arm or many people will be needed to pull it out by its roots.

¹⁰So behold! After it has been planted, will it grow? Will it not wither when the eastern wind touches it?

It will completely wither away in the garden plot where it sprouted.'"

¹¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹²"Speak to the rebellious house, 'Do you not know what these things mean? Behold! The king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and took her king and her princes and brought them to him in Babylon. ¹³Then he took a royal descendant, made a covenant with him, and brought him under an oath. He took away the powerful people of the land, ¹⁴so the kingdom might become lowly and not lift itself up. By keeping his covenant the land will survive. ¹⁵But the king of Jerusalem rebelled against him by sending his ambassadors to Egypt to acquire horses and an army. Will he succeed? Will the one doing these things escape? If he breaks the covenant, will he escape? ¹⁶As I live!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—he will surely die in the land of the king who made him king, the king whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he broke. He will die in the middle of Babylon. ¹⁷Pharaoh with his mighty army and a great company of men will not help him in battle, when ramps are constructed and siege walls are built up to cut off many lives. ¹⁸For the king despised his oath by breaking the covenant. Behold, he reached out with his hand to make a promise and yet he did all these things. He will not escape. ¹⁹Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: As I live, was it not my oath that he despised and my covenant that he broke? So I will bring his punishment on his head! ²⁰I will spread my net out over him, and he will be caught in my hunting net. Then I will bring him to Babylon and execute judgment on him there for his treason that he committed when he betrayed me! ²¹All of his refugees in his armies will fall by the sword, and the ones who remain will be scattered in every direction. Then you will know that I am Yahweh; I have declared this would happen."

²²The Lord Yahweh says this, 'So I myself will take away the highest part of the cedar tree, and I will plant it away from its tender branches. I will break it off, and I myself will plant it on a high mountain. ²³I will plant it on the mountains of Israel so it will bear branches and produce fruit, and it will become a majestic cedar so that every winged bird will live under it. They will nest in the shade of its branches. ²⁴Then all the trees of the field will know that I am Yahweh. I bring down the high trees and I raise up the low trees. I wither the watered tree and I cause the dried tree to bloom. I am Yahweh, I have declared that this will happen; and I have done it.'"

Chapter 18

¹The word of Yahweh came to me again, saying, ²"What do you mean, you who use this proverb concerning the land of Israel and say,

'Fathers eat sour grapes, and the children's teeth are made blunt?' ³As I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—there will certainly no longer be any occasion for you to use this proverb in Israel. ⁴Behold! Every life belongs to me—the life of the father as well as the life of the son, they belong to me! The soul who sins is the one who will die!

⁵What can be said about a man who is righteous and who carries out justice and righteousness— ⁶if he does not eat upon the mountains or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, and he does not defile his neighbor's wife, nor approached a woman during her monthly period, is he a righteous man? ⁷What can be said about a man who does not oppress anyone, and he gives back to the debtor what was put up as security for a loan, and he does not commit theft but gives his food to the hungry and he covers the naked with clothes, is he a righteous man?

⁸What can be said about a man who does not charge too much interest for the money he loans, and he does not take too much profit for what he sells? It is said of him that he carries out justice and establishes faithfulness between people. ⁹If that man walks in my statutes and keeps my decrees to act faithfully, then the promise for this righteous man is this: He will surely live!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁰But suppose that he has a violent son who sheds blood and does any one of these things that were mentioned,^[1]

¹¹(though his father has not done any of these things). He eats upon the mountains and he defiles his neighbor's wife, what can be said about him? ¹²This man oppresses the poor and needy, and he seizes and robs, and he does not return a pledge, and he lifts up his eyes to the idols and commits disgusting actions, ¹³and he lends out money at too high interest and he makes too much profit on what he sells, should that man live? Surely he will not! He will certainly die and his blood will be on him because he has done all these detestable things.

¹⁴But behold! Suppose there is a man who bears a son, and his son sees all the sins that his father has committed, and though he sees them, he does not do those things. ¹⁵That son does not eat upon the mountains, and he does not lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, and he does not defile his neighbor's wife, what can be said about him? ¹⁶That son does not oppress anyone, or seize a pledge, or take stolen things, but instead gives his food to the hungry and covers up the naked with clothes. ¹⁷That son does not oppress anyone or take interest that is too high or make too much profit for a loan, but he carries out my decrees and walks according to my statutes; that son will not die for his father's sin: He will surely live! ¹⁸His father, since he oppressed others by extortion and robbed his brother, and did what is not good among his people—behold, he will die in his iniquity.

¹⁹But you say, 'Why does the son not bear the iniquity of his father?' Because the son carries out justice and righteousness and keeps all my statutes; he does them. He will surely live! ²⁰The one who sins, he is the one who will die. A son will not bear his father's iniquity, and a father will not bear his son's iniquity. The righteousness of the one who acts rightly will be on himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be on himself.

²¹But if the wicked turns away from all his sins that he has done, and keeps all my statutes and performs justice and righteousness, then he will certainly live and not die. ²²All the transgressions that he has committed will not be called to mind against him. He will live by the righteousness that he practices. ²³Do I greatly rejoice over the death of the wicked—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—and not in his turning away from his way so that he may live? ²⁴But if the righteous person turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity and practices abominations like all the abominations that the wicked person does, then will he live? All the righteousness that he had done will not be called to mind when he betrays me in his treason. So he will die in the sins that he committed.

²⁵But you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair!' Listen, house of Israel! Are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous man turns away from his righteousness, and commits iniquity and dies because of them, then he will die in the iniquity that he has done. ²⁷But when a wicked man turns away from his wickedness that he has done and performs justice and righteousness, then he will preserve his life. ²⁸For he has seen and turned away from all the transgressions that he had done. He will surely live, and he will not die. ²⁹But the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair!' How is my way not fair, house of Israel? It is your ways that are not fair. ³⁰Therefore I will judge each man among you according to his ways, house of Israel!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. Repent and turn away from all your transgressions so that they will not be stumbling blocks of iniquity against you. ³¹Throw away from yourselves all of the transgressions that you have committed; make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. Why should you die, house of Israel? ³²For I have no delight in the death of the one who dies—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—so repent and live!"

18:10 ^[1] .

Chapter 19

¹“Now you, take up a lamentation against the leaders of Israel ²and say,

‘Who was your mother? A lioness, she lived with a lion’s son;

in the midst of young lions, she nurtured her cubs.

³She is the one who raised up one of her cubs to become a young lion, a lion who learned to tear apart his victims, and then he devoured men.

⁴Then the nations heard about him. He was caught in their trap, and they brought him with hooks to the land of Egypt.

⁵Then she saw that although she had waited for his return, her expectation was now gone, so she took another of her cubs and raised him to become a young lion.

⁶This young lion roamed about in the midst of lions. He was a young lion and learned to tear his victims; he devoured men.

⁷He seized their widows and ruined their cities.

The land and its fullness were abandoned because of the sound of his roaring.^[1]

⁸But the nations came against him from the surrounding provinces;

they spread their nets over him. He was caught in their trap.

⁹With hooks they put him in a cage and then they brought him to the king of Babylon.

They brought him to the strongholds so that his voice would no longer be heard on the mountains of Israel.

¹⁰Your mother was like a vine planted in your blood beside the water.^[2]

It was fruitful and full of branches because of the abundance of water.

¹¹It had strong branches that were used for rulers’ scepters,

and its size was exalted above the branches,

and its height was seen by the greatness of its foliage.

¹²But the vine was uprooted in fury and thrown down to the earth, and an eastern wind dried out its fruit.

Its strong branches were broken off and withered and fire consumed them.

¹³So now it is planted in the wilderness, in a land of drought and thirst.

¹⁴For fire went out from her large branches and consumed its fruit.

There is no strong branch on it, no scepter to rule.’ This is a lamentation and will be sung as a lamentation.”

19:7 ^[1], some ancient copies and many modern versions have .

19:10 ^[2], some ancient copies and many modern versions have .

Chapter 20

¹It came about in the seventh year, on the tenth day of the fifth month, that elders of Israel came to inquire of Yahweh and sat before me. ²Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ³“Son of man, declare to the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: Have you come to inquire of me? As I live, I will not be inquired of by you!—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration.’ ⁴Will you judge them? Will you judge, son of man? Let them know about their fathers’ abominations. ⁵Say to them, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: On the day that I chose Israel and raised my hand to swear an oath to the descendants of the house of Jacob, and made myself known to them in the land of Egypt, when I raised my hand to swear an oath to them. I said, “I am Yahweh your God”— ⁶on that day I raised my hand to swear an oath to them that I would bring them out of the land of Egypt into a land that I had carefully selected for them. It was flowing with milk and honey; it was the most beautiful ornament among all the lands. ⁷I said to them, “Let each man throw away the detestable things from before his eyes and the idols of Egypt. Do not make yourselves unclean; I am Yahweh your God.” ⁸But they rebelled against me and were unwilling to listen to me. Each man did not throw away the detestable things from before his eyes nor forsake the idols of Egypt, so I determined to pour out my fury upon them to satisfy my wrath among them in the middle of the land of Egypt. ⁹I acted for my name’s sake so it would not be profaned in the eyes of the nations among whom they were staying. I made myself known to them, in their eyes, by bringing them out of the land of Egypt.

¹⁰So I sent them out of the land of Egypt and brought them into the wilderness. ¹¹Then I gave them my statutes and made my decrees known to them, by which a man will live if he obeys them. ¹²I also gave them my Sabbaths as a sign between myself and them, for them to know that I am Yahweh who makes them holy. ¹³But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness. They did not walk in my statutes; instead, they rejected my decrees, by which a man will live if he obeys them. They greatly profaned my Sabbaths, so I said I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness in order to end them. ¹⁴But I acted for my name’s sake so it would not be profaned in the eyes of the nations, in whose sight I had brought them out of Egypt. ¹⁵So I myself also raised my hand to swear an oath to them in the wilderness not to bring them into the land that I had been going to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey, which was the most beautiful ornament among all the lands. ¹⁶I swore this because they had rejected my decrees and did not walk in my statutes, and they profaned my Sabbaths, since their hearts walked after their idols. ¹⁷But my eye spared them from their destruction and I did not annihilate them in the wilderness.

¹⁸I said to their children in the wilderness, “Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers, or keep their rules, or defile yourselves with their idols. ¹⁹I am Yahweh your God, walk in my statutes; keep my decrees and obey them. ²⁰Keep my Sabbaths holy so that they will be a sign between me and you, so that you will know that I am Yahweh your God.” ²¹But their sons and daughters rebelled against me. They did not walk in my statutes or keep my decrees, by which a man might live if he obeys them. They profaned my Sabbaths, so I determined to pour out my fury upon them to satisfy my wrath against them in the wilderness. ²²But I turned my hand away and acted for my name’s sake, so it would not be profaned in the eyes of the nations in whose sight I had brought out the Israelites. ²³I myself also lifted up my hand to swear to them in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the nations and disperse them among the lands. ²⁴I decided to do this since they had not obeyed my decrees, and since they had rejected my statutes and profaned my Sabbaths. Their eyes were longing after their fathers’ idols. ²⁵Then I also gave them statutes that were not good, and decrees by which they could not live. ²⁶I declared them to be unclean through their gifts—they made a sacrifice of every firstborn of the womb and caused them to pass through the fire—that I might fill them with horror so they will know that I am Yahweh!

²⁷Therefore, son of man, speak to the house of Israel and say to them, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: In this also your fathers blasphemed me when they were unfaithful to me. ²⁸When I brought them into the land that I had sworn to give them, and then whenever they saw any high hill and leafy tree, they offered their sacrifices, they provoked me by their offerings, and there they also burned their fragrant incense and poured out their drink offerings. ²⁹Then I said to them, “What is this high place where you bring offerings there?” So the name is called Bamah to this day.’

³⁰Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: Why do you make yourselves unclean with the ways of your fathers? So why do you act like prostitutes, searching for disgusting things? ³¹When you offer up your

gifts—when you cause your sons to pass through the fire—to this day you defile yourselves with all your idols. So why should I let you seek me, house of Israel? As I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—I will not allow you to seek me. ³²The thought that is forming in your mind will never happen. You say, "Let us be like the other nations, like the clans in the other lands who worship wood and stone."

³³As I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—I will certainly reign over you with a mighty hand, a raised arm, and fury that will be poured out on you. ³⁴I will bring you out from the other peoples and will gather you out of the countries among whom you have been scattered. I will do this with a mighty hand and with fury poured out.

³⁵Then I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will judge you face to face. ³⁶As I judged your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so also I will judge you—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ³⁷I will cause you to pass under my rod, and I will make you obey the requirements of the covenant. ³⁸I will purge from among you the rebels and those who revolt against me. I will send them out from the land where they are staying as foreigners, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am Yahweh. ³⁹So to you, house of Israel, the Lord Yahweh says this: Each of you should go to his own idols. Worship them if you will refuse to listen to me, but you must no longer profane my holy name with your gifts and your idols.

⁴⁰For on my holy mountain, on the mountain peak of Israel—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—all of the house of Israel will worship me there in the land. I will be pleased to require your offerings there, and also the firstfruits of your tribute with all your holy things. ⁴¹I will accept you like fragrant incense when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered. I will show myself as holy among you for the nations to see. ⁴²Then, when I bring you to the land of Israel, to the land that I have lifted up my hand to swear to give to your fathers, you will know that I am Yahweh. ⁴³There you will call to mind your conduct and all of your deeds by which you defiled yourselves, and you will despise yourselves in your own eyes for all your evil deeds that you have done. ⁴⁴So you will know that I am Yahweh when I do this to you because of my name's sake, and not because of your evil deeds, and not because of your corrupt deeds, house of Israel—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

⁴⁵Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁴⁶"Son of man, set your face toward the southern lands, and speak against the south; prophesy against the forest of the Negev. ⁴⁷Say to the forest of the Negev, 'This is Yahweh's declaration—the Lord Yahweh says this: See, I will set a fire among you. It will devour every fresh tree and every dried tree among you. The fiery flame will not be quenched; every face from the south to the north will be burned. ⁴⁸Then all flesh will see that I am Yahweh when I light the fire, and it will not be quenched.'" ⁴⁹Then I said, "Alas! Lord Yahweh, they are saying of me, 'Is he not a mere teller of parables?'"

Chapter 21

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem, and speak against the sanctuaries; prophesy against the land of Israel. ³Say to the land of Israel, 'Yahweh says this: Behold! I am against you! I will draw my sword from its sheath and cut off both the righteous person and the wicked person from you! ⁴In order for me to cut off both the righteous and the wicked from you, my sword will go out from its sheath against all flesh from the south to the north. ⁵Then all flesh will know that I, Yahweh, have drawn my sword from its sheath. It will no longer hold back!' ⁶As for you, son of man, groan as your loins break! In bitterness groan before their eyes! ⁷Then it will happen that they will ask you, 'For what reason are you groaning?' Then you will say, 'Because of the news that is coming, for every heart will faint away, and every hand will falter! Every spirit will grow faint, and every knee will flow like water. Behold! It is coming and it will be like this!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.'"

⁸Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁹"Son of man, prophesy and say, 'The Lord says this:

"Say: A sword! A sword! It will be sharpened and polished!

¹⁰It will be sharpened in order to engage in great slaughter! It will be polished in order to be like lightning!

Should we rejoice in my son's scepter? The coming sword hates every such rod!

¹¹So the sword will be given to be polished, and then to be grasped by the hand!

The sword is sharpened and it is polished and it is to be given into the hand of the one who kills!""

¹²Call for help and lament, son of man! For that sword has come against my people! It is against all the leaders of Israel.

They are thrown against the sword with my people. Therefore, slap your thigh!

¹³For there is a trial, but what if the scepter does not last?—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁴Now you, son of man, prophesy and hit your two hands together, for the sword will attack even a third time!

A sword for the ones to be slaughtered! It is a sword for the many to be slaughtered, piercing them everywhere!

¹⁵In order to melt their hearts and to multiply their fallen, I have set the sword for slaughter at all their gates. Ah! It is made like lightning, it is grasped for slaughter.

¹⁶You, sword! Strike to the right! Strike to the left! Go wherever your face is turned.

¹⁷For I will also hit my two hands together, and then I will bring my fury to rest! I, Yahweh, declare it!"

¹⁸The word of Yahweh came to me again, saying, ¹⁹"Now you, son of man, assign two roads for the sword of the king of Babylon to come. The two roads will start in the same land, and a signpost will mark one of them as leading to a city. ²⁰Mark one road for the Babylonian army to come to Rabbah, the city of the Ammonites. Mark the other to lead the army to Judah and the city of Jerusalem, which is fortified. ²¹For the king of Babylon will stop at the crossroads, at the junction, in order to practice divination. He will shake some arrows and ask direction from some idols and he will examine a liver.

²²In his right hand will be an omen about Jerusalem, to set battering rams against it, to open his mouth to order the slaughter,

to sound a war cry, to set battering rams against the gates,

to build a ramp, and to erect siege towers.

²³It will seem to be a useless omen in the eyes

of the ones in Jerusalem, those who had sworn an oath to the Babylonians! But the king will accuse them of violating their treaty in order to besiege them!

²⁴Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: Because you have made your guilt to be remembered,

making your transgressions to be revealed, so that in all your actions your sins will be seen—

because you have done this you will be taken in hand.

²⁵As for you, profane and wicked ruler of Israel, whose day of punishment has come, and whose time of committing iniquity has ended,

²⁶the Lord Yahweh says this to you: Remove the turban and take off the crown! Things will no longer be the same! Exalt the lowly and humble the exalted!

²⁷A ruin! A ruin! I will make it a ruin! It will not be restored until the one comes who is assigned to execute judgment.

²⁸So you, son of man, prophesy and say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this to the people of Ammon concerning their coming disgrace: A sword, a sword is drawn! It is sharpened for the slaughter in order to devour, so it will be like lightning! ²⁹While prophets see empty visions for you, while they perform rituals to come up with lies for you, this sword will lie on the necks of the wicked who are about to be killed, whose day of punishment has come and whose time of iniquity is about to end. ³⁰Return the sword to its sheath. In the place of your creation, in the land of your origin, I will judge you! ³¹I will pour out my indignation on you! I will fan the fire of my rage against you and put you into the hand of cruel men, craftsmen of destruction! ³²You will become fuel for the fire! Your blood will be in the midst of the land. You will not be remembered, for I, Yahweh have declared this!'"

Chapter 22

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Now you, son of man, will you judge? Will you judge the city of blood? Make her know all her abominations. ³You must say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: This is a city that pours out blood in her midst so that her time may come; a city that makes idols to make herself unclean. ⁴You have become guilty by the blood that you have poured out, and you have become unclean by the idols that you have made. You have drawn your days to a close, and the end of your years has come. Therefore I will make you a reproach to the nations and a laughingstock to all the lands. ⁵Both those who are near and those who are far away from you will mock you—you unclean city—with the reputation known everywhere as being full of confusion.

⁶Behold! The rulers of Israel, each one by his own power, have come to you to pour out blood. ⁷They have dishonored fathers and mothers within you, and they have performed oppression on the foreigners in your midst. They have mistreated the orphans and the widows within you. ⁸You have despised my holy things and have profaned my Sabbaths. ⁹Slandorous men have come within you in order to pour out blood, and they eat on the mountains. They perform wickedness in your midst. ¹⁰Within you men uncover the nakedness of their father. Within you they have violated unclean women during their menstrual period. ¹¹Men who commit abominations with their neighbors' wives, and men who make their own daughters-in-law shamefully unclean; men who abuse their own sisters—daughters of their own fathers—all these are done within you. ¹²These men take bribes within you in order to pour out blood and you have taken interest and gained too much profit, and you have damaged your neighbors through oppression, and you have forgotten me—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

¹³See! With my hand I have struck the dishonest gain that you have made, and the bloodshed that is done in the midst of you. ¹⁴Will your heart stand, will your hands be strong on the days when I myself will deal with you? I, Yahweh, am declaring this, and I will do it. ¹⁵So I will scatter you among the nations and disperse you through the lands. In this way, I will purge your uncleanness from you. ¹⁶So you will become unclean in the eyes of the nations. Then you will know that I am Yahweh."^[1]

¹⁷Next the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁸"Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to me. All of them are the leftovers of bronze and tin, and iron and lead in the midst of you. They will be like the dross of silver in your furnace. ¹⁹Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Because all of you have become like dross, therefore, behold! I am about to gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. ²⁰As men gather silver, bronze, iron, lead and tin and put it inside a furnace to melt it, and they blow the fire on it in order to melt it, so I will gather you in my anger and my wrath, and I will put you there and melt you. ²¹I will gather you and blow on you the fire of my wrath, and you will be melted in the midst of it. ²²As silver is melted in a furnace, you will be melted in it, and you will know that I, Yahweh, have poured out my wrath on you!"

²³The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²⁴"Son of man, say to her, 'You are a land that has not been cleansed. There is no rain on the day of wrath! ²⁵There is a conspiracy of her prophets in her midst, like a roaring lion tearing apart a victim. They consume life and take precious wealth; they make many widows within her!^[2] ²⁶Her priests do violence to my law, and they profane my holy things. They do not distinguish between holy things and profane things, and do not teach the difference between the unclean and the clean. They hide their eyes from my Sabbaths so that I am profaned in their midst. ²⁷Her princes within her are like wolves tearing apart their victims. They pour

out blood and destroy life, to make a profit dishonestly. ²⁸Her prophets have painted them over with whitewash; they see false visions and predict falsehoods to them. They say “The Lord Yahweh says this” when Yahweh has not spoken. ²⁹The people of the land have oppressed through extortion and plundered through robbery, and they mistreat the poor and needy, and oppress the foreigner without justice. ³⁰So I searched for a man from them who would build up a wall and who would stand before me in its breach for the land so I would not destroy it, but I found no one. ³¹So I will pour out my indignation upon them. I will finish them with the fire of my indignation and set their way on their own heads—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration.”

22:16 ^[1], some ancient copies have .

22:25 ^[2], some ancient copies have .

Chapter 23

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, there were two women, daughters of the same mother. ³They acted as prostitutes in Egypt in the time of their youth. They acted as prostitutes there. Their breasts were squeezed and their virgin nipples were fondled there. ⁴Their names were Oholah—the older sister—and Oholibah—her younger sister. Then they became mine and bore sons and daughters. Their names mean this: Oholah means Samaria, and Oholibah means Jerusalem.

⁵But Oholah acted as a prostitute even when she was mine; she lusted for her lovers, for the Assyrians who were dominant, ⁶the governor who wore blue, and for his officials, who were strong and handsome, all of them men riding on horses. ⁷So she gave herself as a prostitute to them, to all the best of Assyria’s men, and she made herself unclean with everyone she lusted for—and with all their idols. ⁸For she had not left her prostitute behavior behind in Egypt, when they had lain with her when she had been a young girl, when they caressed her virgin bosom and poured out their lust upon her. ⁹Therefore I gave her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians for whom she lusted. ¹⁰They uncovered her nakedness, took her sons and daughters, killed her with the sword, and she became notorious among other women, so they executed judgment on her.

¹¹Her sister Oholibah saw this, but she lusted even more passionately and acted like a prostitute even more than her sister. ¹²She lusted for the Assyrians, the governors and the dominating officials who dressed impressively, who were men riding horses. All of them were strong, handsome men. ¹³I saw that she had made herself unclean. It was the same for both sisters. ¹⁴Then she increased her prostitution even more. She saw men carved on walls, figures of Chaldeans painted in red, ¹⁵wearing belts around their waists, with flowing turbans on their heads. All of them had the appearance of officers of chariot troops, the likeness of sons of Babylonia, whose native land is Chaldea. ¹⁶As soon as her eyes saw them, she lusted for them, so she sent out messengers to them in Chaldea. ¹⁷Then the Babylonians came to her and to her bed of lust, and they made her unclean with their promiscuousness. By what she had done she was made unclean, so she turned herself away from them in disgust.

¹⁸When she displayed her acts of prostitution and uncovered her nakedness,

I turned away from her, just as I had turned away in disgust from her sister.

¹⁹Then she increased her prostitution as she remembered the days of her youth,

when she was a prostitute in the land of Egypt.

²⁰So she lusted for her lovers,

whose private parts were like those of donkeys, and whose reproductive emissions were like those of horses.

²¹This is how you committed shameful acts of your youth, when the Egyptians fondled your nipples and squeezed your young breasts.

²²Therefore, Oholibah, the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Behold! I will turn your lovers against you.

Those from whom you turned away, I will bring them against you from every side:

²³the Babylonians and all the Chaldeans, Pekod, Shoa, and Koa, and all the Assyrians with them,

strong, handsome men, governors and commanders, all of them are officers and men of reputation, all of them riding on horses.

²⁴They will come against you with weapons, and with chariots and wagons, and with a great crowd of people.

They will set large shields, small shields, and helmets against you all around.

I will give them the opportunity to punish you, and they will punish you with their actions.

²⁵For I will set my jealous anger on you, and they will deal with you in fury. They will cut off your noses and your ears, and your survivors will fall by the sword. They will take away your sons and your daughters, and your survivors will be devoured by fire. ²⁶They will strip you of your clothes and take away all of your jewelry. ²⁷So I will remove your shameful behavior from you and your acts of prostitution from the land of Egypt. You will not lift up your eyes toward them with longing, and you will think of Egypt no longer.' ²⁸For the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Behold! I will give you into the hand of the ones you hate, back into the hand of the ones from whom you had turned away. ²⁹They will deal with you hatefully; they will take all your possessions and abandon you naked and bare, and your nakedness will be uncovered just as when you engaged in promiscuity and prostitutions. ³⁰These things will be done to you in your acting like a prostitute, lusting after nations by which you became unclean with their idols. ³¹You have walked in the way of your sister, so I will put her cup of punishment into your hand.'

³²The Lord Yahweh says this, 'You will drink your sister's cup that is deep and large.

You will become a laughingstock and a subject for derision—this cup contains a great amount.

³³You will be filled with drunkenness and sorrow,

the cup of horror and devastation;

the cup of your sister Samaria.

³⁴You will drink it and drain it empty; then you will shatter it and tear your breasts with the pieces.

For I have declared it—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.' ³⁵Therefore, the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Because you have forgotten me and thrown me away behind your back, so also you will bear the consequences of your shameful behavior and acts of sexual immorality.'"

³⁶Yahweh said to me, "Son of man, will you judge Oholah and Oholibah? So present to them their disgusting actions, ³⁷since they have committed adultery, and since there is blood on their hands. They have committed adultery with their idols, and they have even caused their sons to pass through the fire, as food for their idols.

³⁸Then they continue to do this to me: They make my sanctuary unclean, and on the same day they defile my Sabbaths. ³⁹For when they had slaughtered their children for their idols, then they came to my sanctuary on the same day to defile it! So behold! This is what they have done in the middle of my house. ⁴⁰You sent out for men who came from far away, to whom messengers had been sent—now behold. They indeed came, those for whom you bathed, painted your eyes, and adorned yourself with jewelry. ⁴¹There you sat on a beautiful bed and at a table arranged before it where you placed my incense and my oil. ⁴²So the sound of a noisy crowd was around her; including all kinds of men, even Sabeans were brought in from the wilderness, and they put bracelets on their hands and beautiful crowns on their heads.

⁴³Then I said of her who was worn out by adultery, 'Now they will be sexually immoral with her, and she with them.'

⁴⁴They went in to her, as men go in to a prostitute. In this way they went in to Oholah and Oholibah, immoral

women. ⁴⁵But righteous men will pass judgment and punish them as adulteresses, and they will punish them with the sentence for those who shed blood, because they are adulteresses and blood is on their hands. ⁴⁶So the Lord Yahweh says this: I will raise up a company against them and give them up to be terrorized and plundered. ⁴⁷Then that company will stone them with stones and cut them down with their swords. They will kill their sons and daughters and burn down their houses. ⁴⁸For I will remove shameful behavior from the land and discipline all the women so they will no longer act like prostitutes. ⁴⁹So they will set your shameful behavior against you. You will bear the guilt of your sins with your idols, and in this way you will know that I am the Lord Yahweh."

Chapter 24

¹The word of Yahweh came to me in the ninth year, in the tenth month, and on the tenth day of the month, saying, ²"Son of man, write for yourself the name of this day, this exact day, for this exact day the king of Babylon has besieged Jerusalem. ³So speak a proverb against this rebellious house, a parable. Say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this:

Place the cooking pot. Place it and pour water into it.

⁴Gather pieces of food within it, every good piece—the thigh and shoulder—and fill it with the best bones.

⁵Take the best of the flock and pile up the bones under it.

Bring it to a boil and cook the bones in it.

⁶Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: Woe to the city of blood, a cooking pot that has rust in it and that rust will not come out of it. Take piece after piece from it, but do not cast lots for it. ⁷For her blood is in the midst of her. She has set it on the smooth rock; she has not poured it out on the ground to cover it with dust, ⁸so it brings fury up to exact vengeance. I placed her blood on the smooth rock so it could not be covered. ⁹Therefore, the Lord Yahweh says this: Woe to the city of blood. I will also enlarge the pile of wood. ¹⁰Stack up the wood and kindle the fire. Cook the meat well and mix in the spices and let the bones be charred. ¹¹Then set the pot on its coals empty, in order to heat and scorch its bronze, so its uncleanness within it will be melted, its corrosion consumed.' ¹²She has become weary because of toil, but her corrosion has not gone out of her by the fire. ¹³Your shameful behavior is in your uncleanness. Because I tried to cleanse you but still you would not be cleansed from your uncleanness, you will not be cleansed anymore until I have satisfied my fury upon you. ¹⁴I, Yahweh, have declared it, and I will do it. I will not relent nor will I rest from it. As your ways were, and as your activities, they will judge you!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

¹⁵Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁶"Son of man! Behold, I am taking the desire of your eyes from you with a plague, but you must not mourn nor weep, and your tears must not flow. ¹⁷You must groan silently. Do not conduct a funeral for the dead. Tie your turban on you and place your sandals on your feet, but do not veil your facial hair or eat the bread of men who mourn for having lost their wives." ¹⁸So I spoke to the people in the morning, and my wife died in the evening. In the morning I did what I had been commanded to do.

¹⁹The people asked me, "Will you not tell us what these things mean, the things that you are doing?" ²⁰So I said to them, "The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²¹'Say to the house of Israel, the Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I will desecrate my sanctuary—the pride of your power, the delight of your eyes, and the yearning of your soul, and your sons and your daughters whom you left behind will fall by the sword. ²²Then you will do exactly as I have done: you will not veil your facial hair, nor eat the bread of mourning men! ²³Instead, your turbans will be on your heads, and your sandals on your feet; you will not mourn nor weep, for you will melt away in your iniquities, and each man will groan for his brother. ²⁴So Ezekiel will be a sign for you, as everything that he has done you will do when this comes. Then you will know that I am the Lord Yahweh!'"

²⁵“But you, son of man, on the day that I capture their temple, which is their joy, their pride, and what they see and desire—and when I take away their sons and daughters— ²⁶on that day, a refugee will come to you to give you the news! ²⁷On that day your mouth will be opened up to that refugee and you will speak—you will no longer be silent. You will be a sign for them so that they will know that I am Yahweh.”

Chapter 25

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, set your face against the people of Ammon and prophesy against them. ³Say to the people of Ammon, ‘Hear the word of the Lord Yahweh. This is what the Lord Yahweh says: Because you said, “Aha!” over my sanctuary when it was profaned, and against the land of Israel when it was desolate, and against the house of Judah when they went into exile, ⁴therefore, behold, I am giving you to a people in the east as their possession. They will set up camp against you and set up their tents among you. They will eat your fruit and they will drink your milk. ⁵I will make Rabbah a pasture for camels and the people of Ammon a field for flocks. Then you will know that I am Yahweh. ⁶For the Lord Yahweh says this: You have clapped your hands and stamped your feet, and rejoiced with all the contempt within you against the land of Israel. ⁷Therefore, behold! I will strike you with my hand and give you as plunder to the nations. I will cut you off from the peoples and make you perish from among the countries! I will destroy you, and you will know that I am Yahweh.’

⁸The Lord Yahweh says this, ‘Because Moab and Seir say, “Behold! The house of Judah is like every other nation.”

⁹Therefore, behold! I will open the slopes of Moab, starting at his cities on the border—the splendor of Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon, and Kiriathaim— ¹⁰to the people of the east who have been against the people of Ammon. I will give them up as a possession so that the people of Ammon will not be remembered among the nations. ¹¹So I will perform judgments against Moab, and they will know that I am Yahweh.’

¹²The Lord Yahweh says this, ‘Edom has taken vengeance against the house of Judah and has committed wrong in doing so. ¹³Therefore, the Lord Yahweh says this: I will strike Edom with my hand and destroy every person and animal there. I will make them a ruined, abandoned place, from Teman to Dedan. They will fall by the sword. ¹⁴I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel, and they will do to Edom according to my anger and my fury, and they will know my vengeance—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration.’

¹⁵The Lord Yahweh says this, ‘The Philistines have taken vengeance with malice and from within themselves they tried to destroy Judah again and again. ¹⁶So this is what the Lord Yahweh says: Behold! I will reach out with my hand against the Philistines, and I will cut off the Kerethites and destroy the remnant who are along the seacoast. ¹⁷For I will take great vengeance against them with furious acts of punishment, so they will know that I am Yahweh, when I take my vengeance on them.’”

Chapter 26

¹So it was in the eleventh year, on the first day of the month, that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, ‘Aha! The gates of the people are broken! She has turned to me; I will be filled up because she is ruined.’ ³Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, ‘Behold! I am against you, Tyre, and I will raise up many nations against you like the sea raises its waves. ⁴They will destroy the walls of Tyre and tear down her towers. I will sweep her dust away and make her like a bare rock. ⁵She will become a place for nets to dry out in the midst of the sea, since I have declared it—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration—and she will become plunder for the nations. ⁶Her daughters who are in the fields will be slaughtered by the swords, and they will know that I am Yahweh.’

⁷For this is what Yahweh says: Behold, from the north I am bringing Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, king of kings, against Tyre, with horses and chariots, and with horsemen and a great many people. ⁸He will kill your daughters in the field. He will set up a siege work and build a ramp against your walls and raise up shields against

you. ⁹He will place his battering rams to hit against your walls, and his tools will tear down your towers. ¹⁰His horses will be so many that their dust will cover you. Your walls will shake with the sound of horsemen, wagons, and chariots. When he enters your gates, he will enter as men come into a city whose walls have been broken down. ¹¹The hooves of his horses will trample all of your streets. He will kill your people with the sword and your mighty stone pillars will fall to the ground. ¹²They will plunder your riches and loot your merchandise. They will tear down your walls and destroy your luxurious homes. Your stones, your timber, and the rubble they will throw into the waters. ¹³I will stop the noise of your songs. The sound of your harps will be heard no more. ¹⁴I will make you a bare rock, you will become a place where nets are spread out to dry. You will never be built again, for I, Lord Yahweh have spoken—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁵The Lord Yahweh says this to Tyre, 'Will not the islands quake with the sound of your downfall, and with the groans of the wounded when the terrible slaughter is in your midst? ¹⁶Then all the princes of the sea will step down from their thrones and remove their robes and cast off their embroidered garments. They will clothe themselves with trembling, they will sit on the ground and tremble every moment, and they will be appalled because of you. ¹⁷They will lift up a lament for you and say to you,

How you, who were inhabited by sailors, have been destroyed. The famous city that was so strong—it is now gone from the sea.

The ones living in her once spread a terror about themselves upon everyone who lived near them.

¹⁸Now the coasts tremble on the day of your downfall.

The islands in the sea are terrified, because you are no longer in your place.'

¹⁹For the Lord Yahweh says this: When I make you a desolate city, like the other cities that are not inhabited, when I raise up the deeps against you, and when the great waters cover you, ²⁰then I will bring you down to the people of ancient times, like the others who have gone down into the pit; for I will make you live in the lowest realms of the earth as in ruins of ancient times. Because of this you will not come back and stand in the land of the living.^[1] ²¹I will place disaster on you, and you will be no more forever. Then you will be sought, but you will never be found ever again—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

26:20 ^[1] is supplied by an ancient version. The Hebrew has , which does not seem to fit the context here.

Chapter 27

¹Again the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Now you, son of man, begin a lamentation concerning Tyre, ³and say to Tyre, who lives within the gates of the sea, merchants of peoples to many islands, the Lord Yahweh says this to you:

Tyre, you have said, 'I am perfect in beauty.'

⁴Your borders are in the heart of the seas; your builders have perfected your beauty.

⁵They have made all your planks with cypress from Senir;

they took a cedar from Lebanon to make a mast for you.

⁶They made your oars from the oaks of Bashan;

they made your decks out of cypress wood from Cyprus, and they overlaid them with ivory.

⁷Your sails were made from colorful linen from Egypt that served as your banner;

the colors of blue and purple from the coasts of Elishah are used for the awning on your boat.

⁸Those who were living in Sidon and Arvad were your rowers;
the sages of Tyre were within you; they were your pilots.

⁹Highly experienced craftsmen from Byblos filled your seams;
all the ships of the sea and their sailors among you were carrying your merchandise for trade.

¹⁰Persia, Lydia, and Libya were in your army, your men of war.
they hung shield and helmet within you; they showed your splendor.

¹¹The men of Arvad and Helek in your army were on your walls surrounding you, and the people of Gammad were in your towers. They hung up their shields on your walls all around you! They completed your beauty.

¹²Tarshish was a trading partner with you because of your abundant wealth of goods to sell: Silver, iron, tin, and lead. They bought and sold your wares! ¹³Javan, Tubal, and Meshech—they traded slaves and in items made of bronze. They handled your merchandise. ¹⁴Beth Togarmah provided horses, stallions, and mules as your merchandise. ¹⁵The men of Rhodes were your traders on many coasts. Merchandise was in your hand; they sent back horn, ivory, and ebony as tribute! ¹⁶Aram was a dealer in your many products; they provided emeralds, purple, colored cloth, fine fabric, pearls, and rubies as your merchandise. ¹⁷Judah and the land of Israel were trading with you. They provided wheat from Minnith, cakes, honey, oil, and balsam as your merchandise.

¹⁸Damascus was a trader of all your products, of all your enormous wealth, and of the wine of Helbon and the wool of Zahar. ¹⁹Dan and Javan from Izal provided you with merchandise of wrought iron, cinnamon, and calamus. This became merchandise for you. ²⁰Dedan was your dealer in fine saddle blankets. ²¹Arabia and all the chiefs of Kedar were traders with you; they provided you with lambs, rams and goats. ²²The traders of Sheba and Raamah came to sell you the best of every spice and in all kinds of precious gems; they traded gold for your merchandise. ²³Haran, Kanneh, and Eden were traders with you, along with Sheba, Ashur, and Kilmad. ²⁴These were your dealers in ornate robes of violet cloths with woven colors, and in blankets of multicolored, embroidered, and well-woven cloth in your marketplaces. ²⁵The ships of Tarshish were the transporters of your merchandise!

So you were filled up, heavily laden with cargo in the heart of the seas!

²⁶Your rowers have brought you into vast seas;
the eastern wind has broken you in the middle of them.

²⁷Your wealth, merchandise, and trade goods; your sailors and pilots, and ship builders; your traders of merchandise and all the men of war who are in you, and all your crew—they will sink into the depths of the sea on the day of your destruction.

²⁸Cities at the sea will tremble at the sound of your pilots' cry;

²⁹All those who handle oars will come down from their ships;
mariners and all the pilots on the sea will stand on the land.

³⁰Then they will make you listen to their voice and will wail bitterly;
they will cast dust up on their heads. They will roll about in ashes.

³¹They will shave their heads bald for you and bind themselves with sackcloth,
and they will weep bitterly over you and they will cry out.

³²They will lift up their wails of lamentation for you and sing dirges over you,

Who is like Tyre, who has now been brought to silence in the middle of the sea?

³³When your merchandise went ashore from the sea, it satisfied many peoples; you enriched the kings of the earth with your great wealth and merchandise!

³⁴But when you were shattered by the seas, by deep waters, your merchandise and all your crew sank!

³⁵All the inhabitants of the coasts were appalled at you, and their kings shuddered in horror! Their faces trembled!

³⁶The merchants of the people hiss at you; you have become a horror, and you will be no more forever."

Chapter 28

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, say to the ruler of Tyre, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Your heart is arrogant! You have said, "I am a god! I will sit in the seat of the gods in the heart of the seas!" Even though you are a man and not a god, you make your heart like the heart of a god; ³you think that you are wiser than Daniel, and that no secret amazes you! ⁴You have made yourself wealthy with wisdom and skill, and obtained gold and silver in your treasuries! ⁵By great wisdom and by your trading, you have multiplied your wealth, so your heart is arrogant because of your wealth. ⁶Therefore, the Lord Yahweh says this: Because you have made your heart like the heart of a god, ⁷I will therefore bring foreigners against you, terrifying men from other nations. They will bring their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and they will profane your splendor. ⁸They will send you down to the pit, and you will die the death of those who die in the heart of the seas. ⁹Will you truly say, "I am a god" to the face of one who kills you? You are a man and not God, and you will be in the hand of the one who pierces you. ¹⁰You will die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of foreigners, for I have declared it—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

¹¹The word of Yahweh came again to me, saying, ¹²"Son of man, lift up a lament for the king of Tyre and say to him, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone covered you: ruby, topaz, emerald, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made from gold. It was on the day you were created that they were prepared. ¹⁴I placed you on the holy mountain of God as the cherub I anointed to guard mankind. You were in the midst of the fiery stones where you walked about. ¹⁵You had integrity in your ways from the day you were created until injustice was found within you. ¹⁶Through your great trade you were filled with violence, and so you sinned. So I threw you out of the mountain of God, as one who was defiled, and I destroyed you, guardian cherub, and drove you from among the fiery stones. ¹⁷Your heart was arrogant with your beauty; you ruined your wisdom because of your splendor. I have sent you down to the earth. I have placed you before kings so they may see you. ¹⁸Because of your many sins and your dishonest trade, you have defiled your holy places. So I have made fire come out from you; it will consume you. I will turn you into ashes on the earth in the sight of all who look at you. ¹⁹All the ones who knew you among the peoples will shudder at you; they will be horrified, and you will be no more forever."

²⁰Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²¹"Son of man, set your face against Sidon and prophesy against her. ²²Say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am against you, Sidon! For I will be glorified in your midst so your people will know that I am Yahweh when I execute justice within you. I will be shown to be holy in you. ²³I will send out a plague in you and blood in your streets, and the slain will fall in your midst. When the sword comes against you from all around, then you will know that I am Yahweh. ²⁴Then there will no longer be pricking briars and

painful thorns for the house of Israel from all those around her who despise her people, so they will know that I am the Lord Yahweh!

²⁵The Lord Yahweh says this, 'When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they were scattered, and when I am set apart among them, so the nations may see, then they will make their homes in the land I will give to my servant Jacob. ²⁶Then they will live securely within her and build houses, plant vineyards, and live securely when I execute justice on all the ones who now despise them from all around; so they will know that I am Yahweh their God!'"

Chapter 29

¹In the tenth year, in the tenth month on the twelfth day of the month, the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

²"Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh, the king of Egypt; prophesy against him and against all of Egypt.

³Declare and say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this:

Behold! I am against you, Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

You, the great sea monster that lurks in the midst of the river,

that says, "My river is my own. I have made it for myself." ⁴For I will place hooks in your jaw, and the fish of your Nile will cling to your scales; I will lift you up from the middle of your river along with all the fish of the river that cling to your scales.

⁵I will throw you down into the wilderness, you and all the fish from your river.

You will fall on the open field; you will not be gathered nor lifted up.

I will give you as food to the living things of the earth and to the birds of the heavens.

⁶Then all the inhabitants of Egypt will know that I am Yahweh,

because they have been a reed stalk to the house of Israel.

⁷When they took hold of you in their hand, you broke and tore open their shoulder;

and when they leaned on you, you were broken, and you caused their legs to be unsteady.

⁸Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I will bring a sword against you. I will cut off both man and beast from you. ⁹So the land of Egypt will become desolate and a ruin. Then they will know that I am Yahweh, because the sea monster had said, "The river is mine, for I have made it." ¹⁰Therefore, behold! I am against you and against your river, so I will give the land of Egypt over to desolation and waste, and you will become a wasteland from the Migdol to Syene and the borders of Cush. ¹¹No man's foot will pass through it, and no wild animal's foot will pass through it. It will not be inhabited for forty years. ¹²For I will make the land of Egypt a desolation in the midst of uninhabited lands, and its cities in the midst of wasted cities will become a desolation for forty years; then I will scatter Egypt among the nations, and I will disperse them through the lands.

¹³For the Lord Yahweh says this: At the end of forty years I will gather Egypt from the peoples among whom they were scattered. ¹⁴I will restore the fortunes of Egypt and bring them back to the region of Pathros, to the land of their origin. Then they will be a lowly kingdom there. ¹⁵It will be the lowliest of the kingdoms, and it will not be lifted up any more among the nations. I will diminish them so they will no longer rule over nations. ¹⁶The Egyptians will no longer be a reason for confidence for the house of Israel. Instead, they will be a reminder of the iniquity that Israel committed when they turned to Egypt for help. Then they will know that I am the Lord Yahweh."

¹⁷Then it came about in the twenty-seventh year on the first day of the first month, that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁸"Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon stationed his army to do hard work against

Tyre. Every head was rubbed until it was made bald, and every shoulder was made raw. Yet he and his army received no payment from Tyre for the hard work that he carried out against it. ¹⁹Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Behold! I am giving the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and he will take away its wealth, plunder its possessions, and carry off all he finds there; that will be his army's wages. ²⁰I have given him the land of Egypt as the wages for the work they did for me—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ²¹On that day I will make a horn sprout up for the house of Israel, and I make you speak in their midst, so that they will know that I am Yahweh.'

Chapter 30

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, prophesy and say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this:

Wail, "Woe is the coming day."

³The day is near. The day is near for Yahweh. It will be a day of clouds, a time of doom for nations.

⁴Then a sword will come against Egypt, and there will be anguish in Cush when the killed people fall in Egypt—when they take her wealth, and when her foundations are ruined.

⁵Cush and Put, Lydia and all Arabia, and Libya, together with the people belonging to the covenant—they will all fall by the sword.

⁶Yahweh says this:

So the ones who support Egypt will fall, and the pride of her strength will go down.

From Migdol to Syene their soldiers will fall by the sword—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

⁷They will be appalled in the midst of the abandoned lands, and their cities will be among all the ruined cities.

⁸Then they will know that I am Yahweh, when I set fire in Egypt, and when all of her helpers are destroyed. ⁹In that day messengers will go out from before me in ships to terrorize a secure Cush, and there will be anguish among them on the day of Egypt's doom. For behold! It is coming.

¹⁰The Lord Yahweh says this: I will make an end of the multitudes of Egypt by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon. ¹¹He and his army with him, the terror of nations, will be brought to destroy the land; they will draw out their swords against Egypt and fill the land with those who have been killed. ¹²I will make the rivers into dry ground, and I will sell the land into the hand of wicked men. I will make the land and its fullness desolate by the hand of strangers—I, Yahweh, have spoken.

¹³The Lord Yahweh says this: I will destroy idols, and I will bring an end to the worthless idols of Memphis. There will no longer be a prince in the land of Egypt, and I will put terror on the land of Egypt. ¹⁴Then I will make Pathros desolate and set fire in Zoan, and I will execute acts of judgment on Thebes. ¹⁵For I will pour out my fury on Pelusium, the stronghold of Egypt, and cut off the multitude of Thebes. ¹⁶Then I will set fire in Egypt; Pelusium will be in great agony, Thebes will be broken up, and Memphis will face enemies every day. ¹⁷The young men in Heliopolis and Bubastis will fall by the sword, and their cities will go into captivity. ¹⁸In Tahpanhes, the day will hold back its light when I break the yoke of Egypt there, and the pride of her strength will be finished. There will be a cloud covering her, and her daughters will walk into captivity. ¹⁹I will execute acts of judgment in Egypt, so they will know that I am Yahweh.'

²⁰Then it came about in the eleventh year, in the first month, in the seventh day of the month, that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²¹"Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Behold! It has not been bound up, or set to heal with a bandage, so that it will become strong enough to grasp a sword. ²²Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this, 'Behold, I am against Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. For I will break his arm, both the

strong one and the broken one, and I will make the sword fall from his hand. ²³Then I will scatter Egypt among the nations and disperse them among the lands. ²⁴I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and place my sword in his hand so that I might destroy Pharaoh's arms. He will groan before the king of Babylon with the groans of a dying man. ²⁵For I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, while Pharaoh's arms will fall. Then they will know that I am Yahweh, when I put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon; for he will attack the land of Egypt with it. ²⁶So I will scatter Egypt among the nations and disperse them through the lands. Then they will know that I am Yahweh."

Chapter 31

¹Then it came about in the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of the month, that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, say to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and to his multitudes around him,

'In your greatness, who are you like?

³Behold! Assyria was a cedar in Lebanon with beautiful branches, giving shade to the forest, and the tallest in height, and the branches formed its treetop.

⁴Many waters made it tall; the deep waters made it huge. Rivers flowed all around its area, for their channels stretched out to all the trees in the field.

⁵Its great height was more than any of the other trees in the field, and its branches became very many; its branches grew long because of many waters as they grew.

⁶Every bird of the heavens nested in its branches, while every living thing of the field gave birth to its young under its foliage.

All of the many nations lived under its shade.

⁷For it was beautiful in its greatness and the length of its branches, for its roots were in many waters.

⁸Cedars in the garden of God could not equal it.

None among the cypress trees matched its branches, and the plane tree could not equal its boughs.

There was no other tree in the garden of God that was like it in its beauty.

⁹I made it beautiful with its many branches

and all the trees of Eden that were in the garden of God envied it.

¹⁰Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: Because it was tall in height, and it set its treetop between its branches, it lifted up its heart because of its height. ¹¹I have given it into the hand of a mighty one of the nations, to deal with it according to what its wickedness deserves. I have thrown it out. ¹²Foreigners who were the terror of all the nations cut it off and left it to die. Its branches fell on the mountains and all the valleys, and its boughs lay broken in all the ravines of the land. Then all the nations on earth came out from under its shade and they went away from it.

¹³All the birds of the sky rested on the trunk of the fallen tree,

and every animal of the field came to its branches.

¹⁴This happened so that no other trees that grow by the waters will lift up their foliage to the height of the tallest trees, and that no other trees that grow beside the waters will reach up to that height. All of them have been assigned to death, to the earth below, among the children of humanity, with those that go down to the pit.

¹⁵The Lord Yahweh says this: On the day when the cedar went down to Sheol I brought mourning to the earth. I covered the deep waters over it, and I held back the ocean waters. I kept back the great waters, and I brought mourning to Lebanon for him. So all the trees of the field mourned because of it. ¹⁶I brought shuddering to the nations at the sound of its downfall, when I threw it down to Sheol with those who went down into the pit. So I comforted all the trees of Eden in the lowest parts of the earth. These had been the choicest and best trees of Lebanon; the trees that drank the waters. ¹⁷For they also went down with it to Sheol, to the ones who had been killed by the sword. These were its strong arm, those nations who had lived in its shade. ¹⁸Which of the trees in Eden was your equal in glory and greatness? For you will be brought down with the trees of Eden to the lowest parts of the earth among the uncircumcised; you will live with those who were killed by the sword.'

This is Pharaoh and all of his multitudes—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 32

¹Then it happened in the twelfth month of the twelfth year, on the first of the month, that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, lift up a lament concerning Pharaoh the king of Egypt; say to him, 'You are like a young lion among the nations,

but you are like a monster in the seas; you churn up the water,

you stir up the waters with your feet and muddy their waters. ³The Lord Yahweh says this:

So I will spread my net over you in the assembly of many peoples, and they will lift you up in my net.

⁴I will abandon you in the land. I will throw you into a field

and cause all the birds of the heavens to settle on you; the hunger of all living animals on earth will be satisfied by you.

⁵For I will put your flesh on the mountains, and I will fill the valleys with your worm-filled corpse.

⁶Then I will pour your blood over the mountains,

and the stream beds will be filled with your blood.

⁷Then when I extinguish you, I will cover the heavens and darken their stars;

I will cover the sun with clouds, and the moon will not shine its light.

⁸All the shining lights in the heavens I will darken over you,

and I will put darkness over your land—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ⁹So I will terrify the heart of many peoples in lands that you do not know, when I bring about your collapse among the nations, among lands that you have not known.^[1] ¹⁰I will shock many peoples concerning you; their kings will shudder in horror concerning you when I swing my sword before them. Every moment each one will tremble because of you, on the day of your downfall.

¹¹For the Lord Yahweh says this: The sword of the king of Babylon will come against you.

¹²I will cause your multitudes to fall by warriors' swords—each warrior a terror of nations.

These warriors will devastate the pride of Egypt and destroy all of its multitudes.

13For I will destroy all the livestock from beside the plentiful waters;

the foot of man will no longer stir the waters up, neither will the hooves of cattle stir them.

14Then I will calm their waters and make their rivers run like oil—

this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

15When I make the land of Egypt an abandoned place, when the land is made bare of all its fullness,

when I attack all the inhabitants in her, they will know that I am Yahweh.

16There will be a lament; the daughters of the nations will lament over her; they will lament over Egypt,

over all her multitudes they will lament—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.”

17Then it happened in the twelfth year, on the fifteenth day of the month, that the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

18“Son of man, weep for the multitudes of Egypt and bring them down—

her and the daughters of majestic nations—to the lowest earth with those who have gone down to the pit.

19‘Are you really more beautiful than anyone else? Go down and lie down with the uncircumcised.’

20They will fall among those who were killed by the sword. The sword has been drawn! She has been given to the sword; they will seize her and her multitudes.

21The strongest of the warriors in Sheol will declare about Egypt and her allies,

‘They have come down here! They will lie with the uncircumcised, with those who were killed by the sword.’

22Assyria is there with all her assembly. Her graves surround her;

all of them were killed by the sword.

23Those whose graves are set in the recesses of the pit are there, with all her assembly.

Her graves surround all of those who were killed, who fell by the sword,

those who brought terror on the land of the living.

24Elam is there with all her multitudes. Her graves surround her; all of them were killed.

Those who fell by the sword, who have gone down uncircumcised to the lowest parts of the earth,

who brought their terrors on the land of the living and who carry their own shame, together with the ones going down to the pit.

25They set a bedroll for Elam and all her multitudes in the midst of the slain; her graves surround her.

All of them are uncircumcised, pierced by the sword, because they had brought their terrors on the land of the living.

So they carry their own shame, together with the ones going down to the pit among all those who have been killed, those who are going down to the pit. Elam is among all those who were killed.

26Meshech, Tubal, and all their multitudes are there! Their graves surround them.

All of them are uncircumcised, killed by the sword, because they had brought their terrors on the land of the living.

²⁷They do not lie with the fallen warriors of the uncircumcised who have gone down to Sheol with all their weapons of war, and with their swords placed under their heads and their iniquities over their bones. For they were the terror of warriors in the land of the living.

²⁸So you, Egypt, will be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised! You will lie alongside those who were pierced by the sword.

²⁹Edom is there with her kings and all her leaders. They have been placed in their strength with those killed by the sword. With the uncircumcised they lie, with those who have gone down to the pit. ³⁰The princes of the north are there—all of them and all the Sidonians who went down with the ones who had been pierced. They were powerful and made others to be afraid, but now they are there in shame, uncircumcised with those who were pierced by the sword. They carry their own shame, together with the ones going down to the pit.

³¹Pharaoh will look and be comforted about all his multitudes who were pierced by the sword—Pharaoh and all his army—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ³²I put him as my terrifying one in the land of the living, but he will be laid down in the midst of the uncircumcised, among those pierced by the sword, Pharaoh and all his multitudes—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

32:9 ^[1], some ancient and modern versions have .

Chapter 33

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, declare this to your people; say to them, 'When I bring a sword against any land, then the people of that land take one man from among themselves and make him a watchman for them. ³He looks for the sword as it comes on the land, and he blows his horn to warn the people! ⁴If the people hear the sound of the horn but do not pay attention, and if the sword comes and kills them, then each one's blood is on his own head. ⁵If someone hears the sound of the horn and pays no attention, his blood is on him; but if he pays attention, he will save his own life.

⁶However, if the watchman sees the sword as it is coming, but if he does not blow the horn, with the result that the people are not warned, and if the sword comes and takes anyone's life, then that person dies in his own sin, but I will require his blood from the watchman.'

⁷Now you yourself, son of man! I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; you will hear the words from my mouth and warn them on my behalf. ⁸If I say to a wicked person, 'Wicked one, you will surely die!' but if you do not announce this so as to warn the wicked about his way, then he who is wicked will die in his sin, but I will require his blood from your hand! ⁹But you, if you warn the wicked about his way, so that he might turn back from it, and if he does not turn back from his way, then he will die in his sin, but you yourself will have saved your own life.

¹⁰So you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, 'You are saying this, "Our transgressions and our sins are on us, and we are decaying in them! How can we live?"' ¹¹Say to them, 'As I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—I do not delight in the death of the wicked, for if the wicked repents from his way, then he will live! Repent! Repent from your wicked ways! For why should you die, house of Israel?' ¹²So now you, son of man, say to your people, 'The righteousness of a righteous person will not save him if he sins! The wickedness of a wicked person will not cause him to perish if he repents from his sin! For the righteous person will not be able to live because of his righteousness if he sins. ¹³If I say to the righteous, "He will surely live!" and if he trusts in his righteousness and then commits injustice, I will not call to mind any of his righteousness. He will die for the wickedness he committed. ¹⁴So if I say to the wicked, "You will surely die," but if he then repents from his sins and does what is just and right— ¹⁵if he restores the loan guarantee that he wickedly demanded, or if he makes restitution for what he has stolen, and if he walks in the statutes that give life and no longer commits sin—then he will surely live. He

will not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed will be called to mind for him. He has acted justly and rightly, and so, he will surely live!

¹⁷But your people say, "The way of the Lord is not fair!" but it is your ways that are not fair! ¹⁸When the righteous person turns away from his righteousness and commits sin, then he will die in it! ¹⁹When the wicked turns away from his wickedness and does what is just and righteous, he will live because of those things! ²⁰But you people say, "The way of the Lord is not fair!" I will judge each of you according to his way, house of Israel!"

²¹It happened in the twelfth year, on the fifth day of the tenth month of our captivity, that a fugitive came to me from Jerusalem and said, "The city has been captured!" ²²The hand of Yahweh had been on me in the evening before the fugitive came, and my mouth was opened by the time that he came to me in the dawn. So my mouth was open; I was no longer mute!

²³Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²⁴"Son of man, the ones inhabiting those ruins in the land of Israel are talking and say, 'Abraham was only one person, and he inherited the land, but we are many! The land has been given to us as a possession.' ²⁵Therefore say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: You eat blood, and you lift up your eyes towards your idols, then you pour out people's blood. Should you really possess the land? ²⁶You have depended on your swords and have done disgusting things; each man defiles his neighbor's wife. Should you really possess the land?' ²⁷You will say this to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: As I live, surely the ones in the ruins will fall by the sword, and I will give those in the fields to the living creatures as food, and those in fortresses and in caves will die of plagues. ²⁸Then I will turn the land into a desolation and a horror, and the pride of its might will end, for the mountains of Israel will be deserted, and there will be no one to pass through them.' ²⁹So they will know that I am Yahweh, when I make the land a desolation and a waste because of all the abominations that they have done.

³⁰So now you, son of man—your people are saying things about you beside the walls and the gates of the houses, and each says to one another—each man to his brother, 'Let us go and listen to the prophet's word that comes out from Yahweh!' ³¹So my people will come to you, as they often do, and will sit in front of you and listen to your words, but they will not obey them. Right words are in their mouths, but their hearts are going after unjust profit.

³²For you are like a lovely song to them, a beautiful sound that is well played on a stringed instrument, so they will listen to your words, but none of them will obey them. ³³So when all of this happens—behold! it will happen!—then they will know that a prophet has been among them."

Chapter 34

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this to the shepherds: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who are shepherding themselves. Should not shepherds guard the flock? ³You eat the fatty portions and you dress in wool. You slaughter the fatlings of the flock. You do not shepherd at all. ⁴You have not strengthened those who have diseases, nor do you heal the ones who are ill. You do not bind up the ones who are broken, and you do not restore the outcasts or seek the lost. Instead, you rule over them through strength and violence. ⁵Then they were scattered without a shepherd, and they became food for all the living beasts in the fields, after they were scattered. ⁶My flock strays on all of the mountains and on every high hill, and it is dispersed over the entire surface of the earth. Yet no one is searching for them.

⁷Therefore, shepherds, hear the word of Yahweh: ⁸As I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—because my flock has become plunder and food for all the beasts in the fields, because there was no shepherd and none of my shepherds sought my flock, but the shepherds guarded themselves and did not shepherd my flock. ⁹Therefore, shepherds, hear the word of Yahweh: ¹⁰The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am against the shepherds, and I will require my flock from their hand. Then I will dismiss them from shepherding the flock; neither will the shepherds any longer shepherd themselves since I will take away my flock from their mouths, so that my flock will no longer be food for them.

¹¹For the Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I myself will seek out my flock and I will look after them, ¹²like a shepherd seeking his flock on the day he is within the midst of his scattered flock. Thus I will seek my flock, and I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on the day of clouds and darkness. ¹³Then I will bring them out from among the peoples; I will gather them from the lands and bring them to their land. I will put them in pastures on the mountainsides of Israel, by the streams, and in every settlement in the land. ¹⁴I will put them in good pastures; the high mountains of Israel will be their grazing places. They will lie down there in good places for grazing, in abundant pastures, and they will graze on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will shepherd my flock, and I myself will make them lie down—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration— ¹⁶I will seek the lost and restore the outcast. I will bind up the broken sheep and heal the sick sheep but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd with justice.

¹⁷So now you, my flock—this is what the Lord Yahweh says—behold, I will be a judge between sheep and sheep and between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough to feed on the good pasture, that you must trample down with your feet what is left of the pasture; and to drink from clear waters, that you must muddy the rivers with your feet? ¹⁹Must my sheep eat what you have trampled with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this to them: Behold! I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the thin ones, ²¹for you have pushed them with your sides and shoulders, and you have gored all of the weak ones with your horns until you have scattered them away from the land. ²²I will save my flock and they will no longer be plunder, and I will judge between one sheep and another! ²³I will set over them one shepherd, my servant David. He will shepherd them, he will feed them, and he will be their shepherd. ²⁴For I, Yahweh, will be their God, and my servant David will be a prince among them—I, Yahweh, have declared this.

²⁵Then I will make a covenant of peace with them and remove the evil wild animals from the land, so that they will live securely in the wilderness and safely sleep in the forests. ²⁶I will also bring blessings on them and on the places around my hill, for I will send out showers in due season. These will be showers of blessing. ²⁷Then the trees of the field will produce their fruit, and the earth will yield its produce. My sheep will be secure in their land; then they will know that I am Yahweh, when I break the bars of their yoke, and when I rescue them from the hand of those who enslaved them. ²⁸They will no longer be plunder for the nations, and the wild animals on the earth will no longer devour them. For they will live securely, and no one will frighten them. ²⁹For I will provide them a land known for its crops; so they will not be victims of famine in the land, and they will not bear the scorn of the nations. ³⁰Then they will know that I, Yahweh their God, am with them. They are my people, the house of Israel—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ³¹For you are my sheep, the flock of my pasture, and my people, and I am your God—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.”

Chapter 35

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir and prophesy against it. ³Say to it, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am against you, Mount Seir, and I will strike you with my hand and make you a desolation and a waste. ⁴I will make your cities ruins, and you yourself will become desolate; then you will know that I am Yahweh. ⁵Because you have always been hostile to the people of Israel, and because you poured them out into the hands of the sword at the time of their distress, at the time their punishment was at its greatest. ⁶Therefore, as I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—I will prepare you for bloodshed, and bloodshed will pursue you! Since you did not hate bloodshed, bloodshed will pursue you. ⁷I will make Mount Seir a complete desolation when I cut off from it anyone who passes through and returns again. ⁸I will fill its mountains with those who were killed; on your high hills and valleys and in all your streams those who were killed by the sword will fall. ⁹I will make you a perpetual desolation. Your cities will not be inhabited, but you will know that I am Yahweh.

¹⁰You have said, "These two nations and these two lands will become mine, and we will possess them," even when Yahweh was present with them. ¹¹Therefore, as I live—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—so I will do according to your anger and according to your jealousy that you had in your hatred of Israel, and I will show myself to them when I judge you. ¹²So you will know that I am Yahweh. I have heard all the insults you spoke against the mountains of Israel, when you said, "They have been destroyed; they have been given over to us to devour." ¹³You exalted yourselves against me with what you said, and you multiplied the words you said against me; and I heard it all.

¹⁴The Lord Yahweh says this: I will make you a desolation, while the entire earth rejoices. ¹⁵As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the people of Israel because of its desolation, I will do the same to you. You will become a desolation, Mount Seir, and all of Edom—all of it! Then they will know that I am Yahweh."

Chapter 36

¹"Now you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel and say, 'Mountains of Israel, listen to the word of Yahweh. ²The Lord Yahweh says this: The enemy has said about you, "Aha!" and "The ancient high places have become our possession.'" ³Therefore prophesy and say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Because of your desolation and because of the attacks that came on you from all sides, you have become a possession of the other nations; you have been the subject of slanderous lips and tongues, and of people's stories. ⁴Therefore, mountains of Israel, listen to the word of the Lord Yahweh: The Lord Yahweh says this to the mountains and the high hills, to the streambeds and valleys, to the uninhabited desolations and the forsaken cities that have become plunder and a subject of mocking for the other nations that surround them— ⁵therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: I have certainly spoken in the fire of my fury against the other nations, against Edom and all who took my land for themselves as a possession, against all those who had both joy in their heart and disdain in their spirit, as they seized my land that they might claim its pasturelands for themselves.' ⁶Therefore, prophesy to the land of Israel and say to the mountains and to the high hills, to the streambeds and to the valleys, 'the Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! In my fury and in my anger I am declaring this because you have borne the insults of nations. ⁷Therefore, the Lord Yahweh says this: I myself will lift up my hand to swear that the nations that surround you will certainly carry their own shame.

⁸But you, mountains of Israel, you will grow branches and bear fruit for my people Israel, since they will soon come back to you. ⁹For behold, I am for you, and I treat you with favor; you will be plowed and sown with seed. ¹⁰So I will multiply upon you the number of your people, even the whole house of Israel. The cities will be inhabited and the ruins rebuilt. ¹¹I will multiply man and beast on you mountains so that they will multiply and be fruitful. Then I will cause you to be inhabited as you previously were, and I will make you prosper more than you did in the past, for you will know that I am Yahweh. ¹²I will bring men, my people Israel, to walk on you. They will possess you, and you will be their inheritance, and you will no longer cause their children to die. ¹³The Lord Yahweh says this: Because they are saying to you, "You devour men, bereaving your nation of children," ¹⁴therefore you will not consume people any longer, and you will no longer make your nation mourn their deaths. This is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁵Nor will I allow you to hear the insults of the nations any longer; you will no longer have to bear the shame of the peoples or cause your nation to fall—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

¹⁶Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁷"Son of man, when the house of Israel inhabited their land, they defiled it with their ways and their deeds. Their ways were like the unclean menstruation of a woman before me. ¹⁸So I poured out my fury against them for the blood that they poured out on the land and for their pollution of it by their idols. ¹⁹I scattered them among the nations; they were dispersed through the lands. I judged them according to their ways and their deeds. ²⁰Then they went to the nations, and wherever they went, they profaned my holy name when people said of them, 'Are these really the people of Yahweh? For they have been thrown out of his land.' ²¹But I had compassion for my holy name that the house of Israel had defiled among the nations, when they went there.

²²Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: I am not doing this for your sake, house of Israel, but for my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations everywhere you have gone. ²³For I will make my great name holy, which you have profaned among the nations—in the midst of the nations, you profaned it. Then the nations will know that I am Yahweh—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—when you see that I am holy. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from every land, and I will bring you to your land. ²⁵Then I will sprinkle pure water on you so you will be purified from all of your impurities, and I will purify you from all of your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and a new spirit in your innermost parts, and I will take away the heart of stone from your flesh. For I will give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will set my Spirit in you and enable you to walk in my statutes and keep my decrees, so you will do them. ²⁸Then you will inhabit the land that I gave to your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God. ²⁹For I will save you from all of your uncleanness. I will summon the grain and multiply it. I will no longer put famine upon you. ³⁰I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field so that you will no longer bear the shame of famine among the nations. ³¹Then you will think of your wicked ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will show loathing on your faces because of your own sins and your disgusting deeds.

³²I am not doing this for your sake—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—let this be known to you. So be ashamed and disgraced because of your ways, house of Israel. ³³The Lord Yahweh says this: On the day that I purify you from all your iniquity, I will cause you to inhabit the cities and to rebuild the ruined places. ³⁴For you will plow the ruined land until it is no longer a ruin before the eyes of all who pass by. ³⁵Then they will say, "This land was desolate, but it has become like the garden of Eden; the desolate cities and the uninhabited ruins that were torn down are now fortified and inhabited." ³⁶Then the other nations around you will know that I am Yahweh, that I built up the ruins and replanted the abandoned places. I am Yahweh. I have declared it and I will do it.

³⁷The Lord Yahweh says this: Again I will be asked by the house of Israel to do this for them, to increase them like a flock of people. ³⁸Like the flock is set apart for sacrifices, like the flock in Jerusalem at her appointed feasts, so will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people and they will know that I am Yahweh."

Chapter 37

¹The hand of Yahweh was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of Yahweh and set me down in the midst of a valley; it was full of bones. ²Then he made me pass through them round and round. Behold! A great many of them were in the valley. Behold! They were very dry. ³He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live again?" So I said, "Lord Yahweh, you alone know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones. Listen to the word of Yahweh. ⁵The Lord Yahweh says this to these bones: Behold! I am about to put breath into you, and you will live. ⁶I will place sinews over you and bring flesh onto you. I will cover you with skin and put breath within you so you will live. Then you will know that I am Yahweh.'"

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded; as I prophesied, behold, a sound came, that of shaking. Then the bones drew together—bone against bone. ⁸I looked and, behold, sinews were now on them, and flesh grew up and skin covered them. But there was still no breath in them. ⁹Then Yahweh said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Breath, come from the four winds, and breathe on these who have been killed, so they may live.'" ¹⁰So I prophesied as I was commanded; the breath came into them and they lived. Then they stood on their feet, a very great army.

¹¹Then Yahweh said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the entire house of Israel. Behold! They are saying, 'Our bones have dried up, and our hope is gone. We have been cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I will open your graves and lift you out from them, my people. I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you will know that I am Yahweh, when I open your graves and bring you out from them, my people. ¹⁴I will place my Spirit within you so you will live, and I will cause you to rest in your land when you know that I am Yahweh. I declare and will do it—this is Yahweh's declaration.'"

¹⁵Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁶“So now you, son of man, take one stick for yourself and write on it, ‘For Judah and for the people of Israel, his companions.’ Then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the branch of Ephraim, and for all the people of Israel, their companions.’ ¹⁷Bring both of them together into one stick, so that they become one in your hand. ¹⁸When your people speak to you and say, ‘Will you not tell us what these things of yours mean?’ ¹⁹then say to them, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am taking the branch of Joseph that is in the hand of Ephraim and the tribes of Israel his companions and joining it to the branch of Judah, so that they will make one branch, and they will become one in my hand.’ ²⁰Hold in your hand the branches that you wrote on before their eyes.

²¹Declare to them, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am about to take the people of Israel from among the nations where they went. I will gather them from the surrounding lands and I will bring them to their land. ²²I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel, and there will be one king as king over all of them, and they will no longer be two nations. They will no longer be divided into two kingdoms. ²³Then they will no longer defile themselves with their idols, their disgusting things, or any of their other sins. For I will save them from all of their faithless actions with which they have sinned, and I will purify them, so they will be my people and I will be their God.^[1]

²⁴David my servant will be king over them. So there will be one shepherd over them all, and they will walk according to my decrees and they will keep my statutes and obey them. ²⁵They will live in the land that I have given to my servant Jacob, where your fathers had stayed. They will live in it forever—they, their children, and their grandchildren, for David my servant will be their chief forever. ²⁶I will establish a covenant of peace with them. It will be an everlasting covenant with them. I will establish them and multiply them and set my holy place in their midst forever. ²⁷My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. ²⁸Then the nations will know that I am Yahweh who sets Israel apart, when my holy place is among them forever.”

37:23 ^[1] . However, the Hebrew text reads , which many think makes little sense in this context.

Chapter 38

¹The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ²“Son of man, set your face toward Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; and prophesy against him. ³Say, ‘The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am against you, Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. ⁴So I will turn you around and set hooks in your jaw; I will send you out with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all of them dressed in full armor, a great company with large shields and small shields, all of them holding swords! ⁵Persia, Cush, and Libya are with them, all of them with shields and helmets! ⁶Gomer and all her troops, and Beth Togarmah, from the far parts of the north, and all its troops! Many peoples are with you!

⁷Get ready! Yes, prepare yourself and your troops assembled with you, and be their commander. ⁸You will be called after many days, and after some years you will go to a land that has recovered from the sword and that has been gathered from many peoples, gathered back to the mountains of Israel that had been a continuous ruin. But the land’s people will be brought out of the peoples, and they will live in safety, all of them! ⁹So you will go up as a storm goes; you will be like a cloud covering the land, you and all your troops, all the many soldiers with you.

¹⁰The Lord Yahweh says this: It will happen on that day that plans will form in your heart, and you will devise wicked schemes.’ ¹¹Then you will say, ‘I will go up to the open land; I will go to the quiet people living in safety, all of them living where there are no walls or bars, and where there are no city gates. ¹²I will capture booty and steal plunder, in order to bring my hand against the ruins that are newly inhabited, and against the people gathered from the nations, people who are gaining livestock and property, and who are living at the center of the earth.’ ¹³Sheba and Dedan, and the traders of Tarshish along with all its young warriors will say to you, ‘Have you come to plunder? Have you assembled your armies to take away spoil, to carry off silver and gold, to take their livestock and property and to haul away much plunder?’

¹⁴Therefore prophesy, son of man, and say to Gog, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: On that day, when my people Israel are living securely, will you not learn about them? ¹⁵You will come from your place far away in the north with a great army, all of them riding on horses, a great company, a large army. ¹⁶You will attack my people Israel like a cloud that covers the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, so the nations might know me when I show myself through you, Gog, to be holy before their eyes.

¹⁷The Lord Yahweh says this: Are you not the one of whom I spoke in former days by the hand of my servants, the prophets of Israel, who prophesied in their own time for years that I would bring you against them? ¹⁸So it will come to be in that day when Gog attacks the land of Israel—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—my wrath will mount up in my anger. ¹⁹In my zeal and in the fire of my anger, I declare that on that day there will be a great earthquake in the land of Israel. ²⁰They will shake before me—the fish of the sea and the birds of the skies, the beasts of the fields, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth, and every person who is on the surface of the land. The mountains will be thrown down and the cliffs will fall, until every wall falls to the earth. ²¹I will summon a sword against him on all my mountains—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—each man's sword will be against his brother. ²²Then I will judge him by plague and blood; and overflowing rain and hailstones and burning sulfur I will rain down upon him and his troops and the many nations that are with him. ²³For I will show my greatness and my holiness and I will make myself known in the eyes of the many nations, and they will know that I am Yahweh."

Chapter 39

¹"Now you, son of man, prophesy against Gog and say, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Behold! I am against you, Gog, chief of Meshech and Tubal. ²I will turn you and lead you on; I will bring you up from the far north and bring you to the mountains of Israel. ³Then I will knock your bow out of your left hand and make the arrows fall from your right hand. ⁴You will fall on the mountains of Israel—you and all your troops and the soldiers who are with you. I will give you to the birds of prey and the wild beasts of the fields for food. ⁵You will fall on the open field, for I myself declare it—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ⁶Then I will send out fire on Magog and on those living in safety on the coasts, and they will know that I am Yahweh. ⁷For I will make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel, and I will no longer allow my holy name to be profaned; the nations will know that I am Yahweh, the Holy One in Israel. ⁸Behold! The day is coming, and it will take place—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ⁹The ones living in the cities of Israel will go out and they will use weapons to kindle and make fires and burn them—small shields, large shields, bows, arrows, the clubs and spears; they will make fires with them for seven years. ¹⁰They will not gather wood from the fields or cut down trees from the forests, since they will burn the weapons; they will take from those who wanted to take from them; they will plunder those who wanted to plunder them—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

¹¹Then it will happen on that day that I will make a place there for Gog—a grave in Israel, a valley for those who journey to the east of the sea. It will block those who wish to cross over. There they will bury Gog with all his multitudes. They will call it the Valley of Hamon Gog. ¹²For seven months the house of Israel will bury them in order to purify the land. ¹³For all the people of the land will bury them; it will be a memorable day for them when I am glorified—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁴Then they will designate men to continually go through the land, to find those who were traveling through, but who died and their bodies remained on the surface of the land, so that they may bury them, in order to cleanse the land. At the end of the seventh month they will begin their search. ¹⁵As these men pass through the land, when they see any human bone, they will put a marker by it, until gravediggers come and bury it in the Valley of Hamon Gog. ¹⁶There will be a city there by the name of Hamonah. In this way they will purify the land.

¹⁷Now to you, son of man, the Lord Yahweh says this: Say to all the winged birds and all the wild beasts in the fields, 'Gather together and come. Gather from all around to the sacrifice that I myself am making for you, a large sacrifice on the mountains of Israel, so that you may consume flesh and drink blood. ¹⁸You will consume the flesh of warriors and drink the blood of the princes of the earth; they will be rams, lambs, goats, and bulls, they were all fattened in Bashan. ¹⁹Then you will eat fat to your satisfaction; you will drink blood until drunkenness; this will be

the sacrifice that I will slaughter for you. ²⁰You will be satisfied at my table with horse, chariot, warrior, and every man of war—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.'

²¹I will set my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see my judgment that I perform and my hand that I have set against them. ²²The house of Israel will know that I am Yahweh their God from that day onward. ²³The nations will know that the house of Israel went into captivity because of their iniquity by which they betrayed me, so I hid my face from them and gave them into the hand of their adversaries so that all of them fell by the sword.

²⁴I did to them according to their uncleanness and their sins, when I hid my face from them.

²⁵Therefore the Lord Yahweh says this: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob, and I will have compassion on all the house of Israel, when I act with zeal for my holy name. ²⁶Then they will bear their shame and all the treason in which they betrayed me. They will forget all this when they rest in their land in safety, with no one to terrify them.

²⁷When I restore them from the peoples and gather them from the lands of their enemies, I will show myself to be holy in the sight of many nations. ²⁸Then they will know that I am Yahweh their God, for I sent them into captivity among the nations, but then I will gather them back to their land. I will not leave any of them among the nations.

²⁹I will no longer hide my face from them when I pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 40

¹In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity at the beginning of the year on the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was captured—on that same day, the hand of Yahweh was upon me and he took me there. ²In visions from God he brought me to the land of Israel. He brought me to rest on a very high mountain; to the south were what appeared to be buildings of a city. ³Then he brought me there. Behold, a man! His appearance was like the appearance of bronze. A linen cord and a measuring stick were in his hand, and he stood in the city gate. ⁴The man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and listen with your ears, and fix your mind on all that I am revealing to you, for you were brought here so I could reveal them to you. Report everything that you will see to the house of Israel."

⁵There was a wall surrounding the temple area. The length of the measuring stick in the man's hand was six long cubits. Each long cubit was a cubit and a handbreadth in length. So he measured the wall, and it was one measuring stick thick and one rod high. ⁶Then he went to the temple gate that faced east. He went up its steps and measured the threshold of the gate—one stick in depth. ⁷The guard chambers were each one stick in length and one stick in width; there were five cubits between any two of the chambers, and the threshold of the temple gate by the temple portico was one stick deep. ⁸He measured the portico of the gate; it was one stick in length. ⁹He measured the portico of the gate. It was one stick deep. The doorposts were two cubits in width. This was the portico of the gate facing the temple. ¹⁰There were three guard chambers on either side of the east gate, and each of them had the same measurement, and the walls that separated them had the same measurement. ¹¹Then the man measured the width of the gateway entrance—ten cubits; and he measured the length of the gateway entrance—thirteen cubits. ¹²He measured the wall that was bordering the front of the chambers—one cubit high. The chambers measured six cubits on each side. ¹³Then he measured the gateway from the roof of one chamber to that of the next chamber—twenty-five cubits, from the entrance of the first chamber to that of the second.

¹⁴Then he measured the wall that went between the guard chambers—sixty cubits in length; he measured as far as the gate's portico. ¹⁵The entrance from the front of the gate to the other end of the gate's portico was fifty cubits.

¹⁶There were closed windows toward the chambers and toward their pillars within the gates all around; and likewise for the porches. There were windows all around the inside, and each jamb was decorated with palm trees.

¹⁷Then the man brought me to the outer courtyard of the temple. Behold, there were rooms, and there was pavement in the courtyard, with thirty rooms next to the pavement. ¹⁸The pavement went up to the side of the gates, and its width was the same as the gates' length. This was the lower pavement. ¹⁹Then the man measured

the distance from the front of the lower gate to the front of the inner gate; it was one hundred cubits on the east side, and the same on the north side.

²⁰Then he measured the length and width of the gate that was at the north of the outer court. ²¹There were three chambers on either side of that gate, and the gate and its portico measured the same as the main gate—fifty cubits in total length and twenty-five cubits in width. ²²Its windows, portico, chambers, and its palm trees corresponded to the gate that faced east. Seven steps went up to it and to its portico. ²³There was a gate to the inner courtyard in front of the gate facing north, just as also there was a gate to the east; the man measured from one gate to the other gate—one hundred cubits in distance.

²⁴Next the man brought me to the gate of the southern entrance, and its walls and portico measured the same as the other outer gates. ²⁵There were closed windows in the gateway and its portico just as at that gate. The south gate and its portico measured fifty cubits in length and twenty-five cubits in width. ²⁶There were seven steps up to the gate and its portico, and there were carvings of palm trees on the walls on either side. ²⁷There was a gate to the inner courtyard on the southern side, and the man measured from that gate to the gate of the south entrance—one hundred cubits in distance.

²⁸Then the man brought me to the inner courtyard by way of its southern gate, which had the same measurements as the other gates. ²⁹Its chambers, walls, and porticos measured the same as the other gates; there were windows all around in the portico. The inner gate and its portico measured fifty cubits in length and twenty-five cubits in width. ³⁰There were also porticos all around the inner wall; these were twenty-five cubits in length and five cubits in width. ³¹This portico faced the outer courtyard with carved palm trees on its walls and eight steps going up to it.

³²Then the man brought me to the inner courtyard by the eastern way and measured the gate, which had the same measurements as the other gates. ³³Its chambers, walls, and portico measured the same as the other gates, and there were windows all around. The inner gate and its portico measured fifty cubits in length and twenty-five cubits in width. ³⁴Its portico faced the outer courtyard; it had palm trees on either side of it and eight steps going up it.

³⁵Next the man brought me to the northern gate and measured it; it measured the same as the other gates. ³⁶Its chambers, walls, and portico measured the same as the other gates, and there were windows all around. The gateway and its portico measured fifty cubits in length and twenty-five cubits in width. ³⁷Its portico faced the outer courtyard; it had palm trees on either side of it and eight steps going up it.

³⁸There was a room with a door by each of the inner gateways. This was where they rinsed the burnt offerings.

³⁹There were two tables on each side of each portico, on which the burnt offering was slaughtered, and also the sin offering and the guilt offering. ⁴⁰By the wall of the courtyard, going up to the gate to the north, there were two tables. Also on the other side there were two tables at the gate's portico. ⁴¹There were four tables on either side by the gate; they slaughtered animals on the eight tables. ⁴²There were four tables of cut stone for the burnt offerings, one and a half cubits in length, one and a half cubits in width, and one cubit tall. On them they laid the tools with which they slaughtered the burnt offerings for the sacrifices. ⁴³Two-pronged hooks a handbreadth in length were fastened in the portico all around, and the flesh of the offerings would be put on the tables.

⁴⁴On the outside of the inner gate, within the inner courtyard, were singers' chambers, one on the north side facing south, and the other on the south side facing north. ⁴⁵Then the man said to me, "This room facing south is for the priests who are on duty in the temple. ⁴⁶The room facing north is for the priests on duty at the altar. These are the sons of Zadok who come near to Yahweh to serve him; they are among the sons of Levi." ⁴⁷Next he measured the courtyard—one hundred cubits in length and one hundred cubits in width in a square, with the altar in front of the house.

⁴⁸Then the man brought me to the portico of the house and measured its doorposts—they were five cubits thick on either side. The entryway itself was fourteen cubits in width, and the walls on each side of it were three cubits in

width.^[2] ⁴⁹The length of the portico was twenty cubits, and its depth was eleven cubits. There were steps that went up to it and columns that stood on either side of it.^{[3][4]}

40:6 ^[1], the Hebrew text reads in addition: . Many modern versions, however, leave this expression out, because it seems to be a repetition of preceding text.

40:48 ^[2], the Hebrew text reads , but this seems to be a mistake, judging from the preceding words in this verse.

40:49 ^[3], some ancient and modern versions read .

40:49 ^[4], some ancient and modern versions read .

Chapter 41

¹Then the man brought me into the temple's holy place and measured the doorposts—six cubits in width on either side.^[1] ²The width of the doorway was ten cubits; the wall on each side was five cubits in length. Then the man measured the dimensions of the holy place—forty cubits in length and twenty cubits in width. ³Then the man went into the very holy place and measured the posts of the doorway—two cubits, and the doorway was six cubits in width. The walls on either side were seven cubits in width. ⁴Then he measured the room's length—twenty cubits. Its width—twenty cubits to the front of the temple hall. Then he said to me, "This is the most holy place."

⁵Then the man measured the wall of the house—it was six cubits thick. The width of each side room around the house was four cubits in width. ⁶There were side rooms on three levels, one room above another, thirty rooms on each level. There were ledges around the wall of the house, to support all of the side rooms, for there was no support put in the wall of the house. ⁷So the side rooms widened and went around going up, for the house went around higher and higher all around; the rooms widened as the house went up, and a stairway went up to the highest level, through the middle level. ⁸Then I saw a raised part all around the house, the foundation for the side chambers; it measured a full stick in height—six cubits. ⁹The width of the wall of the side rooms on the outside was five cubits. There was an open space to the outside of these rooms in the sanctuary. ¹⁰On the other side of this open space were the priests' outer side rooms; this space was twenty cubits in width all around the sanctuary. ¹¹There were doors into the side rooms from another open space—one doorway was on the north side, and the other on the south side. The width of this open area was five cubits all around.

¹²The building that faced the courtyard on the west side was seventy cubits in width. Its wall measured five cubits thick all around, and it was ninety cubits in length. ¹³Then the man measured the sanctuary—one hundred cubits in length. The separated building, its wall, and the courtyard also measured one hundred cubits in length. ¹⁴The width of the front of the courtyard in front of the sanctuary was also one hundred cubits.

¹⁵Then the man measured the length of the building behind the sanctuary, to its west, and the galleries on either side—one hundred cubits. The holy place and the portico, ¹⁶the inner walls and the windows, including the narrow windows, and the galleries all around on three levels, were all paneled in wood. ¹⁷Above the entryway to the inner sanctuary and spaced along the walls there was a measured pattern. ¹⁸It was decorated with cherubim and palm trees; with a palm tree between each cherub, and each cherub had two faces: ¹⁹the face of a man looked toward a palm tree on one side, and the face of a young lion looked toward a palm tree on the other side. They were carved all around the entire house. ²⁰From the ground to above the doorway, cherubim and palm trees were carved on the outer wall of the house.

²¹The gate posts of the holy place were square. Their appearance was like the appearance of ²²the wooden altar in front of the holy place, which was three cubits high and two cubits in length on each side. Its corner posts, base, and frame were made of wood. Then the man said to me, "This is the table that stands before Yahweh."^[2] ²³There were double doors for the holy place and the most holy place. ²⁴These doors had two hinged door panels each, two panels for one door and two panels for the other. ²⁵Carved on them—on the doors of the holy place—were cherubim and palm trees just as the walls were decorated, and there was a wooden roof over the portico at the

front. ²⁶There were narrow windows and palm trees on either side of the portico. These were the side rooms of the house, and they also had overhanging roofs.

41:1 ^[1] , most ancient copies and some modern versions add .

41:22 ^[2] , some modern versions have .

Chapter 42

¹Next the man sent me out to the outer courtyard on the north side, and he brought me to rooms in front of the outer courtyard and the northern outer wall. ²Those rooms were one hundred cubits along their front and fifty cubits in width. ³Some of those rooms faced the inner courtyard and were twenty cubits away from the sanctuary. There were three levels of rooms, and the ones above looked down on the ones below and were open to them, having a walkway. Some of the rooms looked out onto the outer courtyard. ⁴A passage ten cubits in width and one hundred cubits in length ran in front of the rooms. The rooms' doors were toward the north.^[1] ⁵But the upper halls were smaller, for the walkways took away from them more space than they did in the lowest and middle levels of the building. ⁶For the halls on the third story had no columns, unlike the courtyards, which did have columns. So the highest level's rooms were smaller in size compared to the rooms in the lowest and middle levels. ⁷The outside wall ran along the rooms toward the outer courtyard, the courtyard that was in front of the rooms. That wall was fifty cubits in length. ⁸The length of the rooms of the outer courtyard was fifty cubits, and the rooms facing the sanctuary were one hundred cubits in length. ⁹There was an entrance to the lowest rooms from the east side, coming from the outer courtyard.

¹⁰Along the wall of the outer courtyard on the eastern side of the outer courtyard, in front of the sanctuary's inner courtyard, there were also rooms^[2] ¹¹with a walkway in front of them. They were as the appearance of the rooms on the northern side. They had the same length and breadth and the same exits and arrangements and doors.

¹²On the south side were doors into rooms that were just the same as on the north side. A passage on the inside had a door at its head, and the passage opened into the various rooms. On the east side there was a doorway into the passage at one end.

¹³Then the man said to me, "The northern rooms and the southern rooms that are in front of the outer courtyard are holy rooms where the priests who work nearest to Yahweh may eat the most holy food. They will put the most holy things there—the food offering, the sin offering, and the guilt offering—for this is a holy place. ¹⁴When the priests enter there, they must not go out of the holy place to the outer court, without laying aside the clothes in which they served, since these are holy. So they must dress in other clothes before going near the people."

¹⁵The man completed measuring the inner house and then took me out to the gate that faced the east and measured all the surrounding area there. ¹⁶He measured the east side with a measuring stick—five hundred cubits with the measuring stick.^[3] ¹⁷He measured the north side—five hundred cubits with the measuring stick.^[4] ¹⁸He also measured the south side—five hundred cubits with the measuring stick.^[5] ¹⁹He also turned and measured the west side—five hundred cubits with the measuring stick.^[6] ²⁰He measured it on four sides. It had a wall around it that was five hundred cubits in length, and five hundred cubits in width, to separate the holy from that which is common.

42:4 ^[1] . Ancient Hebrew copies and some modern versions read .

42:10 ^[2] . However, some ancient copies and most modern versions read .

42:16 ^[3] , which some ancient and most modern versions read, Hebrew reads , which seems to be an error.

42:17 ^[4] which some ancient and most modern versions read, Hebrew reads , which seems to be an error.

42:18 ^[5] , which some ancient and most modern versions read, Hebrew reads , which seems to be an error.

42:19 ^[6] , which some ancient and most modern versions read, Hebrew reads , which seems to be an error.

Chapter 43

¹The man then brought me to the gate that opened to the east. ²Behold! The glory of the God of Israel came from the east; his voice was like the sound of many waters, and the earth shone with his glory. ³It was according to the appearance of the vision that I saw, according to the vision that I saw when he had come^[1] to destroy the city, and the visions were like the vision that I saw at the Kebar Canal—and I fell to my face. ⁴So the glory of Yahweh came to the house by way of the gate that opened to the east. ⁵Then the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court. Behold! The glory of Yahweh was filling the house.

⁶The man was standing beside me, and I heard someone else speaking to me from the house. ⁷He said to me, “Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet, where I will live in the midst of the people of Israel forever. The house of Israel will no longer profane my holy name—they or their kings—with their faithlessness or with the corpses of their kings at their high places. ⁸They will no longer profane my holy name by putting their threshold next to my threshold, and their gateposts next to my gateposts, with nothing but a wall between me and them. They profaned my holy name with their disgusting actions, so I consumed them with my anger. ⁹Now let them remove their faithlessness and the corpses of their kings from before me, and I will live in their midst forever.

¹⁰Son of man, you yourself must tell the house of Israel about this house so they will be ashamed of their iniquities. They should think about this description. ¹¹For if they are ashamed of all that they have done, then reveal to them the design of the house, its details, its exits, its entrances, and all its designs, all its decrees and rules. Then write this down before their eyes so they will keep to all its design and all its rules, so as to obey them. ¹²This is the regulation for the house: From the peak of the hill to all the surrounding border around it, it will be most holy. Behold! This is the regulation for the house.

¹³These will be the measurements of the altar in cubits—that cubit being a regular cubit and a handbreadth in length. So the gutter around the altar will be a cubit deep, and its width will also be a cubit. The border around its surrounding edge will be one span. This will be the base of the altar. ¹⁴From the gutter at the ground level up to the lower ledge of the altar is two cubits, and that ledge itself is one cubit in width. Then from the small ledge up to the large edge of the altar, it is four cubits, and the large edge is a cubit in width. ¹⁵The hearth on the altar for the burnt offerings is four cubits high, and there are four horns pointing upward on the hearth. ¹⁶The hearth is twelve cubits in length and twelve cubits in width, a square. ¹⁷Its border is fourteen cubits in length and fourteen cubits in width on each of its four sides, and its rim is a half cubit in width. The gutter is a cubit in width all around with its steps facing east.”

¹⁸Next he said to me, “Son of man, the Lord Yahweh says this: These are the regulations for the altar on the day they make it, for raising the burnt offering onto it, and for sprinkling blood on it. ¹⁹You will give a bull from the cattle as a sin offering for the Levitical priests who are the descendants of Zadok, those who come near to me to serve me—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration. ²⁰Then you will take some of its blood and place it on the altar’s four horns and the four sides of its edge and on the surrounding rim; you will cleanse it and make atonement for it. ²¹Then take the bull for the sin offering and burn it in the appointed part of the temple area outside of the sanctuary. ²²Then on the second day you will offer a male goat without blemish from the goats as a sin offering; the priests will cleanse the altar just as they cleansed it with the bull. ²³When you finish its cleansing, offer an unblemished bull from the cattle and an unblemished ram from the flock. ²⁴Offer them before Yahweh; the priests will throw salt onto them and raise them up as a burnt offering to Yahweh. ²⁵You must prepare a male goat as a sin offering daily for seven days, and the priests must also prepare an unblemished bull of the cattle and unblemished ram from the flock. ²⁶They must atone for the altar for seven days and purify it, and in this way they must consecrate it. ²⁷They must complete these days, and on the eighth day and onward it will come about that the priests will prepare your burnt offerings and your peace offerings on the altar, and I will accept you—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration.”

43:3 ^[1] which some Hebrew manuscripts and some ancient and many modern versions have, the other Hebrew manuscripts have .

Chapter 44

¹Then the man brought me back to the outer sanctuary gate that faced east; it was closed tightly. ²Yahweh said to me, "This gate has been sealed shut; it will not be opened. No man will go through it, for Yahweh, the God of Israel, has come through it, so it has been closed tightly. ³The ruler of Israel will sit in it to eat food before Yahweh. He will enter by way of the gate's portico and go out the same way."

⁴Then he brought me by way of the northern gate to the front of the temple, and I looked, and behold, the glory of Yahweh filled the house of Yahweh, and I fell to my face. ⁵Then Yahweh said to me, "Son of man, set your heart and look with your eyes and listen with your ears to all that I am declaring to you, to all the statutes of the house of Yahweh and all its regulations. Think about the house's entrance and exits. ⁶Then say to the rebellious ones, the house of Israel, 'The Lord Yahweh says this: Let all of your disgusting actions be enough for you, house of Israel—⁷that you brought foreigners with uncircumcised hearts and uncircumcised flesh to be in my sanctuary, profaning my house, while you were offering me food, fat and blood—you have broken my covenant by all your disgusting actions. ⁸You have not carried out your duties regarding my holy things, but you appointed others to take up your duties, and you assigned them to care for my holy place. ⁹The Lord Yahweh says this: No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart and flesh, from any of those who live among the people of Israel, may enter my holy place. ¹⁰Yet the Levites went far from me—they wandered away from me, going after their idols—but they will pay for their sin. ¹¹They are servants in my sanctuary, watching the gates of the house and serving in the house and they slaughter the burnt offerings and the people's sacrifices, and they will stand before the people and serve them. ¹²But because they performed the sacrifices before their idols, they became stumbling blocks for sin for the house of Israel. Therefore I will lift up my hand to swear an oath against them—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration—they will bear their punishment. ¹³They will not come near me to act as my priests or to approach any of my holy things, the most holy things. Instead, they will bear their reproach and their guilt for the disgusting actions that they have done. ¹⁴But I will place them as keepers of the work in the house, for all of its duties and everything that is done in it.

¹⁵Then the Levitical priests, those sons of Zadok who fulfilled the duties of my sanctuary when the people of Israel were wandering away from me—they will come near me to worship me. They will stand before me to offer me the fat and the blood—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁶They will come to my sanctuary; they will approach my table to worship me and to fulfill their duties to me. ¹⁷So it will be that when they come to the gates of the inner courtyard, they will have to dress in linen clothes, for they must not come in wool inside the gates of the courtyard and its house. ¹⁸There should be linen turbans on their heads and linen underclothes on their hips. They must not dress in clothes that make them sweat. ¹⁹When they go out to the outer courtyard, to the outer courtyard in order to go to the people, they must take off the clothes they wore when they served; they must take them off and lay them down in a holy room, so they do not make other people holy by contact with their special clothing. ²⁰Also they must neither shave their heads nor allow their hair to hang loosely, but they must trim the hair of their heads. ²¹No priest may drink wine when he comes to the inner court, ²²nor take a widow or a divorced woman as a wife for himself, but only a virgin from the line of the house of Israel or a widow who was previously married to a priest. ²³For they will teach my people the difference between the holy and the profane; they will make them know the unclean from the clean. ²⁴In a dispute they will stand to judge with my decrees; they must be just. They will keep my law and my statutes in every feast, and they will celebrate my holy Sabbaths. ²⁵They must not defile themselves by going near to a dead person; however, if the dead person was his father or mother, son or daughter, brother or unmarried sister, then they may defile themselves. ²⁶After a priest has become unclean, they will count off a period of seven days for him. ²⁷On the day he enters the holy place, into the inner courtyard to serve in the holy place, he must bring a sin offering for himself—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

²⁸This will be their inheritance: I am their inheritance, and you must give them no property in Israel; I will be their property! ²⁹They will eat the food offerings, the sin offerings, the guilt offerings, and everything devoted to Yahweh

in Israel, will be theirs. ³⁰The best of the firstfruits of all things and every contribution, anything from all of your contributions will belong to the priests, and you will give the first of your dough to the priests so that blessing may rest on your house. ³¹The priests will not eat any carcass or animal torn by a beast, whether bird or beast.

Chapter 45

¹When you cast lots to divide up the land as an inheritance, you must make an offering to Yahweh; this offering will be a holy part of the land, twenty-five thousand cubits in length, and ten thousand cubits in width. It will be holy, all its area round about.^[1] ²From this there will be a five hundred cubits by five hundred cubits square surrounding the holy place, with a surrounding border fifty cubits in width. ³From this area you will measure a portion that is twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width; it will be the sanctuary, the most holy place. ⁴It will be a holy place in the land for the priests who serve Yahweh, who come near Yahweh to serve him. It will be a place for their houses and a holy area for the holy place. ⁵So it will be twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width, and it will be for towns for the Levites who serve in the house. ⁶You will designate an area for the city, five thousand cubits in width and twenty-five thousand in length, that will be next to the area reserved for the holy place; this city will belong to all the house of Israel. ⁷The prince's land will be on both sides of the area reserved for the holy place and the city. It will be to their west and to their east. The length will correspond to the length of one of those portions, from the west to the east. ⁸This land will be property for the prince in Israel. My princes will no longer oppress my people; instead, they will give the land to the house of Israel, for their tribes.

⁹The Lord Yahweh says this: It is enough for you, princes of Israel! Remove violence and strife; do justice and righteousness! Quit your evictions of my people!—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁰You must have accurate scales, accurate ephahs, and accurate baths! ¹¹The ephah and the bath will be the same amount, so that a bath will be a tenth of a homer; the ephah will be a tenth of a homer. Their measure will be corresponding to the homer.

¹²The shekel will be twenty gerahs; sixty shekels will make a mina for you.

¹³This is the contribution that you must present: A sixth of an ephah for every homer of wheat, and you will give a sixth of an ephah for every homer of barley. ¹⁴The regulation offering of oil will be a tenth of a bath for every cor (which is ten baths), or for every homer, since a homer is also ten baths. ¹⁵One sheep or goat from the flock for every two hundred animals from the watered regions of Israel will be used for any burnt offering or peace offering to make atonement for the people—this is the Lord Yahweh's declaration. ¹⁶All the people of the land will give this contribution to the prince in Israel. ¹⁷It will be the prince's responsibility to furnish animals for the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, and the drink offerings at the festivals and the new moon celebrations, and on the Sabbath days—all the fixed festivals of the house of Israel. He will provide for the sin offerings, the grain offerings, the burnt offerings, and the peace offerings for atonement on behalf of the house of Israel.

¹⁸The Lord Yahweh says this: In the first month, on the first day of the month, you will take an unblemished bull from the herd and perform a sin offering for the sanctuary. ¹⁹The priest will take some of the blood of the sin offering and place it on the doorposts of the house and on the four corners of the border of the altar, and on the doorposts of the gate to the inner court. ²⁰You will do this on the seventh of the month for each person's sin by accident or ignorance; in this way you will atone for the temple.

²¹In the first month on the fourteenth day of the month, there will be for you a festival, a seven-day festival. You will eat unleavened bread. ²²On that day, the prince will prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bull as a sin offering. ²³For the seven days of the festival, the prince will prepare a burnt offering for Yahweh: Seven bulls and seven unblemished rams each day for seven days, and a male goat each day as a sin offering. ²⁴Then the prince will perform a food offering of an ephah for each bull and an ephah for each ram with a hin of oil for each ephah. ²⁵In the seventh month on the fifteenth day of the month, at the festival, the prince will perform offerings on these seven days: Sin offerings, burnt offerings, food offerings, and offerings of oil.

45:1 ^[1], which the Hebrew text and some modern versions have, some ancient copies and many modern versions have .

Chapter 46

¹The Lord Yahweh says this: The gate of the inner courtyard, facing east, will be shut for the six days of work, but on the Sabbath it will be opened, and on the day of the new moon it will be opened. ²The prince will enter the outer courtyard by the way of the gate and its portico from outside, and he will stand before the doorposts of the inner gate while the priests perform his burnt offering and peace offering. Then he will worship at the threshold of the inner gate and go out, but the gate will not be shut until evening. ³The people of the land will also worship before Yahweh at the entrance to this gate on the Sabbaths and new moons. ⁴The burnt offering that the prince offers to Yahweh on the Sabbath day will be six unblemished lambs and an unblemished ram. ⁵The grain offering with the ram will be an ephah, and the grain offering with the lambs will be what he wishes to give, and a hin of oil with each ephah of grain.

⁶On the day of the new moon he must offer an unblemished bull from a herd, six lambs, and an unblemished ram. ⁷He must make a grain offering of an ephah for the bull and an ephah for the ram, and what he wishes to give for the lambs, and a hin of oil for every ephah of grain. ⁸When the prince enters by the way of the gate and its portico, he must leave by the same way.

⁹But when the people of the land come before Yahweh at the appointed festivals, anyone entering through the north gate to worship must leave through the south gate; and anyone entering through the south gate must leave through the north gate. No one may turn back to the gate through which he entered, for he must go out straight ahead. ¹⁰The prince must be in their midst; when they go in, he must go in, and when they leave, he must leave. ¹¹At the festivals, the grain offering must be an ephah of grain for the bull and an ephah for the ram, and whatever he wishes to give with the lambs, and a hin of oil for every ephah. ¹²When the prince gives a freewill offering, either a burnt offering or a peace offering to Yahweh, the gate facing east will be opened for him. He will offer his burnt offering or his peace offering as he does it on the Sabbath day. Then he must go out, and after he has gone out the gate will be shut.

¹³In addition, you will give an unblemished lamb one year old as a burnt offering to Yahweh daily; you will do this morning after morning. ¹⁴You will give a grain offering with it morning after morning, a sixth of an ephah and a third of a hin of oil to moisten the flour of the grain offering for Yahweh, according to a permanent statute. ¹⁵They will prepare the lamb, the grain offering, and the oil morning after morning, a permanent burnt offering.

¹⁶The Lord Yahweh says this: If the prince gives a gift to any of his sons, it is his inheritance. It will be the property of his sons, it is an inheritance. ¹⁷But if he gives a gift from his inheritance to one of his servants, then it will be that servant's until the year of liberty, and then it will return to the prince. His inheritance will certainly be for his sons.

¹⁸The prince will not take the people's inheritance away from their own property; he must provide for his sons from his own property so that my people will not be scattered, each man from his own property."

¹⁹Next the man brought me through the entrance at the gate to the holy rooms for the priests, which faced north and behold! There was a place toward the west. ²⁰He said to me, "This is the place where the priests must boil the guilt offering and the sin offering and where they must bake the grain offering. They must not bring the offerings into the outer courtyard, for then the people would be consecrated." ²¹Then he brought me to the outer courtyard and he led me past the four corners of that courtyard, and I saw that in every corner of the courtyard there was another court. ²²In the four corners of the outer courtyard there were four small courtyards, forty cubits in length and thirty in width. There were the same dimensions for all four of the courtyards. ^[1] ²³There was a row made of stone all around the four of them, and cooking hearths were under the stone row. ²⁴The man said to me, "These are the places where the temple servants will boil the people's sacrifices."

46:22 ^[1] is unclear. It is translated in this way by some ancient and some modern versions. However, other modern versions translate it differently.

Chapter 47

¹Then the man took me back to the entrance to the temple, and there was water flowing out from under the temple threshold of the house toward the east—for the front of the temple faced east—and the water was flowing down the south side of the temple, to the right of the altar. ²So he brought me out through the northern gate and led me around to the gate facing east, and there the water was flowing from this gate on its south side.

³As the man was going toward the east, there was a measuring line in his hand; he measured off one thousand cubits and brought me through the water to ankle-deep water. ⁴Then he measured one thousand cubits again and brought me through the water to knee-deep water; and he measured another thousand cubits and brought me to hip-deep water. ⁵Next he measured off another thousand cubits, but it was a river that I could not cross through because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in—it was a river that could not be crossed.

⁶The man said to me, “Son of man, do you see this?” and he brought me out and had me walk back along the riverbank. ⁷As I walked back, there the riverbank had many trees on this side and also the other side. ⁸The man said to me, “This water is going out to the eastern territory and down to the Arabah; this water flows into the Salt Sea and will make it fresh. ⁹It will be that every living creature that swarms will live where the water goes; there will be many fish, for these waters flow there. It will make the salt water fresh. Everything will live wherever the river goes. ¹⁰Then it will happen that fishermen of En Gedi will stand by the water, and there will be a place to dry out the fishing nets by En Eglaim. There will be many kinds of fish in the Salt Sea, like the fish in the Great Sea for their abundance. ¹¹But the Salt Sea’s swamps and marshes will not be made fresh; they will be for providing salt. ¹²Beside this river on its banks, on both sides, all kinds of trees will grow that bear food. Their leaves will not wither and their fruit will never fail to grow. Each month the trees will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves will be for healing.

¹³The Lord Yahweh says this: This will be the way that you divide the land up for the twelve tribes of Israel: Joseph will have two portions. ¹⁴You are to divide equally what I lifted up my hand and swore to give to your fathers. This land will come to you as an inheritance.

¹⁵This will be the boundary of the land on the north side from the Great Sea by way of Hethlon, and then to Zedad. ^[1] ¹⁶Then the boundary will go to Berothah, to Sibram, which is between Damascus and Hamath, and then to Hazer Hattikon, which is beside the boundary of Hauran. ¹⁷So the boundary will go from the sea to Hazar Enan on the border with Damascus and Hamath to the north. This will be the north side. ¹⁸On the east side the boundary will run between Hauran and Damascus, along the Jordan River between Gilead and the land of Israel. You will measure from the border to the eastern sea. This will be the eastern border. ^[2] ¹⁹Then on the south side the boundary will run from Tamar as far as the waters of Meribah Kadesh, then along the brook of Egypt to the Great Sea. This will be the boundary on the south side. ²⁰Then the boundary on the west side will be the Great Sea to a point opposite Lebo Hamath. This will be the west side.

²¹In this way you will divide this land for yourselves, for the tribes of Israel. ²²So you will distribute the inheritances for yourselves and for the foreigners in your midst, those who have given birth to children in your midst and who are, with you, like the native born people of Israel. You will cast lots for inheritances among the tribes of Israel. ²³Then it will happen that the foreigner will be with the tribe among whom he is living. You must give him an inheritance—this is the Lord Yahweh’s declaration.”

47:15 ^[1], but some modern versions imitate 48:1 and add .

47:18 ^[2]. However, some ancient and modern versions read .

Chapter 48

¹These are the names of the tribes. The tribe of Dan will receive one portion of land; its boundary will run along the northern boundary of Israel by way of Hethlon and Lebo Hamath. Its boundary will go on to Hazar Enan and along the border with Damascus to the north and then on to Hamath. Dan's boundary will go from east all the way to the Great Sea. ²Adjoining the border of Dan, from the east side to the west, Asher will have one portion. ³Adjoining the border of Asher from the east side to the west, Naphtali will have one portion. ⁴Adjoining the border of Naphtali from the east side to the west, Manasseh will have one portion. ⁵Adjoining the border of Manasseh from the east side to the west, Ephraim will have one portion. ⁶Adjoining the border of Ephraim from the east side to the west, Reuben will have one portion. ⁷Adjoining the border of Reuben from the east side to the west, Judah will have one portion.

⁸The offering of land that you will make will be along the border with Judah and extend from the east side to the west side; it will be twenty-five thousand cubits in width. Its length will correspond to one tribe's portion from the east side to the west side, and the temple will be in the middle of it. ⁹This land that you will offer up to Yahweh will be twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand cubits in width. ¹⁰These will be the assignments of this holy portion of land: The priests will have land assigned to them measuring twenty-five thousand cubits in length on the north side; ten thousand cubits in width on the west side; ten thousand cubits in width on the east side; and twenty-five thousand cubits in length on the south side, with the holy place of Yahweh in the middle of it. ¹¹This will be for the consecration of the priests of the line of Zadok, who have served me faithfully and who did not go astray when the people of Israel went astray, as the Levites did. ¹²The offering for them will be a portion of this most holy land, extending to the border of the Levites.

¹³The Levites' land along the border with the priests' land will be twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand cubits in width. The entire length of the two tracts of land will be twenty-five thousand cubits in length and twenty thousand cubits in width. ¹⁴They must not sell it or exchange it; none of this firstfruits of the land of Israel must ever be separated from these tracts, for it all is holy to Yahweh.

¹⁵The remaining land, five thousand cubits in width and twenty-five thousand cubits in length, will be for the collective use of the city, the houses, and the pastureland; the city will be in its midst. ¹⁶These will be the city's measurements: The north side will be 4,500 cubits in length; the south side will be 4,500 cubits in length; the east side will be 4,500 cubits in length; and the west side will be 4,500 cubits in length. ¹⁷There will be pasture for the city toward the north, 250 cubits deep; to the south, 250 cubits deep; to the east, 250 cubits deep, and to the west, 250 cubits deep. ¹⁸The remaining area of the holy offering will stretch for ten thousand cubits to the east and ten thousand cubits to the west. It will stretch along the border of the holy offering, and its produce will be food for those working in the city. ¹⁹The people who work in the city, people belong to all the tribes of Israel, will farm that land. ²⁰All the land offering will measure twenty-five thousand cubits by twenty-five thousand cubits. In this way you will make the holy offering of land, together with the land for the city.

²¹The rest of the land on either side of the holy offering and the city area will be for the prince. The prince's tract of land to the east will extend for twenty-five thousand cubits from boundary of the holy offering to the eastern border—and his tract to the west will extend for twenty-five thousand cubits to the western border. In the middle will be the holy offering, and the holy place of the temple will be in its midst. ²²The land extending from the property of the Levites and the area of the city in its midst will be for the prince; it will be between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin—this land will be for the prince.

²³As for the remaining tribes, their portions will also run from the eastern side to the west side. Benjamin will receive one portion. ²⁴Adjoining the border of Benjamin from the east side to the west, Simeon will have one portion. ²⁵Adjoining the border of Simeon from the east side to the west, Issachar will have one portion.

²⁶Adjoining the border of Issachar from the east side to the west, Zebulun will have one portion. ²⁷To the south of Zebulun's boundary, running from the east side to the west side, will be the land of Gad—one portion. ²⁸The southern boundary of Gad will extend from Tamar to the waters of Meribah Kadesh, and farther to the brook of

Egypt, and then to the Great Sea. ²⁹This is the land for which you will cast lots; it will be the inheritance of the tribes of Israel. These will be their portions. This is the Lord Yahweh's declaration.

³⁰These will be the exits from the city: On the north side, which will measure 4,500 cubits in length, ³¹will be three gates, named for tribes of Israel: one gate for Reuben, one gate for Judah, and one gate for Levi. ³²On the east side, which will measure 4,500 cubits in length, will be three gates: one gate for Joseph, one gate for Benjamin, and one gate for Dan. ³³On the south side, which is 4,500 cubits in length, will be three gates: one gate for Simeon, one gate for Issachar, and one gate for Zebulun. ³⁴On the west side, which will measure 4,500 cubits, will be three gates: one gate for Gad, one gate for Asher, and one gate for Naphtali. ³⁵The distance around the city will be eighteen thousand cubits; from that day on, the city's name will be "Yahweh Is There."

Daniel

Chapter 1

¹In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylonia came to Jerusalem and surrounded the city to cut off all supplies to it. ²The Lord gave Nebuchadnezzar victory over Jehoiakim king of Judah, and he gave him some of the sacred objects from the house of God. He brought them into the land of Babylonia, to the house of his god, and he placed the sacred objects in his god's treasury. ³The king spoke to Ashpenaz, his chief official, to bring in some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility—⁴young men without blemish, attractive in appearance, skillful in all wisdom, filled with knowledge and understanding, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the Babylonians' literature and language. ⁵The king counted out for them a daily portion of his delicacies and some of the wine that he drank. These young men were to be trained for three years, and after that, they would serve the king. ⁶Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, some of the people of Judah. ⁷The chief official gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

⁸But Daniel intended in his mind that he would not pollute himself with the king's delicacies or with the wine that he drank. So he asked permission from the chief official that he might not pollute himself. ⁹Now God gave Daniel favor and compassion through the respect that the chief official had for him. ¹⁰The chief official said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my master the king. He has commanded what food and drink you should have. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men of your own age? The king might have my head because of you." ¹¹Then Daniel spoke to the steward whom the chief official had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. ¹²He said, "Please test us, your servants, for ten days. Give us only some vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³Then compare our appearance with the appearance of the young men who eat the king's delicacies, and treat us, your servants, based on what you see."

¹⁴So the steward agreed with him to do this, and he tested them for ten days. ¹⁵At the end of ten days their appearance was more healthy, and they were better nourished, than all the young men who ate the king's delicacies. ¹⁶So the steward took away their delicacies and their wine and gave them only vegetables.

¹⁷As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and insight in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel could understand all kinds of visions and dreams. ¹⁸At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹The king spoke with them, and among the whole group there were none to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. They stood before the king, ready to serve him. ²⁰In every question of wisdom and understanding that the king asked them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and those who claimed to speak with the dead, who were in his entire kingdom. ²¹Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.

Chapter 2

¹In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, he had dreams. His mind was troubled, and he could not sleep. ²Then the king summoned the magicians and those who claimed to speak with the dead. He also called the sorcerers and wise men. He wanted them to tell him about his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. ³The king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my mind is anxious to know what the dream means." ⁴Then the wise men spoke to the king in Aramaic, "King, live forever! Tell the dream to us, your servants, and we will reveal the meaning." ⁵The king replied to the wise men, "This matter has been settled. If you do not reveal the dream to me and interpret it, your bodies will be torn apart and your houses made into rubbish heaps. ⁶But if you will tell me

the dream and its meaning, you will receive gifts from me, a reward, and great honor. So tell to me the dream and its meaning.” ⁷They replied again and said, “Let the king tell us, his servants, the dream and we will tell you its meaning.” ⁸The king answered, “I know for certain that you want more time because you see how firm my decision is about this. ⁹But if you do not tell me the dream, there is only one sentence for you. You have decided to prepare false and deceptive words that you agreed together to say to me until I change my mind. So then, tell me the dream, and then I will know you can interpret it for me.” ¹⁰The wise men replied to the king, “There is not a man on earth able to meet the king’s demand. There is no great and powerful king who has demanded such a thing from any magician, or from anyone who claims to speak with the dead, or from a wise man. ¹¹What the king demands is difficult, and there is no one who can tell it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among humans.” ¹²This made the king angry and very furious, and he gave an order to destroy all those in Babylon who were known for their wisdom. ¹³So the decree went out that all those who were known for their wisdom were to be put to death. Because of this decree, they searched for Daniel and his friends so they could be put to death.

¹⁴Then Daniel replied with prudence and discretion to Arioch the commander of the king’s bodyguard, who had come to kill all those in Babylon who were known for their wisdom. ¹⁵Daniel asked the king’s commander, “Why is the king’s decree so urgent?” So Arioch told Daniel what had happened. ¹⁶Then Daniel went in and requested an appointment with the king so that he could present the interpretation to the king.

¹⁷Then Daniel went to his house and explained to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, what had happened. ¹⁸He urged them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery so that he and they might not be killed with the rest of the men of Babylon who were known for their wisdom. ¹⁹That night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven ²⁰and said,

“Praise the name of God forever and ever;

for wisdom and power belong to him.

²¹He changes the times

and seasons;

he removes kings

and places kings on their thrones.

He gives wisdom to the wise

and knowledge to those who have understanding.

²²He reveals the deep and hidden things

because he knows what is in the darkness,

and the light lives with him.

²³God of my ancestors, I thank you and praise you

for the wisdom and power you gave to me.

Now you have made known to me what we asked of you,

you have made known to us the matter that concerns the king.”

²⁴Then Daniel went in to see Arioch (the one the king appointed to kill everyone who was wise in Babylon). He went and said to him, “Do not kill the wise men in Babylon. Take me to the king and I will show the king the interpretation of his dream.”

²⁵Then Arioch quickly brought in Daniel before the king and said, "I have found among the exiles of Judah a man who will reveal the meaning of the king's dream." ²⁶The king said to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar), "Are you able to tell me the dream that I saw and its meaning?" ²⁷Daniel answered the king and said, "The mystery that the king has asked about cannot be revealed by those who have wisdom, nor by those who claim to speak with the dead, nor by magicians, and not by astrologers. ²⁸Nevertheless, there is a God who lives in the heavens, who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to you, King Nebuchadnezzar, what will happen in the days to come. These were your dream and the visions of your mind as you lay on your bed. ²⁹As for you, king, your thoughts on your bed were about things to come, and the one who reveals mysteries has made known to you what is about to happen. ³⁰As for me, this mystery was not revealed to me because of any wisdom that I have more than any other living person. This mystery was revealed to me so that you, king, may understand the meaning, and so that you may know the thoughts deep within you.

³¹King, you looked up and you saw a large statue. This statue, which was very powerful and bright, stood before you. Its brightness was terrifying. ³²The head of the statue was made of fine gold. Its breast and arms were of silver. Its middle and its thighs were made of bronze, ³³and its legs were made of iron. Its feet were made partly of iron and partly of clay. ³⁴You looked up, and a stone was cut out, although not by human hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay, and it shattered them. ³⁵Then the iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold at the same time were broken into pieces and became like the chaff of the threshing floors in the summer. The wind carried them away and there was no trace of them left. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

³⁶This was your dream. Now we will tell the king the meaning. ³⁷You, king, are king of the kings to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength, and the honor. ³⁸He has given into your hand the place where the human beings live. He has given over the animals of the fields and the birds of the heavens into your hand, and he has made you rule over them all. You are the statue's head of gold. ³⁹After you, another kingdom will arise that is inferior to you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze will rule over all the earth. ⁴⁰There will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron, because iron breaks other things into pieces and shatters everything. It will shatter all these things and crush them. ⁴¹Just as you saw, the feet and toes were partly made of baked clay and partly made of iron, so it will be a divided kingdom; some of the strength of iron will be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay. ⁴²As the toes of the feet were partly made of iron and partly made of clay, so the kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³As you saw the iron mixed with soft clay, so the people will be a mixture; they will not stay together, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴In the days of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be conquered by another people. It will break the other kingdoms into pieces and put an end to all of them, and it will remain forever. ⁴⁵Just as you saw, a stone was cut out of the mountain, but not by human hands. It broke the iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold into pieces. The great God has made known to you, king, what will happen after this. The dream is true and this interpretation is reliable."

⁴⁶King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face before Daniel and honored him; he commanded that an offering be made and that incense be offered up to him. ⁴⁷The king said to Daniel, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and the one who reveals mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery." ⁴⁸Then the king made Daniel highly honored and gave him many wonderful gifts. He made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon. Daniel became chief governor over the wisest men of Babylon. ⁴⁹Daniel made a request of the king, and the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be administrators over the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king's court.

Chapter 3

¹King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue that was sixty cubits tall and six cubits wide. He set it up in the Plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. ²Then Nebuchadnezzar sent messages out to gather together the provincial governors, regional governors, and local governors, together with the counselors, treasurers, judges, magistrates, and all the high officials of the provinces to come to the dedication of the statue that he had set up. ³Then the

provincial governors, regional governors, and local governors, together with the counselors, treasurers, judges, magistrates, and all the high officials of the provinces gathered together to the dedication of the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. They stood before it. ⁴Then a herald loudly shouted, "You are commanded, peoples, nations, and languages, ⁵that at the time you hear the sound of the horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps, and pipes, and all kinds of music, you must fall down and prostrate yourselves to the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. ⁶Whoever does not fall down and worship, at that very moment, will be thrown into a blazing furnace." ⁷So when all the peoples heard the sounds of the horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps, and pipes, and all kinds of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and prostrated themselves to the golden statue that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

⁸Now at this time certain Chaldeans came and brought accusations against the Jews. ⁹They said to Nebuchadnezzar the king, "King, live forever! ¹⁰You, king, have made a decree that every person who hears the sounds of the horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps, and pipes, and all kinds of music, must fall down and prostrate himself to the golden statue. ¹¹Whoever does not fall down and worship must be thrown into a blazing furnace. ¹²Now there are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon; their names are Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men, king, pay no attention to you. They will not worship or serve your gods, or prostrate themselves before the golden statue you have set up."

¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar, filled with anger and rage, commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought to him. So they brought these men before the king. ¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Have you made your minds up, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you will not worship my gods or prostrate yourselves to the golden statue that I have set up? ¹⁵Now if you are ready—when you hear the sounds of the horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps, and pipes, and all kinds of music—to fall down and prostrate yourselves to the statue that I have made, all will be well. But if you do not worship, you will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace. Who is the god who is able to rescue you out of my hands?" ¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷If there is an answer, it is that our God whom we serve is able to keep us safe from the blazing furnace, and he will rescue us out of your hand, king. ¹⁸But if not, let it be known to you, king, that we will not worship your gods, and we will not prostrate ourselves to the golden statue you set up."

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with rage; the look on his face changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He commanded that the furnace should be heated seven times hotter than it was normally heated. ²⁰Then he commanded some very strong men in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the blazing furnace. ²¹They were tied up still wearing their robes, tunics, turbans, and other clothing, and they were thrown into the blazing furnace. ²²Because the king's command was strictly followed and the furnace was very hot, the flames killed the men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. ²³These three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell into the blazing furnace while they were tied up.

²⁴Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was amazed and stood up quickly. He asked his advisors, "Did we not throw three men tied up into the fire?" They replied to the king, "Certainly, king." ²⁵He said, "But I see four men who are not tied up walking around in the fire, and they are not hurt. The brilliance of the fourth is like a son of the gods." ²⁶Then Nebuchadnezzar came near the door of the blazing furnace and called out, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of God Most High, come out! Come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out of the fire. ²⁷The provincial governors, regional governors, other governors, and the king's counselors who had gathered together saw these men. The fire had not hurt their bodies; the hair on their heads was not singed; their robes were not harmed; and there was no smell of fire on them.

²⁸Nebuchadnezzar said, "Let us praise the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his messenger and given his message to his servants. They trusted in him when they set aside my command, and they gave up their bodies rather than worship or prostrate themselves to any god except their God. ²⁹Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego must be torn apart, and that their houses must be made into rubbish heaps because there is no other god who is able to save like this." ³⁰Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

Chapter 4

¹King Nebuchadnezzar sent this decree to all peoples, nations, and languages who lived on the earth: May your peace increase. ²It has seemed good to me to tell you about the signs and wonders that the Most High has done for me.

³How great are his signs,

and how mighty are his wonders!

His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

and his dominion lasts from generation to generation.”

⁴I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living happily in my house, and I was enjoying prosperity in my palace. ⁵But a dream I had made me afraid. As I lay there, the images I saw and the visions in my mind troubled me. ⁶So I gave a decree to bring before me all the men of Babylon who had wisdom so they could interpret the dream for me. ⁷Then came the magicians, those who claimed to speak with the dead, the wise men, and the astrologers. I told them the dream, but they could not interpret it for me. ⁸But at last Daniel came in—the one who is named Belteshazzar after the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods—and I told him the dream. ⁹“Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and that no mystery is too difficult for you. Tell me what I saw in my dream and what it means. ¹⁰These were the sights that I saw in my mind as I lay upon my bed: I looked, and there was a tree in the middle of the earth, and its height was very great. ¹¹The tree grew and became strong. Its top reached to the heavens, and it could be seen to the ends of the whole earth. ¹²Its leaves were beautiful, its fruit was abundant, and on it was food for all. The wild animals found shade under it, and the birds of the heavens lived in its branches. All living creatures were fed from it. ¹³I saw in my mind as I lay on my bed, and a holy messenger came down from the heavens. ¹⁴He shouted and said, ‘Chop down the tree and cut off its branches, strip off its leaves, and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from under it and the birds fly away from its branches. ¹⁵Leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, in the middle of the tender grass of the field. Let it be wet with the dew from the heavens. Let it live with the animals among the plants on the ground. ¹⁶Let his mind be changed from a man’s mind, and let an animal’s mind be given to him until seven years pass by. ¹⁷This decision is by the decree reported by the messenger. It is a decision made by the holy ones so that those who are alive may know that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of people and gives them to anyone he wishes to place over them, even to the most humble men.’ ¹⁸I, King Nebuchadnezzar, had this dream. Now you, Belteshazzar, tell me the interpretation, because none of the men with wisdom in my kingdom can interpret it for me. But you are able to do so, because the spirit of the holy gods is in you.”

¹⁹Then Daniel, who was also named Belteshazzar, was greatly upset for a while, and his thoughts alarmed him. The king said, “Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation alarm you.” Belteshazzar replied, “My master, may the dream be for those who hate you; may its interpretation be for your enemies. ²⁰The tree that you saw—which grew and became strong, and whose top reached up to the heavens, and which could be seen to the ends of the whole earth— ²¹whose leaves were beautiful, and whose fruit was abundant, so that in it was food for all, and under it the animals of the field found shade, and in which the birds of the heavens lived— ²²this tree is you, king, you who have grown so strong. Your greatness has grown and reaches to the heavens, and your authority reaches to the ends of the earth. ²³You, king, saw a holy messenger coming down from heaven and saying, ‘Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, in the middle of the tender grass of the field. Let it be wet with the dew from the heavens. Let it live with the wild animals in the fields until seven years pass by.’ ²⁴This is the interpretation, king. It is a decree of the Most High that has reached you, my master the king. ²⁵You will be driven from among men, and you will live with the wild animals in the fields. You will be made to eat grass like an ox, and you will be wet with the dew from the heavens, and seven years will pass by until you acknowledge that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of people and that he gives them to anyone he wishes. ²⁶As it was commanded to leave the stump of the roots of the tree, in this way your

kingdom will be returned to you from the time you learn that heaven rules. ²⁷Therefore, king, let my advice be acceptable to you. Stop sinning and do what is right. Turn away from your iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed, and it may be that your prosperity will be extended."

²⁸All these things happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹Twelve months later he was walking on the roof of the royal palace in Babylon, ³⁰and he said, "Is this not the great Babylon, which I have built for my royal residence, for the glory of my majesty?" ³¹While the words were still on the lips of the king, a voice came from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, it is announced to you that this kingdom has been taken away from you. ³²You will be driven away from people, and your home will be with the wild animals in the fields. You will be made to eat grass like an ox. Seven years will pass until you acknowledge that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of people and he gives them to anyone he wishes." ³³This decree against Nebuchadnezzar was carried out immediately. He was driven away from people. He ate grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew from the heavens. His hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails became like birds' claws.

³⁴At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was given back to me.

"I praised the Most High,

and I honored and glorified the one who lives forever.

For his reign is an everlasting reign,

and his kingdom endures from all generations to all generations.

³⁵All the earth's inhabitants are considered by him to be as nothing;

he does among the army of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth

whatever suits his will.

No one can stop him or challenge him. No one can say to him, 'Why have you done this?'"

³⁶At the same time that my sanity returned to me, my majesty and splendor returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My counselors and my noblemen sought my favor. I was brought back to my throne, and even more greatness was given to me. ³⁷Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, extol, and honor the King of heaven, for all his deeds are right, and his ways are just. He can humble those who walk in their own pride.

Chapter 5

¹Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his noblemen, and he drank wine in front of all one thousand of them. ²While Belshazzar tasted the wine, he gave orders to bring the containers made of gold or silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, from which he, his noblemen, and his wives and concubines could drink. ³The servants brought the gold containers that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God, in Jerusalem. The king, his noblemen, and his wives and concubines drank from them. ⁴They drank the wine and praised their idols made of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

⁵At that moment the fingers of a human hand appeared in front of the lampstand and wrote on the plaster wall in the king's palace. The king could see part of the hand as it wrote. ⁶Then the king's face changed and his thoughts frightened him; his limbs could not support him, and his knees were knocking together. ⁷The king shouted a command to bring in those who claimed to speak with the dead, wise men, and astrologers. The king said to those known for their wisdom in Babylon, "Whoever explains this writing and its meaning will be clothed with purple and will have a gold chain around his neck. He will have the authority of the third highest ruler in the kingdom." ⁸Then all the king's men who were known for their wisdom came in, but they could not read the writing or explain its

meaning to the king. ⁹Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed and the look on his face changed. His noblemen were perplexed.

¹⁰Now the queen came into the banquet house because of what the king and his nobles had said. The queen said, "King, live forever! Do not let your thoughts trouble you. Do not let the look on your face change. ¹¹There is a man in your kingdom who has 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. King Nebuchadnezzar, your father the king, made him chief of the magicians, as well as chief of those who speak with the dead, of the wise men, and of the astrologers. ¹²An excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting of dreams, explaining riddles and solving problems—these qualities were found in this man Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now call for Daniel and he will tell you the meaning of what has been written."

¹³Then Daniel was brought before the king. The king said to him, "You are that Daniel, one of the people of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought out of Judah. ¹⁴I have heard about you, that the spirit of the gods is in you, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you. ¹⁵Now the men known for wisdom and those who claim to speak with the dead have been brought in before me to read this writing and make known to me its interpretation, but they could not make known the interpretation of it. ¹⁶I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you can read the writing and tell me its meaning, you will be clothed with purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will have the authority of the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

¹⁷Then Daniel answered before the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another person. Nevertheless, I will read the writing to you, king, and will tell you the meaning. ¹⁸As for you, king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father the kingdom, greatness, honor, and majesty. ¹⁹Because of the greatness God gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared him. He put to death those he wanted to die, and he kept alive those he wished to live. He raised up those he wanted, and he humbled those he wished. ²⁰But when his heart was arrogant and his spirit was hardened so that he acted presumptuously, he was brought down from his kingly throne, and they took away his majesty. ²¹He was driven away from humanity, he had the mind of an animal, and he lived with the wild donkeys. He ate grass like an ox. His body was wet with the dew from the heavens until he learned that the Most High God rules over the kingdoms of people and that he sets over them anyone he wishes. ²²You his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this. ²³You have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. From his house they brought you the containers that you, your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from, and you praised the idols made of silver and gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone—idols that do not see, hear, or know anything. You have not honored the God who holds your breath in his hand and who knows all your ways. ²⁴Then God sent out a hand from his presence and this writing was done.

²⁵This is the writing that was done: 'Mene, Mene, Tekel, and Pharsin.' ²⁶This is its meaning: 'Mene,' 'God has numbered your kingdom and brought it to an end.' ²⁷'Tekel,' 'you are weighed in the scales and are found lacking.' ²⁸'Peres,' 'your kingdom is divided and is given to the Medes and Persians.'"

²⁹Then Belshazzar gave a command, and they clothed Daniel with purple. A chain of gold was put around his neck, and the king made a proclamation about him that he would have the authority of the third highest ruler in the kingdom. ³⁰That night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed, ³¹and Darius the Mede received the kingdom when he was about sixty-two years old.

Chapter 6

¹It pleased Darius to appoint over the kingdom 120 provincial governors who would rule over all the kingdom.

²Over them there were three chief administrators, and Daniel was one of them. These chief administrators were appointed so that they might supervise the provincial governors, so that the king should suffer no loss. ³Daniel was

distinguished above the other chief administrators and the provincial governors because he had an extraordinary spirit. The king was planning to put him over the whole kingdom.

⁴Then the other chief administrators and the provincial governors looked for mistakes in the work Daniel did for the kingdom, but they could find no corruption or failure in his duty because he was faithful. No mistakes or negligence was found in him. ⁵Then these men said, "We cannot find any reason to complain against this Daniel unless we find something against him regarding the law of his God." ⁶Then these administrators and governors brought a plan before the king. They said to him, "King Darius, may you live forever! ⁷All the chief administrators of the kingdom, the regional governors, and the provincial governors, the advisors, and the governors have consulted together and decided that you, the king, should issue a decree and should enforce it, so that whoever makes a petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, king, that person must be thrown into the den of lions. ⁸Now, King, issue a decree and sign the document so that it may not be changed, as directed by the laws of the Medes and Persians, so it cannot be repealed." ⁹So king Darius signed the document making the decree into a law.

¹⁰When Daniel learned that the document had been signed into law, he went into his house (now his windows were open in his upper room toward Jerusalem), and he got down on his knees, as he did three times a day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done before. ¹¹Then these men who had formed the plot together saw Daniel make requests and seek help from God. ¹²Then they approached the king and spoke with him about his decree: "Did you not make a decree that everyone who makes a petition to any god or human being during the next thirty days, except to you, king, must be throw into the den of lions?" The king answered, "The matter is settled, as directed by the law of the Medes and Persians; it cannot be repealed." ¹³Then they replied to the king, "That person Daniel, who is one of the people of the exile from Judah, pays no attention to you, king, or to the decree that you have signed. He prays to his God three times a day." ¹⁴When the king heard this, he was terribly distressed, and he applied his mind to rescue Daniel from this ruling. He labored until sunset to try to save Daniel. ¹⁵Then these men who had formed the plot gathered together with the king and said to him, "Know, king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians, that no decree or statute that the king issues can be changed."

¹⁶Then the king gave an order, and they brought in Daniel, and they threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you." ¹⁷A stone was brought over the entrance to the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸Then the king went to his palace and he went through the night fasting. No entertainment was brought before him, and sleep fled from him.

¹⁹Then at daybreak the king got up and he quickly went to the lions' den. ²⁰As he came near to the den, he called out to Daniel in a sad voice, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to save you from the lions?" ²¹Then said Daniel to the king, "King, live forever! ²²My God has sent his messenger and has shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me. For I was found blameless before him and also before you, king, and I have done you no harm." ²³Then the king was very happy. He gave an order that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was lifted up out of the den. No harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

²⁴The king gave an order, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel and threw them into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the floor, the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones to pieces. ²⁵Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations, and languages that live in all the earth:

"May peace increase for you. ²⁶I hereby make a decree that in all the dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel,

for he is the living God and lives forever,

and his kingdom shall not be destroyed;

his dominion shall be to the end.

²⁷He makes us safe and rescues us,

and he does signs and wonders

in heaven and in earth;

he has kept Daniel safe from the strength of the lions.”²⁸ So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and during the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Chapter 7

¹In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylonia, Daniel had a dream and visions in his mind while lying on his bed. Then he wrote down what he had seen in the dream. He wrote down the most important events: ²Daniel explained, “In my vision at night I saw that the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. ³Four large animals, each one different from the other, came up out of the sea. ⁴The first was like a lion but had eagle’s wings. As I was looking, its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground and made to stand on two feet, like a man. The mind of a man was given to it. ⁵Then there was a second animal, like a bear, and it was bending over; it had three ribs between its teeth in its mouth. It was told, ‘Get up and devour many people.’ ⁶After this I looked again. There was another animal, one that looked like a leopard. On its back it had four wings like bird wings, and it had four heads. It was given authority to rule. ⁷After this I saw in the visions of the night a fourth animal, terrifying, frightening, and very strong. It had large iron teeth; it devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled underfoot what was left. It was different from the other animals, and it had ten horns. ⁸While I was considering the horns, I looked and saw another horn grow up among them, a little horn. Three of the first horns were wrenched out by the roots. I saw in this horn eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that was boasting about great things.

⁹As I looked,

thrones were set in place,

and the Ancient of Days took his seat.

His clothing was as white as snow,

and the hair of his head was like pure wool.

His throne was flames of fire,

and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰A river of fire flowed out from before him;

millions served him,

and one hundred million were standing before him.

The court was in session,

and the books were opened. ¹¹I continued to look because of the boastful words spoken by the horn. I watched while the animal was killed, and its body was destroyed, and it was given over to be burned up. ¹²As for the rest of the four animals, their authority to rule was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a period of time.

¹³In my visions that night,

I saw one coming with the clouds of heaven like a son of man;

he came to the Ancient of Days

and was presented before him.

¹⁴Authority to rule and glory and royal power were given to him

so that all the peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

His authority to rule is an everlasting authority that will not pass away,
and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

¹⁵As for me, Daniel, my spirit was grieved inside of me, and the visions I saw in my mind troubled me. ¹⁶I approached one of them standing there and asked him to show me the meaning of these things. ¹⁷These large animals, four in number, are four kings that will arise from the earth. ¹⁸But the holy people of the Most High will receive the kingdom, and they will possess it forever and ever.' ¹⁹Then I wanted to know more about the fourth animal—it was so different from the others and very horrifying with its iron teeth and bronze claws; it devoured, broke into pieces, and trampled on what was left with its feet. ²⁰I wanted to know about the ten horns on its head, and about the other horn that grew up, and before which the three horns fell down. I wanted to know about the horn that had eyes and about the mouth that boasted about great things and that seemed greater than its companions. ²¹As I looked, this horn waged war against the holy people and was defeating them ²²until the Ancient of Days came, and justice was given to the holy people of the Most High. Then the time came when the holy people received the kingdom.

²³This is what that person said, 'As for the fourth animal,
it will be a fourth kingdom on earth
that will be different from all the other kingdoms.

It will devour the whole earth,
and it will trample it down
and break it into pieces.

²⁴As for the ten horns,
out of this kingdom ten kings will arise,
and another will arise after them.
He will be different from the previous ones,
and he will conquer the three kings. ²⁵He will speak words against the Most High
and will oppress the holy people of the Most High God.

He will try to change the festivals and the law.

These things will be given into his hand
for one year, two years, and half a year.

²⁶But the court will be in session,
and they will take his royal power away
to be consumed and destroyed at the end. ²⁷The kingdom and the dominion,
and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,
will be given to the people
who belong to the holy people of the Most High.

His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and all other kingdoms will serve and obey him.'

²⁸Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly alarmed me and my face changed in appearance. But I kept these things to myself."

Chapter 8

¹In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar, I, Daniel, had a vision appear to me (after the one that appeared to me at first). ²I saw in the vision, as I was looking, that I was in the fortress of Susa in the province of Elam. I saw in the vision that I was beside the Ulai Canal. ³I looked up and saw before me a ram with two horns, standing beside the canal. One horn was longer than the other, but the longer one grew more slowly than the shorter and was passed up in length by it. ⁴I saw the ram charging west, then north, and then south; no other animal could stand before him. None of them was able to rescue anyone out of his hand. He did whatever he wanted, and he became great.

⁵As I was thinking about this, I saw a male goat come from the west, who went across the surface of the whole earth, running fast, not seeming to touch the ground. The goat had a large horn between his eyes. ⁶He came to the ram who had two horns—I had seen the ram standing on the bank of the canal—and the goat ran toward the ram in a powerful rage. ⁷I saw the goat come close to the ram. He was very angry at the ram, and he hit the ram and broke off its two horns. The ram was powerless to stand before him. The goat knocked him down to the ground and trampled on him. There was no one who could rescue the ram from his power. ⁸Then the goat became very large. But when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in its place four other large horns grew up that pointed toward the four winds of the heavens.

⁹Out of one of them grew another horn, little at first, but which became very large in the south, in the east, and in the land of beauty. ¹⁰It became so large as to engage in war with the army of heaven. Some of that army and some of the stars were thrown down to the earth, and it trampled on them. ¹¹It made itself to be as great as the commander of the army. It took away from him the regular burnt offering, and the place of his sanctuary was polluted. ¹²Because of rebellion, the army will be given over to the goat's horn, and the burnt offering will be stopped. The horn will throw truth down to the ground, and it will succeed in what it does. ¹³Then I heard a holy one speaking and another holy one answering him, "How long will these things last, this vision about the burnt offering, the sin that brings destruction, the handing over of the sanctuary, and heaven's army being trampled on?" ¹⁴He said to me, "It will last for 2,300 evenings and mornings. After that the sanctuary will be put right."

¹⁵When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I tried to understand it. Then there stood before me one who looked like a man. ¹⁶I heard a man's voice calling between the banks of the Ulai Canal. He said, "Gabriel, help this man understand the vision." ¹⁷So he came near where I stood. When he came, I was frightened and prostrated myself on the ground. He said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision is for the time of the end." ¹⁸When he spoke to me, I fell into a deep sleep with my face to the ground. Then he touched me and made me stand up. ¹⁹He said, "See, I will show you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns the appointed time for the end. ²⁰As for the ram you saw, the one that had two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia. ²¹The male goat is the king of Greece. The large horn between his eyes is the first king. ²²As for the horn that was broken, in the place of which four others arose—four kingdoms will arise from his nation, but not with his great power. ²³At the latter time of those kingdoms, when the transgressors shall have reached their limit, a grim-faced king, one who is very intelligent, will arise. ²⁴His power will be great—but not by his own power. He will be amazing in what he destroys; he will act and succeed. He will destroy powerful people, people among the holy ones. ²⁵By his craftiness he will make deceit prosper under his hand. He will become great in his own mind. He will unexpectedly destroy many people. He will even rise up against the King of kings, and he will be broken, but not by any human hand. ²⁶The vision about the evenings and mornings that has been told is true. But seal up the vision, for it refers

to many days in the future.” ²⁷Then I, Daniel, was overcome and lay weak for several days. Then I got up, and went about the king’s business. But I was appalled by the vision, and there was no one who understood it.

Chapter 9

¹Darius was the son of Ahasuerus, a descendant of the Medes. It was Ahasuerus who had been made king over the realm of the Babylonians. ²Now in the first year of Darius’ reign I, Daniel, was studying the books containing Yahweh’s word, the word that had come to Jeremiah the prophet. I observed that there would be seventy years until Jerusalem’s abandonment would end.

³I turned my face to the Lord God, to seek him with prayer and requests, with fasting, wearing sackcloth, and sitting in ashes. ⁴I prayed to Yahweh my God, and I made confession of our sins. I said, “Please, Lord—you are the great and awesome God—you are the one who keeps the covenant and is faithful to love those who love you and keep your commandments. ⁵We have sinned and have done what is wrong. We have acted wickedly and we have rebelled, turning aside from your commands and decrees. ⁶We have not listened to your servants the prophets who spoke in your name to our kings, our leaders, our fathers, and to all the people of the land. ⁷To you, Lord, belongs righteousness. To us today, however, belongs shame on our faces—for the people of Judah and those who live in Jerusalem, and to all Israel. This includes those who are near and those who are far away in all the lands where you scattered them. This is because of the great treachery that we committed against you. ⁸To us, Yahweh, belongs shame on our faces—to our kings, to our leaders, and to our ancestors—because we have sinned against you. ⁹To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him. ¹⁰We have not obeyed the voice of Yahweh our God by walking in his laws he gave us through his servants the prophets. ¹¹All Israel has transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to obey your voice. The curse and oath that are written in the law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, for we have sinned against him. ¹²Yahweh has confirmed the words that he spoke against us and against our rulers over us, by bringing on us a great disaster. For under the whole of heaven there has not been done anything that could compare with what has been done to Jerusalem. ¹³As it is written in the law of Moses, all this disaster has come on us, yet we have not begged for mercy from Yahweh our God by turning away from our iniquities and paying attention to your truth. ¹⁴Therefore Yahweh has kept the disaster ready and has brought it on us, for Yahweh our God is righteous in all the deeds he does, yet we have not obeyed his voice. ¹⁵Now, Lord our God, you brought out your people from the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and you have made a famous name for yourself, as in this present day. But still we sinned; we have done wicked things. ¹⁶Lord, because of all your righteous deeds, let your anger and your wrath turn away from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain. Because of our sins, and because of the iniquities of our ancestors, Jerusalem and your people have become an object of scorn to all those around us. ¹⁷Now, our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy; for your sake, Lord, make your face shine on your sanctuary that is desolate. ¹⁸My God, open your ears and listen; open your eyes and see. We have been devastated; look at the city that is called by your name. We do not beg for your help because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. ¹⁹Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, pay attention and take action! For your own sake, do not delay, my God, for your city and your people are called by your name.”

²⁰While I was speaking—praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my requests before Yahweh my God on behalf of God’s holy mountain— ²¹while I was praying, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, flew down to me in rapid flight, at the time of the evening sacrifice. ²²He gave me understanding and said to me, “Daniel, I have now come out to give you insight and understanding. ²³When you began pleading for mercy, the order was given and I have come to tell you the answer, for you are greatly loved. Therefore consider this word and understand the revelation.

²⁴Seventy sevens are decreed for your people and your holy city to end the guilt and put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring everlasting righteousness, to carry out the vision and the prophecy, and to consecrate the most holy place. ²⁵Know and understand that from the issuing of the order to restore and rebuild Jerusalem to the coming of the anointed one (who will be a leader), there will be seven sevens and sixty-two sevens. Jerusalem will

be rebuilt with streets and a moat, despite the times of distress. ²⁶After the sixty-two sevens, the anointed one will be destroyed and will have nothing. The army of a coming ruler will destroy the city and the holy place. Its end will come with a flood, and there will be war even to the end. Desolations have been decreed. ²⁷He will confirm a covenant with many for one seven. In the middle of the seven he will put an end to the sacrifice and the offering. On the wing of abominations will come someone who makes desolate. A full end and destruction are decreed to be poured out on the one who has made the desolation."

Chapter 10

¹In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a message was revealed to Daniel, who was also called Belteshazzar. This message was true. It was about a great war. Daniel understood the message when he had insight from the vision. ²In those days I, Daniel, was in mourning for three weeks. ³I ate no delicacies, I ate no meat, I drank no wine, and I did not anoint myself with oil until the completion of three entire weeks. ⁴On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was beside the great river (that is, the Tigris), ⁵I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen, with a belt around his waist made of pure gold from Uphaz. ⁶His body was like topaz, and his face was like lightning. His eyes were like flaming torches, and his arms and his feet were like polished bronze. The sound of his words was like the sound of a great crowd. ⁷I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision. However, a great terror came on them, and they ran away to hide themselves. ⁸So I was left alone and saw this great vision. No strength remained in me; my bright appearance was turned into a ruined look, and no strength remained in me. ⁹Then I heard his words—and as I heard them, I fell on my face in deep sleep with my face to the ground.

¹⁰A hand touched me, and it made me tremble in my knees and the palms of my hands. ¹¹The angel said to me, "Daniel, man greatly treasured, understand the words that I am speaking to you. Stand upright, for I have been sent to you." When he had spoken this message to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²Then he said to me, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you set your mind to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³The prince of the kingdom of Persia resisted me, and I was kept there with the kings of Persia for twenty-one days. But Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me.^[1] ¹⁴Now I have come to help you understand what will happen to your people in the last days. For the vision is for days yet to come." ¹⁵While he was speaking to me using these words, I turned my face toward the ground and was unable to speak. ¹⁶One who was like the sons of man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and spoke to him who stood before me: "My master, I am in agony because of the vision; I have no strength left. ¹⁷I am your servant. How can I talk with my master? For I now have no strength, and there is no breath left in me."

¹⁸Again the one with an appearance of a man touched me and strengthened me. ¹⁹He said, "Do not be afraid, man greatly treasured. May peace be to you! Be strong now, be strong!" While he was speaking to me, I was strengthened. I said, "Let my master speak, for you have strengthened me." ²⁰He said, "Do you know why I have come to you? I will soon return to fight against the prince of Persia. When I go, the prince of Greece will come. ²¹But I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. There is no one who shows himself to be strong with me against them, except Michael your prince."

10:13 ^[1], some ancient copies have .

Chapter 11

¹In the first year of Darius the Mede, I myself came to support and protect Michael. ²Now I will tell you the truth. Three kings will arise in Persia, and a fourth will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power through his riches, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece. ³A mighty king will rise up who will rule a very great kingdom, and he will act according to his desires. ⁴When he has risen up, his kingdom will be broken

and divided to the four winds of heaven, but not to his own descendants, and not with his power when he had been ruling. For his kingdom will be uprooted for others besides his descendants.

⁵The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders will become even stronger than he and will rule his kingdom with great power. ⁶After a few years, when the time is right, they will make an alliance. The daughter of the king of the South will come to the king of the North to confirm the agreement. But she will not keep her arm's strength, nor will he stand, or his arm. She will be abandoned—she and those who brought her, and her father, and the one who supported her in those times.^[1]

⁷But a branch from her roots will rise up in her place. He will attack the army and enter the fortress of the king of the North. He will fight them, and he will conquer them. ⁸He will carry off to Egypt their gods along with their cast metal figures and their precious vessels of silver and of gold. For some years he will stay away from the king of the North. ⁹Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South, but he will withdraw to his own land.

¹⁰His sons will get ready and assemble a great army. It will keep coming and will flood everything; it will pass through all the way to his fortress. ¹¹Then the king of the South will become very angry; he will go and fight against him, the king of the North. The king of the North will raise up a great army, but the army will be given into his hand. ¹²The army will be carried off, and the heart of the king of the South will be lifted up, and he will make tens of thousands to fall, but he will not be victorious. ¹³Then the king of the North will raise up another army, greater than the first. After some years, the king of the North will surely come with a great army supplied with much equipment. ¹⁴In those times many will rise against the king of the South. Sons of the violent among your people will set themselves in order to fulfill a vision, but they will stumble. ¹⁵The king of the North will come, pour out earth for siege mounds, and capture a city with fortifications. The forces of the South will not be able to stand, not even their best soldiers. There will be no strength to stand. ¹⁶Instead, the one who comes will act according to his desires against him; no one will stand in his way. He will stand in the land of beauty, and destruction will be in his hand. ¹⁷The king of the North will set his face to come with the strength of his entire kingdom, and with him will be an agreement that he will make with the king of the South. He will give him a daughter of women in marriage to ruin the kingdom of the South. But the plan will not succeed or help him. ¹⁸After this, the king of the North will pay attention to the coastlands and will capture many of them. But a commander will end his arrogance and will cause his arrogance to turn back upon him. ¹⁹Then he will pay attention to the fortresses of his own land, but he will stumble and fall; he will not be found.

²⁰Then someone will rise up in his place who will make a tax collector pass through for the sake of the splendor of the kingdom. But in the next days he will be broken, but not in anger or in battle. ²¹In his place will rise up a despised person to whom the people will not have given the honor of royal power; he will come unexpectedly and will take over the kingdom by trickery. ²²An army will be swept away like a flood from before him. Both that army and the leader of the covenant will be destroyed. ²³From the time an alliance is made with him, he will act deceitfully; with only a small number of people he will become strong. ²⁴Without warning he will come into the richest part of the province, and he will do what neither his father nor his father's father did. He will spread among his followers the booty, the plunder, and the wealth. He will plan the overthrow of fortresses, but only for a time. ²⁵He will wake up his power and his heart against the king of the South with a great army. The king of the South will wage war with a large, very powerful army, but he will not stand because others will make plots against him. ²⁶Even those who eat his fine food will try to destroy him. His army will be swept away like a flood, and many of them will fall killed. ²⁷Both these kings, with their hearts set on evil against each other, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but it will be of no use. For the end will come at the time that has been fixed.

²⁸Then the king of the North will go back into his land with great riches, with his heart set against the holy covenant. He will act and then will return to his own land. ²⁹At the appointed time he will return and come against the South again. But this time it will not be as before. ³⁰For ships of Kittim will come against him, and he will become afraid and will turn back. He will be furious against the holy covenant, and he will show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant. ³¹His forces will rise up and profane the fortress sanctuary. They will take away the

regular burnt offering, and they will set up the abomination that causes desolation. ³²As for those who acted wickedly against the covenant, he will deceive them and corrupt them. But the people who know their God will be strong and will take action. ³³The wise among the people will make many understand. But they will stumble by the sword and by flame; they will stumble into captivity and into being robbed for days. ³⁴In their stumbling, they will be helped with a little help. In hypocrisy many will join themselves with them. ³⁵Some of the wise will stumble so that refining will happen to them, and cleansing, and purifying, until the time of the end. For the appointed time is still to come.

³⁶The king will act according to his desires. He will lift himself up and make himself great above every god. Against the God of gods he will say astonishing things, for he will succeed until the wrath is completed. For what has been decreed will be done. ³⁷He will pay no attention to the gods of his ancestors or to the god desirable to women. Neither will he will pay attention to any other god. For all above every one he will make himself great. ³⁸He will honor the god of fortresses instead of these. It is a god whom his fathers did not acknowledge that he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and valuable gifts. ³⁹He will attack the strongest fortresses with the help of a foreign god. To anyone who acknowledges him, he will give much honor. He will make them rulers over many people, and he will divide up the land as a reward.^[2]

⁴⁰At the time of the end the king of the South will attack. The king of the North will storm against him with chariots and horsemen, and with many ships. He will go against lands, flood them, and pass through. ⁴¹He will go into the land of beauty, and tens of thousands of Israelites will fall. But these will escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the remainder of the people of Ammon. ⁴²He will extend his hand into lands; the land of Egypt will not be rescued. ⁴³He will have control over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the riches of Egypt; the Libyans and the Cushites will be in his footsteps. ⁴⁴But news from the east and the north will frighten him, and he will go out with great rage to completely destroy and to set many apart for destruction. ⁴⁵He will set up the tent of his royal residence between the seas and the mountain of the beauty of holiness. He will come to his end, and there will be no helper for him.

11:6 ^[1], which the Hebrew text has, some ancient and many modern versions read , that is, .

11:39 ^[2], some modern versions have .

Chapter 12

¹“At that time Michael, the great prince who guards your people, will rise up. There will be a time of trouble such as never was since the beginning of any nation until that time. At that time your people will be saved, everyone whose name is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth will rise up, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the sky above, and those who turn many to righteousness, are like the stars forever and ever. ⁴But you, Daniel, close up these words; keep the book sealed until the time of the end. Many will run here and there, and knowledge will increase.”

⁵Then I, Daniel, looked, and there were two others standing. One stood on the bank on this side of the river, and one stood on the bank on the other side of the river. ⁶One of them said to the man clothed in linen, the one who was upstream along the river, “How long will it be to the end of these amazing events?” ⁷I heard the man clothed in linen, who was upstream along the river—he raised his right hand and his left hand to heaven and swore by the one who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed. ⁸I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, “My master, what will be the outcome of all these things?” ⁹He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰Many will be purified, cleansed, and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand. ¹¹From the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that causes complete desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.

¹²Blessed is the one who waits until the end of the 1,335 days. ¹³You must go your way until the end, and you will rest. You will rise in the place assigned to you, at the end of days."

Hosea

Chapter 1

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Hosea son of Beeri in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam son of Joash, king of Israel. ²When Yahweh spoke at first through Hosea, Yahweh said to Hosea,

“Go, take for yourself a wife of harlotry
and have children of harlotry.

For the land is committing flagrant harlotry

by forsaking Yahweh.” ³So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

⁴Yahweh said to him,

“Call his name Jezreel.

For yet a little while

I will avenge the blood of Jezreel

upon the house of Jehu,

and I will put an end

to the kingdom of the house of Israel.

⁵It will happen on that day

that I break the bow of Israel

in the Valley of Jezreel.” ⁶She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then Yahweh said to Hosea,

“Call her name Lo-Ruhamah,

for I will no longer have mercy

on the house of Israel,

that I should forgive them at all.

⁷But I will have mercy on the house of Judah,

and I will save them by Yahweh their God.

I will not save them

by bow, sword, battle, horses, or horsemen.” ⁸After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.

⁹Then Yahweh said,

“Call his name Lo-Ammi,

for you are not my people,

and I am not your God.

¹⁰Yet the number of the sons of Israel
will be like the sand of the seashore,
which cannot be measured or counted.

In the place where it was said to them,
'You are not my people,'
it will be said to them,
'You are sons of the living God.'

¹¹The people of Judah and the people of Israel
will be gathered together.
They will appoint one leader for themselves,
and they will go up from the land,
for great will be the day of Jezreel.

Chapter 2

¹Say to your brothers, 'My people!'
and to your sisters, 'You have been shown compassion.'"

²Contend with your mother, contend,
for she is not my wife,
and neither am I her husband.

Let her put away her harlotry from her face,
and her adultery from between her breasts.

³If not, I will strip her naked
and expose her as on the day that she was born.
I will make her like the wilderness,
and make her like a parched land,
and I will make her die from thirst.

⁴I will have no mercy on her children,
because they are children of harlotry.

⁵For their mother has played the harlot,
and she who conceived them has acted shamefully.

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."

⁶Therefore, I will hedge up her way with thorns.
I will build up a wall against her
so she cannot find her paths.

⁷She will pursue her lovers,
but she will not overtake them.

She will seek them,
but she will not find them.

Then she will say,
"I will go and return to my first husband,
for it was better for me then than it is now."

⁸For she had not known that it was I who gave her
the grain, the new wine and the oil,
and who lavished on her silver and gold,
which they then used for Baal.

⁹Therefore I will take back my grain in its time,
and my new wine in its season.

I will take away my wool and my flax
that were used to cover her nakedness.

¹⁰Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers,
and no one will rescue her out of my hand.

¹¹I will also put an end to all her mirth,
her feasts, her new moon celebrations, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed festivals.

¹²"I will destroy her vines and her fig trees,
of which she has said,

'These are my wages that my lovers gave me.'

I will make them a forest,
and the animals of the field will devour them.

13I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals,
when she burned incense to them,
when she adorned herself with her rings and jewelry,
and she went after her lovers and forgot me—
this is the declaration of Yahweh.”

14Therefore, behold, I am going to allure her. I will bring her into the wilderness
and speak tenderly to her.

15I will give her back her vineyards,
and the Valley of Achor as a door of hope.
She will answer me there as in the days of her youth,
as in the days that she came out of the land of Egypt.

16“It will be in that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh—
that you will call me, ‘My husband,’
and you will no longer call me, ‘My Baal.’

17For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth;
and they will be remembered by their names no more.”

18“On that day I will make a covenant for them
with the beasts in the fields,
with the birds in the sky,
and with the crawling things on the ground.
I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land,
and I will make you lie down in safety.

19I will betroth you to me forever.
I will betroth you to me in righteousness, in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy.

20I will betroth you to me in faithfulness,
and you will know Yahweh.

21On that day,
I will answer—this is the declaration of Yahweh—
I will answer the heavens,
and they will answer the earth.

22The earth will answer the grain, the new wine and the oil,

and they will answer Jezreel.

²³I will sow her for myself in the land,
and I will have mercy on Lo-Ruhamah.

I will say to Lo-Ammi,

'You are my people,'

and they will say, 'You are my God.'"

Chapter 3

¹Yahweh said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as Yahweh loves the sons of Israel, although they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes." ²So I bought her for myself for fifteen pieces of silver and a homer and a lethek of barley. ³I said to her, "You must dwell with me many days. You will not play the harlot or belong to any other man. In the same way, I will be with you." ⁴For the sons of Israel will dwell for many days without a king, prince, sacrifice, stone pillar, ephod or household idols. ⁵Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek Yahweh their God and David their king, and in the last days, they will come trembling to Yahweh and to his goodness.

Chapter 4

¹Hear the word of Yahweh, O sons of Israel.

For Yahweh has a lawsuit against the inhabitants of the land,
because there is no faithfulness or steadfast love, no knowledge of God in the land.

²There is cursing, lying, murder, stealing and adultery.

They have broken all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed.

³Therefore the land mourns,

and all who live in it are wasting away,

along with the beasts in the fields and the birds in the sky,

even the fish in the sea, are being taken away. ⁴But let no one bring a lawsuit;

and let no one accuse.

For my contention is with you, O priests.

⁵You will stumble by day;

the prophets will also stumble with you by night,

and I will destroy your mother.

⁶My people are destroyed because of the lack of knowledge.

Because you have rejected knowledge,

I also reject you from being priests to me.

Because you have forgotten the law of your God,
I also will forget your children.

⁷The more they multiplied,
the more they sinned against me.
I will change their glory into shame.

⁸They feed on the sin of my people;
they are greedy for their iniquity.

⁹It will be like people, like priests:
I will punish them for their ways;
I will repay them for their deeds.

¹⁰They will eat but not have enough;
they will play the harlot but not increase,
because they have forsaken Yahweh to devote themselves to

¹¹harlotry, wine, and new wine, which take away the understanding.

¹²My people consult their wooden idols,
and their walking sticks inform them.

For a spirit of harlotry has led them astray,
and they have played the harlot, departing from their God.

¹³They sacrifice on the tops of the mountains
and burn incense on the hills,
under oaks, poplars and terebinths,
because the shade is good.

Therefore your daughters play the harlot,
and your daughters-in-law commit adultery.

¹⁴I will not punish your daughters when they play the harlot,
nor your daughters-in-law when they commit adultery.

For the men themselves go aside with harlots,
and they offer sacrifices with cult prostitutes.

So the people without understanding will be thrown down.

¹⁵Though you, O Israel, play the harlot,
let not Judah become guilty.

Do not go to Gilgal,
do not go up to Beth Aven,
and do not swear, saying, "As Yahweh lives."

16Israel is stubborn, like a stubborn heifer;
can Yahweh now feed them like lambs in a broad pasture?

17Ephraim is joined to idols;
leave him alone.

18Even when their liquor is gone,
they play the harlot continually;
her rulers dearly love their shame.

19The wind will wrap her up in its wings;
and they will be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

Chapter 5

1"Hear this, O priests!
Pay attention, O house of Israel!
Listen, O house of the king!
For the judgment is for you,
for you have been a snare at Mizpah
and a net spread over Tabor.

2The rebels stand deep in slaughter,
but I will discipline all of them.^[1]

3I know Ephraim,
and Israel is not hidden from me;
for now, O Ephraim, you have played the harlot;
Israel is defiled.

4Their deeds will not allow them to return to their God,
for a spirit of harlotry is within them,
and they do not know Yahweh.

5The pride of Israel testifies against him;
Israel and Ephraim will stumble in their guilt;

Judah also will stumble with them.

⁶They will go with their flocks and herds to seek Yahweh,
but they will not find him,
for he has withdrawn from them.

⁷They were unfaithful to Yahweh,
for they have borne illegitimate children.
Now the new moon will devour them with their fields.

⁸Blow the horn in Gibeah,
and the trumpet in Ramah.
Sound the alarm at Beth Aven:

'We will follow you, O Benjamin!'

⁹Ephraim will become a desolation in the day of punishment.
Among the tribes of Israel I declare what is certain.

¹⁰The princes of Judah are like those who move a boundary.
I will pour out my wrath on them like water.

¹¹Ephraim is oppressed;
he is crushed in judgment,
because he was determined to go after idols.

¹²So I will be like a moth to Ephraim,
and like rot to the house of Judah.

¹³When Ephraim saw his sickness,
and Judah his wound,
then Ephraim went to Assyria,
and sent to the great king.
But he is not able to cure you
or heal your wound.

¹⁴For I will be like a lion to Ephraim,
and like a young lion to the house of Judah.
I, even I, will tear and go away;
I will carry off,
and there will be no one to rescue.

¹⁵I will go and return to my place,
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face,
until they earnestly seek me in their distress.”

5:2 ^[1] , , or, continuing on from the previous verse, .

Chapter 6

¹“Come, let us return to Yahweh.

For he has torn us, but he will heal us;
he has struck us down, but he will bandage us.

²After two days he will revive us;
he will raise us up on the third day,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know;
let us press on to know Yahweh.
His going forth is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴O Ephraim, what will I do with you?
O Judah, what will I do with you?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.

⁵Therefore I have cut them to pieces by the prophets,
I have killed them with the words of my mouth.
My judgments are like the light that goes forth.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
and the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

⁷Like Adam they have transgressed the covenant;
there they were unfaithful to me.

⁸Gilead is a city of evildoers
with footprints of blood.

⁹As a band of raiders lie in wait for a man,

so the priests band together to commit murder on the way to Shechem;
surely they have committed shameful crimes.

¹⁰In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing;
the harlotry of Ephraim is there; Israel is defiled.

¹¹For you also, Judah, a harvest has been appointed.
When I restore the fortunes of my people,

Chapter 7

¹when I would heal Israel,
the sin of Ephraim is exposed,
as well as the evil deeds of Samaria,
for they practice deceit;
the thief breaks in,
and the marauding band raids outside.

²But they do not realize in their hearts
that I remember all their evil.
Now their deeds surround them;
they are before my face.

³By their evil they make the king glad,
and by their lies the princes.

⁴They are all adulterers,
like an oven heated by the baker,
who ceases to stir the fire
from the kneading of the dough until it is leavened.

⁵On the day of our king the princes became sick with the heat of wine.
He stretched out his hand with those who were mocking.

⁶For with their hearts like an oven,
they approach their intrigue.
Their anger smolders all night;
in the morning it burns like a flaming fire.

⁷All of them are hot as an oven,

and they devour those who rule over them.

All their kings have fallen;

none of them calls on me.

⁸Ephraim mixes himself among the peoples.

Ephraim is a flat cake that has not been turned over.

⁹Foreigners have devoured his strength,

but he does not know it.

Gray hairs are sprinkled on him,

but he does not know it.

¹⁰The pride of Israel testifies against him;

yet they have not returned to Yahweh their God,

nor have they sought him, for all this.

¹¹Ephraim is like a dove, silly and without sense,

calling to Egypt,

then going to Assyria. ¹²When they go, I will spread my net over them,

I will bring them down like the birds of the sky.

I will discipline them

in accordance with the report to their assembly.

¹³Woe to them!

For they have strayed from me.

Destruction to them!

For they have rebelled against me!

I would have redeemed them,

but they spoke lies against me.

¹⁴They do not cry to me with their heart,

but they wail on their beds.

They gather together for grain and new wine;

they turn away from me.^[1]

¹⁵Though I trained and strengthened their arms,

yet they plot evil against me.

¹⁶They return,

but not upward.

They are like a slack bow.

Their princes will fall by the sword

because of the insolence of their tongues.

This will be their derision in the land of Egypt.

7:14 ^[1], which the Hebrew text has, some ancient copies and many modern versions have, an allusion to the pagan custom of idol worshipers wounding themselves in the frenzy of prayer.

Chapter 8

¹Put the trumpet to your lips!

One like a vulture is over the house of Yahweh

because they have transgressed my covenant

and rebelled against my law.

²They cry out to me,

'My God, we in Israel know you.'

³Israel has rejected the good;

the enemy will pursue him.

⁴They have set up kings,

but not by me.

They have appointed princes,

but I did not know.

With their silver and gold

they have made idols for themselves,

so that they might be cut off."

⁵Your calf has been rejected, O Samaria.

My anger burns against them.

How long will they be incapable of innocence?

⁶For from Israel is even this;

a craftsman made it;

it is not God!

Surely the calf of Samaria will be broken to pieces.

⁷For they sow the wind

and reap the whirlwind.

The standing grain has no heads;

it yields no flour.

If it were to yield,

strangers would devour it.

⁸Israel is swallowed up;

they are now among the nations like a vessel in which no one delights.

⁹For they have gone up to Assyria,

a wild donkey all alone.

Ephraim has hired lovers for herself.

¹⁰Even though they hire lovers among the nations,

I will now gather them together.

They will begin to waste away

because of the burden of the king of princes.

¹¹Since Ephraim has multiplied altars for sin offerings,

they have become altars for sinning for him.

¹²Were I to write for him my law ten thousand times,

they would be regarded as something strange.

¹³As for my sacrificial gifts,

they sacrifice meat and eat it,

but Yahweh does not accept them.

Now he will remember their iniquity

and punish their sins.

They will return to Egypt.

¹⁴Israel has forgotten his Maker

and has built palaces.

Judah has multiplied fortified cities,

but I will send fire on his cities;

it will devour his fortresses.

Chapter 9

¹Do not rejoice, O Israel,
with joy like the peoples.

For you have played the harlot,
forsaking your God.

You have loved the wages of a harlot
on all the threshing floors.

²The threshing floor and the winepress will not feed them;
and the new wine will fail them.

³They will not remain in the land of Yahweh;
instead, Ephraim will return to Egypt,
and they will eat unclean food in Assyria.

⁴They will not pour out wine offerings to Yahweh,
neither will their sacrifices be pleasing to him.

It will be like the bread of mourners to them:
all who eat it will be defiled.

For their bread will be for themselves only;
it will not come into the house of Yahweh.

⁵What will you do on the day of an appointed festival,
and on the day of a festival for Yahweh?

⁶For behold, they go away from destruction,
but Egypt will gather them,

Memphis will bury them.

As for their treasures of silver—
sharp briars will possess them,
thorns will be in their tents.

⁷The days of punishment have come;
the days of retribution have come.

Let Israel know these things.

The prophet is a fool,
the man of the spirit is insane,

because of your great iniquity
and great hostility.

⁸The prophet is the watchman with my God over Ephraim.

But the snare of a fowler is on all of his ways,
and hostility in the house of his God.

⁹They have deeply corrupted themselves
as in the days of Gibeah.

He will remember their iniquity,
he will punish their sins.

¹⁰Like grapes in the wilderness, I found Israel.

Like the first fruit on the fig tree in its first season, I saw your fathers.

But they came to Baal Peor,
and they devoted themselves to that shameful thing.
They became detestable like that which they loved.

¹¹As for Ephraim, their glory will fly away like a bird—
no birth, no pregnancy, and no conception.

¹²Even if they bring up their children,
I will bereave them until no one is left.
Yes, woe to them indeed when I turn away from them!

¹³Ephraim, as I have seen, is like Tyre planted in a meadow;
but Ephraim will bring out his children to him who slaughters.”

¹⁴Give them, O Yahweh—what will you give?
Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

¹⁵“All their evil is in Gilgal,
indeed I came to hate them there.
Because of the wickedness of their deeds,
I will drive them out of my house.
I will love them no more;
all their princes are rebels.

¹⁶Ephraim is stricken;
their root is dried up;

they will bear no fruit.

Even if they give birth,

I will kill the precious ones of their womb.”

¹⁷My God will reject them

because they have not listened to him.

They will become wanderers among the nations.

Chapter 10

¹Israel is a luxuriant vine that produces his fruit.

The more his fruit increased,

the more altars he built.

As his land prospered,

he improved his pillars.

²Their heart is deceitful;

now they must bear their guilt.

He will break down their altars;

he will destroy their pillars.

³For now they will say,

“We have no king,

for we do not fear Yahweh,

and a king—what could he do for us?”

⁴They speak mere words,

they make covenants with worthless oaths.

So judgment springs up

like poisonous weeds in the furrows of a field.

⁵The inhabitants of Samaria will be afraid

for the calf of Beth Aven.

Indeed, its people will mourn over it,

as will its idolatrous priests who had rejoiced over it

and over its splendor,

for it has departed from them.

⁶The thing itself will be carried to Assyria
as tribute for the great king.
Ephraim will receive shame,
and Israel will be ashamed of its idol.

⁷The king of Samaria
will be cut off,
like a twig on the face of the waters.

⁸The high places of Aven, the sin of Israel, will be destroyed.
Thorns and thistles will grow up on their altars.
Then they will say to the mountains, "Cover us!"
and to the hills, "Fall on us!"

⁹"O Israel,
you have sinned since the days of Gibeah;
there they have remained.
Will not the war against the sons of injustice overtake them in Gibeah?

¹⁰When it is my desire, I will discipline them;
and the nations will be gathered against them
when they are bound for their double iniquity.

¹¹Ephraim is a trained heifer that loves to thresh,
and I spared her fair neck;
but I will harness Ephraim;
Judah will plow;
Jacob will harrow for himself.

¹²Sow for yourselves righteousness;
reap in accordance with steadfast love.
Break up your fallow ground,
for it is time to seek Yahweh,
until he comes and rains righteousness on you.

¹³You have plowed wickedness;
you reaped injustice.
You have eaten the fruit of lies

because you trusted in your way,
in your many warriors.

¹⁴Therefore a tumult will rise among your people,
and all your fortresses will be destroyed,
as Shalman destroyed Beth Arbel on the day of battle,
when mothers were dashed to pieces with their children.

¹⁵So it will be done to you, O Bethel,
because of your great wickedness.

At dawn the king of Israel will be completely cut off.”

Chapter 11

¹“When Israel was a child I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

²The more they called them,
the more they went away from me.

They kept sacrificing to the Baals
and burning incense to idols.^[1]

³Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk.

I took them by their arms,
but they did not know that I healed them.

⁴I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.

I was to them like someone who eased the yoke on their jaws,
and I bent down to them and fed them.

⁵They will not return to the land of Egypt;
but Assyria—he will be their king,
because they refused to return to me.

⁶The sword will whirl against their cities,
and destroy the bars of their gates,
and devour them
because of their own plans.

⁷My people are bent on turning away from me.

Though they call to the Most High,
he will not raise them up at all.

⁸How can I give you up, O Ephraim?

How can I hand you over, O Israel?

How can I make you like Admah?

How can I make you like Zeboyim?

My heart is turned over within me;

all my compassions are aroused.

⁹I will not execute my fierce anger;

I will not again destroy Ephraim.

For I am God

and not a man,

the Holy One in your midst,

and I will not come in wrath.

¹⁰They will go after Yahweh;

he will roar like a lion.

When he roars,

his sons will come trembling from the west.

¹¹They will come trembling like a bird from Egypt,

like a dove from the land of Assyria.

I will settle them in their homes—this is the declaration of Yahweh.

¹²Ephraim has surrounded me with lies,

and the house of Israel with deceit.

But Judah still goes about with God,

and is faithful to the Holy One.”

11:2 ^[1]. The Hebrew text has .

Chapter 12

¹Ephraim feeds on the wind

and pursues the east wind all day.

He multiplies lies and violence.

They make a covenant with Assyria
and olive oil is carried to Egypt.

²Yahweh also has a dispute with Judah,
and will punish Jacob according to his ways;
he will repay him according to his deeds.

³In the womb he took his brother by the heel,
and in his manhood he struggled with God.

⁴He struggled with the angel and prevailed.
He wept and begged for his favor.
He found him at Bethel;
and there he spoke with us.

⁵Yahweh, the God of hosts;
Yahweh is his memorial name.

⁶But you must return to your God.
Keep covenantal love and justice,
and wait continually for your God.

⁷A merchant has false scales in his hands;
he loves to oppress.

⁸Ephraim said, "Surely I have become rich;
I have found wealth for myself.
In all my labors they will not find iniquity in me,
which would be sin."

⁹"I am Yahweh your God from the land of Egypt.
I will again make you live in tents,
as in the days of the appointed festival.

¹⁰I spoke to the prophets,
and I multiplied visions.
By the hand of the prophets I gave parables."

¹¹If there is iniquity in Gilead,
surely they are worthless.

In Gilgal they sacrifice bulls;
their altars also will be like heaps of stone beside the furrows of the fields.

¹²Jacob fled to the land of Aram;

Israel worked for a wife;
and for a wife, he kept sheep.

¹³Yahweh brought Israel up from Egypt by a prophet,
and by a prophet he was kept.

¹⁴Ephraim has bitterly provoked to anger.

So his Lord will leave his bloodguilt on him
and will turn back his reproach to him.

Chapter 13

¹“When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling.

He exalted himself in Israel,
but he became guilty through Baal and died.

²And now they sin more and more,
and they make for themselves cast metal images,
idols skillfully made from their silver,
all of them the work of craftsmen.

They say of them,
‘Those who sacrifice people kiss calves.’

³Therefore they will be like the morning clouds,
and like the dew that goes away early,
like the chaff that swirls from the threshing floor,
and like smoke from a window.

⁴But I am Yahweh your God from the land of Egypt;
and you were to know no god except me,
for there is no savior besides me.

⁵I knew you in the wilderness,
in the land of drought.

⁶When they had their pasture, then they became full;

they were filled, and their heart became lifted up.

Therefore they forgot me.

⁷So I will become like a lion to them;
like a leopard I will lurk along the path.

⁸I will encounter them like a bear robbed of her cubs.
I will rip open their chests,
and there I will devour them like a lion,
as a wild beast would tear them apart.

⁹He destroys you, O Israel;
for you are against me, against your helper.

¹⁰Where now is your king,
that he may save you in all your cities,
and your rulers, about whom you said,
'Give me a king and princes?'

¹¹I gave you a king in my anger,
and I took him away in my wrath.

¹²The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up;
his sin is stored up.

¹³Pains of childbirth will come on him,
but he is an unwise son,
for when it is time to be born, he does not come out of the womb.

¹⁴Will I rescue them from the hand of Sheol?
Will I rescue them from death?
Where, death, are your plagues?
Where, Sheol, is your destruction?
Compassion is hidden from my eyes."

¹⁵Though Ephraim is prosperous among his brothers,
an east wind will come;
the wind of Yahweh will blow in from the wilderness.
Ephraim's spring will dry up,
and his well will have no water.

His enemy will plunder his storehouse of every precious object.

¹⁶Samaria will be guilty,

for she has rebelled against her God.

They will fall by the sword;

their young children will be dashed to pieces,

and their pregnant women will be ripped open.

Chapter 14

¹Israel, return to Yahweh your God,

for you have fallen because of your iniquity.

²Take with you words and return to Yahweh.

Say to him, "Take away all our iniquity

and accept what is good,

so that we may offer to you the fruit of our lips.^[1]

³Assyria will not save us;

we will not ride on horses to war.

Neither will we say anymore to the work of our hands,

'You are our gods,'

for in you the fatherless person finds compassion."

⁴"I will heal their turning away;

I will love them freely,

for my anger has turned away from him.

⁵I will be like the dew to Israel;

he will blossom like the lily

and take root like a cedar in Lebanon.

⁶His branches will spread out;

his beauty will be like the olive trees,

and his fragrance like the cedars in Lebanon.

⁷The people who live in his shade will return;

they will revive like grain

and blossom like vines.

His fame will be like the wine of Lebanon.

⁸Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols?

I will answer him and care for him.

I am like a cypress whose leaves are always green;

from me comes your fruit.”

⁹Who is wise that he may understand these things?

Who understands these things so that he may know them?

For the ways of Yahweh are right,

and the righteous will walk in them,

but the rebellious will stumble in them.

14:2 ^[1] represents the interpretation of some ancient versions. The Hebrew text has . Some modern versions interpret this to mean, .

Joel

Chapter 1

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Joel son of Pethuel.

²Hear this, you elders,

and listen, all you inhabitants of the land.

Has anything like this happened in your days

or in the days of your fathers?

³Tell your sons about it,

and let your sons tell their sons,

and their sons the next generation.

⁴What the cutting locust has left the swarming locust has eaten;

what the swarming locust has left the hopping locust has eaten;

and what the hopping locust has left the destroying locust has eaten.

⁵Wake up, you drunkards, and weep!

Wail, all you drinkers of wine,

because the sweet wine has been cut off from your mouth.

⁶For a nation has come up against my land,

strong and without number.

Its teeth are the teeth of a lion,

and it has the fangs of a lioness.

⁷It has made my vine into a waste

and has splintered my fig tree.

It has stripped its bark and thrown it away;

their branches are bare white.

⁸Mourn like a virgin dressed in sackcloth for the bridegroom of her youth.

⁹The grain offering and the drink offering have been cut off from Yahweh's house.

The priests, Yahweh's servants, mourn.

¹⁰The fields are ruined,

the ground is mourning because the grain has been destroyed.

The new wine has dried up,
the oil fails.

¹¹Be ashamed, you farmers,
and wail, you vine growers,
for the wheat and the barley.

For the harvest of the fields has perished.

¹²The vines have withered and the fig trees have dried up,
the pomegranate trees, also the palm trees, and the apple trees—
all the trees of the field have withered.

For joy has withered away from the sons of mankind.

¹³Put on sackcloth and mourn, you priests!
Wail, you servants of the altar.
Come, lie all night in sackcloth, you servants of my God.

For the grain offering and the drink offering have been withheld from the house of your God.

¹⁴Call for a holy fast,
and call a holy assembly.

Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land
to the house of Yahweh your God,
and cry to Yahweh.

¹⁵Alas for the day!

For the day of Yahweh is almost here.
With it will come destruction from the Almighty.

¹⁶Has not food been cut off from before our eyes,
and joy and gladness from the house of our God?

¹⁷The seeds shrivel under their clods,
the storehouses are desolate,
and the granaries have been broken down,
because the grain has dried up.

¹⁸How the animals groan!
The herds of cattle are perplexed
because they have no pasture.

Also, the flocks of sheep suffer.

¹⁹Yahweh, I cry to you.

For fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness,
and flames have burned all the trees of the fields.

²⁰Even the animals of the fields pant for you,
for the water brooks have dried up,
and fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Chapter 2

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion,
and sound an alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble in fear,
for the day of Yahweh is coming;
indeed, it is near.

²It is a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness.
Like the dawn that spreads on the mountains,
a large and mighty army is approaching.
There has never been an army like it before,
and there never will be again,
even after many generations.

³A fire is consuming everything in front of it,
and behind it a flame is burning.
The land is like the garden of Eden in front of it,
but behind it there is a ruined wilderness.
Indeed, nothing will escape from it.

⁴The army's appearance is like the appearance of horses,
and they run like war horses.

⁵With a noise like that of chariots they jump on the tops of the mountains,
like the noise of fiery flames that devour the stubble,
like a mighty army ready for battle.

⁶At their presence people are in anguish
and all their faces become pale.

⁷They run like mighty warriors;
they climb the walls like soldiers;
they march, every one in step,
and do not swerve from their paths.

⁸Neither does one thrust another aside;
they march, each in his path;
they break through the weapons
and do not fall out of line.

⁹They rush on the city,
they run on the wall,
they climb into the houses,
they enter through the windows like thieves.

¹⁰The earth shakes in front of them,
the heavens tremble,
the sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars stop shining.

¹¹Yahweh raises his voice in front of his army,
for his warriors are very numerous;
for they are strong, those who carry out his commands.
For the day of Yahweh is great and very terrible.
Who can survive it?

¹²"Yet even now," says Yahweh,
"Return to me with all your heart.
Fast, weep, and mourn."

¹³Tear your heart and not only your garments,
and return to Yahweh your God.
For he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abundant in covenant faithfulness,
and he relents from inflicting punishment.

14Who knows? Will he perhaps turn and have compassion,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering for Yahweh your God?

15Blow the trumpet in Zion,
call for a holy fast,
and call a holy assembly.

16Gather the people,
call for the holy assembly.
Assemble the elders,
gather the children
and the nursing infants.

Let the bridegrooms come out of their rooms,
and the brides out of their bridal chambers.

17Let the priests, the servants of Yahweh,
weep between the porch and the altar.
Let them say, "Spare your people, Yahweh,
and do not make your inheritance into an object of scorn,
that the nations mock them.

Why should they say among the nations,
'Where is their God?'"

18Then Yahweh was zealous for his land
and had pity on his people.

19Yahweh answered and said to his people,
"Look, I will send you grain, new wine, and oil.
You will be satisfied with them,
and I will no longer make you a disgrace among the nations.

20I will remove the northern attackers far from you,
and will drive them into a dry and abandoned land.
The front of their army will go into the eastern sea,
and the rear into the western sea.

Its stench will rise,

and its bad smell will rise.”

Indeed, he has done great things.

²¹Do not fear, O land, be glad and rejoice,
for Yahweh will do great things.

²²Do not fear, you beasts of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness will sprout,
the trees will bear their fruit,
and the fig trees and the vines will yield their full harvest.

²³Be glad, O sons of Zion,
and rejoice in Yahweh your God.

For he will give you the autumn rain for your vindication
and bring down showers for you,
the autumn rain and the spring rain as before.

²⁴The threshing floors will be full of grain,
and the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

²⁵“I will restore to you the years of crops that the swarming locust has eaten—
the hopping locust, the destroying locust, and the cutting locust—
my mighty army that I sent among you.

²⁶You will eat plentifully and be full,
and praise the name of Yahweh your God,
who has done wonders among you,
and never again will my people be put to shame.

²⁷You will know that I am among Israel,
and that I am Yahweh your God,
and there is none else,
and never again will my people be put to shame.

²⁸It will come about 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.

²⁹Also on male servants and female servants,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

³⁰I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth,
blood, fire, and pillars of smoke.

³¹The sun will turn into darkness
and the moon into blood,
before the great and terrible day of Yahweh comes.

³²It will be that everyone who calls on the name of Yahweh will be saved.
For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be those who escape,
as Yahweh has said,
and among the survivors,
those whom Yahweh calls.

Chapter 3

¹Behold, in those days and at that time,
when I return the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,
²I will gather all the nations,
and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
I will judge them there,
because of my people and my inheritance Israel,
whom they scattered among the nations,
and because they divided up my land.

³They cast lots for my people,
traded a boy for a prostitute,
and sold a girl for wine
so they could drink.

⁴Now, what have you against me,
Tyre, Sidon and all the regions of Philistia?
Are you paying me back for something?
If you are paying me back,
I will immediately return your retribution on your own head.

⁵For you took my silver and my gold,
and you brought my precious treasures into your temples.

⁶You sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks,
in order to remove them far from their territory.

⁷Look, I am about to stir them up, out of the place where you sold them,
and will return your payment on your own head.

⁸I will sell your sons and your daughters,
into the hand of the sons of Judah.
They will sell them to the Sabeans,
to a nation far off,
for Yahweh has spoken."

⁹Proclaim this among the nations,
"Prepare yourselves for war,
rouse the mighty men,
let them come near,
let all the men of battle come up.

¹⁰Beat your plowshares into swords
and your pruning knives into spears.
Let the weak say,
'I am strong.'

¹¹Hurry and come,
all you surrounding nations,
gather yourselves together there.
O Yahweh, bring down your mighty warriors.

¹²Let the nations wake themselves up
and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
For there will I sit to judge
all the surrounding nations.

¹³Put in the sickle,
for the harvest is ripe.
Come, crush the grapes,

for the winepress is full.

The vats overflow,

for their wickedness is enormous.”

14There are multitudes, multitudes in the Valley of Judgment.

For the day of Yahweh is near in the Valley of Judgment.

15The sun and the moon become dark,

the stars keep back their brightness.

16Yahweh will roar from Zion,

and raise his voice from Jerusalem.

The heavens and earth will shake,

but Yahweh will be a shelter for his people,

and a fortress for the sons of Israel.

17“So you will know that I am Yahweh your God

who lives in Zion, my holy mountain.

Then Jerusalem will be holy,

and no strangers will pass through it again.

18It will come about on that day

that the mountains will drip with sweet wine,

the hills will flow with milk,

all the brooks of Judah will flow with water,

and a fountain will come from the house of Yahweh

and water the Valley of Shittim.

19Egypt will become an abandoned devastation,

and Edom will become an abandoned wilderness,

because of the violence done to the sons of Judah,

because they shed innocent blood in their land.

20But Judah will be inhabited forever,

and Jerusalem will be inhabited from generation to generation.

21I will avenge their blood that I have not yet avenged,

for Yahweh lives in Zion.”

Amos

Chapter 1

¹The message of Amos, who was among the shepherds in Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and also in the days of Jeroboam son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

²He said,

“Yahweh will roar from Zion;

he will raise his voice from Jerusalem.

The pastures of the shepherds will wither;

the top of Carmel will dry up.”

³This is what Yahweh says:

“For three sins of Damascus,

even for four,

I will not turn away punishment,

because they threshed Gilead with instruments of iron.

⁴I will send a fire into the house of Hazael,

and it will devour the fortresses of Ben Hadad.

⁵I will break the gate bars of Damascus

and cut off the one who rules over the Valley of Aven,

and also the one who holds the scepter in Beth Eden.

The people of Aram will go in captivity to Kir;”

says Yahweh.

⁶This is what Yahweh says:

“For three sins of Gaza,

even for four,

I will not turn away punishment,

because they carried away captive a whole people,

to hand them over to Edom.

⁷I will send fire on the walls of Gaza,

and it will devour her fortresses.

⁸I will cut off the one who lives in Ashdod

and the one who holds the scepter from Ashkelon.

I will turn my hand against Ekron,
and the rest of the Philistines will perish,"
says the Lord Yahweh.

⁹This is what Yahweh says:

"For three sins of Tyre,
even for four,
I will not turn away punishment,
because they had delivered up a whole people to Edom,
and they did not remember their covenant of brotherhood.

¹⁰I will send fire on the walls of Tyre,
and it will devour her fortresses."

¹¹This is what Yahweh says,

"For three sins of Edom,
even for four,
I will not turn away punishment,
because he pursued his brother with the sword
and cast off all pity.

His anger raged continually,
and his wrath lasted forever.

¹²I will send fire on Teman,
and it will devour the palaces of Bozrah."

¹³This is what Yahweh says,

"For three sins of the sons of Ammon,
even for four,
I will not turn away punishment,
because they ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead,
that they may enlarge their borders.

¹⁴I will light a fire in the walls of Rabbah,
and it will devour the palaces,
with a shout in the day of battle,

with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind.

¹⁵Their king will go into captivity,
he and his officials together,"
says Yahweh.

Chapter 2

¹This is what Yahweh says:

"For three sins of Moab,
even for four,
I will not turn away punishment,
because he burned the bones
of the king of Edom to lime.

²I will send fire on Moab,
and it will devour the fortresses of Kerioth.
Moab will die in an uproar,
with shouting and the sound of the horn.

³I will destroy the judge in her,
and I will kill all the princes with him,"
says Yahweh.

⁴This is what Yahweh says:

"For three sins of Judah,
even for four,
I will not turn away punishment,
because they rejected the law of Yahweh
and did not keep his statutes.
Their lies caused them to go astray,
after which their fathers had also walked.

⁵I will send fire on Judah,
and it will devour the fortresses of Jerusalem."

⁶This is what Yahweh says:

"For three sins of Israel,

even for four,

I will not turn away punishment,

because they sold the innocent for silver

and the needy for a pair of sandals.

⁷They trample the heads of the poor into the dust of the ground;

they thrust aside the way of the oppressed.

A man and his father go in to the same girl

and so profane my holy name.

⁸They lie down beside every altar on clothes taken as pledges,

and in the house of their God they drink the wine of those who were fined.

⁹Yet I destroyed the Amorites before them,

whose height was like the height of cedars;

he was strong as the oaks.

Yet I destroyed his fruit above

and his roots below.

¹⁰Also, I brought you up out of the land of Egypt

and led you forty years in the wilderness

to possess the land of the Amorites.

¹¹I raised up prophets from among your sons

and Nazirites from your young men.

Is it not so,

sons of Israel?—

this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹²But you persuaded the Nazirites to drink wine

and commanded the prophets saying, "Do not prophesy!"

¹³Behold, I will crush you

as a cart that is full of grain can crush someone.

¹⁴A place of refuge will be lost by the swift;

the strong will not add to his own strength;

neither will the mighty save himself.

¹⁵The one who holds the bow will not stand;

the one who is swift with his feet will not escape;
the one who rides the horse will not escape with his life.

¹⁶Even the bravest warriors
will flee naked in that day—
this is Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 3

¹Hear this word that Yahweh has spoken against you, people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt saying:

²"I have chosen only you
from all the families of the earth.
Therefore I will punish you
for all your sins."

³Will two walk together
unless they have agreed?

⁴Will a lion roar in the forest
when he has no victim?
Will a young lion growl from his den
if he has caught nothing?

⁵Can a bird fall in a trap on the ground
when no bait is set for him?
Will a trap spring up from the ground
when it has not caught anything?

⁶If a trumpet sounds in a city,
will the people not tremble?
If disaster overtakes a city,
has Yahweh not sent it?

⁷Surely the Lord Yahweh will not do anything
unless he reveals his plan to his servants the prophets.

⁸The lion has roared;
who will not fear?
The Lord Yahweh has spoken;

who will not prophesy?

⁹Proclaim this in the fortresses at Ashdod,
and in the fortresses in the land of Egypt;
say, "Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria
and see what great confusion is in her,
and what oppression is in her.

¹⁰For they do not know how to do right—
this is Yahweh's declaration—
They store up violence
and destruction in their fortresses."

¹¹Therefore, this is what the Lord Yahweh says:
"An enemy will surround the land,
and pull down your strongholds
and plunder your fortresses."

¹²This is what Yahweh says:
"As the shepherd rescues out of the mouth of the lion
two legs only, or a piece of an ear;
so will the sons of Israel who live in Samaria be rescued with only the corner of a couch or a piece of a bed."

¹³Hear and testify
against the house of Jacob—
this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh, the God of hosts:

¹⁴"For on the day that I bring punishment for the sins of Israel on her,
I will also bring punishment on the altars of Bethel.
The horns of the altar will be cut off
and fall to the ground.

¹⁵I will destroy the winter house
with the summer house.
The houses of ivory will perish,
and the large houses will vanish—
this is Yahweh's declaration."

Chapter 4

¹Listen to this word,
you cows of Bashan,
you who are in the mountain of Samaria,
you who oppress the poor,
you who crush the needy,
you who say to your husbands,
“Bring us drinks.”

²The Lord Yahweh has sworn by his holiness saying,
“Behold, the days will come on you
when they will take you away with hooks,
the last of you with fishhooks.

³You will go out through the breaks in the city wall,
each one going straight through,
and you will be thrown out toward Harmon—
this is Yahweh’s declaration.”

⁴“Go to Bethel and sin,
to Gilgal and multiply sin,
bring your sacrifices every morning,
your tithes every three days.

⁵Offer a thanksgiving sacrifice with bread;
proclaim freewill offerings; announce them,
for this pleases you,
you sons of Israel—
this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh.

⁶For I also gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities
and lack of bread in all your places.
Yet you have not returned to me—
this is Yahweh’s declaration.

⁷I also withheld rain from you
when there were still three months to the harvest.

I caused it to rain on one city,
and caused it not to rain on another city.

One piece of land was rained on,
but the piece of land where he caused it not to rain on it dried up.

⁸Two or three cities staggered to another city to drink water,
but were not satisfied.

Yet you have not returned to me—
this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁹I afflicted you with blight and mildew.

The multitude of your gardens,
your vineyards,
your fig trees,
and your olive trees—
the locusts devoured them all.

Yet you have not returned to me—
this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹⁰I sent a plague on you in the manner of Egypt.

I killed your young men with the sword,
carried away your horses,
and made the stench of your camp come up
to your nostrils.

Yet you have not returned to me—
this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹¹I overthrew cities among you,
as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

You were like a burning stick snatched out of the fire.

Yet you have not returned to me—
this is Yahweh's declaration.

¹²Therefore I will do something terrible to you, Israel;
and because I will do something terrible to you,
prepare to meet your God, Israel!

¹³For, behold, he who forms the mountains
also creates the wind,
reveals his thoughts to mankind,
makes the morning darkness,
and treads on the high places of the earth.
Yahweh, God of hosts, is his name.”

Chapter 5

¹Hear this word that I take up as a lament over you, house of Israel.

²The virgin Israel has fallen;
she will rise no more;
she is forsaken on her land;
there is no one to raise her up.

³For this is what the Lord Yahweh says:

“The city that went out with a thousand will have a hundred left,
and the one that went out with a hundred will have ten left
belonging to the house of Israel.”

⁴For this is what Yahweh says to the house of Israel:

“Seek me and live!

⁵Do not seek Bethel;
nor enter Gilgal;
do not journey to Beersheba.
For Gilgal will surely go into captivity,
and Bethel will become nothing.

⁶Seek Yahweh and live,
or he will break out like fire
in the house of Joseph.
It will devour,
and there will be no one to quench it in Bethel.

⁷Those people turn justice into a bitter thing
and throw righteousness down to the ground!”

⁸God made the Pleiades and Orion;
he turns darkness into the morning;
he makes the day dark with night
and calls for the waters of the sea;
he pours them out on the surface of the earth.
Yahweh is his name!

⁹He causes destruction to fall on the strong,
and destruction comes down on the fortresses.

¹⁰They hate anyone who corrects them in the city gate,
and they abhor anyone who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore, because you trample down the poor
and take portions of wheat from him—
although you have built houses of worked stone,
you will not live in them.

You have delightful vineyards,
but you will not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your offenses
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the just,
take bribes,
and turn aside the needy in the city gate.

¹³Therefore any prudent person is silent at such a time,
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil,
so that you may live.
So Yahweh, the God of hosts, will really be with you,
as you say he is.

¹⁵Hate evil, love good,
establish justice in the city gate.
Perhaps Yahweh, the God of hosts, will be gracious
to the remnant of Joseph.

16Therefore, this is what Yahweh says,
the God of hosts, the Lord,
“Wailing will be in all the squares,
and they will say in all the streets,
‘Woe! Woe!’

They will call the farmers to mourning
and the mourners to wail.

17In all vineyards there will be wailing,
for I will pass through your midst,”
says Yahweh.

18Woe to you who desire the day of Yahweh!
Why do you long for the day of Yahweh?
It will be darkness and not light,

19as when a man flees from a lion
and a bear meets him,
or he goes in a house and puts his hand on the wall
and a snake bites him.

20Will not the day of Yahweh be darkness and not light?
Gloom and no brightness?

21“I hate, I despise your festivals,
I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

22Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
neither will I look at the fellowship offerings of your fattened animals.

23Remove from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the sound of your harps.

24Instead, let justice flow like water,
and righteousness like a constantly flowing stream.

25Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings
in the wilderness for forty years, house of Israel?

26You have lifted up the images of Sikkuth, your king,

and Kaiwan, your star god,
which you made for yourselves.

²⁷Therefore I will exile you beyond Damascus,"
says Yahweh,
whose name is the God of hosts.

Chapter 6

¹Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who are secure in the hill country of Samaria,
the notable men of the best of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes for help!

²"Go to Kalneh and look;
from there go to Hamath, the great city;
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.
Are they better than your two kingdoms?
Is their border larger than your border?"

³Woe to those who put off the day of disaster
and make the throne of violence come near.

⁴They lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches.
They eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall.

⁵They sing foolish songs to the music of the harp;
they improvise on musical instruments as David did.

⁶They drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but they do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

⁷Therefore, now they will go into exile with the first exiles,
and the feasts of those who lounge about will pass away.

⁸"I, the Lord Yahweh, have sworn by myself—
this is the declaration of Yahweh, the God of hosts,

I detest the pride of Jacob;

I hate his fortresses.

Therefore I will deliver up the city with all that is in it." ⁹It will come about that if there are ten men left in one house, they will all die. ¹⁰When a man's relative comes to take their bodies up—the one who is to cremate them after bringing the corpses out of the house—if he says to the person in the house, "Is there anyone with you?" What if that person says, "No." Then he will say, "Be quiet, for we must not mention Yahweh's name."

¹¹For, behold, Yahweh will give a command,
and the big house will be smashed to pieces,
and the little house to bits.

¹²Do horses run on the rocky cliffs?
Does one plow there with oxen?
Yet you have turned justice into poison
and the fruit of righteousness into bitterness.

¹³You who rejoice over Lo Debar,
who say, "Have we not taken Karnaim by our own strength?"

¹⁴Therefore, behold, I will raise up against you a nation,
house of Israel—this is the declaration of Yahweh, the God of hosts.
They will afflict you
from Lebo Hamath to the brook of the Arabah."

Chapter 7

¹This is what the Lord Yahweh showed me. Behold, he formed a locust swarm when the spring crop began to come up, and, behold, it was the late crop after the king's harvest. ²When they finished eating the vegetation of the land, then I said, "Lord Yahweh, please forgive; how will Jacob survive? For he is so small." ³Yahweh relented concerning this. "It will not happen," he said.

⁴This is what the Lord Yahweh showed me: Behold, the Lord Yahweh called on fire to judge. It dried the vast, deep water under the earth and would have devoured the land, also. ⁵But I said, "Lord Yahweh, please stop; how will Jacob survive? For he is so small." ⁶Yahweh relented concerning this, "This also will not happen," said the Lord Yahweh.

⁷This is what he showed me: Behold, the Lord stood beside a wall with a plumb line, and the plumb line was in his hand. ⁸Yahweh said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I will put a plumb line among my people Israel. Never again will I spare them.

⁹The high places of Isaac will be destroyed,
the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent a message to Jeroboam, king of Israel, saying: "Amos has conspired against you in the middle of the house of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. ¹¹For this is what Amos said, 'Jeroboam will die by the sword,

and Israel will surely go into exile away from his land.'" ¹²Amaziah said to Amos, "Seer, go, run yourself back to the land of Judah, and there eat bread and prophesy. ¹³But you must never again prophesy here at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a royal house."

¹⁴Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I am not a prophet nor am I a prophet's son, for I am a herdsman, and I take care of sycamore fig trees. ¹⁵But Yahweh took me from tending the flock, and Yahweh said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' ¹⁶Now hear the word of Yahweh. You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not speak against the house of Isaac.' ¹⁷Therefore this is what Yahweh says,

'Your wife will be a prostitute in the city;
your sons and your daughters will fall by the sword;
your land will be measured and divided up;
you will die in an unclean land,
and Israel will surely go into exile from his land."

Chapter 8

¹This is what the Lord Yahweh showed me. Behold, a basket of summer fruit! ²He said, "What do you see, Amos?" I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then Yahweh said to me,

"The end has come for my people Israel;
I will spare them no longer.

³The songs of the temple will become wailings in that day—
this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh—
many dead bodies, they are thrown everywhere!
Silence!"

⁴Listen to this, you who trample the needy
and remove the poor of the land. ⁵They say,
"When will the new moon be over,
so we can sell grain again?
When will the Sabbath day be over,
so that we can sell wheat?
We will make the measure small
and increase the price,
as we cheat with false scales.

⁶This is so we can sell bad wheat, buy the poor with silver,
and the needy for a pair of sandals.” ⁷Yahweh has sworn by the pride of Jacob, “Surely I will never forget any of
their actions.”

⁸Will not the land quake for this,
and every one who lives in it mourn?
All of it will rise up like the Nile River,
and it will be tossed about and settle again,
like the river of Egypt.

⁹“It will come in that day—
this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh—
that I will make the sun set at noon,
and I will darken the earth at daylight.

¹⁰I will turn your festivals into mourning
and all your songs into lamentation.
I will make all of you wear sackcloth
and have baldness on every head.
I will make it like mourning for an only son,
and a bitter day to its end.

¹¹Behold, the days are coming—
this is the declaration of the Lord Yahweh—
when I will send a famine in the land,
not a famine for bread,
nor of thirst for water,
but for hearing the words of Yahweh.

¹²They will stagger from sea to sea;
they will run from the north to the east
to seek the word of Yahweh,
but they will not find it.

¹³In that day the beautiful virgins
and the young men will faint from thirst.

¹⁴Those who swear by the sin of Samaria^[1]
and say, ‘As your god lives, Dan,’

and, 'As the way to Beersheba exists'—^[2]

they will fall and never rise again."

8:14 ^[1], some versions have .

8:14 ^[2], where this might refer to what people going to worship Beersheba's idols might have said. However, some versions change the Hebrew text to read . Here "loved one" stands for an idol worshiped in Beersheba.

Chapter 9

¹I saw the Lord standing beside the altar, and he said, "Strike the tops of the pillars so that the foundations will shake.

Break them in pieces on all of their heads,
and I will kill the last of them with the sword.

Not one of them will get away,
not one of them will escape.

²Though they dig into Sheol,
there my hand will take them.

Though they climb up to heaven,
there I will bring them down.

³Though they hide on the top of Carmel,
there I will search and take them.

Though they are hidden from my sight in the bottom of the sea,
there will I give orders to the serpent, and it will bite them.

⁴Though they go into captivity, driven by their enemies before them,
there will I give orders to the sword, and it will kill them.

I will keep my eyes on them for harm and not for good."

⁵The Lord Yahweh of hosts
touches the land and it melts;
all who live in it mourn;
all of it will rise up like the River,
and sink again like the river of Egypt.

⁶It is he who builds his steps in the heavens,
and has established his vault over the earth.
He calls for the waters of the sea,
and pours them out on the surface of the earth,

Yahweh is his name.

⁷“Are you not like the sons of Cush to me,
sons of Israel—

this is Yahweh’s declaration—

did I not bring up Israel out of the land of Egypt,
the Philistines from Crete,
and the Arameans from Kir?

⁸Behold, the eyes of the Lord Yahweh are on the sinful kingdom,
and I will destroy it from the face of the earth,
except that I will not totally destroy the house of Jacob—
this is Yahweh’s declaration.

⁹For, behold, I will give a command,
and I will shake the house of Israel among all the nations,
as one shakes grain in a sieve,
so that not the smallest stone will fall to the ground.

¹⁰All the sinners of my people will die by the sword,
those who say, ‘Disaster will not overtake or meet us.’

¹¹In that day I will raise up the tent of David that has fallen,
and close up its breaches.

I will raise up its ruins,
and rebuild it as in the days of old,

¹²That they may possess the remnant of Edom,
and all the nations that are called by my name after them—
this is Yahweh’s declaration—he does this.

¹³Behold, the days will come—this is Yahweh’s declaration—
when the plowman will overtake the reaper,
and the treader of grapes will overtake him who plants seed.
The mountains will drip sweet wine,
and all the hills will flow with it.

¹⁴I will bring back from captivity my people Israel.
They will build the ruined cities and inhabit them,

they will plant vineyards and drink their wine,
and they will make gardens and eat their fruit.

¹⁵I will plant them upon their land,
and they will never again be uprooted from the land
that I have given them,"
says Yahweh your God.

Obadiah

Chapter 1

¹The vision of Obadiah: thus says my Lord Yahweh concerning Edom.

We have heard a message from Yahweh, and a messenger has been sent off among the nations:

Get up! And let us rise up against her for battle!

²Behold, I am making you small among the nations,
you are extremely despised.

³The pride of your heart has deceived you: he who dwells in the clefts of the rock, lofty in his dwelling;
he who says in his heart, "Who will bring me down to earth?"

⁴If you make yourself high like the eagle,
even if your nest is set between the stars,
from there I will bring you down: a declaration of Yahweh.

⁵If thieves came to you,
and plunderers by night (how you are being destroyed!), would they not steal enough for them?
If grape-cutters came to you, would they not leave behind gleanings?

⁶How Esau is being ransacked,
his hidden treasures being searched out!

⁷All the men of your covenant are sending you away as far as the border.
The men of your peace are deceiving you and are prevailing against you.
They of your bread will set a trap under you. There is no understanding in him.

⁸Will I not on that day (a declaration of Yahweh)
destroy wise men from Edom,
and understanding from the mountain of Esau?

⁹And your mighty men will be dismayed, O Teman,
so that a man will be cut off from the mountain of Esau by slaughter.

¹⁰Because of violence against your brother Jacob, shame will cover you,
and you will be cut off for eternity.

¹¹On the day that you stood opposite,
on the day that strangers took captive his wealth,

and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem,
you also were like one of them.

¹²But you should not have looked on the day of your brother, on the day of his misfortune.

And you should not have rejoiced over the sons of Judah in the day of their perishing.

And you should not have made your mouth great in a day of distress.

¹³You should not have entered the gate of my people in the day of their calamity.

You should not have looked—yes, you!—on his evil in the day of his calamity.

And you women should not have looted his wealth in the day of his calamity.

¹⁴And you should not have stood at the crossroads to cut down his fugitives.

And you should not have delivered up his survivors in a day of distress.

¹⁵For the day of Yahweh is near upon all the nations.

According to what you have done, it will be done to you;

your recompense will return on your own head.

¹⁶For according to how you drank on the mountain of my holiness, all the nations shall drink continually.

And they will drink, and they will swallow, and they will become like they never existed.

¹⁷But in the mountain of Zion there will be an escape,

and there will be holiness,

and the house of Jacob will possess their own possessions.

¹⁸And the house of Jacob will become a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau as stubble.

And they will burn them, and consume them.

And there will be no survivor for the house of Esau,

for Yahweh has spoken.

¹⁹And the Negev will possess the mountain of Esau,

and the Shephelah, the Philistines.

And they will possess the field of Ephraim and the field of Samaria,

and Benjamin, Gilead.

²⁰And the exile of this army of the sons of Israel, who are Canaanites, as far as Zarephath,

and the exile of Jerusalem, who are in Sepharad:

they will possess the cities of the Negev.

²¹And saviors will go up to the mountain of Zion to judge the mountain of Esau,

and the kingdom will belong to Yahweh.

Jonah

Chapter 1

¹Now the word of Yahweh came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, the great city, and call out against it, because their wickedness has risen up before my face.” ³But Jonah got up to run away to Tarshish from before the face of Yahweh. And he went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish, away from before the face of Yahweh.

⁴But Yahweh sent out a great wind on the sea and a great storm happened on the sea, so that the ship was thinking to be broken apart. ⁵Then the sailors were frightened and each man cried out to his own god. And they threw the things that were in the ship into the sea to lighten it from upon them. But Jonah had gone down into the innermost parts of the ship, and had lain down, and was deeply asleep.

⁶Then the captain of the crew came to him and said to him, “What are you doing sleeping? Get up! Cry out to your god! Maybe that god will notice us and we will not perish.”

⁷Then every man said to his friend, “Come, and let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this evil is happening to us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸Then they said to him, “Please tell us on whose account this evil is happening to us. What is your occupation, and where do you come from? What is your country, and from which people are you?”

⁹So he said to them, “I am a Hebrew; and I fear Yahweh, the God of heaven, who has made the sea and the dry land.”

¹⁰Then the men were afraid with great fear, and they said to him, “What is this that you have done?” For the men knew that he was running away from before the face of Yahweh, because he had told them. ¹¹Then they said to him, “What should we do to you so that the sea will calm down from upon us?” For the sea was going forward and storming.

¹²And he said to them, “Lift me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will calm down from upon you, for I know that this great storm is upon you because of me.”

¹³But the men rowed hard to return themselves to the land, but they could not, because the sea was going forward and storming over them. ¹⁴So they cried out to Yahweh and said, “Ah! Yahweh, please do not let us perish on account of the life of this man, and do not put innocent blood upon us, because you, Yahweh, have done just as you desired.” ¹⁵So they lifted up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared Yahweh with great fear, and they offered a sacrifice to Yahweh and vowed vows.

¹⁷Now Yahweh appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the abdomen of the fish three days and three nights.^[1]

1:17 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹And Jonah prayed to Yahweh his God from the abdomen of the fish.^[1] ²And he said,

“I cried out to Yahweh from my distress, and he answered me;

from the belly of Sheol I cried out, you heard my voice.

³Now you had cast me deep into the heart of the seas, and a current surrounded me;
all your billows and your waves passed over me.

⁴But as for me, I said, 'I have been driven out from before your eyes;
yet I might again look toward your holy temple.'

⁵Water had closed around me even as far as life, the deep was surrounding me;
seaweed was wrapped around my head.

⁶I had gone down to the bases of the mountains, the earth with its bars were around me forever;
but you brought up my life from the pit, Yahweh, my God!

⁷When my spirit fainted upon me, I remembered Yahweh
and my prayer came to you, to your holy temple.

⁸Those who give attention to empty vanities
forsake their covenant faithfulness.

⁹But as for me, I will sacrifice to you with a voice of thanksgiving;
I will fulfill what I have vowed.

Salvation belongs to Yahweh!"

¹⁰And Yahweh spoke to the fish, and it vomited up Jonah onto the dry land.

2:1 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹Then the word of Yahweh came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, the great city, and call out to it the proclamation that I tell to you." ³So Jonah got up and went to Nineveh, according to the word of Yahweh.

Now Nineveh was great city to God, a journey of three days. ⁴So Jonah began to go into the city a journey of one day, and he called out and said, "Until forty days, then Nineveh will be overthrown."

⁵And the men of Nineveh believed God. And they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. ⁶Then the word came to the king of Nineveh, and he rose up from his throne, and he took off his robe from being on him; and he covered himself with sackcloth, and sat down on the ash heap.

⁷And he proclaimed and spoke within Nineveh from a decree of the king and his nobles, saying: "No person or animal, herd or flock, may taste anything; they must not graze, and they must not drink water. ⁸But every person and every animal must cover themselves with sackcloth, and they must cry out to God with strength; and each man must turn back from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? This god might turn back and have compassion and relent from the burning of his nose so that we will not perish."

¹⁰And God saw their deeds, that they turned away from their evil ways. And God relented in regard to the evil that he had said he would do to them; and he did not do it.

Chapter 4

¹But this was evil to Jonah, a great evil, and it burned to him. ²So he prayed to Yahweh and said, "Ah! Yahweh, was this not my word while I was in my country? Because of this I acted preemptively to flee to Tarshish, because I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, long of nostrils and abundant in covenant faithfulness, and one who relents from evil. ³So now, Yahweh, I beg you, take my life from me, for my death is better than my life."

⁴And Yahweh said, "Is it right that it burns to you?"

⁵Then Jonah went out from the city and sat down facing the city from the east. And there he made a shelter for himself, and he sat under it in the shade until he might see what would transpire within the city.

⁶Then Yahweh God appointed a plant and caused it to grow up from over Jonah to be a shade over his head in order to rescue him from his evil. And Jonah rejoiced with great rejoicing because of the plant. ⁷Then God appointed a worm at the rising of the dawn of the next day; and it attacked the plant, and it withered. ⁸And as soon as the rising of the sun happened, then God appointed a hot east wind; and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah, and he became faint. Then he asked his spirit to die and said, "My death is better than my life."

⁹Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right that it burns to you about the plant?" And he said, "It is right that it burns to me, even as far as death."

¹⁰Then Yahweh said, "As for you, you feel troubled about the plant, for which you did no work, nor did you make it grow; it came as a son of a night, and it perished as a son of a night. ¹¹So as for me, should I not feel troubled about Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than 120,000 people who cannot distinguish between their right hand and their left hand, and many animals?"

Micah

Chapter 1

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Micah the Morashtite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

²Hear, all you peoples.

Listen, earth, and all that is in it.

Let the Lord Yahweh be against you as a witness,
the Lord from his holy temple.

³For look, Yahweh comes out of his place;

he will come down and tread
on the high places of the earth.

⁴The mountains will melt under him;

the valleys will break apart,
like wax before fire,
like waters that are poured down a steep place.

⁵All this is because of the Jacob's transgression,
and because of the sins of the house of Israel.

What is Jacob's transgression?

Is it not Samaria?

What is Judah's high place?

Is it not Jerusalem?

⁶"I will make Samaria a heap of ruins in the field,
a place for planting vineyards,
and I will pour her stones down into the valley
and I will uncover her foundations.

⁷All her carved figures will be broken to pieces,
and all her payments will be burned with fire,
and all her idols, I will make a complete destruction.

Since from the payments of prostitutes she gathered them,

to the payments of prostitutes, they will return.”

⁸Because of this, I will lament and wail;

I will go barefoot and naked;

I will wail like the jackals

and mourn like owls.

⁹For her wound is incurable,

for it has come to Judah.

It has reached the gate of my people,

to Jerusalem.

¹⁰Do not tell about it in Gath;

do not weep at all.

At Beth Leaphrah I roll myself in the dust.

¹¹Pass by, inhabitants of Shaphir,

in nakedness and shame.

do not come out, inhabitants of Zaanan.

Beth Ezel mourns,

its place to stand is taken from you.

¹²For the inhabitants of Maroth wait anxiously for good,

because disaster has come down from Yahweh

to the gates of Jerusalem.

¹³Harness the chariot to the team of horses, inhabitants of Lachish.

She was the beginning of sin for the daughter of Zion,

for in you were found, the transgressions of Israel.

¹⁴So you will give a parting gift to Moresheth Gath;

the town of Akzib will deceive the kings of Israel.

¹⁵I will again bring a conqueror to you,

inhabitants of Mareshah;

the splendor of Israel will come to Adullam.

¹⁶Shave your head

and cut off your hair

for the sons in whom you delight.

Make yourself as bald as eagles,
for they will go into exile from you.

Chapter 2

¹Woe to those who plan iniquity,
to those who do evil on their beds.
In the light of morning, they do it
because there is power in their hands

²They desire fields and seize them;
and houses and they take them.
They oppress a man and his house,
a man and his inheritance.

³Therefore Yahweh says this,
“Look, I am planning to bring disaster against this clan,
from which you will not remove your necks.
You will not walk arrogantly,
for it will be an evil time.

⁴In that day he lifts up against you a song,
and lament with a wailing lamentation.
and say, ‘We are completely ruined;
He changes the territory of my people.
How can he remove it from me?
He portions out our fields to traitors!’”

⁵Therefore, you will not have one who casts the line by lot
in the assembly of Yahweh.

⁶“Do not preach,”
they preach.
“They should not preach these things;
reproaches will not overtake us.”

⁷Should it really be said, house of Jacob,
“Is the Spirit of Yahweh angry?

Are these his deeds?"

Do not my words do good

to anyone who walks uprightly?

⁸Lately my people have risen up like an enemy.

You strip the rich robe from those who pass trustingly

as those returning from battle.

⁹The women of my people, you drive from their pleasant houses;

from their young children, you take my splendor forever. ¹⁰Get up and leave,

for this is not a resting place

because of its uncleanness;

it is destroyed with complete destruction.

¹¹If someone comes to you in a spirit of falsehood and lies and says,

"I will prophesy to you about wine and strong drink,"

he would be considered to be a prophet for this people.

¹²I will surely assemble all of you, Jacob.

I will surely gather the remnant of Israel.

I will bring them together like sheep in a fold,

like a flock in the midst of their pasture.

There will be a loud noise because of the multitude of people.

¹³Someone who breaks open their way for them will go ahead of them.

They break through the gate and go out;

their king will pass on before them.

Yahweh will be at their head.

Chapter 3

¹And I said, "Now listen,

you leaders of Jacob

and rulers of the house of Israel:

Is it not for you to understand justice?

²Those who hate good

and love evil,

those who tear off their skin from off them
their flesh from their bones—

³those who eat the flesh of my people,
and their skin from off them, they tear off
and their bones, they break
and chop them in pieces,
just like a pot,
and as meat in the midst of a cauldron.

⁴Then they will cry out to Yahweh,
but he will not answer them.
He will hide his face from them at that time,
because they have done evil deeds.”

⁵Thus Yahweh says against the prophets,
who lead my people astray,
who bite with their teeth,
they proclaim, ‘Peace.’
and who do not give in their mouths,
they consecrate against him war. ⁶Therefore, it will be night for you without a vision;
it will be dark for you, without divination.

The sun will go down on the prophets,
and the day will be dark on them.

⁷The seers will be put to shame,
and the diviners will be disgraced.
They will cover their lips, all of them,
for there is no answer from God.”

⁸But, I am full of power by the Spirit of Yahweh,
and justice and strength,
to declare to Jacob his transgression,
and to Israel his sin.

⁹Now listen to this,
you leaders of the house of Jacob,

and rulers of the house of Israel,
you who detest justice,
and all that is upright, they make crooked.

¹⁰who build Zion with blood
and Jerusalem with iniquity.

¹¹Her leaders judge for a bribe,
her priests teach for a price,
and her prophets do divination for money.

Yet on Yahweh, they lean saying,
"Is not Yahweh in our midst?

No evil will come on us."

¹²Therefore, because of you,
Zion will become a plowed field,
Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble,
and the hill of the temple will become a thicket.

Chapter 4

¹And it will be in the last days it will come about
that the mountain of the house of Yahweh
will be established as a head over the mountains.
And, it will be lifted above the hills,
and peoples will stream to it.

²Many nations will go and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh,
to the house of the God of Jacob
so that he will teach us his ways,
and we will walk in his paths."

For from Zion the law will go out,
and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.

³He will judge among many peoples
and will decide for strong nations far away.

They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war any longer.

⁴And, they will sit every person under his vine
and under his fig tree.

No one will make them afraid,
for the mouth of Yahweh of hosts has spoken.

⁵For all the peoples walk,
each one, in the name of their god.

But we will walk in the name of Yahweh our God
forever and ever.

⁶“On that day,” declares Yahweh,
“I will assemble the lame
and gather the outcast,
those whom I have afflicted.

⁷And I will turn the lame into a remnant,
and the ones driven away into a strong nation,
and Yahweh will reign over them on Mount Zion,
from now and until forever.

⁸And you, watchtower for the flock,
hill of the daughter of Zion—
to you it will come, your former dominion will arrive,
the kingdom that belongs to the daughter of Jerusalem.

⁹Now, why do you shout so loudly?
Is there no king among you?
Has your counselor died,
that pain grips you like that of a woman in labor?

¹⁰Be in pain
and labor daughter of Zion
like a woman giving birth.

For now you will go out of the city,
and live in the field,
and go to Babylon.

There you will be rescued.

There Yahweh will redeem you
from the hand of your enemies.

¹¹Now many nations are assembled against you;
they say, 'Let her be defiled;
let our eyes gloat over Zion.'

¹²And they do not know the thoughts of Yahweh
neither do they understand his plans,
for he has gathered them like bundles of grain prepared for the threshing floor.

¹³Arise and thresh, daughter of Zion,
for I will make your horn to be iron,
and I will make your hooves to be bronze.
And you will break into pieces many peoples and you will devote to Yahweh their unjust earnings,
their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth."

Chapter 5

¹Now come together in battle ranks,
daughter of soldiers!
A siege has been set up against us!
With a rod they strike the judge of Israel
on the cheek.^[1]

²But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
even though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you one will come to me
to rule in Israel,
whose beginning is from ancient times,
from everlasting.

³Therefore God will give them up,

until the time when she who is in labor bears a child,
and the rest of his brothers return to the people of Israel.

⁴He will stand
and shepherd his flock in the strength of Yahweh,
in the majesty of the name of Yahweh his God.
They will remain,
for then he will be great to the ends of the earth.

⁵For this shall be the peace—
when the Assyrians come into our land,
and when they march against our fortresses,
then we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight leaders over men.

⁶They will shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword,
and the land of Nimrod in its entrances.^[2]
He will rescue us from the Assyrians,
when they come into our land,
when they march inside our borders.

⁷The remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many peoples,
like dew from Yahweh,
like showers on the grass,
that do not wait for a man,
and they do not wait for the children of mankind.

⁸The remnant of Jacob will be among the nations,
among many peoples,
like a lion among the animals of the forest,
like a young lion among the flocks of sheep.
When he goes through them,
he will trample over them and tear them to pieces,
and there will be no one to save them.

⁹Your hand will be lifted against your enemies,
and it will destroy them.

¹⁰“It will happen in that day”—this is Yahweh’s declaration—
 “that I will destroy your horses from among you
 and will demolish your chariots.

¹¹I will destroy the cities in your land
 and throw down all your strongholds.

¹²I will destroy the witchcraft in your hand,
 and you will no longer have any diviners.

¹³I will destroy your carved figures
 and your stone pillars from among you.

You will no longer worship the workmanship of your hands.

¹⁴I will uproot your Asherah poles from among you,
 and I will destroy your cities.

¹⁵I will execute vengeance in anger and wrath
 on the nations that have not listened.”

5:1 ^[1], some interpreters translate , referring to the pagan practice of cutting oneself while praying to idols. Also, some modern versions follow an ancient version that reads .

5:6 ^[2], that is, in their gates. However, some modern versions suppose that a different Hebrew word was intended:
 .

Chapter 6

¹Now listen to what Yahweh says,
 “Arise, state your case before the mountains;
 and let the hills hear your voice.

²Listen to Yahweh’s lawsuit, you mountains,
 and you enduring foundations of the earth.

For Yahweh has a lawsuit with his people,
 and he will fight in court against Israel.”

³“My people, what have I done to you?
 How have I wearied you?

Testify against me!

⁴For I brought you up out of the land of Egypt
 and rescued you out of the house of bondage.

I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to you.

⁵My people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and how Balaam son of Beor answered him
as you went from Shittim to Gilgal,
so you may know the righteous acts of Yahweh.”

⁶What should I bring to Yahweh,
as I bow down to the high God?
Should I come to him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will Yahweh be pleased with thousands of rams,
or with ten thousand rivers of oil?
Should I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for my own sin?

⁸He has told you, man,
what is good,
and what Yahweh requires from you:
Act justly,
love kindness,
and walk humbly with your God.

⁹The voice of Yahweh is making a proclamation to the city—
even now wisdom acknowledges your name:
“Pay attention to the rod,
and to the one who has put it in place.”^[1]

¹⁰There is wealth in the houses of the wicked that is dishonest,
and false measures that are abominable.

¹¹Should I consider a person to be innocent if he uses fraudulent scales,
with a bag of deceptive weights?

¹²The rich men are full of violence,
the inhabitants have spoken lies,
and their tongue in their mouth is deceitful.

¹³Therefore I will strike you with a terrible blow,

and I will make you desolate because of your sins.

¹⁴You will eat but not be satisfied;

your emptiness will remain inside you.

You will store goods away but not save,

and what you do save I will give to the sword.^[2]

¹⁵You will sow but not reap;

you will tread the olives but not anoint yourselves with oil;

you will press grapes but drink no wine.

¹⁶The regulations made by Omri have been kept,

and all the deeds of the house of Ahab.

You walk by their advice.

So I will make you, city, a ruin,

and you inhabitants an object of hissing,

and you will bear the reproach of my people."^[3]

6:9 ^[1], some modern versions have .

6:14 ^[2]

6:16 ^[3], but an ancient Greek version has . Some modern versions follow this reading.

Chapter 7

¹Woe is me!

I have become like the gathering of summer fruit,

and like the grapes that have been gleaned;

there is no grape cluster to eat,

no ripe early fig that my soul desires.

²The faithful ones have disappeared from the land;

there is no upright person in all mankind.

They all lie in wait to shed blood;

each one hunts his own brother with a net.

³Their hands are very good at doing harm:

the ruler asks for money,

the judge is ready for bribes,

and the powerful man is saying to others what he wants to obtain.

Thus they plot together.

⁴The best of them is like a brier,
the most upright is worse than a thorn hedge.

It is the day foretold by your watchmen,
the day of your punishment.

Now is the time of their confusion.

⁵Do not trust any neighbor;
put no confidence in any friend.
Be careful about what you say
even to the woman who lies in your arms.

⁶For a son dishonors his father,
a daughter rises up against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.
A man's enemies are the people of his own house.

⁷But as for me, I will look to Yahweh.
I will wait for the God of my salvation;
my God will hear me.

⁸Do not rejoice over me, my enemy.
After I fall,
I will rise.

When I sit in darkness,
Yahweh will be a light for me.

⁹Because I sinned against Yahweh,
I will bear his rage
until he pleads my cause,
and executes judgment for me.
He will bring me to the light,
and I will see him rescue me in his justice.

¹⁰Then my enemy will see it,
and shame will cover the one who said to me,
"Where is Yahweh your God?"

My eyes will look at her;
she will be trampled down like the mud in the streets.

¹¹A day to build your walls will come;
on that day the boundaries will be extended very far.

¹²On that day your people will come to you,
from Assyria and the cities in Egypt,
from Egypt to the River,
from sea to sea,
and from mountain to mountain.

¹³But the land will be desolate
because of the people who are living there,
because of the fruit of their actions.

¹⁴Shepherd your people with your rod,
the flock of your inheritance.
They live alone in a thicket,
in the midst of a pastureland.
Let them graze in Bashan and Gilead
as in the old days.

¹⁵As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt,
I will show them wonders.

¹⁶The nations will see and be ashamed
of all their power.
They will put their hands on their mouths;
their ears will be deaf.

¹⁷They will lick the dust like a snake,
like creatures that crawl on the earth.
They will come out of their dens with fear;
they will come with fear to you, Yahweh our God,
and they will be afraid because of you.

¹⁸Who is a God like you—
who takes away sin,

who passes over the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance?

He does not keep his anger forever,

because he delights in his covenant faithfulness.

19You will again have compassion on us;

you will trample our iniquities under your feet.

You will throw all our sins into the depths of the sea.

20You will give truth to Jacob

and covenant faithfulness to Abraham,

as you swore to our ancestors in ancient days.

Nahum

Chapter 1

¹The declaration about Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum, the Elkoshite.

²Yahweh is a jealous God and avenges; Yahweh avenges and is full of wrath;

Yahweh takes vengeance on his adversaries, and he continues his anger for his enemies.

³Yahweh is slow to anger and great in power; he will certainly not allow the wicked to go unpunished.

Yahweh makes his way in the whirlwind and the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

⁴He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; he dries up all the rivers.

Bashan withers, and Carmel also; the flowers of Lebanon wither.

⁵The mountains shake in his presence, and the hills melt;

the earth heaves in his presence, indeed, the world and all people who live in it.

⁶Who can stand before his indignation? Who can resist the fierceness of his anger?

His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken apart by him.

⁷Yahweh is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knows those who take refuge in him.

⁸But he will make a complete end to its place with an overwhelming flood; he will pursue his enemies into darkness.

⁹What are you people plotting against Yahweh?

He will make a complete end to it; trouble will not rise up a second time.

¹⁰For they will become tangled up like thornbushes; and like those who are drunken with their drink;

they will be devoured by fire like stubble fully dried.

¹¹Someone arose among you, Nineveh, who planned evil against Yahweh, someone who promoted wickedness.

¹²This is what Yahweh says,

“Even if they are at their full strength and full numbers, they will nevertheless be cut off;

their people will be no more. But you, Judah: Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more.

¹³Now will I break that people's yoke from off you; I will break your chains.”

¹⁴Yahweh has given a command about you, Nineveh:

“There will be no more descendants bearing your name.

I will cut off the carved figures and the cast metal figures from the houses of your gods.

I will dig your graves, for you are contemptible.”

¹⁵Look, on the mountains there are the feet of him who is bringing good news, who is announcing peace!
Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, and keep your vows,
for the wicked one will invade you no more; he is completely cut off.

Chapter 2

¹The one who will scatter you is coming up against you.

Guard the city walls, watch the roads,
gird your loins, marshal all your strength.

²For Yahweh is restoring the majesty of Jacob, like the majesty of Israel,
although the plunderers devastated them and destroyed their vine branches.

³The shields of his mighty men are red, and the soldiers are clothed in scarlet;
the chariots flash with their metal on the day that they are made ready, and the cypress spears are brandished.

⁴The chariots race madly through the streets; they rush back and forth in the squares.
They look like torches, and they run like lightning.

⁵The invader calls his officers; they stumble in their marching;
they hurry to attack the city wall. The large shield used in a siege is made ready to protect these attackers.

⁶The gates at the rivers are forced open, and the palace melts away.

⁷It is decreed: she is stripped of her clothes and is taken away;
her female servants moan like doves, beating on their breasts.

⁸Though Nineveh was like a pool of water throughout her days, now its people are fleeing away like rushing water.
Others shout, "Stop, stop," but no one turns back.

⁹Take the silver plunder, take the gold plunder, for there is no end to the supply,
wealth from all Nineveh's desirable things.

¹⁰Nineveh is empty, desolate and ruined. Everyone's heart melts, everyone's knees strike together,
and anguish is in all loins; all their faces grow pale.

¹¹Where now is the lions' den, the place where the young lion cubs were fed,
the place where the lion and lioness walked, where the cubs of the lion were, where they were afraid of nothing?

¹²The lion tore enough for his cubs; he strangled victims for his lionesses,
and filled his cave with prey, his dens with torn carcasses.

¹³"See, I am against you—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.
I will burn your chariots in the smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions.

I will cut off your prey from your land, and the voices of your messengers will be heard no more.”

Chapter 3

¹Woe to the city full of blood!

It is all full of lies and stolen property; Her prey never departs.

²But now there is the noise of whips and the sound of rattling wheels,
galloping horses, and bounding chariots.

³There are charging horsemen,
flashing swords, glittering spears,
many slain, heaps of corpses.

There is no end to the dead bodies; their attackers stumble over the dead bodies.

⁴This is happening because of the many harlotries of the beautiful prostitute, the mistress of witchcraft,
who sells nations through her prostitution, and peoples through her acts of witchcraft.

⁵“See, I am against you—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—I will raise up your skirt over your face
and show your nakedness to the nations, your shame to the kingdoms.

⁶I will throw disgusting filth on you and make you vile; I will make you someone that everyone will look at with
disgust.

⁷It will come about that everyone who looks at you will flee from you and say,

‘Nineveh is destroyed; who will weep for her?’

Where can I find anyone to comfort you?”

⁸Nineveh, are you better than Thebes, that was built on the Nile River, that had water around her,
whose defense was the ocean, whose wall was the sea itself?

⁹Cush and Egypt were her strength, and there was no end to its strength;

Put and Libya were allies to her.

¹⁰Yet Thebes was carried away; she went into captivity;

her young children were dashed in pieces at the head of every street;

her enemies threw lots for her honorable men,

and all her great men were bound in chains.

¹¹You also will become drunk; you will try to hide,

and you will also look for a refuge from your enemy.

¹²All your fortresses will be like fig trees with the earliest ripe figs:

if they are shaken, they fall into the mouth of the eater.

13See, the people among you are women;

the gates of your land have been opened wide to your enemies;

fire has devoured their bars.

14Go draw water for the siege; strengthen your fortresses;

go into the clay and tread the mortar;

pick up the molds for the bricks.

15Fire will devour you there, and the sword will cut you off. It will devour you as creeping locusts devour everything.

Make yourselves as many as the creeping locusts, as many as the swarming locusts.

16You have multiplied your merchants more than the stars in the heavens; but they are like locusts: they spread their wings and then fly away.

17Your princes are like locusts, and your generals are like swarms of locusts

that settle on the walls on a cold day.

But when the sun rises they fly away and no one knows where they are.

18King of Assyria, your shepherds are asleep; your nobles are lying down resting.

Your people are scattered on the mountains, and there is no one to gather them.

19No healing is possible for your wounds. Your wounds are severe.

Everyone who hears the news about you will clap their hands in joy over you.

For upon whom has not come your endless evil?

Habakkuk

Chapter 1

¹The message that Habakkuk the prophet received,

²“Yahweh, how long will I cry for help, and you will not hear?

I cry out to you, ‘Violence!’ but you will not save.

³Why do you make me see iniquity and look upon wrongdoing?

Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and contention rises up.

⁴Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice does not last for any time.

For the wicked surround the righteous; therefore false justice goes out.”

⁵“Look at the nations and observe them; be amazed and astonished!

For I am surely about to do something in your days that you will not believe even if it is told to you.

⁶For look! I am about to raise up the Chaldeans—that fierce and impetuous nation—

they are marching throughout the breadth of the earth to seize dwelling places that were not their own.

⁷They are terrifying and fearsome; their judgment and splendor proceed from themselves.

⁸Their horses also are swifter than leopards, quicker than the evening wolves.

So their horsemen come galloping,

and their horsemen come from a great distance—they fly like an eagle swift to devour.

⁹They all come for violence;

all their faces moving forward, and they gather captives like sand.^[1]

¹⁰So they mock kings, and rulers are only a mockery for them.

They laugh at every stronghold, for they pile up earth and capture them.

¹¹Then they sweep past like the wind and pass on—guilty men, those whose might is their god.”

¹²“Are you not from ancient times, O Yahweh my God, my Holy One? We will not die.

O Yahweh, you have ordained them for judgment, and you, O Rock, have established them for correction.

¹³Your eyes are too pure to gaze upon evil, and you are not able to look on wrongdoing with favor;

why then have you looked favorably on those who betray?

Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than they are?

14You make men like fish in the sea, like creeping things without a ruler over them.

15He brings all of them up with a fishhook;

he drags men away in his fishnet;

he gathers them together in his dragnet;

so he rejoices and he is glad.

16Therefore he sacrifices to his net

and burns incense to his dragnet,

for by his net his portion is fat,

and his food is the richest kind.

17Will he therefore keep emptying his net,

and will he continually slaughter the nations without mercy?"

1:9 ^[1] is very difficult; many modern versions have other interpretations.

Chapter 2

1I will stand at my guard post and station myself on the watchtower,

and I will watch carefully to see what he will say to me

and how I should turn from my complaint.^[1]

2Yahweh answered me and said,

"Record this vision, and write plainly on the tablets so that the one reading them might run.

3For the vision is yet for an appointed time and it hastens to the end and will not fail.

Though it delays, wait for it. For it will surely come and will not tarry.

4Look! He whose desires are not right within him is puffed up. But the righteous will live by his faith.

5For wine betrays the arrogant man so that he will not abide,

but enlarges his appetite like Sheol and, like death, is never satisfied.

He gathers to himself every nation and collects for himself all of the peoples.

6Will not all these create a saying to ridicule him and a taunting song and riddles about him, saying,

'Woe to the one increasing what is not his own! For how long will you increase for yourself the weight of the pledges you have taken?'

7Will not your debtors rise up suddenly, and those awake who will make you tremble?

You will be spoil for them.

8Because you have plundered many peoples, all the remnant of the peoples will plunder you.

For you have shed human blood and acted with violence against the land, the cities, and all who live in them.

⁹Woe to the one who carves out evil gains for his house,
so he can set his nest on high to keep himself safe from the hand of evil.'

¹⁰You have devised shame for your house by cutting off many people, and have sinned against yourself.

¹¹For the stones will cry out from the wall, and the rafters of timber will answer them,

¹²Woe to the one who builds a city with blood, and who establishes a town in iniquity.'

¹³Is it not indeed from Yahweh of hosts
that peoples labor for fire and all the other nations weary themselves for nothing?

¹⁴Yet the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁵Woe to the one who forces his neighbors to drink—
you pour out your wrath^[2] and you make them drunk
in order to look at their nakedness.'

¹⁶You will have your fill of shame instead of glory.
Now it is your turn! Drink, and you will expose your uncircumcised foreskin!
The cup in the right hand of Yahweh is coming around to you,
and disgrace will cover your glory.

¹⁷For the violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you and the destruction of animals will terrify you.
For you have shed the blood of man and you have acted with violence against the land, the cities, and all who live
in them.

¹⁸What does an idol profit you when its maker has shaped it or a metal image, a teacher of lies?
For its maker trusts his own handiwork when he makes these mute gods.

¹⁹Woe to him who says to the wood, Wake up! Or to the silent stone, Arise!' Can these things teach?
See, it is overlaid with gold and silver, but there is no breath at all within it.

²⁰But Yahweh is in his holy temple! Let all the earth be silent before him."

2:1 ^[1], which is what the Hebrew text has, some modern versions have or .
2:15 ^[2], or as .

Chapter 3

¹The prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, according to Shigionoth.^[1]

²Yahweh, I have heard your report, and I fear.

O Yahweh, revive your work in the midst of the years; in the midst of the years make it known;
remember to have compassion in your wrath.

³God came from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. *Selah*.

His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.

⁴His brightness was like the light; rays flashed from his hand;
and there he hid his power.

⁵Deadly disease went before him,
and the plague followed at his heels.

⁶He stood and measured the earth; he looked and made the nations tremble.
Even the eternal mountains were shattered, and the everlasting hills bowed down.
His ways are everlasting.

⁷I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction, and the tent curtains in the land of Midian trembling.

⁸Was your wrath against the rivers, O Yahweh? Was your anger against the rivers,
or your fury against the sea,
when you rode upon your horses and your victorious chariots?

⁹You removed the sheath from your bow; you called for many arrows! *Selah*.
You split the earth with rivers.

¹⁰The mountains saw you and twisted in pain.
Downpours of water passed over them; the deep sea raised its voice.
It lifted up its waves on high.

¹¹The sun and moon stood still in their high places
at the light of your arrows as they fly,
at the gleam of your flashing spear.

¹²You have marched over the earth with indignation. In anger you have threshed the nations.

¹³You went out for the salvation of your people, for the salvation of your anointed one.
You crush the head of the house of the wicked to lay him bare from the thigh up to the neck. *Selah*

¹⁴You have pierced the head of his warriors with his own arrows since they came like a storm to scatter us,
their gloating was like one who devours the afflicted in a hiding place.

¹⁵You have trampled on the sea with your horses, on the surge of the great waters.

¹⁶I heard, and my inner parts trembled! My lips quivered at the sound.
Decay enters into my bones, and my legs tremble beneath me
Yet I will wait quietly for the day of distress to come upon the people who invade us.

¹⁷Though the fig tree does not bud

and there is no fruit on the vines;
and though the produce of the olive tree fails
and the fields yield no food;
and though the flock is cut off from the fold
and there are no cattle in the stalls,

18yet, I will rejoice in Yahweh.

I will be joyful because of the God of my salvation.

19The Lord Yahweh is my strength

and he makes my feet like the feet of a deer.

He makes me tread on my high places.

For the music director, on my stringed instruments.

3:1 ^[1], which may refer to musical directions for singers.

Zephaniah

Chapter 1

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Zephaniah son of Cushi son of Gedaliah son of Amariah son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah son of Amon, king of Judah.

²"I will utterly remove everything from the surface of the earth—this is the declaration of Yahweh.

³I will destroy man and beast; I will destroy the birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, the stumbling blocks along with the wicked.

For I will cut off man from the surface of the earth—this is the declaration of Yahweh.

⁴I will reach out with my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

I will cut off every remnant of Baal from this place and the names of the idolatrous priests along with the priests,

⁵the people on the housetops who bow down to worship the heavenly bodies, and the people who bow down and swear to Yahweh but who also swear by Milcom.^[1]

⁶and those who have turned away from following Yahweh, those who neither seek Yahweh nor ask for his guidance."

⁷Be silent before the Lord Yahweh! For the day of Yahweh is near; Yahweh has prepared the sacrifice and set apart his guests.

⁸"It will come about on the day of Yahweh's sacrifice, that I will punish the officials and the sons of the king, and everyone dressed in foreign clothes.

⁹On that day I will punish all those who leap over the threshold, those who fill the house of their master with violence and deceit.

¹⁰So it will be on that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh—that a cry of distress will come from the Fish Gate, wailing from the Second District, and a great crashing sound from the hills.

¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Market District, for all the merchants will be ruined; all those who weigh out silver will be cut off.

¹²It will come about at that time that I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish the men who are like wine left to thicken on its dregs and say in their heart,

'Yahweh will not do anything, either good or evil.'

¹³Their wealth will become plunder, and their houses will be an abandoned devastation!
They will build houses but not live in them, and plant vineyards but not drink their wine.

¹⁴The great day of Yahweh is near, near and hurrying quickly!

The sound of the day of Yahweh will be bitter; the warrior cries aloud there!

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness.

¹⁶It will be a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the high battlements.

¹⁷For I will bring distress upon mankind, so that they will walk about like blind men
because they have sinned against Yahweh.

Their blood will be poured out like dust, and their inner parts like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the wrath of Yahweh. In the fire of his jealousy the whole earth will be consumed,
for he will bring a complete, a terrible end of all the inhabitants of the earth."

1:5 ^[1], but some modern versions read , the name of a pagan god that many people worshiped.

Chapter 2

¹Gather yourselves together, yes, gather, O nation without shame—

²before the decree takes effect and that day passes like the chaff,
before the burning anger of Yahweh comes upon you, before the day of the anger of Yahweh comes upon you.

³Seek Yahweh, all you humble people on earth who do his commands!

Seek righteousness. Seek humility,
and perhaps you will be hidden on the day of the anger of Yahweh.

⁴For Gaza will be abandoned, and Ashkelon will turn into a devastation.

They will drive out Ashdod at noon, and Ekron will be uprooted!

⁵Woe to the inhabitants of the seacoast, the nation of the Kerethites! Yahweh has spoken against you,
Canaan, land of the Philistines. I will destroy you until no inhabitant remains.

⁶So the seacoast will become pastures, with meadows for shepherds and folds for flocks.

⁷The coastal region will belong to the remnant of the house of Judah,

who will pasture their flocks on it. Their people will lie down in the evening in the houses of Ashkelon, for Yahweh their God will care for them and restore their fortunes.

⁸"I have heard the taunts of Moab and the reviling of the sons of Ammon when they taunted my people and made boasts against their territory.

⁹Therefore, as I live—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel— Moab will become like Sodom, and the sons of Ammon like Gomorrah; a place of nettles and salt pits, deserted forever.

But the remnant of my people will plunder them, and the remainder of my nation will take possession of them."

¹⁰This will happen to them in return for their pride, since they taunted and boasted against the people of Yahweh of hosts. ¹¹Then Yahweh will be awesome against them, for he will starve all the gods of the earth. Everyone will bow down to him, everyone from his own place, nations on every shore.

¹²You also, O Cushites, will be pierced by my sword,

¹³and he will stretch out his hand against the north and destroy Assyria, and he will make Nineveh an abandoned devastation, a dry waste like the desert.

¹⁴Then herds will lie down in her midst, every animal of the nations, both the desert owl and the screech owl will rest in the top of her columns.

A call will sing out from the windows; rubble will be in the doorways; her carved cedar beams will be exposed.

¹⁵This is the exultant city that lived securely, that said in her heart, "I am, and nothing is my equal."

How she has become a horror, a place for beasts to lie down in.

Everyone that passes by her will hiss and shake his fist at her.

Chapter 3

¹Woe to her who is rebellious and defiled, the oppressing city.

²She listens to no voice, she does not accept correction.

She does not trust in Yahweh and will not draw near to her God.

³Her officials are roaring lions in her midst.

Her judges are evening wolves who leave nothing to be gnawed upon in the morning.

⁴Her prophets are insolent and treacherous men.

Her priests have profaned what is holy and have done violence to the law.

⁵Yahweh is righteous in her midst. He does no wrong.

Morning by morning he will dispense his justice; each dawn he does not fail. Yet unrighteous people know no shame.

⁶I have cut off nations; their fortresses are ruined.

I have laid waste their streets, so that no one passes over them.

Their cities are destroyed, without a man, without an inhabitant.

⁷I said, 'Surely you will fear me and accept correction.

Then your dwelling will not be cut off by all that I have planned to do to you.'

But all the more they were eager to behave corruptly in all their deeds.

⁸Therefore wait for me—this is the declaration of Yahweh—for the day when I rise up to seize the prey.

For my decision is to gather the nations, to assemble the kingdoms,

to pour out on them my indignation—all of my burning anger;

for in the fire of my jealousy all the earth will be consumed.^[1]

⁹But then I will give to the peoples purified lips,

that all of them may call upon the name of Yahweh to serve him shoulder to shoulder.

¹⁰From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers—the daughter of my scattered people—will bring offerings due me.

¹¹In that day you will not be put to shame for all your deeds by which you rebelled against me,

since at that time I will remove from among you your proud, exalting ones,

and you will never again act arrogantly on my holy mountain.

¹²But I will leave among you a humble and lowly people,

and they will find refuge in the name of Yahweh.

¹³The remnant of Israel will do no injustice and speak no lies,

and no deceitful tongue will be found in their mouth;

so they will graze and lie down, and no one will make them afraid."

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵Yahweh has taken away the judgments against you; he has driven out your enemies!

The king of Israel, Yahweh, is among you. You will never again fear evil!

¹⁶In that day it will be said to Jerusalem,

"Do not fear, O Zion. Do not let your hands fall limp.

¹⁷Yahweh your God is among you, a mighty one to save you.

He will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

18The sorrows for the appointed feasts I will remove from you;
they are a burden and a reproach to you.^[2]

19Behold, I am about to deal with all your oppressors.

At that time, I will rescue the lame and gather up the outcast.

I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

20At that time I will bring you in; at that time I will gather you together.

I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,"

says Yahweh.

3:8 ^[1] . However, some ancient and modern versions have .

3:18 ^[2]

Haggai

Chapter 1

¹In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of Yahweh came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and to the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, saying, ²"Thus says Yahweh of hosts: These people say, 'The time has not come to rebuild the house of Yahweh.'" ³Then the word of Yahweh came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, saying,

⁴"Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses, while this house lies ruined?

⁵So now thus says Yahweh of hosts:

Set your heart to examine your ways!

⁶You have sown much seed, but bring in little harvest; you eat but there is not enough to be satisfied; you drink but cannot get drunk. You wear clothes but cannot warm yourselves, and the wage earner earns money only to put it into a bag full of holes!

⁷Thus says Yahweh of hosts:

"Set your hearts to examine your ways!

⁸Go up to the mountain, bring timber, and build my house; then I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified!—says Yahweh."

⁹"You looked for much, but behold! you have brought little home, for I blew it away! Why?" declares Yahweh of hosts.

"Because my house lies in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house.

¹⁰Therefore because of you the heavens withhold the dew, and the earth withholds its produce.

¹¹I have called for a drought upon the land and upon the mountains, upon the grain and upon the new wine, upon the oil and upon what the ground produces, upon men and upon beasts, and upon all the labor of your hands!"

¹²Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, along with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of Yahweh their God and the words of Haggai the prophet, because Yahweh their God had sent him and the people feared the face of Yahweh. ¹³Then Haggai, the messenger of Yahweh, spoke the message of Yahweh to the people and said, "I am with you!—this is the declaration of Yahweh!" ¹⁴So Yahweh stirred up the spirit of the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and the spirit of the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people, so that they came and worked on the house of Yahweh of hosts, their God ¹⁵in the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

Chapter 2

¹In the seventh month on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of Yahweh came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, saying, ²“Speak now to the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and to the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, and to the remnant of the people. Say,

³“Who is left among you

who saw this house in its former glory?

How do you see it now?

Is it not like nothing in your eyes?

⁴Now, be strong, O Zerubbabel!—this is the declaration of Yahweh—

and be strong, O Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest;

and be strong, all you people of the land!—this is the declaration of Yahweh—

and work, for I am with you!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

⁵This is the word which I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt,

and my Spirit remains in your midst. Do not fear!

⁶For thus says Yahweh of hosts: In a little while

I will once again shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land!

⁷I will shake all nations, and they will come with the precious things of all nations,

and I will fill this house with glory, says Yahweh of hosts.

⁸The silver is mine, and the gold is mine—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

⁹The glory of this house will be greater in the future than at the beginning, says Yahweh of hosts,

and I will give peace in this place!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.”

¹⁰On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of Yahweh came by Haggai the prophet, saying, ¹¹“Thus says Yahweh of hosts: Ask the priests concerning the law, and say, ¹²If a man carries meat that is set apart to Yahweh in the fold of his garment, and the fold touches bread or stew, wine or oil, or any kind of food, does it become holy?” The priests answered and said, “No.” ¹³Then Haggai said, “If someone who is unclean by contact with a dead body touches any of these things, does he become unclean?” The priests answered and said, “Yes, he becomes unclean.” ¹⁴So Haggai answered and said, “So it is with this people and this nation before me!—this is the declaration of Yahweh—and so it is with every work done by their hands. What they offer there is unclean! ¹⁵Now then, set your hearts to consider from this day onward. Before stone was placed upon stone in the temple of Yahweh, ¹⁶From that time when you came to a heap of twenty measures of grain, there were only ten; and when you came to the wine vat to draw out fifty measures, there were only twenty. ¹⁷I struck you and all the work of your hands with blight and with mildew and with hail, but you still did not turn to me—this is the declaration of Yahweh. ¹⁸Set your hearts to consider from this day forward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the day that the foundation of the temple of Yahweh was laid. Set your hearts to consider this! ¹⁹Is there still seed in the storehouse? Until now the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have not produced! But from this day will I bless you!”

²⁰Then the word of Yahweh came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month and said,

²¹“Speak to Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah, and say,

‘I am about to shake the heavens and the earth.

²²For I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms and destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations!

I will overthrow the chariots and their riders; the horses and their riders will fall down, each one by the sword of his brother.

²³On that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—I will take you, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, my servant —this is the declaration of Yahweh.

I will make you like a signet ring, for I have chosen you!

—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts!”

Zechariah

Chapter 1

¹In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of Yahweh came to Zechariah son of Berechiah son of Iddo, the prophet, saying, ²"Yahweh was exceedingly angry with your fathers! ³Say to them, 'Yahweh of hosts says this:

Turn to me!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—

and I will return to you, says Yahweh of hosts.

⁴Do not be like your fathers to whom the prophets cried out previously, saying, "Yahweh of hosts says this: Turn now from your evil ways and your evil practices!" But they would not hear and did not pay attention to me—this is Yahweh's declaration.'

⁵Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, are they here forever?

⁶But my words and my decrees that I commanded my servants the prophets,

have they not overtaken your fathers?

So they repented and said, 'Just as Yahweh of hosts planned to do to us what our ways and actions deserved, so he has dealt with us.'

⁷On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of Yahweh came to Zechariah son of Berechiah son of Iddo, the prophet, saying, ⁸"I saw in the night, and, look! a man was riding on a red horse, and he was standing among the myrtle trees that {are} in the valley; and behind him there were red, reddish-brown, and white horses." ⁹I said, "What {are} these things, Lord?" Then the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what these things are." ¹⁰Then the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These {are those} Yahweh has sent out to roam throughout the earth." ¹¹They answered the angel of Yahweh who stood among the myrtle trees; they said to him, "We have been roaming throughout the earth; and see, all the earth sits still and is at rest."

¹²Then the angel of Yahweh answered and said, "Yahweh of hosts, how long will you show no compassion to Jerusalem and to the cities of Judah, which you have been angry with these seventy years?" ¹³Yahweh answered the angel who had talked with me, {with} good words, words of comfort. ¹⁴So the angel who had talked {with} me said to me, "Call out and say, 'Yahweh of hosts says this:

I have been jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great passion!

¹⁵I am very angry with the nations that are at ease.

When I was only a little angry with them, they made the disaster worse.

¹⁶Therefore Yahweh says this:

I have returned to Jerusalem with mercies. My house will be built within her—

this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—and the {measuring} line will be stretched out over Jerusalem!

¹⁷Again call out, saying,

‘Yahweh of hosts says this: My cities will once again overflow with goodness,
and Yahweh will again comfort Zion, and he will once again choose Jerusalem.’”

¹⁸Then I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, four horns! ¹⁹I spoke to the angel who talked with me, “What {are} these?” He answered me, “These {are} the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.” ²⁰Then Yahweh showed me four craftsmen. ²¹I said, “What {are} these people coming to do?” He answered, and said, “These {are} the horns that scattered Judah so that no man would lift up his head. But the {blacksmiths} have come to terrify them, to cast down the horns of the nations that lifted up a horn against the land of Judah to scatter her.”

Chapter 2

¹Then I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand. ²I said, “Where {are} you going?” So he said to me, “To measure Jerusalem, to see what {is} its width and what {is} its length.” ³And behold, the angel who had talked with me went away and another angel went out to meet him. ⁴And he said to him, “Run and speak to that young man; saying,

‘Jerusalem will sit in the open country

because of the multitudes of men and beasts within her.

⁵For I—this is Yahweh’s declaration—will become for her a wall of fire around her,
and I will be the glory in her midst.

⁶Up! Up! Flee from the land of the north—declares Yahweh—
for I have scattered you like the four winds of the skies!—declares Yahweh.

⁷Up! Escape to Zion, you who live with the daughter of Babylon!”

⁸For Yahweh of hosts said this, after he honored and sent me against the nations that plundered you—
for whoever touches you, touches the apple of God’s eye!

⁹“For I myself will shake my hand over them, and they will be plunder for their slaves.”
Then you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me.

¹⁰“Sing and be glad, daughter of Zion,
for I myself will come and encamp among you!—declares Yahweh.”

¹¹Then great nations will join Yahweh in that day and they will become my people;
and I will encamp in your midst, and you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me to you.

¹²Then Yahweh will inherit Judah as his rightful possession in the holy land
and will once again choose Jerusalem.

¹³Be silent, all flesh, before Yahweh, for he has been roused from his holy place!

Chapter 3

¹Then Yahweh showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of Yahweh and Satan was standing at his right to accuse him. ²Then Yahweh said to Satan, "May Yahweh rebuke you, Satan; may Yahweh, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! {Is} this not a poker pulled from the fire?" ³Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. ⁴Then he spoke and said to those who stood before him, saying, "Remove the filthy clothes from upon him." Then he said to Joshua, "Look! I have caused your iniquity to pass from you and I will dress you in fine clothing." ⁵Then I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head!" So they set a clean turban on Joshua's head and clothed him with clothes, while the angel of Yahweh was standing by.

⁶Next the angel of Yahweh said to Joshua, ⁷"Yahweh of hosts says this:

If you will walk in my ways, and if you will keep my commandments,

then you will govern my house and guard my courts,

for I will allow you to walk among these who stand here.

⁸Please Listen, Joshua the high priest, you and your companions who live with you!

For these men {are} a sign, for I myself will bring up my servant the Branch.

⁹Now look at the stone that I have set before Joshua. There are seven eyes on this single stone,

and I will engrave an inscription—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—

and I will remove the sin from this land in one day.

¹⁰In that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—each man will invite his neighbor to sit under his vine and under his fig tree."

Chapter 4

¹Then the angel who was talking with me turned and roused me like a man who was roused from his sleep. ²Then he said to me, "What do you see?" I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand made entirely of gold, with a bowl on its top. It has seven lamps on it and seven tubes for each lamp, which are on the top. ³Two olive trees {are} by it, one on the right side of the bowl and one on the left side." ⁴So again, I spoke to the angel who was talking with me. I said, "What do these things mean, my master?" ⁵The angel who was talking with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these things mean?" I said, "No, my master." ⁶So he answered and said to me, "This {is} the word of Yahweh to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says Yahweh of hosts. ⁷What {are} you, great mountain? Before Zerubbabel {you will become} a plain, and he will bring out the top stone to shouts of 'Grace! Grace to it!'"

⁸The word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ⁹"The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house and his hands will bring {it} to completion." Then you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me to you.

¹⁰For who has despised the day of small things? They will rejoice and will see the plumb stone in the hand of Zerubbabel. (These seven {are} the eyes of Yahweh, they roam over the whole earth.)

¹¹Then I answered and said to him, "What {are} these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on the left?"

¹²Then I answered again and said to him, "What {are} these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that have golden {oil} pouring out of them?" ¹³Then he said to me, "Do you not know what these {are}?" I said, "No, my master."

¹⁴Then he said, "These {are} the two sons of oil who stand before the Lord of all the earth."

Chapter 5

¹Then I turned and lifted my eyes, and I saw, behold, a flying scroll! ²Then he said to me, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a flying scroll, twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide." ³Then he said to me, "This {is} the curse that goes out over the surface of the whole land. For every thief will be cut off according to what it says on the one {side}, and everyone who swears a false oath will be cut off {according to} what it says on the other {side}." ⁴"I will send it out—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—so it will enter into the house of the thief and into the house of the one that swears falsely by my name. And it will remain in his house and consume its timber and its stones."

⁵Then the angel who was speaking with me went out and said to me, "Raise now your eyes and see what {is} coming!" ⁶And I said, "What is it?" And he said, "This {is} the measuring basket that {is} coming." And he said, "This {is} their iniquity in the whole land."^[1] ⁷And behold, a lead covering was lifted off and there was a woman sitting inside the measuring basket! ⁸And he said, "This {is} Wickedness!" Then he threw her inside the measuring basket, and he threw the weight of lead over its opening. ⁹And I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, two women coming, and wind was in their wings—for they had wings like a stork's wings. And they lifted up the measuring basket between earth and between heaven. ¹⁰And I said to the angel who was talking to me, "Where {are} they taking the measuring basket?" ¹¹And he said to me, "To build for it a temple in the land of Shinar, and when it is ready, it will be set there on its base."

5:6 ^[1]. The Hebrew text has , but this is widely thought to be an error.

Chapter 6

¹And I turned and lifted my eyes and I saw, and behold, four chariots coming out from between two mountains; and the two mountains {were} made of bronze. ²The first chariot had red horses, the second chariot had black horses, ³and the third chariot had white horses, and the fourth chariot had spotted gray horses. ⁴And I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What {are} these, my master?" ⁵And the angel answered and said to me, "These are four winds of heaven that go out from where they were, before the Lord of all the earth. ⁶The one with the black horses is going out to the north country; and the white ones are going out to the west; and the spotted ones are going out to the south country." ⁷These strong {horses} went out and sought to go and roam over the earth, and he said, "Go and roam over the earth!" and they went to roam over the earth. ⁸Then he called out to me and spoke to me, saying, "Look at the ones that are going out to the north country; they will appease my spirit in the north country."

⁹And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, ¹⁰"Take from the exiles—from Heldai, and from Tobijah, and from Jedaiah—and you go this same day and take it into the house of Josiah son of Zephaniah, who has come from Babylon. ¹¹And take the silver and gold and make a crown and set {it} on the head of Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. ¹²And speak to him, saying, 'Thus says Yahweh of hosts, saying:

Behold, a man whose name {is} Branch, and he will grow from his place

and he will build the temple of Yahweh!

¹³And he will build the temple of Yahweh, and he will bear glory, and will sit and rule on his throne.

And he will be a priest on his throne, and a counsel of peace will exist between both of them. ¹⁴And the crown will be given to Heldai, to Tobijah, to Jedaiah, and to Hen, son of Zephaniah as a memorial in the temple of Yahweh.

¹⁵Then those who are far off will come and build the temple of Yahweh, so you will know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me to you; for {this} will happen if you truly listen to the voice of Yahweh your God!"

Chapter 7

¹And it happened in the fourth year of Darius the king, the word of Yahweh came to Zechariah, on the fourth {day} of the ninth month, in Kislev. ²{The people} of Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regem-Melek and their men {to} beg before the face of Yahweh. ³They spoke to the priests who {were} at the house of Yahweh of hosts {and} to the prophets; they said, "Should I mourn in the fifth month by means of a fast, as I have done these many years?"

⁴So the word of Yahweh of hosts came to me, saying,

⁵"Speak to all the people of the land and to the priests and say, 'When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and in the seventh {month} for these seventy years, were you truly fasting for me? ⁶When you ate and drank, did you not eat and {drink for yourselves}? ⁷Were these not the same words that Yahweh proclaimed by the mouth of the former prophets, when you still inhabited Jerusalem and the surrounding cities in prosperity and were settled in the Negev, and the foothills to the west?' ⁸The word of Yahweh came to Zechariah, saying, ⁹"Yahweh of hosts says this, 'Judge with true justice, covenant faithfulness, and mercy. Let each man do this for his brother. ¹⁰About the widow and orphan, the foreigner, and the poor person—do not oppress them, and let none of you plot any harm against another in your heart.' ¹¹But they refused to pay attention and set their shoulders stubbornly. They stopped up their ears so they would not hear. ¹²They made their hearts as hard as rock so they would not hear the law or the words of Yahweh of hosts. He had sent these messages to the people by his Spirit in earlier times, by the mouth of the prophets. But the people refused to listen, so Yahweh of hosts was very angry with them. ¹³It happened that when he called, they did not listen. In the same way," said Yahweh of hosts, "they will call out to me, but I will not listen. ¹⁴For I will scatter them with a whirlwind to all the nations that they have not seen, and the land will be desolate after them. For no one will pass through the land or return to it since the people have made their delightful land into a wasteland."

Chapter 8

¹The word of Yahweh of hosts came to me, saying, ²"Yahweh of hosts says this: I am passionate for Zion with great zeal and I am passionate for her with great anger! ³Yahweh of hosts says this: I will return to Zion and will live in the midst of Jerusalem, for Jerusalem will be called The City of Truth and the mountain of Yahweh of hosts will be called The Holy Mountain!

⁴Yahweh of hosts says this:

Old men and old women will once again be in the streets of Jerusalem,
and every person will need a staff in his hand because he has grown so old.

⁵The streets of the city will be full of boys and girls playing in them.

⁶Yahweh of hosts says this:

If something seems impossible in the eyes of the remnant of this people in those days,
should it also seem impossible in my eyes?—this is Yahweh's declaration.

⁷Yahweh of hosts says this:

Behold, I am about to rescue my people from the land of the sunrise and from the land of the setting sun!

⁸For I will bring them {back,}

and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem,

so they will again be my people,

and I will be their God in truth and in righteousness!

⁹Yahweh of hosts says this:

You who now continue to hear the same words

that came from the prophets' mouths

when the foundation of my house was laid—this house of mine, Yahweh of hosts:

Strengthen your hands so that the temple can be built.

¹⁰For before those days

no crops were gathered in by anyone,

there was no profit for either man or beast,

and there was no peace from enemies for anyone going or coming.

I had set every person each against his neighbor.

¹¹But now it will not be as in former days,

I will be with the remnant of this people—

this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

¹²For seeds of peace will be sown;

the climbing vine will give its fruit and the earth will give its produce;

the skies will give their dew,

for I will make the remnant of this people inherit all these things.

¹³You were an example to the other nations of a curse,

house of Judah and house of Israel.

So I will rescue you and you will be a blessing.

Do not be afraid; let your hands be strong!

¹⁴For Yahweh of hosts says this:

Just as I planned to do harm to you when your ancestors provoked my anger—

says Yahweh of hosts—and did not relent,

¹⁵so also I will plan in these days

to do good again to Jerusalem and the house of Judah!

Do not fear! ¹⁶These are the things that you must do: Speak truth, every person with his neighbor. Judge with truth, justice, and peace in your gates. ¹⁷Do not plan to do evil within your heart against one another, and do not love false oaths—for these are the things I hate!—this is Yahweh’s declaration.”

¹⁸Then the word of Yahweh of hosts came to me, saying,

¹⁹“Yahweh of hosts says this: The fasts of the {fourth} month, the fifth month, the seventh month, and the tenth month will become times of joy, gladness, and happy festivals for the house of Judah! Therefore love truth and peace!

²⁰Yahweh of hosts says this: People will come again, even those who are living in many different cities.

²¹The inhabitants of one {city} will go to {another} city and say, ‘Let us quickly go to beg before the face of Yahweh and to seek Yahweh of hosts! We ourselves are also going.’

²²Many people and mighty nations will come to seek Yahweh of hosts in Jerusalem and beg for the favor of Yahweh!

²³Yahweh of hosts says this: In those days ten men from every language and nation will grasp the hem of your robe and say, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard {that} God {is} with you!’”

Chapter 9

¹“This is a declaration of Yahweh’s word concerning the land of Hadrak and Damascus, its resting place; for the eyes of all humanity and all the tribes of Israel are toward Yahweh. ²This declaration also concerns Hamath, {which} borders on Damascus, and it concerns Tyre and Sidon, for they are very wise. ³Tyre has built herself a stronghold and heaped up silver like dust and refined gold like mud in the streets. ⁴Look! The Lord will dispossess her and destroy her strength on the sea, so she will be devoured by fire. ⁵Ashkelon will see and be afraid! Gaza also will tremble greatly! Ekron, her hopes will be disappointed! The king will perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon shall no longer be inhabited! ⁶Strangers will make their homes in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines. ⁷For I will remove their blood from their mouths and their abominations from between their teeth. Then they will become a remnant for our God like a clan in Judah, and Ekron will become like the Jebusites.

⁸I will camp around my land against enemy armies,^[1] so no one can pass through or return, for no oppressor will overrun them, for now I see with my own eyes!

⁹Shout with great joy, daughter of Zion! Shout with happiness, daughter of Jerusalem! Behold! Your king is coming to you with righteousness and is rescuing you. He is humble and {is} riding on a donkey, on the colt of a donkey.

¹⁰Then I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem,
and the bow will be cut off from battle; for he will speak peace to the nations,
and his dominion {will be} from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

¹¹As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the pit where there is no water. ¹²Return to the stronghold, prisoners of hope! Even today I am declaring {that} I will return double to you, ¹³for I have bent Judah as my bow. I have filled my quiver with Ephraim. I have roused your sons, Zion, against your sons, Greece, and have made you, Zion, like a warrior's sword!" ¹⁴Yahweh will appear to them, and his arrows will shoot out like lightning! For my Lord Yahweh will blow the trumpet and will advance with the storms from Teman. ¹⁵Yahweh of hosts will defend them, and they will devour them and defeat the stones of the slings. Then they will drink and shout like men drunk on wine, and they will be filled with wine like bowls, like the corners of the altar. ¹⁶So Yahweh their God will rescue them on that day, as the flock of his people. They are the jewels of a crown that will shine on his land. ¹⁷How good and how beautiful they will be! The young men will flourish on grain and the virgins on sweet wine!"

9:8 ^[1] and some translate the Hebrew and so translate the phrase, .

Chapter 10

¹Ask for rain from Yahweh in the season of the spring rain—

Yahweh who makes thunderstorms—

and he gives rain showers to everyone

and vegetation in the field.

²For household idols speak falsely; the diviners envision a lie;

they tell deceitful dreams and give empty comfort,

so {they} wander like sheep and suffer because {there is} no shepherd.

³"My wrath burns against the shepherds; it is the male goats—the leaders—that I will punish. Yahweh of hosts will also attend to his flock, the house of Judah, and make them like his warhorse in battle! ⁴From Judah will come the cornerstone; from him will come the {tent} peg; from him will come the war bow; from him will come every ruler together.^[1] ⁵They will be like warriors who trample {their enemies} into the mud of the streets in battle; they will make war, for Yahweh is with them, and they will shame those who ride warhorses. ⁶I will strengthen the house of Judah and save the house of Joseph; for I will restore them and have mercy on them. They will be as though I had not cast them off, for I {am} Yahweh their God, and I will respond to them. ⁷Then Ephraim will be like a warrior, and their hearts will rejoice as with wine; their children will see and rejoice. Their hearts will rejoice in me!

⁸I will whistle for them and gather them, for I will rescue them, and they will become as great as they previously were! ⁹I sowed them among the peoples, but they will remember me in distant countries, so they and their children will live and return. ¹⁰For I will restore them from the land of Egypt and gather them from Assyria. I will bring them to the land of Gilead and Lebanon until there is no {more room} for them. ¹¹I will pass through the sea of their affliction; I will strike the waves of that sea and will dry up all the depths of the Nile. The majesty of Assyria will be brought down, and the scepter of Egypt will go away from the Egyptians. ¹²I will strengthen them in myself, and they will walk in my name—this is Yahweh's declaration."

10:4 ^[1] at the start of the next verse.

Chapter 11

¹Open your doors, Lebanon, that fire may devour your cedars!

²Lament, cypress trees, for the cedar {trees} have fallen! What was majestic has been devastated!

Lament, you oaks of Bashan, for the strong forest has gone down.

³The shepherds howl, for their glory has been destroyed!

The voice of the young lions' roar, for the pride of the Jordan River has been devastated!

⁴This is what Yahweh my God says, "Like a shepherd, watch over the flock set aside for slaughter! ⁵(The ones who buy them slaughter them and are not punished, and the ones who sell them say, 'Blessed be Yahweh! I have become rich!' for the shepherds working for the flocks' owners have no pity on them.) ⁶For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land!—this is Yahweh's declaration. See! I myself am about to turn over every person into the hand of his neighbor and into the hand of his king, and they will destroy the land and none of them will I deliver {them} from their hand." ⁷So I became the shepherd of the flock marked for slaughter, for those who dealt in sheep. I took two staffs; one staff I called "Favor" and the other I called "Unity." In this way I shepherded the flock.

⁸In one month I destroyed the three shepherds. I became impatient with them, and they also hated me. ⁹Then I said to the owners, "I will not work as a shepherd for you any longer. The sheep that are dying—let them die; the sheep that are being destroyed—let them be destroyed. Let the sheep that remain each eat the flesh of its neighbor." ¹⁰So I took my staff "Favor" and broke it to break the covenant that I had made with all of my tribes.

¹¹On that day the covenant was broken, and those who dealt in sheep and who were watching me knew that Yahweh had spoken. ¹²I said to them, "If it seems good to you, pay me my wages. But if not, do not do it." So they weighed out my wages—thirty {pieces} of silver. ¹³Then Yahweh said to me, "Deposit the silver in the treasury, the excellent price at which they valued you!" So I took the thirty {pieces} of silver and deposited them in the treasury in the house of Yahweh. ¹⁴Then I broke my second staff, "Unity," to break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

¹⁵Yahweh said to me, "Again, take the equipment of a foolish shepherd for yourself, ¹⁶for see, I am about to set in place a shepherd in the land. He will not care for the perishing sheep. He will not seek out the sheep gone missing, nor heal the crippled sheep. He will not feed the sheep that are healthy, but will eat the flesh of the fattened sheep and will tear off their hooves.

¹⁷Woe to the worthless shepherd who forsakes the flock!

May the sword come against his arm and his right eye!

May his arm wither away and may his right eye become blind!"

Chapter 12

¹This is a declaration of Yahweh's word concerning Israel—a declaration of Yahweh, who stretched out the skies and laid the foundation of the earth, who fashions the spirit of mankind within man, ²"See, I am about to make Jerusalem into a cup causing all the peoples surrounding her to stagger about. It will also be like that for Judah during the siege against Jerusalem. ³On that day, I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. Anyone trying to lift that stone will hurt himself very much, and all the nations of the earth will gather against that city. ⁴On that day—this is Yahweh's declaration—I will strike every horse with confusion and its rider with madness. Over the house of Judah I will open my eyes, but every horse of the peoples I will strike with blindness. ⁵Then the leaders of Judah will say in their hearts, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem {are} our strength because of Yahweh of hosts, their God.' ⁶On that day I will make the leaders of Judah like firepots among wood and like a flaming torch among standing grain, for they will consume all the surrounding peoples on their right and on their left. Jerusalem will

again live in her own place.” ⁷Yahweh will save the tents of Judah first, so that the honor of the house of David and the honor of those who live in Jerusalem may not be greater than the rest of Judah. ⁸On that day Yahweh will be the defender of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and on that day those who are weak among them will be like David, while the house of David {will be} like God, like the angel of Yahweh in front of them. ⁹“On that day {that} I will begin to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

¹⁰But I will pour out a spirit of compassion and pleading on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so they will look on me, the one they have pierced. They will mourn for me, as one mourns for an only {son}; they will bitterly lament for him like those who lament the death of a firstborn son. ¹¹On that day the laments in Jerusalem will be like the laments at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. ¹²The land will mourn, each clan separate from other clans. The clan of the house of David will be separate and their wives will be separate from the men. The clan of the house of Nathan will be separate and their wives will be separate from the men. ¹³The clan of the house of Levi will be separate and their wives will be separate from the men. The clan of the Shimeites will be separate and their wives will be separate from the men. ¹⁴Every clan of the remaining clans—each clan will be separate and the wives will be separate from the men.”

Chapter 13

¹“On that day a spring will be opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for their sin and impurity. ²On that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—I will cut off the names of the idols from the land and they will no longer be remembered. I will remove the prophets and the spirit of impurity from the land. ³If any man continues to prophesy, his father and mother who bore him will tell him, ‘You will not live, for you speak lies in the name of Yahweh!’ Then the father and mother who bore him will pierce him when he prophesies. ⁴On that day each prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he is about to prophesy. These prophets will no longer wear a hairy cloak, in order to deceive the people. ⁵For each will say, ‘I am not a prophet! I am a man who works the soil, for the land became my work while I was still a young man!’ ⁶But someone will say to him, ‘What are these wounds between your arms?’ and he will answer, ‘I was wounded with those in my friends’ house.’”

⁷“Sword! Rouse yourself against my shepherd,

the man who stands close to me—

this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

Strike the shepherd,

and the flock will scatter!

For I will turn my hand against the lowly ones.

⁸Then it will come about that throughout all the land—this is Yahweh’s declaration—

that two-thirds of it will be cut off! Those people will perish;

only one-third will remain there.

⁹I will bring that third through the fire

and refine them as silver is refined;

I will test them as gold is tested.

They will call on my name,

and I will answer them and say,

'This is my people!'

and they will say, 'Yahweh is my God!'"

Chapter 14

¹Behold! A day for Yahweh is coming when your plunder will be divided in your midst. ²For I will gather every nation against Jerusalem for battle and the city will be captured. The houses will be plundered and the women raped. Half of the city will go out into captivity, but the remainder of the people will not be cut off from the city.

³But Yahweh will go out and wage war against those nations as when he wages war on the day of battle. ⁴On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is beside Jerusalem to the east. The Mount of Olives will be split in half between the east and the west by a very great valley and half of the mountain will go back toward the north and half toward the south. ⁵Then you will flee down the valley between Yahweh's mountains, for the valley between those mountains will reach to Azel. You will flee just as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah. Then Yahweh my God will come and all the holy ones will be with him. ⁶On that day there will be no light, but no cold or frost either. ⁷On that day, a day known only to Yahweh, there will no longer be day or night, for the evening will be a time of light. ⁸On that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem. Half of them will flow to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter.

⁹Yahweh will be king over all the earth. On that day there will be Yahweh, the one God, and his name alone. ¹⁰All the land will be like the Arabah, from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. Jerusalem will continue to be raised up and remain in its own place, from the Benjamin Gate to the place where the first gate was, to the Corner Gate, and {from} the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses. ¹¹{The people} will live in Jerusalem and there will be no more {complete} destruction from God against them. Jerusalem will live in safety.

¹²This will be the plague with which Yahweh will attack all the peoples that waged war against Jerusalem: Their flesh will rot away even as they are standing on their feet. Their eyes will rot in their sockets and their tongues will rot in their mouths. ¹³On that day that great fear from Yahweh will come among them. Each one will seize the hand of another, and the hand of one will be raised up against the hand of another. ¹⁴Judah will also fight against Jerusalem. They will gather the wealth of all the surrounding nations—gold, silver, and fine clothes in great abundance. ¹⁵A plague will also be on the horses {and} the mules, the camels and the donkeys, and on every animal in those camps will also suffer that same plague.

¹⁶Then it will happen {that} all who remain in those nations that came against Jerusalem will instead go up from year to year to worship the king, Yahweh of hosts, and to keep the Festival of Shelters. ¹⁷It will happen {that} if anyone from all the nations of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the king, Yahweh of hosts, then Yahweh will not bring rain on them. ¹⁸If the nation of Egypt does not go up, then they {will not} receive {rain}. A plague from Yahweh will attack the nations that do not go up to keep the Festival of Shelters. ¹⁹This will be the punishment for Egypt and the punishment for every nation that does not go up to keep the Festival of Shelters. ²⁰But on that day, the bells of the horses {will say,} "Set apart to Yahweh," and the basins in Yahweh's house will be like the bowls before the altar. ²¹For every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be set apart to Yahweh of hosts and everyone who brings a sacrifice will eat from them and boil in them. On that day traders will no longer be in the house of Yahweh of hosts.

Malachi

Chapter 1

¹The oracle of the word of Yahweh to Israel by the hand of Malachi.

²"I have loved you," says Yahweh. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Was not Esau the brother of Jacob?" declares Yahweh. "Yet I have loved Jacob, ³but Esau I have hated. I have made his mountains an abandoned devastation, and I left his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness." ⁴If Edom says, "We are beaten down, but we will return and build up the ruins," Thus Yahweh of hosts will say, "They may build, but I will tear down. Others will call them 'The country of wickedness' and 'The people toward whom Yahweh is indignant forever.' ⁵Your own eyes will see this, and you will say, 'Yahweh is great beyond the borders of Israel.'"

⁶"A son honors his father, and a servant honors his master. If I, then, am a father, where is my honor? If I am a master, where is the reverence for me?" says Yahweh of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. " But you say, 'How have we despised your name?' ⁷By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, 'How have we polluted you?' By saying that the table of Yahweh may be despised. ⁸When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not evil? When you offer the lame and sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor! Will he accept you or will he lift up your face?" says Yahweh of hosts. ⁹Now entreat the face of God, that he may be gracious to us. But Yahweh of hosts says that with such an offering in your hand, would he lift up any of your faces? ¹⁰"Oh, if only there were one among you who would shut the temple gates, so that you might not light fires on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you," says Yahweh of hosts, "and I will not accept any offering from your hand. ¹¹For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations and in every place incense and pure offerings will be offered to my name. For my name will be great among the nations," says Yahweh of hosts. ¹²"But you are profaning it when you say the table of the Lord is polluted, and that its fruit, its food, is to be despised. ¹³You also say, 'How tiresome this is,' and you snort at it," says Yahweh of hosts. "You bring what has been taken by a wild animal or is lame or sick; and this you bring as your offering. Should I accept this from your hand?" says Yahweh. ¹⁴"May the deceiver be cursed who has a male animal in his flock and vows to give it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is flawed! For I am a great king," says Yahweh of hosts, "and my name will be feared among the nations."

Chapter 2

¹Now, O priests, this command is for you. ²"If you will not listen, and if you will not lay it on your heart to give honor to my name," says Yahweh of hosts, "then I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Indeed, I have cursed them, because you are not laying my command on your heart. ³See, I am about to rebuke your descendants, and I will spread dung on your faces, the dung from your festivals, and he will take you away with it. ^{[1][2]} ⁴So you will know that I have sent this command to you, that my covenant may continue to be with Levi," says Yahweh of hosts. ⁵"My covenant with him was life and peace, and I gave them to him; it was a covenant of fear, and he feared me, and he stood in awe of my name. ⁶True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness and he turned many away from iniquity. ⁷For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of Yahweh of hosts. ⁸But you have turned aside from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," says Yahweh of hosts. ⁹"So I also have made you despised and humiliated before all the people, inasmuch as you have not kept my ways, but have instead shown partiality in matters of the law."

¹⁰Is there not one father for us all? Has not one God created us? Why are we faithless each man against his brother, profaning the covenant of our fathers? ¹¹Judah has been faithless. An abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of Yahweh which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. ¹²May Yahweh cut off from the tents of Jacob the man who does this, the one who is awake and the one who answers, even if he is bringing an offering to Yahweh of hosts.^[3] ¹³And this second thing you do: You cover the altar of Yahweh with tears, with weeping and groaning, because he still does not turn toward the offering or accept it with favor from your hand. ¹⁴But you say, "Why does he not?" Because Yahweh was a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have been faithless, even though she was your companion and your wife by covenant. ¹⁵Did he not make them one, with a portion of his spirit? And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth. ¹⁶"For I hate divorce," says Yahweh, the God of Israel, "and the one who covers his garment with violence," says Yahweh of hosts. "So guard yourselves in your spirit and do not be faithless."

¹⁷You have wearied Yahweh with your words. But you say, "How have we wearied him?" By saying, "Everyone who does evil is good in the eyes of Yahweh, and he delights in them," or "Where is the God of justice?"

2:3 ^[1], which the Hebrew text has, some ancient and modern versions have (or). Some other modern versions have .

2:3 ^[2], which is in the Hebrew text, some ancient and modern versions have , that is, .

2:12 ^[3], some versions have other expressions such as .

Chapter 3

¹"Behold, I am about to send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. Then the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he will come," says Yahweh of hosts.

²But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like the fire of the refiner and like the soap of the fullers. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi. He will refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to Yahweh. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to Yahweh, as in the days of old, and as in former years. ⁵"Then I will approach you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, the adulterers, those who swear falsely, and against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who turn aside the foreigner, and against those who do not fear me," says Yahweh of hosts. ⁶"For I, Yahweh, have not changed; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, have not come to an end.

⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says Yahweh of hosts. "But you say, 'How will we return?' ⁸Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In tithes and offerings. ⁹You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. ¹⁰Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and test me now in this," says Yahweh of hosts, "if I do not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing for you, until there is no more need. ¹¹I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil. Your vines in the fields will not lose their fruit," says Yahweh of hosts. ¹²"All the nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight," says Yahweh of hosts.

¹³"Your words against me have been strong," says Yahweh. "But you say, 'What have we said among ourselves against you?' ¹⁴You have said, 'It is useless to serve God. What profit is it that we have kept his requirements or walked mournfully before Yahweh of hosts?' ¹⁵So now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper, but they even test God and escape."

¹⁶Then those who feared Yahweh spoke with one another. Yahweh paid attention and listened, and a book of remembrance was written before him about those who feared Yahweh and honored his name. ¹⁷"They will be

mine," says Yahweh of hosts, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession, I will have compassion on them, as a man has compassion on his own son who serves him. ¹⁸Then once again you will distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

Chapter 4

¹For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace, when all the arrogant and all the evildoers will become stubble. The day that is coming will burn them up," says Yahweh of hosts, "so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. You will go out, and you will leap like calves from the stall. ³And you will trample down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I act," says Yahweh of hosts.

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel, the statutes and the rulings. ⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and fearful day of Yahweh. ⁶He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I do not come and strike the land with complete destruction."

Matthew

Chapter 1

¹The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham: ²Abraham fathered Isaac, and Isaac fathered Jacob, and Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers, ³and Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez fathered Hezron, and Hezron fathered Ram, ⁴and Ram fathered Amminadab, and Amminadab fathered Nahshon, and Nahshon fathered Salmon, ⁵and Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth, and Obed fathered Jesse, ⁶and Jesse fathered David the king, and David fathered Solomon by the {wife} of Uriah,

⁷and Solomon fathered Rehoboam, and Rehoboam fathered Abijah, and Abijah fathered Asa, ⁸and Asa fathered Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat fathered Joram, and Joram fathered Uzziah, ⁹and Uzziah fathered Jotham, and Jotham fathered Ahaz, and Ahaz fathered Hezekiah, ¹⁰and Hezekiah fathered Manasseh, and Manasseh fathered Amon, and Amon fathered Josiah, ¹¹and Josiah fathered Jechoniah and his brothers at the Babylonian deportation,

¹²and after the Babylonian deportation, Jechoniah fathered Shealtiel, and Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel, ¹³and Zerubbabel fathered Abiud, and Abiud fathered Eliakim, and Eliakim fathered Azor, ¹⁴and Azor fathered Zadok, and Zadok fathered Achim, and Achim fathered Eliud, ¹⁵and Eliud fathered Eleazar, and Eleazar fathered Matthan, and Matthan fathered Jacob, ¹⁶and Jacob fathered Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. ¹⁷Therefore, all the generations from Abraham until David {were} 14 generations, and from David until the Babylonian deportation {were} 14 generations, and from the Babylonian deportation until the Christ {were} 14 generations.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ was thus: His mother, Mary, having been engaged to marry Joseph, before they came together, was found having in the womb by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Now Joseph her husband was righteous, and not wanting to publicly disgrace her, he intended to divorce her secretly. ²⁰But when he had reflected on these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him by way of a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, you should not fear to take Mary as your wife, because the one having been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will bear a son, and you will call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²Now all this happened so that it might be fulfilled what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying,

²³"Behold, the virgin will have in {her} womb and bear a son, and they will call his name Immanuel"—which is translated, "God with us."

²⁴And Joseph, having been awakened from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took her {as} his wife. ²⁵And he did not know her until she bore a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Chapter 2

¹Now when Jesus had been born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, learned men from the east arrived in Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the east and came to worship him." ³But having heard this, Herod the king became troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴And having brought together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired from them, "Where is the Christ being born?" ⁵And they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet,

⁶And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means the least among the leaders of Judah,
for from you will come out a ruler

who will shepherd my people Israel.” ⁷Then Herod, having secretly called the learned men, inquired from them the time of the appearing of the star. ⁸And having sent them to Bethlehem, he said, “Having gone, search carefully for the young child, and after you have found him, report to me so that I also, having come, might worship him.” ⁹And they, having heard the king, went on their way, and behold, the star that they saw in the east was going before them until, having come, it stood over where the young child was. ¹⁰And having seen the star, they rejoiced with very great joy. ¹¹And having gone into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother. And having fallen down, they worshiped him, and having opened their treasures, they offered him gifts: gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned through a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

¹³Now after they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appears to Joseph by means of a dream, saying, “Get up, take the young child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is going to seek the young child to kill him.” ¹⁴And he, having gotten up, took the young child and his mother at night and departed for Egypt, ¹⁵and he was there until the death of Herod, in order that might be fulfilled what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶Then Herod, having seen that he had been mocked by the learned men, was very angry, and having sent forth, he killed all the male children who {were} in Bethlehem and in all its region, from two years and under, according to the time that he had determined exactly from the learned men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children,
and not willing to be comforted, because they are no more.”

¹⁹Now Herod having died, behold, an angel of the Lord appears through a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, “Having gotten up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who are seeking the life of the child have died.” ²¹And he, having gotten up, took the child and his mother, and entered into the land of Israel. ²²But having heard that Archelaus is reigning over Judea in the place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. But having been warned by means of a dream, he withdrew to the region of Galilee, ²³and having gone there, he lived in a city called Nazareth, so that it might be fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophets, that he will be called a Nazarene.

Chapter 3

¹Now in those days, John the Baptist comes preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens is near.” ³For this is he who has been spoken of by Isaiah the prophet, saying,

“The voice of one calling out in the wilderness,
‘Make ready the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now this John had his clothing from the hair of a camel and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then were going out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan, ⁶and being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁷Now having seen many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You offspring of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore, produce fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹And you should not think to say among yourselves, 'We have Abraham {as} father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰But already the ax is placed against the root of the trees. So, every tree not producing good fruit is chopped down and is thrown into the fire. ¹¹I baptize you with water for repentance. But the one coming after me is mightier than I, of whom I am not worthy to carry {his} sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire; ¹²whose winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clear off his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the storehouse. But he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

¹³Then Jesus comes from Galilee to the Jordan, to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴But John was hindering him, saying, "I have need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?" ¹⁵But answering, Jesus said to him, "Permit it now, for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he permits him. ¹⁶Now having been baptized, Jesus immediately came up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove, resting upon him, ¹⁷and behold, a voice from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son. I am very pleased with him."

Chapter 4

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And having fasted 40 days and 40 nights, afterwards, he was hungry. ³And having approached, the tempter said to him, "If you are the Son of God, speak so that these stones might become bread." ⁴But he, answering, said, "It is written, 'Man will not live by bread alone, but by every word coming through the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil takes him into the holy city and set him on the highest point of the temple, ⁶and says to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and, 'They will lift you up in {their} hands, lest you might hit your foot against a stone.'"

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You will not test the Lord your God.'" ⁸Again, the devil takes him to a very high hill and shows him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these things I will give you, if having fallen down, you would worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus says to him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written, 'You will worship the Lord your God, and you will serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil leaves him, and behold, angels came and began to minister to him.

¹²Now having heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And having left Nazareth, having come, he lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territories of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that it might be fulfilled what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying,

¹⁵"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,

toward the sea, beyond the Jordan,

Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people who are sitting in darkness

have seen a great light,

and to those sitting in the region and shadow of death,
upon them has a light arisen.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has come near.”

¹⁸Now walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he says to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰And immediately, they, having left {their} nets, followed him. ²¹And having gone on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the {son} of Zebedee, and John his brother in the boat with Zebedee their father mending their nets, and he called them, ²²and immediately they, having left the boat and their father, followed him.

²³And he was going around in all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people. ²⁴And the news of him went out into all Syria, and they brought to him all those having sickness, being afflicted by various diseases and pains, and being possessed by demons, and the epileptic and the paralytic, and he healed them. ²⁵And large crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan.

Chapter 5

¹Now having seen the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he had sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And having opened his mouth, he taught them, saying,

³“Blessed {are} the poor in spirit,

for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

⁴Blessed {are} those who mourn,

for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed {are} the meek,

for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed {are} those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

for they will be filled.

⁷Blessed {are} the merciful,

for they will obtain mercy.

⁸Blessed {are} the pure in heart,

for they will see God.

⁹Blessed {are} the peacemakers,

for they will be called sons of God.

¹⁰Blessed {are} those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness,

for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

¹¹Blessed are you when they may insult you and may persecute you and may say every evil thing against you falsely for my sake.

¹²Rejoice and be very glad, for great {is} your reward in the heavens, for in this way they persecuted the prophets who {were} before you.

¹³You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt may have lost its taste, with what might it be made salty again? It is good for nothing any longer, except having been thrown out, to be trampled by men. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city being set on top of a hill is not able to be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but rather on the lampstand, and it shines for all those in the house. ¹⁶Let your light shine before men in such a way so that they might see your good deeds and might glorify your Father who {is} in the heavens.

¹⁷May you not think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I came not to destroy them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly I say to you, until the heaven and the earth may pass away, one jot or one tittle may certainly not pass away from the law until all things might be accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever might break one of the least of these commandments and might teach men to do so will be called least in the kingdom of the heavens. But whoever might do and might teach them, that one will be called great in the kingdom of the heavens. ²⁰For I say to you that unless your righteousness might abound greater than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you may certainly not enter into the kingdom of the heavens.

²¹You have heard that it was said to the ancients, 'Do not kill,' and, 'Whoever might kill will be held for the judgment.' ²²But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be held for the judgment. And whoever might say to his brother, 'Fool!' will be held for the council. And whoever might say, 'You fool!' will be held for the fire of Gehenna. ²³Therefore, if you may be offering your gift at the altar and there may remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar and go; first be reconciled with your brother, and then, having come, offer your gift. ²⁵Be in agreement with your accuser quickly while you are with him on the way, lest your accuser might hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I say to you, you may certainly not come out from there until you would have paid the last quadrans.

²⁷You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks on a woman to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹But if your right eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you. For it is better for you that one of your members would perish and your whole body would not be thrown into Gehenna. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away from you. For it is better for you that one of your members would perish and your whole body would not go into Gehenna. ³¹Now it has been said, 'Whoever might send his wife away, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for a word of sexual immorality, makes her to commit adultery. And whoever might marry she who has been divorced commits adultery.

³³Again, you have heard that it was said to the ancients, 'Do not break an oath, but carry out your oaths to the Lord.' ³⁴But I tell you not to swear at all, neither by heaven, for it is the throne of God; ³⁵nor by the earth, for it is the footstool for his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶Neither should you swear by your head, for you are not able to make one hair white or black. ³⁷But let your word be 'Yes, yes,' {or} 'No, no.' But anything greater than this is from the evil one.

³⁸You have heard that it was said, 'An eye in exchange for an eye, and a tooth in exchange for a tooth.' ³⁹But I tell you not to resist the evil person. Instead, whoever strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰And to the one wanting to be judged with you and to take away your coat, let him also have {your} cloak. ⁴¹And whoever will compel you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴²Give to the one asking you, and do not turn away from the one wanting to borrow from you.

⁴³You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies and pray on behalf of those who persecute you,^[1] ⁴⁵so that you might be sons of your Father who {is} in the heavens. For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust. ⁴⁶For if you would love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same thing? ⁴⁷And if you would greet only your brothers, what do you do more? Do not even the Gentiles do the same thing? ⁴⁸Therefore, you shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

5:44 ^[1]

Chapter 6

¹Now take heed that you do not do your righteousness before men to be seen by them, but if not, you do not have a reward with your Father who {is} in the heavens. ²So when you might give alms, do not sound a trumpet before yourself even as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be glorified by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ³But you, giving alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵And when you might pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray, having stood in the synagogues and on the corners of the street, so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶But you, when you might pray, enter into your inner chamber, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who {is} in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷Now praying, do not make useless repetitions even as the Gentiles, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Therefore, you should not be like them, for your Father knows what need you have before you ask him. ⁹You, therefore, pray like this:

'Our Father who {is} in the heavens,

let your name be sanctified.

¹⁰Let your kingdom come,

let your will also be done

on earth as {it is} in heaven.

¹¹Give us today our daily bread;

¹²and forgive us our debts,

as we also forgave our debtors;

¹³and do not bring us into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.'^[1]

¹⁴For if you would forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you would not forgive those of men, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

¹⁶Now when you might fast, do not become mournful as the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so that they may appear to men as fasting. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ¹⁷But you, when fasting, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that you would not appear fasting to men, but only to your Father who {is} in secret; and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you.

¹⁹Do not store up for yourselves treasures on the earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰Instead, store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in nor steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. ²²The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, if your eye is good, your whole body is full of light. ²³But if your eye is evil, your whole body is full of darkness. Therefore, if the light that {is} in you is darkness, how great {is} that darkness! ²⁴No one is able to serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and will love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and will despise the other. You are not able to serve God and wealth. ²⁵Because of this I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you might eat or what you might drink, nor about your body, what you might wear. Is not life more than food, and the body, {than} clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the sky, that they do not sow nor reap nor gather into barns, but your heavenly Father feeds them. {Are} you not more valuable than them? ²⁷But which one from you, being anxious, are able to add one cubit to his lifespan? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow. They do not toil, nor do they spin cloth. ²⁹Yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God thus clothes the grass of the field, existing today and tomorrow being thrown into the oven, {will he} not much more, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore, you should not be anxious, saying, 'What might we eat?' or, 'What might we drink?' or, 'What might we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all of these things. ³³But seek first {his} kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴Therefore, you should not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day {is} its evil.

6:13 ^[1]

Chapter 7

¹Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. ²For with the judgment you judge, you will be judged, and with the measure you measure, it will be measured to you. ³Now why do you look at the speck that {is} in the eye of your brother, but you do not notice the log that {is} in your own eye? ⁴Or how will you say to your brother, 'Let me take out the speck from your eye,' while behold, the log {is} in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite! First take out the log from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck from the eye of your brother. ⁶You should not give what {is} holy to the dogs, and should not throw your pearls in front of the pigs. Otherwise they will trample them under their feet, and having turned, they might tear you to pieces.

⁷Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks, receives; and the one seeking, finds; and to the one knocking, it will be opened. ⁹Or what man is there from among you, of whom his son will ask for bread—he will not give him a stone, will he? ¹⁰Or he will also ask for a fish—he will not give him a snake, will he? ¹¹Therefore, if you, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who {is} in the heavens give good things to those asking him? ¹²In everything, therefore, whatever you might want that men would do to you, in this manner also, you do to them, for this is the law and the prophets.

¹³Enter through the narrow gate. For wide {is} the gate and broad {is} the way that is leading to destruction, and there are many who are entering through it. ¹⁴For the gate {is} narrow and the way has been made narrow that is leading to life, and there are few who are finding it.

¹⁵Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶By their fruits you will know them. They do not gather grapes from a thornbush or figs from thistles, do they? ¹⁷In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, but the rotten tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree is not able to produce bad fruit, nor a rotten tree to produce good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree not producing good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰So then, you will recognize them from their fruits. ²¹Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but the one who does the will of my Father who {is} in the heavens. ²²Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name cast

out demons, and in your name do many mighty deeds?' ²³And then I will publicly declare to them, 'I never knew you! Go away from me, you who are practicing lawlessness!'

²⁴Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be compared to a wise man who built his house upon the rock. ²⁵And the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and struck against that house, but it did not fall down, for it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be compared to a foolish man who built his house upon the sand. ²⁷And the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and struck against that house, and it fell, and its destruction was great."

²⁸And it happened that when Jesus finished speaking these words, the crowds were astonished by his teaching, ²⁹for he was teaching them as having authority, and not as their scribes.

Chapter 8

¹Now when he had come down from the hill, large crowds followed him. ²And behold, a leper, having approached, bowed before him, saying, "Lord, if you would be willing, you are able to make me clean." ³And having reached out {his} hand, he touched him, saying, "I am willing. Be clean." And immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. ⁴And Jesus says to him, "See that you may tell no one, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony to them."

⁵Now when he had entered into Capernaum, a centurion came to him, begging him ⁶and saying, "Lord, my servant has been lying in the house paralyzed, being tormented terribly." ⁷And he says to him, "I, when I have come, will heal him." ⁸And answering, the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy that you might enter under my roof, but only speak a word and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another one, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰But having heard this, Jesus was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I say to you, I have found such great faith from no one in Israel. ¹¹But I tell you that many will come from east and west, and they will recline to eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, in the kingdom of the heavens. ¹²But the sons of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and grinding of the teeth." ¹³And Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! As you believed, let it be done for you." And the servant was healed at that very hour.

¹⁴And when Jesus had come into the house of Peter, he saw his mother-in-law having been laid down and being sick with a fever. ¹⁵And he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. ¹⁶Now evening having come, they brought to him many being possessed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all those having sickness, ¹⁷so that might be fulfilled that which had been spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, "He himself took our weaknesses and bore our diseases."

¹⁸Now Jesus, having seen the crowd around him, commanded to depart to the other side. ¹⁹And having approached, a scribe said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you might go." ²⁰And Jesus says to him, "Foxes have holes, and the birds of the sky, nests, but the Son of Man does not have where he might lay {his} head." ²¹Now another of the disciples said to him, "Lord, permit me first to go away and to bury my father." ²²But Jesus says to him, "Follow me, and allow the dead to bury their own dead."

²³And when he had entered into a boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴And behold, a great storm happened on the sea, so that the boat was covered by the waves. But he was sleeping. ²⁵And having approached, they woke him, saying, "Lord, save us; we are perishing!" ²⁶And he says to them, "Why are you cowardly, you of little faith?" Then, having gotten up, he rebuked the winds and the sea, and a great calm happened. ²⁷But the men marveled, saying, "What sort of is he, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

²⁸And when he had come to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two men met him, being possessed by demons, coming out of the tombs, very violent, so that no one was strong enough to pass through that road.

²⁹And behold, they cried out, saying, "What to us and to you, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the set time?" ³⁰Now a herd of many pigs was feeding at a distance from them. ³¹But the demons were begging him, saying, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of the pigs." ³²And he said to them, "Go!" And the demons, having come out, went away into the pigs; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep slope into the sea, and they died in the water. ³³Now those who had been feeding them ran away and, having gone away to the city, they reported everything, and the things concerning the men who were possessed by demons. ³⁴And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And having seen him, they begged him that he would depart from their region.

Chapter 9

¹And having entered into a boat, he crossed over and came to his own city. ²And behold, they were bringing to him a paralytic lying on a mat. And when Jesus had seen their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, have courage. Your sins are forgiven." ³And behold, some of the scribes said among themselves, "This man blasphemeth." ⁴And Jesus, having known their thoughts, said, "For what reason do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins have been forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk?' ⁶But in order that you might know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive sins..." he then says to the paralytic, "Get up, pick up your mat, and go to your house." ⁷And having gotten up, he went away to his house. ⁸Now when the crowds had seen this, they were afraid and glorified God, who had given such authority to men. ⁹And as Jesus is passing on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collection office, and he says to him, "Follow me." And having gotten up, he followed him.

¹⁰And it happened that as he is reclining at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners, also having come, were dining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And the Pharisees, having seen this, were saying to his disciples, "For what reason does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But he, having heard this, said, "Those who are strong in body do not have need of a physician, but those who have sickness. ¹³But having gone, learn what this is: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

¹⁴Then the disciples of John come to him, saying, "For what reason do we and the Pharisees often fast, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁵And Jesus said to them, "The sons of the bridal chamber are not able to mourn while the bridegroom is still with them, are they? But days will come when the bridegroom may be taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶Now no one puts a patch of new cloth on an old garment, for his patch tears away from the garment, and a worse tear happens. ¹⁷Neither do they put new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the skins are burst, and the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are destroyed. Instead, they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved."

¹⁸While he is saying these things to them, behold, a certain official, having approached, bowed down to him, saying, "My daughter has just now died, but, having come, lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹And having gotten up, Jesus and his disciples followed him. ²⁰And behold, a woman suffering from a discharge of blood for 12 years, having come up behind him, touched the edge of his garment, ²¹for she was saying to herself, "If only I might touch his garments, I will be made well." ²²But Jesus, having turned and having seen her, said, "Daughter, take courage; your faith has saved you." And the woman was healed from that very hour. ²³And Jesus, having come into the house of the official and having seen the flute players and the crowd being stirred up, ²⁴said, "Go away, for the girl has not died, but sleeps." But they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, having entered, he took her hand, and the girl was raised up. ²⁶And this report went out into all that region.

²⁷And when Jesus is departing from there, two blind men followed him, crying out and saying, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" ²⁸Now when he had come into the house, the blind men came to him and Jesus says to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They say to him, "Yes, Lord." ²⁹Then he touched their eyes, saying, "Let it

happen to you according to your faith.”³⁰ And their eyes were opened, and Jesus warned them, saying, “See that you let no one know about this.”³¹ But they, having gone out, reported it in all that land.

³² Now as they are going away, behold, they brought to him a mute, demon-possessed man. ³³ And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke, and the crowds were astonished, saying, “Such as this has never been seen in Israel!” ³⁴ But the Pharisees were saying, “By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons.”

³⁵ And Jesus was going around all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ Now having seen the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were troubled and discouraged, like sheep not having a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he says to his disciples, “The harvest {is} plentiful, but the laborers {are} few. ³⁸ Therefore, beg the Lord of the harvest, so that he might send out laborers into his harvest.”

Chapter 10

¹ And having summoned his 12 disciples, he gave them authority over unclean spirits, so as to cast them out and to heal every disease and every sickness. ² Now the names of the 12 apostles are these: first, Simon (who is called Peter), and Andrew his brother; and James the {son} of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the {son} of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

⁵ These Twelve Jesus sent out, having instructed them, saying, “Do not go on the way to the Gentiles, and do not enter into any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ But go instead to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ Now as you are going, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of the heavens has come near.’ ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, {and} cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. ⁹ Do not acquire gold or silver or copper in your belts, ¹⁰ nor a bag for your journey nor two tunics nor sandals nor a staff, for the laborer {is} worthy of his food. ¹¹ But whatever city or village you might enter into, find someone who is worthy in it and stay there until you might leave. ¹² Now entering into the house, greet it. ¹³ And if the house might be worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it might not be worthy, let your peace be returned to you. ¹⁴ And whoever might not receive you nor listen to your words, departing from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet. ¹⁵ Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.

¹⁶ Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so become wise as the serpents and harmless as the doves. ¹⁷ But beware of the men, for they will deliver you up to councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues; ¹⁸ and you will even be brought before governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they might deliver you up, you should not be anxious about how or what you should speak, for what you should say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰ For it is not you who is speaking, but the Spirit of your Father who is speaking in you. ²¹ Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father {his} child, and children will rise up against parents and put them to death. ²² And you will be hated by everyone because of my name, but the one who endured to the end, he will be saved. ²³ But when they might persecute you in this city, flee to the next, for truly I say to you, you may certainly not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man may come.

²⁴ A disciple is not above {his} teacher, nor a slave above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for the disciple that he might be like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much worse the members of his household! ²⁶ Therefore, do not fear them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, and hidden, that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the darkness, say in the daylight, and what you hear in {your} ear, proclaim upon the housetops. ²⁸ And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul. But instead, fear the one who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for an assarion? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground without the knowledge of your Father. ³⁰ But

even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

³¹Therefore, do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows. ³²Therefore, everyone who will confess in me before men, I will also confess in him before my Father who {is} in the heavens. ³³But whoever would deny me before men, I will also deny him before my Father who {is} in the heavens.

³⁴Do not think that I came to put peace upon the earth. I did not come to put peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and the enemies of a man will be those of his own household. ³⁷The one loving father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and the one loving son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸And the one who does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. ³⁹The one who found his life will lose it, and the one who lost his life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰The one receiving you receives me, and the one receiving me receives the one who sent me. ⁴¹The one receiving a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a reward of a prophet, and the one receiving a righteous man in the name of a righteous man will receive a reward of a righteous man. ⁴²And whoever might give to one of these little ones a cup of cold water to drink only in the name of a disciple, truly I say to you, he may certainly not lose his reward."

Chapter 11

¹And it happened that when Jesus had finished giving orders to his 12 disciples, he departed from there to teach and to preach in their cities. ²Now John, having heard in the prison about the deeds of the Christ, having sent through his disciples, ³said to him, "Are you the one coming, or are we expecting another?" ⁴And answering, Jesus said to them, "Having gone, report to John what you see and hear. ⁵The blind receive sight, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised, and the poor are being told the gospel. ⁶And blessed is whoever might not have been offended by me."

⁷Now as these were going on their way, Jesus began to say to the crowds concerning John, "What did you go out in the wilderness to see—a reed being shaken by the wind? ⁸But what did you go out to see—a man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those wearing soft clothing are in the houses of kings. ⁹But what did you go out to see—a prophet? Yes, I say to you, and much more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he concerning whom it is written, 'Behold, I am sending my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen one greater than John the Baptist, but the least important in the kingdom of the heavens is greater than he. ¹²But from the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of the heavens suffers violence, and violent men take it by force. ¹³For all the prophets and the law have prophesied until John; ¹⁴and if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is about to come. ¹⁵The one having ears to hear, let him hear. ¹⁶Now to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplace, who are calling out to one another, ¹⁷saying, 'We played a flute for you, and you did not dance. We mourned, and you did not weep.' ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Behold a man, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom has been justified by her children."

²⁰Then he began to rebuke the cities in which most of his miracles were done, because they had not repented.

²¹"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had happened in Tyre and Sidon which happened in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²²Nevertheless, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. ²³And you, Capernaum, you will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the miracles that happened in you had

happened in Sodom, it would have remained until today. ²⁴Nevertheless, I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."

²⁵At that time, answering, Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you concealed these things from the wise and discerning and revealed them to little children. ²⁶Yes, Father, for thus it became well-pleasing in your sight. ²⁷All things have been entrusted to me from my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father and no one knows the Father except the Son, and to whoever the Son would desire to reveal him.

²⁸Come to me, all who are laboring and are heavy burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke on you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke {is} easy and my burden is light."

Chapter 12

¹At that time Jesus went on the Sabbaths through the grainfields, but his disciples were hungry and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat them. ²But the Pharisees, having seen that, said to him, "Behold, your disciples do what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath." ³But he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was hungry, and those {who were} with him— ⁴how he went into the house of God and ate the loaves of the presence, which was not lawful for him to eat nor for those with him, except only for the priests? ⁵Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbaths the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, but are innocent? ⁶But I say to you that greater than the temple is here. ⁷But if you had known what this is, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the innocent. ⁸For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

⁹And having departed from there, he went into their synagogue. ¹⁰And behold, there was a man having a withered hand, and they questioned him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbaths?" so that they might accuse him. ¹¹But he said to them, "What man will there be among you who will have one sheep, and if it might fall into a pit on the Sabbaths, will not grasp hold of it and lift it out? ¹²How much more valuable, then, {is} a man than a sheep? Therefore, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbaths." ¹³Then he says to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and it was restored to health, just like the other hand. ¹⁴But having gone out, the Pharisees took counsel against him so that they might put him to death.

¹⁵But Jesus, having perceived this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all. ¹⁶And he commanded them that they might not make him known, ¹⁷so that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,

¹⁸"Behold, my servant whom I have chosen;
my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased.
I will put my Spirit upon him,
and he will announce justice to the Gentiles.

¹⁹He will not strive nor cry aloud;
neither will anyone hear his voice in the streets.

²⁰He will not break a bruised reed;
and he will not quench a smoking flax,
until he might lead justice to victory, ²¹
and in his name the Gentiles will hope."

²²Then someone was brought to him, being demon-possessed, blind and mute, and he healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw. ²³And all the crowds were amazed and were saying, "Is this not the Son of David?" ²⁴But the Pharisees, having heard this, said, "He does not cast out demons except by Beelzebul, the prince of the demons." ²⁵But having known their thoughts, he said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is made desolate, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶And if Satan casts out Satan, he has been divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason they will be your judges. ²⁸But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹Or how is anyone able to enter into the house of the strong man and steal his belongings unless first he might have tied up the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. ³⁰The one not being with me is against me, and the one not gathering with me scatters. ³¹For this reason I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy of the Spirit will not be forgiven. ³²And whoever might speak a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him. But whoever might speak against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, neither in this age, nor in the one coming. ³³Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is recognized by its fruit. ³⁴You offspring of vipers, being evil, how are you able to say good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. ³⁵The good man from {his} good treasure brings forth good things, and the evil man from {his} evil treasure brings forth evil things. ³⁶But I say to you that every idle word that they will speak, men will give an account concerning it in the day of judgment. ³⁷For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

³⁸Then certain scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." ³⁹But answering, he said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. ⁴⁰For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the big fish, in this manner the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and will condemn it. For they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah {is} here. ⁴²The Queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon {is} here. ⁴³Now when the unclean spirit might have departed from the man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest and not finding it. ⁴⁴Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I departed.' And having come, it finds it empty, having been swept out and put in order. ⁴⁵Then it goes and takes along with itself seven other spirits more evil than itself, and having entered, they live there. And the end of that man becomes worse than the first. It will be the same way also with this evil generation."

⁴⁶While he is still speaking to the crowds, behold, his mother and his brothers have stood outside, seeking to speak to him. ⁴⁷Now someone said to him, "Behold, your mother and your brothers stand outside, seeking to speak to you." ⁴⁸But answering, he said to the one speaking to him, "Who is my mother and who are my brothers?" ⁴⁹And having stretched out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Behold, my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰For whoever may do the will of my Father who {is} in the heavens, he is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Chapter 13

¹On that day, Jesus, having gone out of the house, was sitting beside the sea. ²And a very large crowd was gathered around him, so that he, having stepped into a boat, sat down, and the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he spoke many things to them in parables, saying, "Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵But others fell on the rocky ground, where they did not have much soil. And immediately they sprang up, because the soil had no depth. ⁶But when the sun had risen, they were scorched, and because they had no root, they were dried up. ⁷But others fell among the thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸But others fell on good soil and produced a crop, some 100 {times as much}, and some 60, and some 30. ⁹The one having ears, let him hear."

¹⁰And having approached, the disciples said to him, "For what reason do you speak to them in parables?" ¹¹But he, answering, said to them, "To you has been given to understand the mysteries of the kingdom of the heavens, but to those it has not been given. ¹²For whoever has, it will be given to him, and he will have an abundance. But whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. ¹³For this reason I speak to them in parables; because seeing, they do not see; and hearing, they do not hear nor understand. ¹⁴And to them the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says,

'In hearing you will hear, but you may certainly not understand;
and seeing, you will see, but you may certainly not perceive.

¹⁵For the heart of this people has become dull,
and {their} ears heard with difficulty,
and they closed their eyes,
lest they might see with {their} eyes,
and might hear with {their} ears,
and might understand with {their} hearts,
and they might turn back,
and I will heal them.'

¹⁶But blessed {are} your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men longed to see the things you see, and did not see them, and to hear the things you hear, and did not hear them. ¹⁸You, therefore, listen to the parable of the sower. ¹⁹Everyone hearing the word of the kingdom and not understanding it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown beside the road. ²⁰Now that sown on the rocky ground, this is the one hearing the word and immediately receiving it with joy; ²¹but he has no root in himself, but is temporary; but tribulation or persecution having happened because of the word, immediately he is caused to stumble. ²²Now that which has been sown among the thorns, this is the one hearing the word, but the cares of this age and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. ²³Now that which has been sown on the good soil, this is the one hearing the word and understanding it, who indeed produces a crop and yields, some 100 {times}, and some 60, and some 30."

²⁴He set before them another parable, saying, "The kingdom of the heavens is like a man who had sown good seed in his field. ²⁵But while the men slept, his enemy came and sowed darnel among the wheat and went away. ²⁶Now when the blades sprouted and produced a crop, then the darnel became visible also. ²⁷Now the servants of the landowner, having approached, said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have darnel?' ²⁸But he was saying to them, 'An enemy man did this.' But the servants say to him, 'Therefore, do you want us, having gone, to gather them up?' ²⁹But he says, 'No, lest gathering up the darnel, you might uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Permit both to grow together until the harvest, and at the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather up the darnel and tie them in bundles to burn them up, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

³¹He presented another parable to them, saying, "The kingdom of the heavens is like a mustard seed which, having taken, a man sowed in his field; ³²which is indeed the smallest of all the seeds. But when it might grow, it is greater than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the sky come and nest in its branches." ³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of the heavens is like yeast that, having taken, a woman mixed with three measures of flour until it all was leavened."

³⁴All these things Jesus spoke in parables to the crowds, and he was speaking nothing to them without a parable, ³⁵so that what had been said through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,

"I will open my mouth in parables.

I will declare what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

³⁶Then, having left the crowds, he went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the darnel of the field." ³⁷Now answering, he said, "The one sowing the good seed is the Son of Man, ³⁸and the field is the world, and the good seed—these are the sons of the kingdom. And the darnel are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. And the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Therefore, just as the darnel are gathered up and burned with fire, thus will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will gather up from his kingdom all the stumbling blocks and those doing lawlessness. ⁴²And they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and grinding of the teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. The one having ears, let him hear.

⁴⁴The kingdom of the heavens is like a treasure hidden in a field, which, having found, a man hid. And from his joy, he goes and sells everything, as much as he has, and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of the heavens is like a man, a merchant, seeking fine pearls. ⁴⁶But having found one very valuable pearl, having gone away, he sold everything, as much as he possessed, and bought it.

⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of the heavens is like a net having been cast into the sea, and having gathered from every kind, ⁴⁸which, when it had been filled, they drew up on the beach, and having sat down, they gathered the good things into containers, but the worthless things they threw away. ⁴⁹Thus it will be at the end of the age: The angels will come and will separate the wicked from among the righteous, ⁵⁰and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and grinding of the teeth. ⁵¹Have you understood all these things?" They say to him, "Yes."

⁵²Now he said to them, "For this reason, every scribe having been discipled for the kingdom of the heavens is like a man, an owner of a house, who draws out new things and old things from his treasure." ⁵³And it happened that when Jesus finished these parables, he departed from there.

⁵⁴And having entered into his hometown, he taught them in their synagogue so as to astonish them, and they say, "From where to this one {is} this wisdom and these miracles? ⁵⁵Is not this the son of the carpenter? Is not his mother called Mary, and his brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? ⁵⁶And are not all his sisters with us? From where, therefore, to this one {are} all these things?" ⁵⁷And they were offended by him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in {his} hometown and in his own family." ⁵⁸And he did not do many miracles there, because of their unbelief.

Chapter 14

¹At that time, Herod the tetrarch heard the news about Jesus. ²And he said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist. He has been raised from the dead, and because of this the miraculous powers are at work in him." ³For Herod, having arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison because of Herodias, the wife of Philip, his brother. ⁴For John was saying to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." ⁵And wanting to put him to death, he feared the people, because they regarded him as a prophet. ⁶But the birthday of Herod having come about, the daughter of Herodias danced in the midst and pleased Herod, ⁷because of which he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. ⁸Now she, having been urged beforehand by her mother, said, "Give me here, on a platter,

the head of John the Baptist.”⁹ And the king, having been grieved, because of {his} oath and those reclining to eat with him, commanded it to be granted to her. ¹⁰And having sent, he beheaded John in the prison. ¹¹And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl and she carried it to her mother. ¹²And having come up, his disciples took away the corpse, and buried it. And having come, they reported it to Jesus.

¹³Now having heard this, Jesus withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. And having heard of it, the crowds followed him on foot from the cities. ¹⁴And having come out, he saw a large crowd, and had compassion on them, and healed their sick. ¹⁵Now evening having come, the disciples came to him, saying, “This place is desolate, and the hour is already late. Dismiss the crowds so that, having gone away to the villages, they might buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶But Jesus said to them, “They have no need to go away. You give them to eat.” ¹⁷But they say to him, “We have nothing here except five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸But he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹And having commanded the crowd to recline on the grass, having taken the five loaves and the two fish, having looked up to heaven, he blessed them, and having broken them, he gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds. ²⁰And they all ate and were filled. And they took up what remains of the broken pieces —12 baskets full. ²¹Now those eating were about 5,000 men, besides women and children.

²²And immediately he made the disciples to get into the boat and to go before him to the other side, while he would send away the crowds. ²³And having sent away the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. Now evening having come about, he was there alone. ²⁴But the boat, already in the middle of the sea, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was contrary. ²⁵Now in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But the disciples, having seen him walking on the sea, were greatly troubled, saying, “It is a ghost,” and they cried out from fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.” ²⁸But answering him, Peter said, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹And he said, “Come.” And Peter, having gotten out from the boat, walked on the water to go to Jesus. ³⁰But seeing the strong wind, he became afraid, and having begun to sink, he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!” ³¹But immediately, Jesus, having stretched out {his} hand, took hold of him, and says to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they had gotten into the boat, the wind ceased blowing. ³³And the disciples in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

³⁴And having crossed over, they came to the land at Gennesaret. ³⁵And having recognized him, the men in that place sent into all that surrounding area, and they brought to him all those having sickness. ³⁶And they were begging him so that they might only touch the edge of his garment, and as many as touched it were healed.

Chapter 15

¹Then Pharisees and scribes come to Jesus from Jerusalem, saying, ²“Why do your disciples violate the traditions of the elders? For they do not wash {their} hands when they would eat bread.” ³But he, answering, said to them, “Why do you also violate the commandment of God because of your traditions? ⁴For God commanded, saying, ‘Honor {your} father and {your} mother,’ and ‘The one reviling {his} father or mother, let him end in death.’ ⁵But you say, ‘Whoever might say to {his} father or mother “Whatever from me might have been helpful {is} a gift,”’ ⁶he will certainly not honor his father. And so you have made void the word of God^[1] because of your traditions. ⁷You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying,

⁸This people honors me with {their} lips,

but their heart is far away from me.

⁹But they worship me in vain,

teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

¹⁰And having summoned the crowd, he said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹Nothing that enters into the mouth defiles the man, but what comes out from the mouth, this defiles the man." ¹²Then having come up, the disciples said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees, having heard {this} word, were offended?" ¹³But he answering said, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them go! They are blind guides. But if the blind might guide the blind, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵Now answering, Peter said to him, "Explain the parable to us." ¹⁶But he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not yet understand that everything that enters into the mouth passes into the stomach and is passed out into the latrine? ¹⁸But the things that proceed out from the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. ¹⁹For from the heart proceed evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, {and} slander. ²⁰These are the things defiling the man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man."

²¹And having come out from there, Jesus withdrew into the regions of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman having come out from that region was crying out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And having approached, his disciples were begging him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴But he answering said, "I was not sent, except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she, having come, bowed down to him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶Now he answering said, "It is not good to take the bread of the children and to throw it to the little dogs." ²⁷But she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat from the crumbs that fall from the tables of their masters." ²⁸Then answering, Jesus said to her, "Woman, great {is} your faith; let it be done for you just as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that hour.

²⁹And having left from there, Jesus went along the Sea of Galilee, and having gone up on a hill, he was sitting there. ³⁰And large crowds came up to him, having with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others. And they laid them at his feet, and he healed them, ³¹so that the crowd marveled, seeing the mute speak, the crippled healthy, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing, and they glorified the God of Israel.

³²But Jesus, having summoned his disciples, said, "I have compassion on the crowd, because they have remained with me three days already and do not have anything to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they might faint on the way." ³³And the disciples say to him, "From where would be to us in a wilderness enough bread so as to satisfy so large a crowd?" ³⁴And Jesus says to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few small fish." ³⁵And having commanded the crowd to recline on the ground, ³⁶he took the seven loaves and the fish, and having given thanks, he broke them and was giving them to the disciples, and the disciples to the crowds. ³⁷And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took away seven baskets full of the broken pieces that are left over. ³⁸But those eating were 4,000 men, besides women and children. ³⁹And having sent away the crowds, he got into the boat and went into the region of Magadan.

15:6 ^[1] but some other ancient copies have It is difficult to choose the better reading.

Chapter 16

¹And the Pharisees and Sadducees, having approached—testing him—asked him to show them a sign from heaven. ²But he answering said to them, ^[1] ["When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³And early today, 'It will be stormy, for the sky is red, being overcast.' You know to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you are not able the signs of the times."] ⁴"An evil and adulterous generation seeks a sign, but a sign will not be given to it except the sign of Jonah." And having left them, he went away.

⁵And the disciples, having come to the other side, had forgotten to take bread. ⁶Now Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ⁷But they were reasoning among themselves, saying, "{It is} because we did not take bread." ⁸But Jesus, having known this, said, "You of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves that {it is because} you do not have bread? ⁹Do you not yet perceive nor remember the five loaves of the 5,000, and how many baskets you gathered up? ¹⁰Or the seven loaves of the 4,000, and how

many baskets you took up? ¹¹How do you not understand that I did not speak to you about bread? But beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ¹²Then they understood that he had not told them to beware of the yeast of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

¹³Now Jesus, having come to the regions of Caesarea Philippi, asked his disciples, saying, "Who do men say the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some, John the Baptist; and some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He says to them, "But who do you say I am?" ¹⁶And answering, Simon Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷Now answering, Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jonah, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who {is} in the heavens. ¹⁸And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you may have bound on the earth will be bound in the heavens, and whatever you may have loosed on the earth will be loosed in the heavens." ²⁰Then he commanded the disciples that they would tell no one that he is the Christ.

²¹From that time Jesus Christ began to show his disciples that it is necessary for him to go to Jerusalem and to suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be killed and to be raised on the third day. ²²And having taken him aside, Peter began to rebuke him, saying, "Merciful to you, Lord; may this never be to you." ²³But, he, having turned, said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me, because you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of men." ²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever might have lost his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he would have gained the whole world but would have forfeited his life? Or what will a man give in exchange for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is about to come in the glory of his Father with his angels. And then he will recompense each one according to his actions. ²⁸Truly I say to you that there are some of those standing here who may certainly not have tasted death until they may see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

16:2 ^[1]

Chapter 17

¹And six days later Jesus takes with him Peter, and James, and John his brother, and brings them up onto a high mountain by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became brilliant as the light. ³And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah talking with him. ⁴But answering, Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you desire, I will make here three shelters—one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice from the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased. Listen to him." ⁶And having heard that, the disciples fell on their face and were very afraid. ⁷And Jesus, having approached and having touched them, said, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸But having lifted up their eyes, they saw no one except only Jesus himself.

⁹And as they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell this vision to no one until the Son of Man might have risen from the dead." ¹⁰And his disciples questioned him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that it is necessary for Elijah to come first?" ¹¹But he, answering, said, "Elijah indeed is coming and will restore all things. ¹²But I say to you that Elijah already came, but they did not recognize him. Instead, they did whatever they wanted to him. In the same way also, the Son of Man is going to suffer by them." ¹³Then the disciples understood that he spoke to them about John the Baptist.

¹⁴And having come to the crowd, a man, having approached him, is kneeling before him ¹⁵and saying, "Lord, have mercy on my son, because he is epileptic and has sickness, for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. ¹⁶And I brought him to your disciples, but they were not able to heal him." ¹⁷But answering, Jesus said, "O

unbelieving and perverse generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I bear with you? Bring him here to me." ¹⁸And Jesus rebuked it, and the demon came out from him, and the boy was healed from that hour.

¹⁹Then the disciples, having come to Jesus privately, said, "For what reason were we not able to cast it out?" ²⁰And he says to them, "Because of your little faith. For I truly say to you, if you would have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you. ²¹^[1] [But this kind does not go out except with prayer and fasting.]

²²Now as they are gathered together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, ²³and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised up." And they became very upset.

²⁴Now when they had come to Capernaum, the ones collecting the two-drachma tax came to Peter and said, "Does not your teacher pay the two-drachma tax?" ²⁵He says, "Yes." And having entered into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth receive taxes or tolls? From their sons or from strangers?" ²⁶But when he said, "From strangers," Jesus said to him, "Therefore, the sons are free." ²⁷But in order that we might not offend them, having gone to the sea, throw in a fishhook, and draw in the fish that comes up first. And having opened its mouth, you will find a shekel. Having taken that, give it to them on behalf of me and you."

17:21 ^[1]

Chapter 18

¹At that hour the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of the heavens?" ²And having called to himself a little child, he set him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you would turn and would become like little children, you may certainly not enter into the kingdom of the heavens. ⁴Therefore, whoever will humble himself like this little child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of the heavens. ⁵And whoever might receive a little child like this in my name receives me. ⁶But whoever might have caused one of these little ones who believes in me to stumble, it is better for him that a millstone of a donkey would have been hung about his neck and he would have been sunk into the depth of the sea.

⁷Woe to the world because of the stumbling blocks! For it is necessary that those stumbling blocks come, but woe to the man through whom the stumbling block comes! ⁸Now if your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away from you. It is better for you to enter into life maimed or lame than to be thrown into the everlasting fire having two hands or two feet. ⁹And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye than to be thrown into the Gehenna of fire having two eyes. ¹⁰See that you would not despise one of these little ones. For I say to you that in heaven their angels always look on the face of my Father who {is} in the heavens. ¹¹^[1] [For the Son of Man came to save that which was lost.] ¹²What do you think? If a certain man might have 100 sheep, and one of them might have gone astray, having left the 99 on the hillside and having gone out, does he not seek the one wandering? ¹³And if he might happen to find it, truly I say to you that he rejoices over it more than over the 99 that have not gone astray. ¹⁴In the same way, it is not the will before your Father who {is} in the heavens that one of these little ones would perish.

¹⁵But if your brother might have sinned against you, go, reprove him between you and him alone. If he would listen to you, you will have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he might not listen, take with you yet one or two {others}, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word might be verified. ¹⁷But if he might refuse to listen to them, tell it to the church. But if he also might refuse to listen to the church, let him be to you even as the Gentile and the tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I say to you, whatever you may bind on the earth will be bound in heaven; and whatever you may release on the earth will be released in heaven. ¹⁹Again I truly say to you that if two of you might have agreed on the earth about any matter that they might ask, it will be done for them by my Father who {is} in the heavens. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in their midst."

²¹Then having approached, Peter said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me and I will forgive him? Until seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. ²³For this reason, the kingdom of the heavens may be compared to a man, a king, who wanted to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴Now when he had begun to settle, one debtor of 10,000 talents was brought to him. ²⁵But, he not being able to repay, the master commanded him to be sold, together with {his} wife and children and everything, as much as he had, and repayment to be made. ²⁶So, having fallen down, the slave was bowing down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will repay you everything.' ²⁷Now having felt compassion, the master of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But having gone out, that slave found one of his fellow slaves, who owed him 100 denarii, and having grasped him, he choked him, saying, 'Repay whatever you owe.' ²⁹Then having fallen down, his fellow slave begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will repay you.' ³⁰But he was not willing. Instead, having gone out, he threw him into prison until he might repay what is owed. ³¹Therefore, when his fellow slaves had seen what had happened, they were very upset. And having come, they fully explained to their master everything that had happened. ³²Then, having called him, his master said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. ³³Was it not necessary for you to also have had mercy on your fellow slave, just as I also had mercy on you?' ³⁴And having been provoked, his master handed him over to the torturers until he might repay all that is owed. ³⁵In this way also my heavenly Father will do to you, if each of you might not have forgiven his brother from your heart."

18:11 ^[1]

Chapter 19

¹And it happened that when Jesus had finished these words, he departed from Galilee and came to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. ²And great crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

³And Pharisees approached him, testing him, and saying, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"

⁴But he, answering, said, "Have you not read that the one who made them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵and said, 'On account of this, a man will leave {his} father and mother and will be joined to his wife, and the two will be one flesh?' ⁶So then, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate." ⁷They say to him, "Why then has Moses commanded us to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?" ⁸He says to them, "For your hardness of heart, Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not that way. ⁹But I say to you that whoever might divorce his wife, except for sexual immorality, and might marry another, commits adultery; and the one having been divorced, having married, commits adultery." ¹⁰The disciples say to him, "If thus is the case of the man with {his} wife, it is better not to marry." ¹¹But he said to them, "Not everyone can accept this word, but those to whom it has been given. ¹²For there are eunuchs who were born thus from {their} mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of the heavens. The one being able to accept this, let him accept it."

¹³Then little children were brought to him so that he would lay {his} hands on them and would pray, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴But Jesus said, "Permit the little children, and do not forbid them to come to me, for the kingdom of the heavens is of such as these." ¹⁵And having placed {his} hands on them, he went on from there.

¹⁶And behold, a man, having approached him, said, "Teacher, what good thing might I do in order that I might have eternal life?" ¹⁷But he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what {is} good? One is good, but if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." ¹⁸He says to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "Do not kill, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, ¹⁹honor {your} father and {your} mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." ²⁰The young man says to him, "All these things I have obeyed. What do I still lack?" ²¹Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you possess, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in the

heavens; and come, follow me." ²²But the young man, having heard the word, went away being grieved, for he had many possessions.

²³Now Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I say to you, a rich man will enter with difficulty into the kingdom of the heavens. ²⁴And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." ²⁵Now having heard this, the disciples were very astonished, saying, "Who then is able to be saved?" ²⁶But Jesus, having looked at them, said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." ²⁷Then answering, Peter said to him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed you. What then will there be for us?" ²⁸And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, in the renewal when the Son of Man may sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me, you will also sit upon 12 thrones, judging the 12 tribes of Israel. ²⁹And everyone who has left houses, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or land for the sake of my name, will receive 100 times {as much} and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰But many who will be first will be last, and the last, first.

Chapter 20

¹For the kingdom of the heavens is like a man, a landowner, who went out with the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ²Now having agreed with the workers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And having gone out about the third hour, he saw others having stood idle in the marketplace. ⁴And to them he said, 'You also, go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵So they went out. Having gone out again about the sixth and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶Now having gone out about the eleventh hour, he found others having stood, and he says to them, 'Why have you stood here idle the whole day?' ⁷They say to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He says to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸And evening having come, the owner of the vineyard says to his manager, 'Call the workers and pay them {their} wages, having begun from the last to the first.' ⁹And having come, those about the eleventh hour each received a denarius. ¹⁰But having come, the first thought that they will receive more, but they also received a denarius each. ¹¹But having received it, they were murmuring against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last ones have done one hour, but you made them equal to us, who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he, answering, said to one of them, 'Friend, I am not wronging you. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what {is} yours and go away. But I desire to give to these last as also to you. ¹⁵Or is it not lawful for me to do what I desire with what {is} mine? Or is your eye evil because I am good? ¹⁶In the same way, the last will be first, and the first last.'" ^[1]

¹⁷And Jesus, going up to Jerusalem, took the 12 disciples aside by themselves, and on the way he said to them, ¹⁸"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death ¹⁹and will deliver him to the Gentiles for them to mock and to flog and to crucify him. But on the third day he will be raised up."

²⁰Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee approached him with her sons, bowing down and asking for something from him. ²¹But he said to her, "What do you desire?" She says to him, "Say that these my two sons might sit, one at your right hand and one at your left hand, in your kingdom." ²²But answering, Jesus said, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They say to him, "We are able." ²³He says to them, "My cup you will drink. But to sit at my right hand and at my left hand is not mine to give, but to those who have been prepared by my Father." ²⁴And having heard this, the ten {disciples} were very angry with the two brothers. ²⁵But Jesus, having called them to himself, said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶It is not this way among you. Instead, whoever might desire to become great among you will be your servant, ²⁷and whoever might desire to be first among you will be your servant, ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom in exchange for many."

²⁹And as they were proceeding from Jericho, a great crowd followed him. ³⁰And behold, two blind men are sitting beside the road. Having heard that Jesus is passing by, they cried out, saying, "Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David." ³¹Now the crowd rebuked them, so that they would be silent, but they cried out even more, saying, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David." ³²And having stood still, Jesus called to them and said, "What do you want that I might do for you?" ³³They say to him, "Lord, that our eyes might be opened." ³⁴Now having been moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. And immediately they received their sight and followed him.

20:16 ^[1]

Chapter 21

¹And when they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village that {is} in front of you, and you will immediately find a donkey tied up, and a colt with her. Having untied them, bring them to me. ³And if anyone might say anything to you, you will say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." ⁴Now this had come about so that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,

⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion,

'Behold, your King is coming to you,

Humble and riding on a donkey—

and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

⁶Now the disciples, having gone and having done just as Jesus had directed them, ⁷brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat upon them. ⁸Now most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and were spreading them in the road. ⁹Now the crowds that are going before him and those following him were crying out, saying,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one coming in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!"

¹⁰And when he had entered into Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹And the crowds answered, "This is Jesus the prophet who {is} from Nazareth of Galilee."

¹²And Jesus entered into the temple and cast out all those buying and selling in the temple and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those selling the doves. ¹³And he says to them, "It is written, 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers." ¹⁴And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵But the chief priests and the scribes, having seen the marvelous things that he did, and the children who were crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became very angry. ¹⁶And they said to him, "Do you hear what they are saying?" But Jesus says to them, "Yes! Have you never read, 'From the mouths of little children and nursing infants you have prepared praise?'" ¹⁷And having left them, he went out from the city to Bethany and spent the night there.

¹⁸Now in the morning, returning to the city, he was hungry. ¹⁹And having seen one fig tree along the road, he went to it and found nothing on it except leaves only. And he says to it, "May there no longer be fruit from you to eternity," and immediately the fig tree withered. ²⁰And having seen this, the disciples marveled, saying, "How did

the fig tree immediately wither away?" ²¹But answering, Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, if you have faith and would not doubt, you will not only do what {was} of the fig tree, but even if you might say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and be thrown into the sea,' it will happen. ²²And everything, whatever you might request in prayer, believing, you will receive."

²³And when he had come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he is teaching, saying, "By what authority do you do these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴But answering, Jesus said to them, "I also will ask you one word, that if you would tell me, I also will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵The baptism of John—from where was it? From heaven or from men?" But they were debating among themselves, saying, "If we would say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we would say, 'From men,' we fear the crowd, for they all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷And answering Jesus, they said, "We do not know." He also said to them, "Neither do I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸But what do you think? A man had two sons, and having gone to the first, said, 'Son, go work today in the vineyard.' ²⁹But he, answering, said, 'I will not,' but afterward, having changed his mind, he went. ³⁰But having gone to the second son, he said likewise. And he, answering, said, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of {his} father?" They say, "The first one." Jesus says to them, "Truly I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes enter into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. But the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. But you, having seen this, did not repent afterward to believe in him.

³³Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard and put a hedge around it and dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower and rented it out to vine growers and went into another country. ³⁴Now when the fruit season approached, he sent his servants to the vine growers to receive his fruit. ³⁵But the vine growers having taken hold of his servants, one they beat, and one they killed, and one they stoned. ³⁶Again, he sent other servants, more than the first, but they did to them likewise. ³⁷But afterward, he sent to them his own son, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But the vine growers, having seen the son, said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, that we might kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹And having laid hold of him, they threw him out from the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard may come, what will he do to those vine growers?" ⁴¹They say to him, "He will severely destroy those evil ones, and will rent out the vineyard to other vine growers who will give him the fruit at their season." ⁴²Jesus says to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures,

'The stone which the builders rejected,
this has become the head of the corner.

This came about from the Lord,
and it is marvelous in our eyes?

⁴³For this reason I say to you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and will be given to a nation producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one having fallen on this stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it might fall, it will crush him." ⁴⁵And the chief priests and the Pharisees, having heard his parables, understood that he is speaking about them. ⁴⁶And seeking to arrest him, they were afraid of the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Chapter 22

¹And answering, Jesus again spoke to them in parables, saying, ²"The kingdom of the heavens is like a man, a king, who prepared a wedding feast for his son. ³And he sent out his servants to call those who had been invited to the

wedding feast, but they were not willing to come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner. My oxen and fattened calves have been killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding feasts."' ⁵But they, having paid no attention, went away, one to his own field and one to his business. ⁶But the others, having seized his servants, treated them shamefully and killed them. ⁷But the king was provoked, and having sent his soldiers, he killed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he says to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those who had been invited were not worthy. ⁹Therefore, go to the crossings of the roads and invite as many as you might find to the wedding feasts.' ¹⁰And those servants, having gone out to the roads, gathered together all whom they found, both evil and good, and the wedding hall was filled with those reclining to eat. ¹¹But the king, having come in to look at those reclining to eat, saw there a man not wearing wedding clothes. ¹²And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here, not having wedding clothes?' But he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the servants, "Having bound him foot and hand, throw him out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and grinding of the teeth." ¹⁴For many are called, but few chosen."

¹⁵Then having gone, the Pharisees took counsel how they might entrap him in {his} words. ¹⁶And they send to him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are truthful, and you teach the way of God in truth, and it is not a concern to you about anyone, for you do not look at the face of men. ¹⁷Therefore, tell us, what do you think? Is it lawful to give a poll tax to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, having perceived their wickedness, said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin of the poll tax." And they brought a denarius to him. ²⁰And he says to them, "Whose image and inscription {is} this?" ²¹They say, "Caesar's." Then he says to them, "Therefore, give to Caesar the things of Caesar, and to God the things of God." ²²And having heard it, they marveled, and having left him, they went away.

²³On that day Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him, and questioned him, ²⁴saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If someone might have died, not having children, his brother will marry his wife and will raise up seed for his brother.' ²⁵But there were among us seven brothers, and the first, having married, died. And not having seed, he left his wife to his brother. ²⁶Likewise also, the second and the third, up to the seventh. ²⁷And last of all, the woman died. ²⁸Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her." ²⁹But answering, Jesus said to them, "You have been led astray, not knowing the scriptures or the power of God. ³⁰For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but they are like angels in heaven. ³¹But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, ³²I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not of the dead, but of the living." ³³And having heard this, the crowds were astonished at his teaching.

³⁴But the Pharisees, having heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, gathered together. ³⁵And one of them, a lawyer, questioned him, testing him— ³⁶"Teacher, which {is} the greatest commandment in the law?" ³⁷But he said to him, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹Now a second {is} like it—'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang the whole law and the prophets."

⁴¹Now the Pharisees having been gathered together, Jesus questioned them, ⁴²saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They say to him, "Of David." ⁴³He says to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,

until I might put your enemies under your feet"?

⁴⁵If David therefore calls him 'Lord,' how is he his son?" ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day to question him any longer.

Chapter 23

¹Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, ²saying, “The scribes and the Pharisees sat in the seat of Moses. ³Therefore, all, whatever they command you, do and keep. But do not do according to their works, for they say, but do not do. ⁴And they tie up loads, heavy and difficult to carry, and they put them on the shoulders of men, but they themselves are not willing with their finger to move them. ⁵But they do all their deeds to be seen by men. For they broaden their phylacteries and they lengthen {their} tassels. ⁶Now they love the chief places at the banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues, ⁷and the greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called ‘Rabbi’ by men. ⁸But you should not be called ‘Rabbi,’ for one is your teacher, and all you are brothers. ⁹And you should not call any of you on the earth ‘father,’ for you have one heavenly Father. ¹⁰And you should not be called ‘teacher,’ for your teacher is one—the Christ. ¹¹But the greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²But whoever will exalt himself will be humbled, and whoever will humble himself will be exalted.

¹³But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of the heavens in front of men. For you do not enter in, nor do you permit those entering to enter. ¹⁴^[1] [Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows’ houses, while you make a show of long prayers.] You will receive this greater condemnation. ¹⁵Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you go over the sea and the dry land to make one proselyte, and when he might become one, you make him twice as much a son of Gehenna as you.

¹⁶Woe to you, you blind guides, you saying, ‘Whoever might swear by the temple, it is nothing. But whoever might swear by the gold of the temple, he is obligated.’ ¹⁷You fools and blind men! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold? ¹⁸And, ‘Whoever might swear by the altar, it is nothing. But whoever might swear by the gift that {is} on top of it, he is obligated.’ ¹⁹You fools and blind men! For which {is} greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? ²⁰Therefore, the one having sworn by the altar swears by it and by everything that {is} on top of it. ²¹And the one having sworn by the temple swears by it and by the one inhabiting it. ²²And the one having sworn by heaven swears by the throne of God and by the one sitting on it.

²³Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe the mint and the dill and the cumin, but you have neglected the weightier matters of the law—justice and mercy and faithfulness. But it was necessary to do these and not to neglect those. ²⁴You blind guides, who are straining out the gnat but swallowing the camel!

²⁵Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. ²⁶You blind Pharisee! Clean first the inside of the cup and of the plate, so that the outside of it might become clean also.

²⁷Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside appear beautiful, but on the inside are full of bones of the dead and all uncleanness. ²⁸In the same way, you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

²⁹Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the tombs of the righteous. ³⁰And you say, ‘If we were in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in the blood of the prophets.’ ³¹Therefore you testify against yourselves that you are sons of those who have killed the prophets, ³²and you fill up the measure of your fathers. ³³You serpents, you offspring of vipers, how might you escape from the judgment of Gehenna? ³⁴For this reason, behold, I am sending to you prophets and wise men and scribes. From among them you will kill and crucify, and from among them you will whip in your synagogues and pursue them from city to city, ³⁵so that might come upon you all the righteous blood being shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel, as far as the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you killed between the temple and the altar. ³⁶Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

³⁷Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kills the prophets and stones those who have been sent to you! How often did I desire to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under {her} wings, but you were not

willing! ³⁸Behold, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹For I say to you, You will certainly not see me from now on until you might say, 'Blessed is the one coming in the name of the Lord!'"

23:14 ^[1]

Chapter 24

¹And Jesus, having departed from the temple, was going on his way. And his disciples approached him to point out to him the buildings of the temple. ²But he, answering, said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, certainly stone upon stone may not be left here that will not be torn down."

³Now as he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached him by themselves, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what {will be} the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" ⁴And answering, Jesus said to them, "Be careful that no one might lead you astray. ⁵For many will come in my name saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will lead many astray. ⁶And you are going to hear of wars and reports of wars. See that you are not troubled, for it is necessary for this to happen, but the end is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸But all these things are the beginning of birth pains. ⁹Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and will kill you, and you will be hated by all the nations for the sake of my name. ¹⁰And then many will be caused to stumble, and will betray one another and will hate one another. ¹¹And many false prophets will be raised up and will lead many astray. ¹²And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But the one who has endured to the end, he will be saved. ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

¹⁵Therefore, when you might see the abomination of desolation, which has been spoken of by Daniel the prophet, set up in the holy place" (let the one reading understand), ¹⁶"then let those in Judea flee to the mountains, ¹⁷let the one on the housetop not go down to take anything from his house, ¹⁸and let the one in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁹But woe to those having in the womb and to those nursing in those days! ²⁰But pray so that your flight would not occur in winter or on a Sabbath. ²¹For then will be a great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, nor will ever happen again. ²²And if those days had not been shortened, no flesh would have been saved. But for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened. ²³Then if anyone might say to you, 'Behold, here {is} the Christ!' or, 'Here!' you may not believe it. ²⁴For false Christs and false prophets will be raised up and will give great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵Behold, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶Therefore, if they might say to you, 'Behold, he is in the wilderness,' you may not go out there. Or, 'Behold, in the inner rooms,' you may not believe it. ²⁷For just as the lightning comes out from the east and shines as far as the west, in the same way will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will be gathered.

²⁹But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn. And they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹And he will send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the heavens as far as the ends of them.

³²Now learn {this} parable from the fig tree. When its branch already might become tender and it might put out its leaves, you know that the summer {is} near. ³³In the same way also, when you might see all these things, you know that he is near, at the gates. ³⁴Truly I say to you that this generation may certainly not pass away until all these things may have happened. ³⁵The heaven and the earth will pass away, but my words may certainly not pass away. ³⁶But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of the heavens, nor the Son, except the

Father only. ³⁷For just as the days of Noah were, thus will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage until that day Noah entered into the ark, ³⁹and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away—thus also will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field—one is taken, and one is left. ⁴¹Two women are grinding with the mill—one is taken, and one is left. ⁴²Therefore, be alert, for you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in which watch of night the thief is coming, he would have been alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁴For this reason you also be ready, for the Son of Man will come at the hour that you do not think.

⁴⁵Who then is the faithful and wise slave whom his master has appointed over his household to give them {their} food at the proper time? ⁴⁶Blessed {is} that slave whom, his master having come, will find him doing thus. ⁴⁷Truly I say to you that he will appoint him over everything that he possesses. ⁴⁸But if that evil slave might say in his heart, 'My master is delaying,' ⁴⁹and might begin to beat his fellow slaves, and might eat and might drink with those being drunk, ⁵⁰the master of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect and at an hour that he does not know. ⁵¹And he will cut him in pieces and will assign his place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping and grinding of the teeth.

Chapter 25

¹Then the kingdom of the heavens will be compared to ten virgins who, having taken their lamps, went out to a meeting of the bridegroom. ²Now five of them were foolish and five wise. ³For the foolish virgins, having taken their lamps, did not take oil with themselves. ⁴But the wise took oil in the containers with their lamps. ⁵Now while the bridegroom is delaying, they all became sleepy and were sleeping. ⁶But in the middle of the night there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Go out to the meeting.' ⁷Then all those virgins were awakened and trimmed their lamps. ⁸Now the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us from your oil, because our lamps are going out.' ⁹But answering, the wise said, 'Perhaps there might certainly not be enough for us and you. Go instead to those who are selling and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰But while they were going away to buy, the bridegroom came, and the prepared entered with him into the wedding feasts, and the door was shut. ¹¹But afterward the other virgins also come, saying, 'Master, master, open for us.' ¹²But he, answering, said, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³Therefore, stay alert, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

¹⁴For {it is} like a man going to another country. He called his own slaves and handed over to them his possessions. ¹⁵And to one he gave five talents, and to one, two, and to one, one—to each according to his own ability. And immediately he went to another country. ¹⁶When he had gone, the one having received the five talents traded with them and gained another five talents. ¹⁷Likewise, the one with the two also gained another two. ¹⁸But the one having received the one, having gone away, dug in the ground and hid the money of his master. ¹⁹Now after a long time, the master of those slaves comes and settles accounts with them. ²⁰And having approached, the one having received the five talents brought another five talents, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents. But behold, I gained five talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave! You have been faithful over a few things. I will appoint you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²The one with the two talents, having also approached, said, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents, but behold, I have gained two talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave! You have been faithful over a few things. I will appoint you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴But the one who had received the one talent, having also approached, said, 'Master, I know you, that you are a strict man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter.' ²⁵And having become afraid, having gone away, I hid your talent in the ground. Behold, you have what {is} yours.' ²⁶But answering, his master said to him, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You have known that I reap where I did not sow and harvest where I did not scatter. ²⁷Therefore, it was necessary for you to have placed my money at the bankers, and having come, I would have received back my money with interest. ²⁸Therefore, take away the talent from him and give it to the one having the ten talents. ²⁹For to the one having, all will be given—

even more abundantly. But from the one not having, even what he has will be taken away from him. ³⁰And throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and grinding of the teeth.'

³¹But when the Son of Man may come in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²And before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them from one another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on {his} left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those at his right, 'Come, you who have been blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited me in; ³⁶I was naked, and you clothed me; I was sick, and you cared for me; I was in prison, and you came to me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you to drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and invite you in? Or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and come to you?' ⁴⁰And answering, the King will say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.' ⁴¹Then he also will say to those on {his} left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels, ⁴²for I was hungry, and you did not give me to eat; I was thirsty, and you did not give me to drink; ⁴³I was a stranger, and you did not invite me in; naked, and you did not clothe me; sick and in prison, and you did not care for me.' ⁴⁴Then they will also answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not serve you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into everlasting life."

Chapter 26

¹And it happened that when Jesus had finished all these words, he said to his disciples, ²"You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man is being delivered up to be crucified." ³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the palace of the high priest, who was named Caiaphas. ⁴And they plotted together in order that they might arrest Jesus stealthily and might kill him. ⁵But they were saying, "Not during the festival, so that a riot does not happen among the people."

⁶Now while Jesus was in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman came to him having an alabaster jar of very expensive ointment, and she poured it upon his head as he is reclining to eat. ⁸Now having seen this, the disciples became angry, saying, "For what {is} this waste? ⁹For this was able to have been sold for much and to be given to the poor." ¹⁰But Jesus, knowing this, said to them, "Why are you causing trouble for this woman? For she has done a good work for me. ¹¹For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me. ¹²For when she poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial. ¹³Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel might be preached in the whole world, what she has done will also be spoken of in memory of her."

¹⁴Then one of the Twelve, who was named Judas Iscariot, having gone to the chief priests, ¹⁵said, "What are you willing to give me, and I will betray him to you?" And they weighed out 30 shekels of silver for him. ¹⁶And from that moment he began to seek an opportunity in order that he might betray him.

¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want that we might prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸And he said, "Go into the city to such a man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is near. I am doing the Passover at your {house} with my disciples.'"" ¹⁹And the disciples did as Jesus directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

²⁰Now evening having come, he was reclining to eat with the Twelve. ²¹And as they were eating, he said, "Truly I say to you that one of you will betray me." ²²And being very grieved, each one began to ask him, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³But he, answering, said, "The one who dipped {his} hand with me in the dish, he will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man will depart just as it is written about him. But woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It was

better for him if that man had not been born." ²⁵But answering, Judas, the one betraying him, said, "Surely it is not I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said it yourself."

²⁶Now as they are eating, Jesus, having taken bread and having blessed it, he broke it. And having given it to the disciples, he said, "Take, eat. This is my body." ²⁷And having taken a cup and having given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸For this is my blood of the covenant that is being poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹But I say to you, I may certainly not drink again from this fruit of the vine until that day when I may drink it new with you in the kingdom of my Father."

³⁰And having sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You all will be caused to stumble in me in this very night, for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd

and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

³²But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." ³³But answering, Peter said to him, "{Even} if all will be caused to stumble in you, I will never be caused to stumble." ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you, in this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵Peter says to him, "Even if it might be necessary for me to die with you, I will certainly not deny you." And all the disciples said likewise.

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane and says to the disciples, "Sit here while, having gone over there, I might pray." ³⁷And having taken along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be grieved and to be troubled. ³⁸Then he says to them, "My soul is deeply sorrowful, to the point of death. Remain here and watch with me." ³⁹And having gone a little farther, he fell on his face, praying and saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me. Yet, not as I will, but as you." ⁴⁰And he comes to the disciples and finds them sleeping, and he says to Peter, "So, were you not able to watch with me for one hour? ⁴¹Watch and pray so that you might not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed {is} willing, but the flesh {is} weak." ⁴²Again, having gone away a second time, he prayed, saying, "My Father, if this is not able to pass away unless I might drink it, let your will be done." ⁴³And having come again, he found them sleeping, for their eyes were weighed down. ⁴⁴And having left them again, having gone away, he prayed a third time, having said the same words again. ⁴⁵Then he comes to the disciples and says to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour has approached, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Get up, that we might go. Behold, the one betraying me has approached."

⁴⁷And as he is still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the Twelve, came, and with him, a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the one betraying him gave them a signal, saying, "Whomever I might kiss is him. Seize him." ⁴⁹And immediately, having come up to Jesus, he said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and he kissed him. ⁵⁰But Jesus said to him, "Friend, for that which you are here." Then having come, they laid hands on Jesus and seized him. ⁵¹And behold, one of those with Jesus, having stretched out {his} hand, drew his sword, and having struck the servant of the high priest, cut off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus says to him, "Return your sword to its place, for all those who have taken up a sword will perish by a sword. ⁵³Or do you think that I am not able to call upon my Father, and he will send me more than 12 legions of angels at once? ⁵⁴How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled, that this must happen?" ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to seize me, as against a robber? Every day I was sitting teaching in the temple, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples, having left him, fled.

⁵⁷Now those who had seized Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had been gathered together. ⁵⁸But Peter was following him from a distance to the courtyard of the high priest. And having entered inside, he sat down with the guards to see the outcome. ⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole

council were seeking false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death. ⁶⁰But they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. But later two, having come forward, ⁶¹said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶²And having stood up, the high priest said to him, "Do you answer nothing? What is it that they are testifying against you?" ⁶³But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, "I command you by the living God, so that you might tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." ⁶⁴Jesus says to him, "You have said it yourself. But I say to you, from now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robe, saying, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still have need of witnesses? Behold, now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶What do you think?" And they, answering, said, "He is deserving of death." ⁶⁷Then they spit in his face and beat him, and they slapped him, ⁶⁸saying, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who is the one who struck you?"

⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and one servant girl came to him, saying, "You were also with Jesus of Galilee." ⁷⁰But he denied it in front of them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying." ⁷¹But when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and says to those there, "This one was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷²And he again denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man!" ⁷³But after a little while, those who had been standing by, having approached, said to Peter, "Surely you are also from among them, for even your speech makes you evident." ⁷⁴Then he began to curse and to swear, "I do not know the man," and immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵And Peter remembered the words of Jesus that he had said, "Before the rooster crows you will deny me three times." And having gone outside, he wept bitterly.

Chapter 27

¹Now when it had become morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus so as to put him to death. ²And having bound him, they led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

³Then Judas, who had betrayed him, having seen that he was condemned, having repented, he returned the 30 shekels of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴saying, "I have sinned, having betrayed innocent blood." But they said, "What {is that} to us? See to that yourself." ⁵And having thrown down the shekels of silver in the temple, he departed and having gone out, he hanged himself. ⁶Now the chief priests, having taken the shekels of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put this into the treasury, because it is the price of blood." ⁷But having taken counsel, they bought with the money the field of the potter for a burial place for strangers. ⁸For this reason that field has been called "Field of Blood" to this day. ⁹Then what had been spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying, "And they took the 30 shekels of silver, the price of the one whose price had been set by the sons of Israel, ¹⁰and they gave it for the field of the potter, as the Lord had directed me."

¹¹Now Jesus was stood before the governor, and the governor questioned him, saying, "Are you the King of the Jews?" But Jesus said, "It {is as} you say." ¹²And when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he answered nothing. ¹³Then Pilate says to him, "Do you not hear everything they are bringing against you?" ¹⁴But he did not answer him not even with one word, so as to amaze the governor greatly. ¹⁵Now at the festival it had become the custom of the governor to release to the crowd one prisoner whom they chose. ¹⁶Now at that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. ¹⁷Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Who do you want that I might release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸For he had known that they had handed him over to him because of envy. ¹⁹But while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, saying, "Nothing to you and to that righteous one. For I suffered much today by way of a dream about him." ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds so that they would ask for Barabbas, but would kill Jesus. ²¹But answering, the governor said to them, "Which from the two do you want that I would release to you?" But they said, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate says to them, "What then should I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all answer, "Crucify him." ²³But he said, "For what evil did he do?" But they cried out even louder, saying, "Crucify him." ²⁴But Pilate, having seen that he is not helping, but instead a riot is starting, having taken water, washed {his} hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent from the blood of this man. See to it

yourselves.”²⁵ And answering, all the people said, “His blood be on us and on our children!”²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them, but having scourged Jesus, he handed him over so that he would be crucified.

²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor, having taken Jesus into the Praetorium, gathered before him the whole cohort.

²⁸ And having stripped him, they put a scarlet robe on him. ²⁹ And having woven together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and a reed in his right hand, and having knelt down before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” ³⁰ And having spat on him, they took the reed and kept striking him on his head. ³¹ And when they had mocked him, they took the robe off him and put his own garments on him and led him away to crucify him.

³² Now coming out, they found a man from Cyrene named Simon, whom they forced so that he would carry his cross. ³³ And having come to a place called Golgotha, which is saying, “The Place of a Skull,” ³⁴ they gave him wine mixed with gall to drink. But having tasted it, he was not willing to drink it. ³⁵ Now having crucified him, they divided up his garments by casting lots, ³⁶ and sitting down, they kept guard over him there. ³⁷ And above his head they placed the charge against him, which had been written, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” ³⁸ Then two robbers are being crucified with him, one at his right and one at his left. ³⁹ But those who are passing by were insulting him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, “You who are destroying the temple and rebuilding it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!” ⁴¹ Likewise also the chief priests, mocking him with the scribes and elders, said, ⁴² “He saved others; he is not able to save himself. He is the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He has trusted in God; let him rescue him now, if he wants him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” ⁴⁴ In the same way, the robbers who were being crucified with him also were reviling him.

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour darkness happened over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ But about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” which is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ⁴⁷ But some of those who had been standing there, having heard it, were saying, “He calls for Elijah.” ⁴⁸ And immediately one of them, having run and having taken a sponge, having both filled it with sour wine and having put it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the rest were saying, “Leave him alone. We may see whether Elijah comes to save him.” ⁵⁰ But Jesus, having cried out again with a loud voice, released {his} spirit. ⁵¹ And behold, the curtain of the temple was split in two from top to bottom, and the earth shook, and the rocks were split apart. ⁵² And the tombs were opened, and many of the bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³ And having come out from the tombs after his resurrection, they entered into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ Now the centurion and those with him watching Jesus, having seen the earthquake and the things that had happened, became very afraid, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God.” ⁵⁵ Now many women who had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for him were there looking on from a distance. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

⁵⁷ Now when it became evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was discipled by Jesus. ⁵⁸ He, having approached Pilate, asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ And Joseph, having taken the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb that he had cut into the rock. And having rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, he went away. ⁶¹ Now Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶² Now the next day, which was after the Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees were gathered together with Pilate, ⁶³ saying, “Sir, we remember that that deceiver, yet living, said, ‘After three days I am being raised up.’ ⁶⁴ Therefore, command the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise his disciples, having come, might steal him and might say to the people, ‘He has been raised up from the dead,’ and the last deception will be worse than the first.” ⁶⁵ And Pilate said to them, “Take a guard. Go, make it as secure as you know how.” ⁶⁶ And they, having gone, made the tomb secure, having sealed the stone with the guard.

Chapter 28

¹Now late on the Sabbath, at the dawning toward the first {day} of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. ²And behold, a great earthquake happened, for an angel of the Lord, having descended from heaven and having come near, rolled away the stone and sat on it. ³Now his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white like snow. ⁴But the guards were shaken from the fear of him and became like dead men. ⁵But answering, the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus, who has been crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has been raised up, just as he said. Come see the place where he was lying. ⁷And having gone quickly, tell his disciples, 'He has been raised up from the dead. And behold, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.' Behold, I have told you." ⁸And having quickly left the tomb with fear and great joy, they ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Greetings!" But they, having approached, took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus says to them, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers so that they would depart to Galilee, and there they will see me."

¹¹Now while they were going, behold, some of the guards, having gone into the city, told the chief priests all the things that had happened. ¹²And having gathered together with the elders and having taken counsel, they gave a large amount of money to the soldiers, ¹³saying, "Say, 'His disciples, having come by night, stole him while we are sleeping.' ¹⁴And if this report would be heard by the governor, we will persuade him and keep you free from care." ¹⁵And they, having taken the money, did as they had been instructed. And this report was reported widely among the Jews even until today.

¹⁶Now the 11 disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And having seen him, they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And having come, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on the earth. ¹⁹Having gone, therefore, make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; ²⁰teaching them to obey all things that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days, even to the end of the age."

Mark

Chapter 1

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²Just as it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I am sending my messenger before your face,

who will prepare your way;

³a voice crying out in the wilderness,

‘Make ready the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.’”

⁴John came, the one baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵And the whole region of Judea and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶And John was clothed with camel hair and a leather belt around his waist, and eating locusts and wild honey.

⁷And he was proclaiming, saying, “One mightier than I is coming after me, of whom the strap of his sandals I am not worthy to stoop down to untie. ⁸I baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹And it happened that in those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and he was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And immediately, coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens being split open and the Spirit coming down on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came out of the heavens, “You are my beloved Son. I am well-pleased with you.”

¹²And immediately, the Spirit compelled him to go out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness 40 days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were serving him.

¹⁴But after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God ¹⁵and saying, “The time has been fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe in the gospel.

¹⁶And walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷and Jesus said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.” ¹⁸And immediately, having left the nets, they followed him. ¹⁹And having gone on a little farther, he saw James, the {son} of Zebedee, and John, his brother, and they are mending the nets in the boat. ²⁰And immediately, having called them and they having left their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired servants, they went away after him.

²¹And he enters into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbaths, having entered into the synagogue, he began to teach. ²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as having authority and not as the scribes. ²³And immediately there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, ²⁴saying, “What to us and to you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” ²⁵And Jesus rebuked it, saying, “Be silenced and come out from him!” ²⁶And having thrown him down and having cried out with a loud voice, the unclean spirit went out from him. ²⁷And they all were amazed, so they discussed among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching according to authority! He even commands the

unclean spirits and they obey him!" ²⁸And the news of him immediately went out everywhere into the whole surrounding region of Galilee.

²⁹And immediately, having come out from the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, along with James and John. ³⁰Now the mother-in-law of Simon was lying down, being sick with a fever, and immediately they speak to him concerning her. ³¹And having come near, he raised her up, having taken hold of {her} hand, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²Now when it became evening, after the sun had set, they were bringing to him all those having sickness and those possessed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And he healed many having sickness with various diseases, and cast out many demons, but he was not permitting the demons to speak because they knew him.

³⁵And very early in the night, having gotten up, he left and went away to a solitary place, and there he began to pray. ³⁶And Simon and those who {were} with him searched for him, ³⁷and found him, and say to him, "Everyone is seeking you." ³⁸And he says to them, "Let us go elsewhere, into the surrounding towns, so that I may preach there also, because I came for this." ³⁹And he went in all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out the demons.

⁴⁰And a leper comes to him, begging him and kneeling down, saying to him, "If you would be willing, you are able to make me clean." ⁴¹And having been moved with compassion, having reached out his hand, he touched him, and says to him, "I am willing. Be cleansed." ⁴²And immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was made clean. ⁴³But having strictly warned him, he immediately sent him away. ⁴⁴And he says to him, "See that you may say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a testimony to them." ⁴⁵But he, having gone out, began to proclaim often and to spread the word widely, so that he was able no longer to enter into a town openly, but he was out in desolate places, and they were coming to him from all sides.

Chapter 2

¹And having entered again into Capernaum after {some} days, it was heard that he is at home. ²And many gathered so that there {was} no more space, not even at the door, and he began to speak the word to them. ³And they come bringing to him a paralytic, being carried by four men. ⁴And not being able to approach him because of the crowd, they removed the roof where he was, and having dug an opening, they lower the mat where the paralytic was lying. ⁵And Jesus, having seen their faith, says to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." ⁶But some of the scribes were sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, ⁷"Why does this man speak this way? He is blaspheming! Who is able to forgive sins except God alone?" ⁸And immediately Jesus, having perceived in his spirit that they are thinking in this manner within themselves, says to them, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven' or to say 'Get up and take up your mat, and walk?' ¹⁰But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive sins," he says to the paralytic, ¹¹"I say to you, get up, take up your mat, and go away to your house." ¹²And having gotten up and immediately having taken up the mat, he went out in front of everyone, so that they are all amazed and glorify God, saying, "We never saw thus."

¹³And he went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them. ¹⁴And passing by, he saw Levi the {son} of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's tent, and he says to him, "Follow me." And having gotten up, he followed him.

¹⁵And he happened to recline to eat in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and his disciples, for many also were following him. ¹⁶And the scribes of the Pharisees, having seen that he was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, began to say to his disciples, "Why is he eating with the tax collectors and

sinners?" ¹⁷And having heard this, Jesus says to them, "The ones being healthy do not have need of a physician, but the ones having sickness. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

¹⁸And the disciples of John and the Pharisees were fasting, and they come and say to him, "Because of what are the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fasting, but your disciples are not fasting?" ¹⁹And Jesus said to them, "The sons of the wedding chamber are not able to fast while the bridegroom is still with them, are they? As much time as they have the bridegroom with them, they are not able to fast. ²⁰But days will come when the bridegroom may be taken away from them, and in those days, then they will fast. ²¹No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, but if not, the filler pulls away from it, the new from the old, and there is a worse tear. ²²And no one puts new wine into old wineskins, but if not, the wine will burst the wineskins and the wine and the wineskins will be destroyed, but new wine into fresh wineskins."

²³And he happened on the Sabbaths to pass through the grainfields, and his disciples began to make {their} way, picking the heads of grain. ²⁴And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbaths?" ²⁵And he says to them, "Have you never read what David did when he had need and was hungry—he and the ones with him— ²⁶how he went into the house of God during Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the presence, which is not lawful to eat, except for the priests, and he also gave to those being with him?" ²⁷And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸Therefore, the Son of Man is Lord, even of the Sabbath."

Chapter 3

¹And he entered into the synagogue again, and there was a man having a withered hand. ²And they were watching him closely, if he will heal him on the Sabbaths, so that they might accuse him. ³And he says to the man having the withered hand, "Stand up in the midst." ⁴And he says to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbaths to do good, or to do harm; to save a life, or to kill?" But they were keeping silent. ⁵And having looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their heart, he says to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶And the Pharisees, having gone out, immediately were making counsel with the Herodians against him, as to how they might kill him.

⁷And Jesus, with his disciples, withdrew to the sea, and a great crowd followed from Galilee, and from Judea, ⁸and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea and beyond the Jordan and around Tyre and Sidon. A great crowd, hearing how much he was doing, came to him. ⁹And he spoke to his disciples so that a small boat might be waiting for him because of the crowd, so that they might not press against him. ¹⁰For he healed many, so then as many as had diseases pressed against him so that they might touch him. ¹¹And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they were falling down before him and crying out, saying, "You are the Son of God." ¹²And he was often rebuking them so that they might not make him known.

¹³And he goes up on the mountain and summons those whom he himself wanted, and they went to him. ¹⁴And he appointed 12 (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and so that he might send them to preach, ¹⁵and to have authority to cast out the demons. ¹⁶And he appointed the Twelve^[1], and he added to Simon the name Peter; ¹⁷and James the {son} of Zebedee, and John the brother of James, to whom he also added the name Boanerges, that is, sons of thunder; ¹⁸and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the {son} of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, ¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

²⁰And he comes into a house, and the crowd gathers together again, so that they are not able even to eat bread.

²¹And those beside him, having heard about it, went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

²²And the scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, "He has Beelzebul" and "By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons." ²³But having called them to himself, in parables he was saying to them, "How is Satan able to cast out Satan? ²⁴And if a kingdom might have been divided against itself, that kingdom is not able to

stand. ²⁵And if a house might have been divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan rose up against himself and was divided, he is not able to stand, but he has an end. ²⁷But no one is able, having entered into the house of the strong man, to steal his possessions unless he would tie up the strong man first, and then he will plunder his house. ²⁸Truly I say to you that all the sins of the sons of men will be forgiven, even whatever blasphemies they may blaspheme, ²⁹but whoever might have blasphemed against the Holy Spirit does not have forgiveness to eternity, but is guilty of an everlasting sin”— ³⁰because they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹And his mother and his brothers come, and standing outside, they sent to him, summoning him. ³²And a crowd was sitting around him and they say to him, “Behold, your mother and your brothers seek you outside.” ³³And answering them, he says, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And having looked around at those sitting in a circle around him, he says, “Behold, my mother and my brothers! ³⁵For whoever may do the will of God, this is my brother, and sister, and mother.”

3:16 ^[1]

Chapter 4

¹And again, he began to teach beside the sea, and a large crowd is gathered around him. Therefore he had stepped into a boat on the sea to sit in it, and the whole crowd was on the shore beside the sea. ²And he was teaching them many things in parables, and was saying to them in his teaching, ³“Listen! Behold, the sower went out to sow. ⁴And it happened that as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and the birds came and devoured it. ⁵And other fell on the rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, because it did not have deep soil. ⁶And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and because it had no root, it was dried up. ⁷And other fell into the thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it did not produce a crop. ⁸And other fell into the good soil, and it was producing a crop, growing up and being increased and yielding one, 30, and one, 60, and one, 100.” ⁹And he said, “Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear!”

¹⁰And when he was alone, those around him with the Twelve were asking him about the parables. ¹¹And he began to say to them, “To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of God, but to those who {are} outside, everything is in parables,

¹²so that looking, they may look but may not see,

and hearing, they may hear but may not understand,

so that they might not turn and it might be forgiven to them.”

¹³And he says to them, “Do you not understand this parable? And how will you understand all the parables? ¹⁴The sower sows the word. ¹⁵Now these are the ones beside the road, where the word is being sown, but whenever they might have heard it, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. ¹⁶And in the same manner, these are the ones being sown on the rocky ground, who, whenever they might have heard the word, immediately receive it with joy, ¹⁷and they have no root in themselves, but are temporary. Then, tribulation or persecution having come because of the word, immediately they are caused to stumble. ¹⁸And others are the ones being sown into the thorns. These are the ones who have heard the word, ¹⁹but the cares of the age, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires concerning other things, entering in, choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. ²⁰And those are the ones sown in the good soil, who hear the word and receive it, and produce a crop— one, 30, and one, 60, and one, 100.”

²¹And he was saying to them, “The lamp does not come so that it might be put under a basket or under the bed, does it? Is it not so that it might be put on the lampstand? ²²For nothing is hidden except so that it might be revealed, and nothing secret has happened except so that it might come to exposure. ²³If anyone has ears to hear,

let him hear!" ²⁴And he was saying to them, "Pay attention to what you hear. In that measure you use it will be measured to you, and it will be added to you. ²⁵For he who has, it will be given to him, and he who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him"

²⁶And he was saying, "Thus is the kingdom of God: As a man may throw the seed on the ground, ²⁷and he may sleep and may get up, night and day, and the seed may sprout and may grow—how, he himself does not know. ²⁸The soil produces a crop of its own accord: First the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head. ²⁹And whenever it may have delivered the crop, he immediately sends forth the sickle because the harvest has come."

³⁰And he was saying, "How might we compare the kingdom of God, or in what parable might we present it? ³¹{It is} like a mustard seed, which, when it may have been sown in the soil, being the smallest of all the seeds that {are} on the earth, ³²and when it may have been sown, it grows and becomes greater than all the edible plants, and it makes large branches, so that the birds of the sky are able to make their nests in its shade."

³³And with many such parables he was speaking the word to them, to the degree that they were able to hear; ³⁴but he was not speaking to them without a parable, but by himself, he was explaining everything to his own disciples.

³⁵And he says to them on that day, evening having come, "Let us cross over to the other side." ³⁶And having left the crowd, they take him with them, as he was, in the boat, and other boats were with him. ³⁷And a great storm of wind happens and the waves were breaking into the boat so as to already be filling the boat. ³⁸And he himself was in the stern, sleeping on the cushion. And they wake him up and say to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹And having been awakened, he rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Be silent! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰And he said to them, "Why are you afraid? Do you not yet have faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great fear and were saying to one another, "Who then is this, for even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Chapter 5

¹And they came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes. ²And when he had gotten out from the boat, immediately a man with an unclean spirit came from the tombs to meet him, ³who had {his} dwelling in the tombs, and no one was able to bind him anymore, not even with a chain, ⁴because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles had been shattered, and no one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵And throughout every night and day in the tombs and in the mountains, he was crying out and cutting himself with stones. ⁶And having seen Jesus from a distance, he ran to him and bowed down to him. ⁷And crying out in a loud voice, he says, "What to me and to you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you by God, may you not torment me." ⁸For he was saying to him, "Come out from the man, unclean spirit." ⁹And he was asking him, "What {is} your name?" And he says to him, "My name {is} Legion, for we are many." ¹⁰And he was begging him repeatedly that he would not send them out of the region. ¹¹But there was a great herd of pigs being fed on the hill, ¹²and they begged him, saying, "Send us into the pigs, so that we might enter into them." ¹³And he permitted them, and having come out, the unclean spirits entered into the pigs, and the herd—about 2,000—rushed down the steep slope into the sea, and drowned in the sea. ¹⁴And those feeding them ran away and reported this in the city and in the countryside, and they went out to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵And they come to Jesus and see the one being demon-possessed, sitting, clothed and being in his right mind—the one who had had the Legion—and they became afraid. ¹⁶And those who had seen how it happened to the one who was demon-possessed related it to them, and about the pigs. ¹⁷And they began to beg him to depart from their region. ¹⁸And when he is getting into the boat, the one who had been demon-possessed was begging him so that he might be with him. ¹⁹But he did not permit him, but says to him, "Go to your house, to your {people}, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and had mercy on you." ²⁰And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus did for him, and everyone was marvelling.

²¹And when Jesus had crossed over again to the other side in the boat, a great crowd was gathered around him, and he was beside the sea. ²²And behold, one of the leaders of the synagogue, named Jairus, comes, and having seen him, he falls at his feet. ²³And he begs him repeatedly, saying, "My little daughter is near the end; come, so that you might lay {your} hands on her in order that she might be healed and she might live." ²⁴And went with him, and a great crowd was following him and was pressing around him.

²⁵And a woman, being with a flow of blood for 12 years, ²⁶and having suffered much from many doctors, and having spent everything that she had, and not having been helped, but instead having become worse, ²⁷having heard the things about Jesus, having come up behind him in the crowd, she touched his cloak. ²⁸For she was saying, "If I might touch just his clothes, I will be saved." ²⁹And immediately the flow of her blood was dried up, and she knew in {her} body that she had been healed from the disease. ³⁰And immediately Jesus, having realized in himself that {his} power had gone out from him, having turned around in the crowd, was saying, "Who touched my clothes?" ³¹And his disciples were saying to him, "You see this crowd pressing in on you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³²But he was looking around to see the one having done this. ³³But the woman, having become afraid and trembling, having known what had happened to her, came and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. ³⁴But he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be healed from your disease."

³⁵While he is still speaking, they come from the synagogue leader's {house}, saying, "Your daughter died. Why trouble the teacher any longer?" ³⁶But Jesus, having heard the word being spoken, says to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear. Only believe." ³⁷And he did not permit anyone to accompany him, except Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. ³⁸And he comes to the house of the leader of the synagogue and sees a commotion, and weeping and much wailing. ³⁹And entering, he says to them, "Why are you upset and weeping? The child has not died, but is sleeping." ⁴⁰And they were laughing at him. But he, having put them all outside, takes along the father of the child, and the mother, and those with him, and he enters where the child was. ⁴¹And having taken the hand of the child, he says to her, "Talitha, koum!" which is translated: "Little girl, I say to you, rise up." ⁴²And immediately the little girl rose up and was walking (for she was 12 years {of age}), and they were immediately astonished with great amazement. ⁴³And he strictly ordered them that no one should know about this, and he told them to give her something to eat.

Chapter 6

¹And he went out from there and comes to his hometown, and his disciples are following him. ²And the Sabbath having come, he began to teach in the synagogue. And many of those who were hearing him were amazed, saying, "From where are these things, and what {is} this wisdom that has been given to him, and these miracles happening by his hands?" ³"Is this not the carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are his sisters not here with us?" And they were offended by him. ⁴And Jesus was saying to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own house." ⁵And he was not able to do any mighty work there, except, having laid {his} hands on a few sick people, he healed them. ⁶And he was amazed because of their unbelief, and he was going around the villages teaching.

⁷And he calls the Twelve and began to send them out two by two, and he was giving them authority over the unclean spirits, ⁸and commanded them that they should take nothing for the journey, except only a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in {their} belts— ⁹but having put on sandals, and, "You may not wear two tunics." ¹⁰And he was saying to them, "Whenever you might enter into a house, remain there until you may go out from there. ¹¹And whatever place might not receive you nor listen to you, going out from there, shake off the dust that {is} under your feet for a testimony against them." ¹²And having gone out, they proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they were casting out many demons, and anointing many sick people with oil and healing them.

¹⁴And King Herod heard this, for his name became well known, and some were saying, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and because of this, miraculous powers are working in him." ¹⁵But others were saying, "He is

Elijah." But others were saying, "A prophet, like one of the prophets." ¹⁶But Herod, having heard this, was saying, "John, whom I beheaded—he has been raised." ¹⁷For Herod himself, having sent, seized John and he bound him in prison on account of Herodias (the wife of his brother Philip), because he married her. ¹⁸For John was saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have the wife of your brother." ¹⁹But Herodias was angry with him and was wanting to kill him, but she was not able, ²⁰for Herod was fearing John, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man, and he was keeping him safe, and having heard him, he was greatly perplexed, yet he was listening to him gladly. ²¹And the opportune day having come when Herod made his birthday dinner for his officials, and for the commanders, and for the leaders of Galilee, ²²and the daughter of Herodias herself having entered and having danced and having pleased Herod and those reclining to eat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you might desire and I will give it to you." ²³And he swore to her, "Whatever you might ask of me, I will give it to you, up to half of my kingdom." ²⁴And having gone out, she said to her mother, "What should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." ²⁵And immediately, having entered in with haste to the king, she requested, saying, "I desire that you would give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶And the king, having become deeply grieved, he did not want to refuse her because of {his} oaths and those reclining to eat with him, ²⁷and the king, immediately having sent an executioner, commanded him to bring his head, and so having departed, he beheaded him in the prison. ²⁸And he brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹And his disciples, having heard of this, came and took his body and placed it in a tomb.

³⁰And the apostles are gathered together with Jesus and reported to him all that they did and what they taught. ³¹And he says to them, "You yourselves, come away by yourself to a desolate place and rest a little while." For those coming and those going were many, and they were not even having opportunity to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³But many saw them leaving and recognized them, and they ran there together on foot from all the towns, and they arrived before them. ³⁴And having gotten out, he saw a great crowd and had compassion on them because they were like sheep not having a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. ³⁵And the hour already having become late, his disciples, having come to him, were saying, "This place is desolate, and the hour {is} already late. ³⁶Send them away so that, having gone away into the surrounding countryside and villages, they might buy something for themselves to eat." ³⁷But he, answering, said to them, "You give them to eat." And they say to him, "Having gone away, might we buy 200 denarii of bread and give it to them to eat?" ³⁸But he says to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go. See." And having found out, they say, "Five, and two fish." ³⁹And he commanded them all to recline group by group on the green grass. ⁴⁰And they reclined group by group according to hundreds and according to fifties. ⁴¹And having taken the five loaves and the two fish, having looked up to heaven, he blessed and broke the loaves and was giving them to his disciples so that they might set them before them, and he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³And they took up 12 full baskets of broken pieces, and from the fish. ⁴⁴And those who ate the loaves were 5,000 men.

⁴⁵And immediately he compelled his disciples to get into the boat and to go ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he sends the crowd away. ⁴⁶And having sent them away, he went to the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷And having become evening, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and he {was} alone on the land. ⁴⁸And having seen them being tormented as they rowed, for the wind was against them, and about the fourth watch of the night he comes to them, walking on the sea, and he intended to pass by them. ⁴⁹But they, having seen him walking on the sea, thought that he is a ghost and they cried out, ⁵⁰for they all saw him and were troubled. But immediately he spoke with them and says to them, "Take courage! It is I! Do not be afraid!" ⁵¹And he went up into the boat with them, and the wind stilled, and they were very much amazed among themselves. ⁵²For they did not understand about the loaves, but their heart had been hardened.

⁵³And having crossed over to the land, they came to Gennesaret and anchored there. ⁵⁴And when they had come out from the boat, immediately having recognized him, ⁵⁵they ran throughout that whole region and began to carry on {their} mats those having sickness where they were hearing that he is. ⁵⁶And wherever he was entering into villages, or into cities, or into the countryside, they were placing the sick in the marketplaces and were begging him so that at least they might touch the edge of his garment, and as many as touched him were being healed.

Chapter 7

¹And the Pharisees and some of the scribes, having come from Jerusalem, are being gathered around him. ²And they had seen some of his disciples that eat bread with defiled hands, that is, unwashed. ³(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they would wash {their} hands with a fist, holding to the tradition of the elders; ⁴and from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they would wash, and there are many other things which they received to observe: the washing of cups, and pots, and copper vessels.) ⁵And the Pharisees and the scribes ask him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but they eat {their} bread with unwashed hands?" ⁶But he, answering, said to them, "Isaiah prophesied well about you hypocrites. As it is written,

'This people honors me with {their} lips,
but their heart is far from me.

⁷But they worship me in vain,
teaching commandments of men as doctrines.'

⁸Having abandoned the commandment of God, you hold fast to the tradition of men." ⁹And he was saying to them, "How well you reject the commandment of God so that you may keep your tradition! ¹⁰For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'The one speaking evil of {his} father or mother—let him end in death.' ¹¹But you say, 'If a man may say to {his} father or his mother, "Whatever you would have profited from me {is} Corban"' (that is, a gift), ¹²you no longer permit him to do anything for {his} father or {his} mother, ¹³nullifying the word of God by your tradition which you handed down, and you do many such similar things." ¹⁴And having summoned the crowd again, he was saying to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing from outside the man, entering into him, that is able to defile him; but the things that come out from the man are the things defiling the man." ¹⁶^[1] [If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.] ¹⁷And when he entered into the house from the crowd, his disciples were asking him about the parable. ¹⁸And he says to them, "Are you also thus without understanding? Do you not understand that everything that is entering into the man from outside is not able to defile him, ¹⁹because it does not go into his heart, but into the stomach, and passes out into the latrine?" (making all foods clean.) ²⁰But he was saying, "What is coming out from the man, that defiles the man. ²¹For from within, from the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²²adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, an evil eye, slander, pride, {and} folly. ²³All these evils come out from within, and they defile the man."

²⁴Now having gotten up from there, he went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon, and having entered into a house, he was wanting no one to know it, but he was not able to hide. ²⁵But immediately, having heard about him, a woman, of whom her little daughter had an unclean spirit, having come, fell down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by descent, and she was asking him that he would cast out the demon from her daughter. ²⁷And he was saying to her, "Permit the children first to be fed, for it is not good to take the bread of the children and to throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered and says to him, "Yes, Lord, and the little dogs under the table eat from the crumbs of the children." ²⁹And he was saying to her, "Because of this word, go! The demon has gone out from your daughter." ³⁰And having gone away to her house, she found the child had been laid on the bed, and the demon had gone out.

³¹And again having gone out from the region of Tyre, he went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, up to a part of the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they bring to him a deaf man and one having difficulty speaking, and they beg him that he would lay {his} hand on him. ³³And having taking him aside from the crowd by himself, he put his fingers into his ears, and having spit, he touched his tongue. ³⁴And having looked up to heaven, he sighed and says to him, "Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!"). ³⁵And his ears were opened, and the band of his tongue was released, and he began speaking plainly. ³⁶And he ordered them so that they would tell it to no one. But as much

as he ordered them, the more abundantly they were proclaiming it. ³⁷And they were extremely astonished, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

7:16 ^[1]

Chapter 8

¹In those days, there again being a great crowd, and not having anything to eat, having summoned his disciples, he says to them, ²"I have compassion on the crowd, because they are remaining with me already for three days and do not have anything to eat. ³And if I would send them away to their home fasting, they will faint on the way, and some of them have come from far way." ⁴And his disciples answered him, "From where will anyone be able to feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?" ⁵And he asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven." ⁶And he commands the crowd to recline on the ground, and having taken the seven loaves, having given thanks, he broke them and was giving them to his disciples so that they might serve them, and they served the crowd. ⁷And they had a few small fish, and having blessed them, he told them to serve these also. ⁸And they ate and were satisfied, and they picked up an abundance of broken pieces—seven baskets. ⁹Now there were about 4,000, and he sent them away. ¹⁰And immediately, having gotten into the boat with his disciples, he went into the region of Dalmanutha.

¹¹And the Pharisees came out and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven, testing him.

¹²And having sighed deeply in his spirit, he says, "Why does this generation seek for a sign? Truly I say to you, if a sign will be given to this generation..." ¹³And having left them, having boarded a boat again, he went away to the other side.

¹⁴And they forgot to bring bread, and except for one loaf, they did not have any with them in the boat. ¹⁵And he was warning them, saying, "Keep watch! Be on guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod."

¹⁶And they were reasoning with each other that they have no bread." ¹⁷And having known this, Jesus says to them, "Why are you reasoning that you do not have bread? Do you not yet perceive, nor understand? Have your hearts become hardened? ¹⁸Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember? ¹⁹When I broke the five loaves among the 5,000, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They say to him, "12." ²⁰And when the seven among the 4,000, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they say to him, "Seven." ²¹And he said to them, "How do you not yet understand?"

²²And they come to Bethsaida, and they bring to him a blind man and beg him that he would touch him. ²³And having taken hold of the hand of the blind man, he led him out from the village. And having spit into his eyes, having laid {his} hands on him, he was asking him, "Do you see anything?" ²⁴And having looked up, he was saying, "I see men who look like walking trees." ²⁵Then he again laid {his} hands upon his eyes, and he looked intently and was restored, and he was seeing everything clearly. ²⁶And he sent him away to his home, saying, "You may not even enter into the town."

²⁷And Jesus and his disciples went out into the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he was questioning his disciples, saying to them, "Who do men say that I am?" ²⁸But they spoke to him, saying, "John the Baptist, and others, 'Elijah,' but others, 'One of the prophets.'" ²⁹And he was questioning them, "But who do you say that I am?" And answering, Peter says to him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰And he warned them that they might tell no one about him.

³¹And he began to teach them that it is necessary for the Son of Man to suffer many things and to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be killed, and to rise up after three days. ³²And he was speaking this word openly. And Peter, having taken him aside, began to rebuke him. ³³But Jesus, having turned and having looked at his disciples, rebuked Peter and says, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of men." ³⁴And having summoned the crowd along with his disciples, he said

to them, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵For whoever wants to save his soul will lose it, but whoever loses his soul for the sake of me and of the gospel will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and to forfeit his soul? ³⁷For what might a man give as an exchange for his soul? ³⁸For if anyone may be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he would come in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Chapter 9

¹And he was saying to them, "Truly I say to you, there are some of those standing here who may certainly not taste death before they would see the kingdom of God come with power." ²And after six days, Jesus takes Peter and James and John and leads them up on a high mountain by themselves, alone, and he was transfigured before them. ³And his garments became radiantly, extremely white, such as no launderer on the earth is able thus to make them white. ⁴And Elijah with Moses were seen by them, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵And answering, Peter says to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here, and let us make three shelters, one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶(For he did not know what he might answer, for they were terrified.) ⁷And a cloud came, overshadowing them, and a voice came from the cloud, "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." ⁸And suddenly, having looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them, but only Jesus.

⁹And as they were coming down from the mountain, he ordered them that they would relate to no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man would rise from the dead. ¹⁰And they kept the word to themselves, discussing together what it is "to rise from the dead." ¹¹And they were questioning him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that it is necessary for Elijah to come first?" ¹²But he was saying to them, "Elijah has come first to restore all things. And how has it been written about the Son of Man that he would suffer many things and would be despised? ¹³But I say to you that Elijah has indeed come, and they did whatever they wanted to him, just as it is written about him."

¹⁴And having come to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them and the scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately, the whole crowd, having seen him, were amazed, and running up to him, they were greeting him. ¹⁶And he asked them, "What are you arguing with them about?" ¹⁷And one from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, having a mute spirit. ¹⁸And wherever it might seize him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth and grinds {his} teeth, and he becomes rigid, and I asked your disciples that they might cast it out, but they were not strong enough." ¹⁹But answering them, he says, "You unbelieving generation, until when will I be with you? Until when will I bear with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰And they brought him to him, and having seen him, the spirit immediately threw him into a convulsion, and having fallen on the ground, he was rolling around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹And he asked his father, "How much time is it when this has been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²²And it has often thrown him both into the fire and into the waters in order that it might destroy him, but if you are able to do anything, help us, having had compassion on us." ²³But Jesus said to him, "If you are able? All things are possible for the one believing." ²⁴And immediately the father of the child, having cried out, was saying, "I believe! Help me in {my} unbelief!" ²⁵And Jesus, having seen that the crowd is running to them, rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out from him, and you may never enter into him again." ²⁶And having cried out and convulsed him greatly, it came out, and he became like a dead person, so that many said, "He has died." ²⁷But Jesus, having taken him by his hand, lifted him up, and he stood up. ²⁸And when he had gone into a house, his disciples asked him by himself, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁹And he said to them, "This kind is able to come out by nothing except by prayer and fasting."^[1]

³⁰And having gone out from there, they were passing through Galilee, but he was not wanting that anyone would know it, ³¹for he was teaching his disciples and saying to them, "The Son of Man is being delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And having been killed, he will rise again after three days." ³²But they were not understanding this statement, and they were afraid to ask him.

³³And they came to Capernaum, and having come into the house, he was asking them, "What were you discussing on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for they had been arguing with one another on the way about who {was} greatest. ³⁵And having sat down, he called the Twelve together and says to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he will be last of all and a servant of all." ³⁶And having taken a little child, he placed him in their midst, and having taken him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever may receive one of these little children in my name receives me; and whoever may receive me, does not receive me but the one who sent me." ³⁸John was saying to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name and we were preventing him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not prevent him, for there is no one who will do a mighty work in my name and will be able soon afterwards to speak evil about me. ⁴⁰For he who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For whoever may give you a cup of water in the name because you are Christ's, truly I say to you that he may certainly not lose his reward. ⁴²And whoever may cause one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it is better for him instead if a large millstone is put around his neck and he is thrown into the sea. ⁴³And if your hand may cause you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than, having two hands, to go away into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁴^[2] [where their worm does not end, and the fire is not quenched.] ⁴⁵And if your foot may cause you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life lame than, having two feet, to be thrown into Gehenna. ⁴⁶^[3] [where their worm does not end, and the fire is not quenched.] ⁴⁷And if your eye may cause you to stumble, throw it out. It is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than, having two eyes, to be thrown into Gehenna, ⁴⁸where their worm does not end, and the fire is not quenched. ⁴⁹For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good, but if the salt might become unsalty, with what will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

9:29 ^[1], but the best manuscripts include it.

9:44 ^[2]

9:46 ^[3]

Chapter 10

¹And having gotten up, he goes from that place to the region of Judea and the other side of the Jordan, and the crowds come together to him again. And he was teaching them again, as he had been accustomed to do. ²And having approached, the Pharisees were questioning him whether is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife, testing him. ³But he, answering, said to them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴And they said, "Moses permitted him to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart, he wrote this commandment to you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation,

'He made them male and female.'

⁷On account of this a man will leave his father and mother,^[1]

⁸and the two will be one flesh.'

So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God joined together, let man not separate." ¹⁰And in the house again, the disciples asked him about this. ¹¹And he says to them, "Whoever might divorce his wife and might marry another commits adultery against her. ¹²And if she, having divorced her husband, might marry another, she commits adultery."

¹³And they were bringing little children to him so that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴But having seen this, Jesus was indignant and said to them, "Permit the little children to come to me, and do not prevent them, for of those such as these is the kingdom of God. ¹⁵Truly I say to you, whoever might not receive the kingdom of God as a little child may certainly not enter into it." ¹⁶And having taken them into his arms, he blessed them, placing {his} hands on them.

¹⁷And as he is proceeding on the journey, someone ran up to him and having knelt before him, was asking him, "Good Teacher, what might I do in order that I might inherit everlasting life?" ¹⁸But Jesus said to him, "Why are you calling me good? No one {is} good except God alone. ¹⁹You have known the commandments: 'Do not kill, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not testify falsely, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰But he was saying to him, "Teacher, all these things I have obeyed from my youth." ²¹But Jesus, having looked at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack; go away, sell as much as you have, and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and come, follow me." ²²But he, having become downcast at this word, went away being grieved, because he was one having many possessions.

²³And having looked around, Jesus says to his disciples, "How difficult {it is} for those having riches to enter into the kingdom of God!" ²⁴But the disciples were astonished at his words, but again answering, Jesus says to them, "Children, how hard it is to enter into the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter into the kingdom of God." ²⁶But they were greatly astonished, saying to him, "And who is able to be saved?" ²⁷Having looked at them, Jesus says, "With men {it is} impossible, but not with God. For all things {are} possible with God." ²⁸Peter began to speak to him, "Behold, we have left everything and have followed you." ²⁹Jesus was saying, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house, or brothers, or sisters, or mother, or father, or children, or lands, for the sake of me and of the gospel, ³⁰who may not receive a hundred times {as much} now in this time: houses, and brothers, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions, and in the age that is coming, everlasting life. ³¹But many {who are} first will be last, and the last, first."

³²Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going ahead of them. And they were amazed, but those who are following behind were afraid. And having taken the Twelve aside again, he began to tell them what is about to happen to him. ³³"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock him, and spit on him, and whip him, and kill him, but after three days, he will rise."

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approach him, saying to him, "Teacher, we desire that whatever we might ask you, you might do for us." ³⁶And he said to them, "What do you want that I might do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant to us that we might sit in your glory, one at your right hand and one at your left hand." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup which I drink or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am being baptized?" ³⁹But they said to him, "We are able." But Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am being baptized, you will be baptized. ⁴⁰But to sit at my right hand or at my left hand is not mine to give, but {it is} for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹And having heard this, the ten began to be very angry with James and John. ⁴²And having summoned them, Jesus says to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it is not this way among you. Instead, whoever might want to become great among you will be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever might want to be first among you will be a slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom in exchange for many."

⁴⁶And they come into Jericho, and as he is going out from Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, son of Timaeus, was sitting beside the road. ⁴⁷And having heard that it is Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out and to say, "Son of David, Jesus, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸And many were rebuking him so that he might be silent, but he was crying out much more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹And having stood still, Jesus said, "Call him." And they call the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage! Get up! He is calling you." ⁵⁰And having thrown aside his coat, having sprung up, he came to Jesus. ⁵¹And answering him, Jesus said, "What do you want that I might do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, that I might receive my sight." ⁵²But Jesus said to him, "Go. Your faith has healed you." And immediately he received his sight, and he was following him on the road.

10:7 ^[1], but the best manuscripts do not.

Chapter 11

¹And when they come to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, to the Mount of Olives, he sends out two of his disciples ²and says to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately, entering into it, you will find a colt having been tied up, on which no man has yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³And if anyone might say to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and immediately he sends it back here.'" ⁴And they left and found a colt having been tied up at a door outside on the street, and they untie it. ⁵And some of those who stood there began to say to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they spoke to them just as Jesus told them, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and throw their cloaks upon it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others, branches they had cut from the fields. ⁹Both those going before and those following were crying out,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

Hosanna in the highest!"

¹¹And he entered into Jerusalem, into the temple; and having looked around at everything, the hour already being late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve. ¹²And the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, he was hungry. ¹³And having seen from far away a fig tree having leaves, he went, if perhaps he will find anything on it. But having come to it, he found nothing except leaves, for it was not the season of figs. ¹⁴And answering, he said to it, "No one will any longer eat fruit from you to eternity." And his disciples heard it.

¹⁵And coming to Jerusalem, and having entered into the temple, he began to cast out those selling and those buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those selling pigeons, ¹⁶and he was not permitting that anyone might carry containers through the temple. ¹⁷And he was teaching them and saying, "Has it not been written,

'My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations?'

But you have made it a den of robbers."

¹⁸And the chief priests and the scribes heard this, and they were seeking a way they might kill him, for they feared him because the entire crowd was amazed at his teaching. ¹⁹And when evening came, they were departing from the city.

²⁰And passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree had been withered from the roots. ²¹And having been reminded, Peter says to him, "Rabbi, behold! The fig tree that you cursed has been withered away." ²²And answering, Jesus says to them, "Have faith in God. ²³Truly I say to you that whoever might say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and be cast into the sea,' and might not doubt in his heart, but might believe that what he says is happening, it will be for him. ²⁴Because of this, I say to you: Whatever you pray and ask, believe that you have received it, and it will be to you. ²⁵And when you stand praying, forgive, if you have something against anyone, so that your Father who {is} in the heavens may also forgive you your trespasses." ²⁶^[1] [But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who {is} in the heavens forgive your trespasses.]

²⁷And they come to Jerusalem again, and as he is walking around in the temple, the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders come to him. ²⁸And they were saying to him, "By what authority do you do these things, and who gave you this authority, so that you might do them?" ²⁹But Jesus said to them, "I also will ask you one word, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ³⁰The baptism of John, was it from heaven or from men? Answer me." ³¹And they began to discuss between themselves, saying, "What should we say? If we

would say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Because of what then did you not believe him?'^[2] ³²But we might say, 'From men, ...' (They were afraid of the crowd, for they all held that John really was a prophet.) ³³And answering Jesus, they say, "We do not know." And Jesus says to them, "Neither do I say to you by what authority I do these things."

11:26 ^[1]

11:31 ^[2], but the best manuscripts include it.

Chapter 12

¹And he began to speak to them in parables: "A man planted a vineyard, and put a hedge around it, and dug a pit for a winepress, and built a watchtower, and leased it to vine growers, and went away on a journey. ²And at the season, he sent a slave to the vine growers so that he might receive from the vine growers from the fruit of the vineyard. ³But having seized him, they beat him, and sent him away with nothing. ⁴And again he sent to them another slave, and that one, they wounded in the head and treated shamefully. ⁵And he sent another, and that one they killed, and many others—beating these, but killing those. ⁶Having one more, a beloved son, he sent him to them last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ⁷But those vine growers said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ⁸And having seized him, they killed him, and threw him outside of the vineyard. ⁹Therefore, what will the lord of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the vine growers and will give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰And have you not read this scripture?

'The stone which the builders rejected,
this has become the head of the corner.

¹¹This came about from the Lord,
and it is marvelous in our eyes."

¹²And they were seeking to seize him, but they feared the crowd, for they knew that he spoke this parable against them. And having left him, they went away.

¹³And they send some of the Pharisees and the Herodians to him in order to trap him with a word. ¹⁴And having come, they say to him, "Teacher, we know that you are truthful, and it is not a concern to you about anyone, for you do not look at the face of men, but, you teach the way of God according to truth. Is it lawful to give taxes to Caesar or not? Should we give, or should we not give?" ¹⁵But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test me? Bring to me a denarius so that I might look at it." ¹⁶And they brought one, and he says to them, "Whose {is} this image and inscription?" And they said to him, "Caesar's." ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "The things of Caesar, give back to Caesar, and the things of God, to God." And they were marveling at him.

¹⁸And Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, come to him and are questioning him, saying, ¹⁹"Teacher, Moses wrote to us, 'If someone's brother might die and might leave behind a wife, but might not leave a child, that his brother should take the wife and should raise up offspring to his brother.' ²⁰There were seven brothers, and the first took a wife and dying, did not leave offspring, ²¹and the second took her and died, not having left offspring, and the third likewise. ²²And the seven did not leave offspring. Last of all, the woman also died. ²³In the resurrection, when they may rise again, of which of them will she be a wife? For the seven had her as wife." ²⁴Jesus said to them, "Are you not being led astray because of this, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God? ²⁵For when they may rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but they are like angels in the heavens. ²⁶But concerning the dead that are raised, did you not read in the book of Moses, at the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob?' ²⁷He is not the God of the dead, but of the living. You are being quite deceived."

²⁸And one of the scribes, having come up, having heard them discussing this together, having seen that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which is the first commandment of all?" ²⁹Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰And you will love the Lord your God from your whole heart, and from your whole soul, and from your whole mind, and from your whole strength.' ³¹The second {is} this, 'You will love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other greater commandment than these." ³²And the scribe said to him, "Good, Teacher! According to truth you have said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. ³³And to love him from the whole heart and from the whole understanding and from the whole strength, and to love the neighbor as oneself, is even more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴And Jesus, having seen him, that he had answered wisely, said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And no one any longer was daring to question him.

³⁵And answering, Jesus, teaching in the temple, said, "How do the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?

³⁶David himself, in the Holy Spirit, said,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,

until I may place your enemies under your feet.'"

³⁷David himself calls him 'Lord,' and how is he his son?" And a large crowd was listening to him gladly.

³⁸And in his teaching, he was saying, "Watch out for the scribes, who are desiring to walk in long robes, and greetings in the marketplaces, ³⁹and the chief seats in the synagogues, and chief places at the banquets. ⁴⁰They are devouring the houses of the widows, and as a pretext offer long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."

⁴¹And having sat down across from the temple offering box, he was watching how the crowd puts money into the offering box. And many rich people were putting in much. ⁴²And having come, one poor widow put in two mites, which are a quadrans. ⁴³And having called his disciples, he said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of those putting into the offering box. ⁴⁴For all of them gave from their abundance, but she, from her poverty, put in everything, as much as she had, all of her livelihood."

Chapter 13

¹And as he is walking away from the temple, one of his disciples says to him, "Teacher, look! What manner of stones and what manner of buildings!" ²And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Stone upon stone may certainly not be left here, which may certainly not be torn down."

³And as he is sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew were asking him by himself, ⁴"Tell us, when will these things be? And what {is} the sign when all these things are about to be fulfilled?" ⁵Now Jesus began to say to them, "Be careful that no one might deceive you. ⁶Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am!' and they will deceive many. ⁷But when you might hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not worry; it is necessary for it to happen, but {it is} not yet the end. ⁸For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various place; there will be famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

⁹But you, watch yourselves! They will deliver you to councils and to synagogues; you will be beaten and you will be made to stand before governors and kings because of me, for a testimony to them. ¹⁰And first, it is necessary for the gospel to be proclaimed to all the nations. ¹¹And when they might lead you away, handing you over, do not worry about what you should say. But whatever might be given to you in that hour, speak that; for you will not be the ones speaking, but the Holy Spirit. ¹²And brother will deliver brother to death, and a father, {his} child. And

children will rise up against parents and put them to death. ¹³And you will be hated by everyone because of my name. But the one who endured to the end, that one will be saved.

¹⁴But when you might see the abomination of desolation standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then let those {who are} in Judea flee to the mountains, ¹⁵but let the one on the housetop not go down nor go in to take anything from his house, ¹⁶and let the one in the field not turn back to the things behind to get his cloak. ¹⁷But woe to those having in the womb, and to those nursing in those days! ¹⁸But pray that it might not happen in winter. ¹⁹For there will be in those days tribulation—such as this kind has not happened from the beginning of creation which God created until now, and may certainly not happen. ²⁰And if the Lord did not cut short the days, no flesh would be saved. But for the sake of the elect whom he chose, he cut short the days. ²¹And then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here {is} the Christ! Look, there!’ do not believe it. ²²For false Christs and false prophets will be raised up and will give signs and wonders, to deceive, if possible, the elect. ²³But you, watch out! Behold, I have told you everything beforehand.

²⁴But in those days, after that tribulation,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light;

²⁵and the stars will be falling from the sky,

and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send the angels and he will gather together his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.

²⁸Now learn the parable from the fig tree. When already its branch might become tender and might put out {its} leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the doors. ³⁰Truly I say to you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things occur. ³¹The heaven and the earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away. ³²But concerning that day or the hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, except the Father.

³³Be alert! Watch and pray, because you do not know when the time is. ³⁴As a man on a journey, having left his house, and having given to each of his servants authority over his work, and he commanded the door-keeper that he would stay alert; ³⁵therefore, stay alert, because you do not know when the lord of the house is coming—whether evening, or midnight, or at rooster crowing, or at dawn— ³⁶lest, having come suddenly, he might find you sleeping. ³⁷But what I say to you I say to everyone: Stay alert!”

Chapter 14

¹Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread was in two days, and the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how, having seized him by stealth, they might kill him. ²For they were saying, “Not during the festival, so that there will not be a riot of the people.”

³And while he is in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, while he is reclining to eat, a woman came, having an alabaster jar of very costly anointing-oil of pure nard. Having broken the jar, she poured it on his head. ⁴But there were some who are angry within themselves, “For what has this waste of the anointing oil happened? ⁵For this perfume was able to be sold for more than 300 denarii, and given to the poor.” And they were scolding her. ⁶But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why are you causing trouble for her? She did a good work for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with yourselves, and whenever you might desire you are able to do good to them, but you do not always have me. ⁸What she could, she did. She anticipated to anoint my body for burial. ⁹But truly I say to you,

wherever the gospel might be preached in the whole world, what she has done will also be spoken of, in remembrance of her.”

¹⁰And Judas Iscariot, who {was} one of the Twelve, went away to the chief priests so that he might betray him to them. ¹¹But they, having heard it, were glad and promised to give him silver. And he was seeking how to conveniently betray him.

¹²And on the first day of unleavened bread, when they were sacrificing the Passover lamb, his disciples say to him, “Where do you want us to go away to prepare, so that you might eat the Passover?” ¹³And he sends two of his disciples and says to them, “Go into the city, and a man bearing a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴And wherever he may enter, say to the owner of that house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?”’ ¹⁵And he will show you a large upper room, furnished {and} ready, and make the preparations for us there.” ¹⁶And the disciples left and went to the city, and they found it just as he said to them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷And, evening having arrived, he came with the Twelve. ¹⁸And as they were reclining to eat and eating, Jesus said, “Truly I say to you, one from among you who is eating with me will betray me.” ¹⁹They began to be grieved, and to say to him one by one, “Surely not I?” ²⁰But he said to them, “{It is} one of the Twelve, the one dipping with me into the bowl. ²¹For the Son of Man is going away just as it is written about him, but woe to that man through whom the Son of Man is being betrayed! It would have been good for him if that man had not been born.”

²²And as they were eating, having taken bread, having blessed it, he broke it, and gave it to them and said, “Take it. This is my body.” ²³And having taken a cup, having given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, that is being poured out for many. ²⁵Truly I say to you that I may certainly not any longer drink from the fruit of the vine until that day when I may drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

²⁶And having sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus says to them, “You all will fall away, for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd

and the sheep will be scattered.’

²⁸But after I have been raised up, I will go before you into Galilee.” ²⁹But Peter was saying to him, “Even if all will be caused to stumble, yet not I.” ³⁰And Jesus says to him, “Truly I say to you, that today—this very night—before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” ³¹But he said emphatically, “Even if it is necessary for me to die with you, I will certainly not deny you.” And they all also were speaking in the same manner.

³²And they come to a place, the name of which {is} Gethsemane, and he says to his disciples, “Sit here while I may pray.” ³³And he takes along Peter, and James, and John with him and began to be distressed and deeply troubled. ³⁴And he says to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to death. Remain here and stay alert.” ³⁵And having gone a little farther, he fell to the ground and was praying that, if it is possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶And he was saying, “Abba, Father, all things {are} possible with you. Remove this cup from me. But not what I will, but what you will.” ³⁷And he comes and finds them sleeping, and he says to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Were you not able to stay alert for one hour? ³⁸Stay alert and pray, so that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed {is} willing, but the flesh {is} weak.” ³⁹And again, having gone away, he prayed, having said the same thing. ⁴⁰And again, having come, he found them sleeping, for their eyes were weighed down, and they did not know what to answer to him. ⁴¹And he comes the third time and says to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come. Behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Get up, let us go. Behold, the one betraying me is near.” ⁴³And immediately, while he is still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrives, and a crowd with him with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders. ⁴⁴Now his betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I may kiss, he it is. Seize him and lead him away securely.”

⁴⁵And having arrived, immediately having come up to him, he says, "Rabbi," and he kissed him. ⁴⁶And they laid hands on him and seized him. ⁴⁷But a certain one of those standing by, having drawn {his} sword, struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁴⁸And answering, Jesus said to them, "Did you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to seize me? ⁴⁹Every day I was with you teaching in the temple, and you did not seize me. But so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled..." ⁵⁰And having left him, they all ran away.

⁵¹And a certain young man was following him, wearing a linen garment over {his} naked body. And they seize him, ⁵²but he, having left behind the linen garment, ran away naked.

⁵³And they led Jesus away to the high priest, and all the chief priests, and the elders, and the scribes gather together. ⁵⁴Now Peter followed him from a distance, as far as into the courtyard of the high priest, and he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, and they were not finding any. ⁵⁶For many were testifying falsely against him, but {their} testimony was not the same. ⁵⁷And certain ones, having stood up, were testifying falsely against him, saying, ⁵⁸"We heard him saying, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.'" ⁵⁹And not even in this manner was their testimony the same. ⁶⁰And having stood up in the midst, the high priest questioned Jesus, saying, "Do you not answer at all? What {are} these testifying against you?" ⁶¹But he was silent and did not answer at all. Again the high priest was questioning him and saying to him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶²But Jesus said, "I am;

and you will see the Son of Man

sitting at the right hand of power

and coming with the clouds of heaven."

⁶³But the high priest, having torn his garments, says, "What need do we still have of witnesses? ⁶⁴You heard the blasphemy. What is evident to you?" And they all condemned him to be deserving of death. ⁶⁵And certain ones began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to strike him, and to say to him, "Prophesy!" And the officers received him with slaps.

⁶⁶And while Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest comes to him. ⁶⁷And having seen Peter warming himself, having looked closely at him, she says, "You were also with the Nazarene, Jesus." ⁶⁸But he denied it, saying, "Neither have I known nor do I understand what you are saying." And he went out, outside into the courtyard.^[1] ⁶⁹But the servant girl, having seen him {there}, began to say again to those standing around, "This one is from among them!" ⁷⁰But he was denying it again. And after a little while those standing around again were saying to Peter, "Truly you are from among them, for you also are a Galilean." ⁷¹But he began to curse and to swear, "I do not know this man whom you are talking about." ⁷²And immediately a rooster crowed a second time, and Peter remembered the word that Jesus said to him: "Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times," and having broken down, he was weeping.

14:68 ^[1]

Chapter 15

¹And immediately at dawn, having held a consultation, the chief priests with the elders and scribes and the entire Sanhedrin, having bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. ²And Pilate questioned him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" But he, answering him, says, "You say so." ³And the chief priests were accusing him of many things. ⁴Now Pilate again was questioning him, saying, "Do you not answer at all? See how many things they are accusing you!" ⁵But Jesus no longer answered anything, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now during the festival, he usually released to them one prisoner, whom they were requesting. ⁷Now there was one who was called Barabbas, bound with the rebels, who had committed murder in the insurrection. ⁸And having come up, the crowd began to request of him just as he usually did for them. ⁹But Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you desire that I would release to you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he knew that the chief priests had handed him over because of envy. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd so that he would release Barabbas to them instead. ¹²But answering again, Pilate, said to them, "What therefore should I do to the one you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³But they cried out again, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴But Pilate was saying to them, "What wrong has he done?" But they cried out even more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵Now Pilate, wanting to do what was pleasing to the crowd, released Barabbas to them and handed over Jesus, having flogged him, so that he might be crucified.

¹⁶Now the soldiers led him inside the palace (that is, the Praetorium), and call together the whole cohort, ¹⁷and put on him a purple robe, and place on him a crown of thorns they had twisted together, ¹⁸and they began to salute him: "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹And they were striking his head with a staff and spitting on him, and bending the knee, they were bowing down to him. ²⁰And when they had mocked him, they took off from him the purple robe and put his own garments on him, and lead him out so that they might crucify him. ²¹And they pressed into service a certain passerby, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), coming from the country, so that he might carry his cross.

²²And they bring him to Golgotha (a place which is translated, "Place of a Skull"). ²³And they were offering him wine having been mixed with myrrh, but he did not drink it. ²⁴And they crucified him and divide his garments, casting lots for them, who would take what. ²⁵Now it was the third hour, and they crucified him. ²⁶And this was the inscription of the charge against him having been written: "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And they crucify two robbers with him, one on {his} right, and one on his left. ²⁸^[1] [And the scripture was fulfilled that says, 'And he was counted with the lawless ones.] ²⁹And those passing by were blaspheming him, shaking their heads, and saying, "Aha! The one destroying the temple and rebuilding it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, having come down from the cross!" ³¹In the same way also, the chief priests, mocking him to each other, along with the scribes, were saying, "He saved others; he is not able to save himself. ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross, so that we might see and might believe," and those who had been crucified with him were taunting him.

³³And the sixth hour having arrived, darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵And some of those who had been standing by, having heard him, were saying, "Look, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶But someone, having run and having filled a sponge with sour wine, having put it on a reed, was giving it to him to drink, saying, "Let him alone! Let us see if Elijah comes to take him down!" ³⁷But Jesus, having cried out with a loud voice, breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹Now the centurion who had stood in front of him, having seen that he had breathed his last in this way, said, "Truly this man was the Son of God." ⁴⁰Now there were also women looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary (the mother of James the younger and of Joses), and Salome, ⁴¹who, when he was in Galilee, were following him and serving him, and many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴²And when evening had already come, because it was the Day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³Joseph who {was} from Arimathea, a respected member of the council who also was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, having come, he boldly went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Now Pilate was wondering if he had already died, and having called the centurion, he questioned him, whether he had already died. ⁴⁵And having learned this from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶And having bought a linen cloth, having taken him down, he wrapped him in the linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb that was cut from a rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Now Mary Magdalene and Mary the {mother} of Joses were watching where he was laid.

15:28 ^[1]

Chapter 16

¹And the Sabbath having passed, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the {mother} of James, and Salome bought spices, so that having come, they might anoint him. ²And very early on the first of the week, they arrive at the tomb, the sun having come up. ³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴And having looked up, they see that the stone has been rolled away, for it was extremely large. ⁵And having entered into the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶But he says to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has been raised! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

⁸And having gone out, they ran from the tomb, for trembling and amazement was gripping them. And they said nothing to anyone because they were afraid. ⁹^[1] [Now early on the first {day} of the week, after he arose, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went and told those who {were} with him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹And they heard that he was alive and that he had been seen by her, but they did not believe.

¹²Now after these things, he appeared in a different form to two of them as they were walking, going out into the country. ¹³And they, having gone, told the rest of the disciples, but they did not believe them.

¹⁴Now later, he appeared to the eleven as they were reclining to eat, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who saw him after he rose from the dead. ¹⁵And he said to them, "Going into all the world, preach the gospel to the entire creation. ¹⁶He who believes and is baptized will be saved, and he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷Now these signs will go with those who believe: In my name they will cast out demons. They will speak in new languages. ¹⁸They will pick up snakes, and if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will get well."

¹⁹After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

²⁰Now those, having gone out, preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them {and} confirmed the word by the signs that went with them. Amen.]

16:9 ^[1]

Luke

Chapter 1

¹Since many have attempted to compile an account concerning the things that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word handed them down to us, ³it seemed good to me also, having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, to write for you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you might know the certainty concerning the things that you have been taught.

⁵In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a certain priest named Zechariah, from the division of Abijah. And his wife {was} from the daughters of Aaron, and her name {was} Elizabeth. ⁶And they were both righteous in front of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷But they did not have a child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in their days.

⁸And it happened that in his performing as priest before God, in the order of his division, ⁹according to the custom of the priesthood, he came up by lot to enter into the temple of the Lord to burn incense. ¹⁰And the whole crowd of the people was praying outside at the hour of the incense offering. ¹¹Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell on him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will call his name John. ¹⁴And there will be joy and gladness to you, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵For he will be great before the Lord, and he must never drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. ¹⁷And he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of fathers back to {their} children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

¹⁸Then Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in her days." ¹⁹And answering, the angel said to him, "I am Gabriel, the one standing before God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰And behold, you will be silent and not able to speak until that day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delaying in the temple. ²²But when he came out, he was not able to speak to them and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he was making signs to them and remained unable to speak. ²³And it happened that, when the days of his priestly service were fulfilled, he went away to his home.

²⁴And after these days, his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying, ²⁵"Thus the Lord has done for me, in the days in which he looked upon me, to take away my disgrace among men."

²⁶And in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee whose name {was} Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name {was} Joseph, of the house of David, and the name of the virgin {was} Mary. ²⁸And coming to her, the angel said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord {is} with you." ²⁹But she was troubled by the words and she was considering what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in {your} womb and bear a son, and you will call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David. ³³And he will reign over the house of Jacob to eternity, and there will be no end of his kingship." ³⁴But Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I have not known a man?" ³⁵And answering, the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will

overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one who will be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth—she also has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren.

³⁷For every word will not be impossible for God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Behold, the female servant of the Lord. May it happen to me according to your word.” Then the angel went away from her.

³⁹Then Mary arose in those days {and} went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered into the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And it happened that, when Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby in her womb leaped, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²And she exclaimed in a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And from where {is} this to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, as soon as the sound of your greeting was in my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed {is} she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of the things that were spoken to her from the Lord.” ⁴⁶And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

⁴⁸For he has looked upon the low condition of his female servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and his name {is} holy,

⁵⁰and his mercy {is} unto generation and generation to those who fear him.

⁵¹He has done mighty deeds with his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵²He has thrown down rulers from {their} thrones

and he has raised up the lowly.

⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things,

but the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped Israel his servant,

to remember {his} mercy,

⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers—to Abraham and to his seed in the ages {past}.”

⁵⁶And Mary stayed with her about three months, and returned to her house.

⁵⁷And the time was fulfilled for Elizabeth for her to deliver, and she gave birth to a son. ⁵⁸And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had magnified his mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹And it happened that, on the eighth day, they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to call him after the name of his father, Zechariah. ⁶⁰But answering, his mother said, “No. Rather, he will be called John.” ⁶¹But they said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who is called by this name.” ⁶²Then they made signs to his father as to what he wanted to call him. ⁶³And asking for a writing tablet, he wrote, saying, “His name is John.” And they all were astonished. ⁶⁴Then immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue, and he spoke, blessing God. ⁶⁵And fear came on all those who lived around them, and all these matters were being talked about throughout all the

hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶And all those who heard stored in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child become?" For indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

⁶⁷And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

⁶⁸"Blessed {be} the Lord, the God of Israel,

for he has visited and has accomplished redemption for his people.

⁶⁹And he has raised up a horn of salvation for us

in the house of his servant David

⁷⁰(as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from eternity),

⁷¹salvation from our enemies

and from the hand of all those who hate us;

⁷²to show mercy to our fathers

and to remember his holy covenant,

⁷³the oath that he swore to Abraham our father, to grant us ⁷⁴to serve him fearlessly,

having been delivered out of the hand of our enemies, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶And indeed, you, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his paths;

⁷⁷to give the knowledge of salvation to his people

through the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God,

by which the sunrise from on high will visit us,

⁷⁹to shine on those who are sitting in darkness and the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the path of peace."

⁸⁰And the child was growing and was being strengthened in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Chapter 2

¹And in those days, it happened that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus for all the world to register. ²This first registration happened while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³And everyone was traveling to register himself, each one to his own city. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family line of David. ⁵He registered himself with Mary, who was engaged to him {and} was pregnant. ⁶And it happened that, while they were there, the days were fulfilled for her to deliver. ⁷And she delivered her firstborn son, and she wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸And there were shepherds in that area, staying in the open and keeping watch over their flock at night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they feared a great fear.

¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will be to all the people. ¹¹For today has been born for you in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord! ¹²And this {will be} the sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly a multitude of the heavenly army was with the angel, praising God, and saying,

¹⁴"Glory in the highest to God,
and on earth, peace among men
of good pleasure."

¹⁵And it happened that, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let us indeed go over as far as Bethlehem, and let us see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went hastening and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷And having seen him, they made known about the message that had been told to them about this child. ¹⁸And all those who heard it were amazed concerning the things that were spoken to them by the shepherds. ¹⁹But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for everything that they had heard and seen, just as it had been spoken to them.

²¹And when eight days had been fulfilled to circumcise him, then his name was called Jesus, which he had been called by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²And when the days of their purification had been fulfilled, according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(just as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb will be called holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." ²⁵And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name {was} Simeon, and this man {was} righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus for them to do according to the custom of the law concerning him, ²⁸and he took him into {his} arms and blessed God, and he said,

²⁹"You are now dismissing your servant in peace, Lord, according to your word.

³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared before the face of all the peoples:

³²A light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and mother^[1] were amazed at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary, his mother, "Behold, this one is appointed for the downfall and rising up of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against— ³⁵and a sword will also pierce your own soul—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." ³⁶And Anna was there, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher. She had advanced much in days, having lived with her husband for seven years after her virginity, ³⁷and she {was} a widow for 84 years who never left the temple, serving with fastings and prayers night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour, she began giving thanks to God and speaking about him to all those who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹And when they had completed everything that {was} according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

⁴⁰And the child grew and was strengthened, being filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

⁴¹And his parents went every year to Jerusalem to the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was 12 years old, they went up according to the custom of the feast. ⁴³And when the days were completed, as they were returning, the

boy Jesus remained in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴But thinking that he was with the group of travelers, they went a day's journey and they sought him among {their} relatives and friends. ⁴⁵And not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶And it happened that, after three days, they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers and listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all those who heard him were amazed at {his} understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when they saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us thus? Behold, your father and I have been tormented searching for you." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why {is it} that you were searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in the things of my Father?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand the word that he spoke to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was subjected to them. But his mother kept all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus was increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

2:33 ^[1] . Some other manuscripts read .

Chapter 3

¹And in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—while Pontius Pilate was governing Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas—the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"A voice of one calling out in the wilderness,

'Make ready the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley will be filled,

and every mountain and hill will be made low,

and the crooked roads will become straight,

and the rough roads {will become} smooth,

⁶and all flesh will see the salvation of God."

⁷So he said to the crowds who were coming out to be baptized by him, "Offspring of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore, produce fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say within yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I say to you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ⁹But indeed, the ax is already set against the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds kept asking him, saying, "What therefore should we do?" ¹¹So answering, he said to them, "The one who has two tunics must share with the one who does not have, and the one who has food, let him do the same." ¹²Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³So he said to them, "Collect nothing more than what you have been ordered." ¹⁴Then soldiers also asked him, saying, "And us, what should we do?" And he said to them, "Take nothing by force, and do not accuse falsely, and be contented with your wages."

¹⁵And the people were expecting and were all wondering in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ. ¹⁶John answered, saying to them all, "I indeed baptize you with water, but one more powerful than I is coming, of whom I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with

fire, ¹⁷whose winnowing fork {is} in his hand to thoroughly clear off his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his storehouse, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸Therefore, also exhorting many other things, he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, having been rebuked by him concerning Herodias, the wife of his brother, and concerning all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added even this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

²¹And it happened that when all the people were being baptized, Jesus also was baptized and, while he was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit in bodily form came down on him like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son. With you I am well pleased.”

²³And Jesus himself was beginning about 30 years old, being the son (as it was assumed) of Joseph, of Heli, ²⁴of Matthat, of Levi, of Melchi, of Jannai, of Joseph, ²⁵of Mattathias, of Amos, of Nahum, of Esli, of Naggai, ²⁶of Maath, of Mattathias, of Semein, of Josech, of Joda, ²⁷of Joanan, of Rhesa, of Zerubbabel, of Salathiel, of Neri, ²⁸of Melchi, of Addi, of Cosam, of Elmadam, of Er, ²⁹of Joshua, of Eliezer, of Jorim, of Matthat, of Levi, ³⁰of Simeon, of Judah, of Joseph, of Jonam, of Eliakim, ³¹of Melea, of Menna, of Mattatha, of Nathan, of David, ³²of Jesse, of Obed, of Boaz, of Salmon, of Nahshon, ³³of Amminadab, of Admin, of Arni, of Hezron, of Perez, of Judah, ³⁴of Jacob, of Isaac, of Abraham, of Terah, of Nahor, ³⁵of Serug, of Reu, of Peleg, of Eber, of Shelah, ³⁶of Cainan, of Arphaxad, of Shem, of Noah, of Lamech, ³⁷of Methuselah, of Enoch, of Jared, of Mahalaleel, of Cainan, ³⁸of Enos, of Seth, of Adam, of God.

Chapter 4

¹Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ²for 40 days being tempted by the devil. And he did not eat anything during those days, and he was hungry when they were completed. ³Then the devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, speak to this stone so that it might become bread.” ⁴And Jesus answered to him, “It is written, ‘Man will not live on bread alone.’” ⁵Then he led him up {and} showed him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant of time. ⁶And the devil said to him, “I will give to you all this authority and their glory, for it has been handed over to me, and I can give it to anyone I want. ⁷So then, if you will bow in worship before me, it will all be yours.” ⁸But answering, Jesus said to him, “It is written, ‘You will worship the Lord your God, and you will serve only him.’” ⁹Then he led him to Jerusalem and put him on the highest point of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written,

‘He will give orders to his angels regarding you, to protect you,’

¹¹and, ‘They will lift you up in {their} hands,

lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”

¹²But answering, Jesus said to him, “It is said, ‘You will not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

¹³And when he had finished every temptation, the devil went away from him until an opportune time.

¹⁴And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him went out throughout the entire surrounding region. ¹⁵And he began to teach in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

¹⁶And he came to Nazareth, where he had been raised, and according to his custom, he entered into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read aloud. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him and, opening the scroll, he found the place where it was written,

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord {is} upon me,

because he has anointed me to proclaim the gospel to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom to the captives,
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,

¹⁹to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.”

²⁰And rolling up the scroll {and} giving it back to the attendant, he sat down. And all the eyes in the synagogue were gazing on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your ears.” ²²And everyone spoke well of him and they were amazed at the gracious words that were coming out of his mouth, and they said, “Is this not the son of Joseph?” ²³And he said to them, “Surely you will say this proverb to me, ‘Doctor, heal yourself. Whatever we heard happened in Capernaum, also do here in your hometown.’” ²⁴But he said, “Truly I say to you that no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth I say to you that there were many widows in Israel during the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came upon all the land. ²⁶But Elijah was sent to none of them except to Zarephath in Sidon, to a widow woman. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel during {the time of} Elisha the prophet, but none of them were cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸And all in the synagogue were filled with rage when they heard these things. ²⁹And rising up, they drove him out of the town, and they led him to the edge of the hill on which their town was built, so as to throw him off. ³⁰But he, passing through the midst of them, went on his way.

³¹And he went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and he was teaching them on the Sabbaths. ³²And they were astonished at his teaching, because his word was with authority. ³³And in the synagogue there was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴“Ha! What to us and to you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” ³⁵And Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silenced, and come out of him!” And the demon threw him down in {their} midst and came out of him, not hurting him. ³⁶And astonishment came upon everyone, and they were talking to one another, saying, “What {is} this word, that he commands the unclean spirits with authority and power, and they come out?” ³⁷And news about him went out into every part of the surrounding region.

³⁸Then arising from the synagogue, he entered into the house of Simon. And Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering with a high fever, and they asked him concerning her. ³⁹And standing over her, he rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately after she got up, she began to serve them.

⁴⁰And when the sun was setting, everyone who had ones who were sick with various diseases brought them to him and, laying {his} hands on each of them, he was healing them. ⁴¹And demons also were coming out from many, crying out, and saying, “You are the Son of God!” But he was rebuking them, not permitting them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ.

⁴²And when it became day, having departed, he went to a solitary place, but the crowds were looking for him and came to him, and they restrained him not to go away from them. ⁴³But he said to them, “I must also proclaim the gospel about the kingdom of God to other cities, because for this I was sent.”

⁴⁴And he was preaching in the synagogues in Judea.

Chapter 5

¹And it happened that the crowd was pressing in on him and listening to the word of God, and he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. ²And he saw two boats standing by the lake, but the fishermen had gotten out of them {and} were washing {their} nets. ³Then he got into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, {and} asked him to put out a little from the land. Then he sat down {and} was teaching the crowds from the boat. ⁴Then when he stopped speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵But answering,

Simon said, "Master, we worked through the entire night {and} caught nothing, but at your word, I will let down the nets." ⁶And when they had done this, they caught a very large number of fish, and their nets began to break. ⁷And they signaled to their partners in the other boat that they should come to help them, and they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at the knees of Jesus, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, Lord." ⁹For amazement had seized him and all those with him at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰and likewise also James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." ¹¹And when they had brought the boats to the land, they left everything {and} followed him.

¹²And it happened that he was in one of the cities, and behold, a man full of leprosy. And seeing Jesus, he fell on his face {and} begged him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." ¹³And he reached out his hand {and} touched him, saying, "I am willing. Be clean." And immediately the leprosy went away from him. ¹⁴And he commanded him to tell no one, but, "Go, show yourself to the priest and offer a sacrifice for your cleansing as Moses commanded, for a testimony to them." ¹⁵But the word about him spread even more, and large crowds came together to hear him and to be healed from their sicknesses. ¹⁶But he was withdrawing into the deserted places and praying.

¹⁷And it happened on one of those days that he was teaching, and there were Pharisees and law teachers sitting there who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem, and power of the Lord was upon him to heal. ¹⁸And behold, men carrying on a mat a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him inside and to set him before him. ¹⁹And not finding a way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up to the housetop {and} let him down through the tiles on {his} mat into the midst before Jesus. ²⁰And seeing their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." ²¹And the scribes and the Pharisees began to debate, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who is able to forgive sins except God alone?" ²²But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, answering said to them, "Why are you debating in your hearts? ²³Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Get up and walk?' ²⁴But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive sins,"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I tell you, get up, and pick up your mat, {and} go to your house." ²⁵And immediately he got up before them, picked up that on which he had been lying, and went away to his house glorifying God. ²⁶And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God, and they were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen astonishing things today."

²⁷And after these things, he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax collector's office, and he said to him, "Follow me." ²⁸And leaving everything behind, he got up and began to follow him.

²⁹And Levi made a great banquet in his house for him, and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others, who were reclining to eat with them. ³⁰But the Pharisees and their scribes were murmuring to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" ³¹And answering, Jesus said to them, "People who are well do not have need of a physician, but those who have sickness. ³²I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

³³Then they said to him, "The disciples of John often fast and make prayers, and likewise those of the Pharisees. But those of yours eat and drink." ³⁴Then he said to them, "You are not able to make the sons of the bridal chamber fast while the bridegroom is with them, are you? ³⁵But the days will indeed come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them. Then, in those days, they will fast." ³⁶Then he also spoke a parable to them. "No one, having torn a piece of cloth from a new garment, sews it onto an old garment. But if not, the new will tear, and the old will not match the piece that is from the new. ³⁷And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. But if not, the new wine will burst the wineskins, and it will be spilled out, and the wineskins will be destroyed. ³⁸But one must put new wine into new wineskins. ³⁹No one, after drinking the old, wants the new, for he says, 'The old is better.'"

Chapter 6

¹And it happened that, on a Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and his disciples were picking and eating the heads of grain, rubbing them in {their} hands. ²But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful on the Sabbaths?" ³And answering them, Jesus said, "Have you not read this, what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: ⁴how he entered into the house of God and took the bread of the presence, ate it, and gave it to those with him, which is not lawful to eat except only for the priests?" ⁵And he said to them, "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

⁶And it happened that, on another Sabbath, he entered into the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there, and his right hand was withered. ⁷But the scribes and the Pharisees were watching him closely, whether he would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find to accuse him. ⁸But he knew their thinking and he said to the man having the withered hand, "Get up, and stand in the midst." So he got up {and} stood. ⁹Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you if {it is} lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save a life or to destroy?" ¹⁰And he looked around at them all {and} said to him, "Stretch out your hand." And he did, and his hand was restored. ¹¹But they were filled with rage and they were talking to each other about what they might do to Jesus.

¹²And it happened that, in those days, he went out to the mountain to pray, and he was spending the whole night in prayer to God. ¹³And when day came, he called his disciples, and he chose 12 from them, whom he also named apostles: ¹⁴Simon (whom he also named Peter) and his brother Andrew; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵and Matthew and Thomas; and James son of Alphaeus; and Simon who was called the Zealot; ¹⁶and Judas son of James; and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. ¹⁷And he came down with them {and} stood on a level place with a large crowd of his disciples and a large number of the people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to listen to him and to be healed from their diseases. And those who were troubled by unclean spirits were being healed. ¹⁹And the whole crowd was seeking to touch him because power was coming out from him and healing everyone.

²⁰And he lifted up his eyes upon his disciples, {and} said, "Blessed {are} the poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹Blessed {are} those who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed {are} those who are weeping now, for you will laugh. ²²Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. For their fathers did according to the same things to the prophets. ²⁴But woe to you, the rich, for you have received your comfort. ²⁵Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to the ones who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers did according to the same things to the false prophets.

²⁷But I say to you who are listening, love your enemies {and} do good to those who hate you. ²⁸Bless those who curse you {and} pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹To the one who strikes you on the cheek, offer also the other, and from the one who takes away your cloak, also do not withhold your tunic. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and from the one who takes away what {is} yours, do not ask for it back. ³¹And as you desire that men would do to you, do the same to them. ³²And if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even the sinners love those who love them. ³³For if indeed you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to {those} from whom you expect to receive back, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, so that they may receive back the same things. ³⁵But love your enemies and do good to them, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind toward the ungrateful and evil. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷And do not judge, and you will certainly not be judged. And do not condemn, and you will certainly not be condemned. Release, and you will be released. ³⁸Give, and it will be given to you: a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, spilling over—they will pour into your lap. For with the measure by which you measure, it will be measured back to you."

³⁹Then he also told them a parable. "A blind man is not able to guide a blind man, is he? Would not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰A disciple is not above {his} teacher, but everyone having been fully trained will be like his teacher. ⁴¹And why do you look at the speck of wood that {is} in the eye of your brother, but you do not notice the log that {is} in your own eye? ⁴²How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck of wood that {is} in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take out the log from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck of wood that {is} in the eye of your brother. ⁴³For there is no good tree that produces rotten fruit, nor, on the other hand, any rotten tree that produces good fruit. ⁴⁴For each tree is known by its own fruit. For they do not gather figs from a thornbush, nor do they gather grapes from a briar bush. ⁴⁵The good man from the good treasure of {his} heart produces what {is} good, and the evil man from evil produces what {is} evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

⁴⁶And why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' but not do what I say? ⁴⁷Everyone who is coming to me and hearing my words, and doing them, I will show you what he is like. ⁴⁸He is like a man building a house, who dug down and dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock. Then when a flood came, the torrent of water flowed against that house, but it could not shake it, because it had been built well. ⁴⁹But the one who hears and does not do, he is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation, against which the torrent of water flowed, and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

Chapter 7

¹When he had finished all his words in the hearing of the people, he entered into Capernaum.

²And a certain servant of a centurion, who was highly regarded by him, being sick, was about to die. ³And having heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come so that he might save his servant. ⁴And when they had come to Jesus, they asked him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy that you will grant this to him, ⁵because he loves our nation, and he built the synagogue for us." ⁶And Jesus went with them. But when he was already not far away from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, because I am not worthy that you would come under my roof. ⁷Therefore I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But speak with a word and let my servant be healed. ⁸For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me, and I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another one, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ⁹And when Jesus heard this, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that was following him, he said, "I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." ¹⁰And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant was well.

¹¹And it happened on the next day that he went into a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd were going with him. ¹²And as he approached the gate of the city, and behold, one who had died was being carried out, the one and only son of his mother (and she was a widow), and a rather large crowd from the city was with her. ¹³And when he saw her, the Lord felt compassion for her, and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴And he approached {and} touched the bier, and those who were carrying it stood still. Then he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and he gave him to his mother. ¹⁶Then fear seized all of them, and they were glorifying God, saying, "A great prophet has been raised among us" and "God has visited his people." ¹⁷And this word about him went out throughout the whole of Judea and all the surrounding region.

¹⁸And his disciples reported to John concerning all these things. And calling two of his disciples, John ¹⁹sent to the Lord to say, "Are you the one who is coming, or should we expect another?" ²⁰And when they had come to him, the men said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to say, 'Are you the one who is coming, or should we expect another?'" ²¹In that hour he healed many from sicknesses and afflictions and evil spirits, and to many blind people he granted to see. ²²And answering, he said to them, "Having gone, report to John what you have seen and heard: the blind are seeing again, the lame are walking, lepers are being cleansed and the deaf are hearing, the dead are being raised back to life, the poor are being told the gospel, ²³and blessed is anyone who is not offended by me."

²⁴Then after the messengers of John had gone away, he began to say to the crowds concerning John, "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothes? Behold, those in expensive clothing and living in luxury are in kings' palaces. ²⁶But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he concerning whom it is written, 'Behold, I am sending my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

²⁸I say to you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John, but the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." ²⁹(And all the people who heard, including the tax collectors, declared God to be righteous, having been baptized with the baptism of John. ³⁰But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.) ³¹"To what, then, will I compare the men of this generation? And what are they like? ³²They are like children who are sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, who are saying, 'We played a flute for you, and you did not dance. We sang a funeral song, and you did not wail.' ³³For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' ³⁴The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a man, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and of sinners!' ³⁵But wisdom is justified by all her children."

³⁶Then one of the Pharisees requested him to eat with him. So entering into the house of the Pharisee, he reclined to eat. ³⁷And behold, a woman who was in the city {was} a sinner. And when she found out that he was reclining to eat in the house of the Pharisee, she brought an alabaster jar of perfumed oil ³⁸and stood behind him near his feet, weeping. She began to wet his feet with {her} tears, and she was wiping them with the hair of her head and kissing his feet and anointing them with the perfumed oil. ³⁹And when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, saying, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and of what type {is} the woman who is touching him, that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰And answering, Jesus said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he says, "Say it, Teacher!" ⁴¹"There were two debtors to a certain moneylender. The one owed 500 denarii, and the other 50. ⁴²When they did not have enough to repay, he forgave them both. Therefore, which of them will love him more?" ⁴³Simon answering said, "I suppose that the one to whom he forgave the most." Then he said to him, "You have judged correctly." ⁴⁴And turning to the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered into your house. You did not give me water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with {her} tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You did not give me a kiss, but from when I came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with perfumed oil. ⁴⁷Therefore I say to you, her sins, which {were} many, have been forgiven—for she loved much. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." ⁴⁸Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹And those reclining with him to eat began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰Then he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Chapter 8

¹And it happened that soon afterward, he also began traveling through city and village, preaching and proclaiming the gospel about the kingdom of God, and the Twelve {were} with him, ²and certain women who had been healed from evil spirits and diseases: Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out; ³and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's manager; and Susanna; and many others; who were ministering to them out of their possessions.

⁴And when a large crowd was gathering, and coming to him by city, he spoke in a parable: ⁵"The sower went out to sow his seed, and as he sowed, some fell along the road, and it was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the sky devoured it. ⁶And other seed fell on the rock, and when it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷And other seed fell in the midst of the thorns, and the thorns grew up with it {and} choked it. ⁸And other seed fell on the good soil, and when it grew up, it produced fruit a hundred times greater." After saying these things, he called out, "The one who has ears to hear, let him hear."

⁹Then his disciples questioned him, "What is this parable?" ¹⁰And he said, "To you has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest in parables, so that, 'Seeing, they may not see; and hearing, they may not understand.' ¹¹And the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²And the ones along the path are those who have heard, but then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so they may not believe {and} be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock {are} those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy. But they have no root; they believe for a time, and in a time of testing they go away. ¹⁴And the ones that fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by cares and riches and pleasures of {this} life, and they do not produce mature fruit. ¹⁵But the ones on the good soil, these are the ones who, having heard the word with an honest and good heart, hold it securely and bear fruit with endurance.

¹⁶And no one lights a lamp {and} covers it with a bowl or puts it under a bed. Rather, he puts it on a lampstand so that those who enter may see the light. ¹⁷For nothing is hidden that will not become visible, nor secret that will certainly not be known and come into visibility. ¹⁸So be careful how you listen, for whoever has, it will be given to him, but whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken away from him."

¹⁹Then his mother and brothers came to him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. ²⁰Then it was reported to him, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you." ²¹But answering, he said to them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear and do the word of God."

²²And it happened that, on one of {those} days, both he and his disciples got into a boat, and he said to them, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they put out. ²³But as they voyaged, he fell asleep. Then a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were being filled and were in danger. ²⁴Then they approached {and} woke him up, saying, "Master! Master! We are perishing!" But he awoke, he rebuked the wind and the waves of the water, and they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵Then he said to them, "Where {is} your faith?" Then they were afraid {and} marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?"

²⁶And they sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷And when he came out onto the land, a certain man from the city, who had demons, met him. And for a long time he had not worn clothes, and he did not live in a house, but in the tombs. ²⁸And when he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before him, and said in a loud voice, "What to me and to you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out from the man. For many times it had seized him, and he was bound with chains and shackles {and} kept under guard, and breaking {his} bonds, he would be driven by the demon into the wilderness. ³⁰Then Jesus questioned him, "What is your name?" and he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered into him. ³¹And they were begging him that he would not command them to go away into the abyss. ³²And a large herd of pigs was there feeding on the hillside, and they begged him to permit them to go into them. And he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out from the man and entered into the pigs, {and} the herd rushed down the steep slope into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴And when those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported it in the city and in the countryside. ³⁵Then they went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and being sound-minded, and they were afraid. ³⁶Then those who had seen reported to them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been saved. ³⁷And all the multitude of the region of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized by great fear. Then he got into the boat to return. ³⁸And the man from whom the demons had gone out begged him to be with him, but he sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your house and describe all that God has done for you." So he went on his way, proclaiming throughout the whole city all that Jesus had done for him.

⁴⁰Then when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. ⁴¹And behold, a man came whose name {was} Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at the feet of Jesus, he begged him to come to his house, ⁴²because he {had} a one and only daughter, who was about 12 years old, and she was dying. And as he was going, the crowds were crowding around him.

⁴³And there was a woman with a flow of blood for 12 years, who, having spent all {her} living on doctors,^[1] was not able to be healed by anyone. ⁴⁴She approached from behind {and} touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her flow of blood stopped. ⁴⁵And Jesus said, "Who {is} the one who touched me?" But when all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds are crowding around and pressing against you." ⁴⁶But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I know power has gone out from me." ⁴⁷Then the woman, having seen that she could not hide, came trembling and fell down before him. Before all the people she declared for what reason she had touched him, and how she had been healed immediately. ⁴⁸Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

⁴⁹While he was still speaking, someone comes from the synagogue leader, saying, "Your daughter has died. Do not trouble the Teacher any longer." ⁵⁰But when Jesus heard this, he answered him, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be saved." ⁵¹And when he came to the house, he did not allow anyone to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father of the child, and the mother. ⁵²And they were all mourning and beating their breasts for her, but he said, "Do not wail, for she has not died, but sleeps." ⁵³And they laughed at him, knowing that she had died. ⁵⁴But he, taking hold of her hand, called out, saying, "Child, arise!" ⁵⁵And her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately, and he ordered something to be given to her to eat. ⁵⁶And her parents were astonished, but he commanded them to tell no one what had happened.

8:43 ^[1].

Chapter 9

¹And when he had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority over all the demons, and to cure diseases, ²and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³And he said to them, "Take nothing for the road—neither staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor silver—nor have two tunics. ⁴And whatever house you enter into, stay there and go out from there. ⁵And wherever they do not receive you, when you go out from that city, shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." ⁶Then they went out {and} were going through the villages, proclaiming the gospel and healing everywhere.

⁷And Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had risen from the dead, ⁸and by some that Elijah had appeared, but by others that one of the ancient prophets had risen. ⁹But Herod said, "I beheaded John, but who is this about whom I hear such things?" So he was seeking to see him.

¹⁰And when the apostles returned, they described to him as much as they had done. Then taking them, he withdrew by himself to a city called Bethsaida. ¹¹But when the crowds came to know, they followed him. And he welcomed them {and} spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and he was healing those who had need of healing. ¹²And the day began to end, and the Twelve came {and} said to him, "Send the crowd away so that, going into the surrounding villages and countryside, they may find lodging and food, because we are here in a desolate place." ¹³But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." But they said, "There are not more than five loaves and two fish with us—unless we go {and} buy food for all these people." ¹⁴(For there were about 5,000 men.) Then he said to his disciples, "Have them recline to eat in groups of about 50 each." ¹⁵And thus they did, and made them all recline to eat. ¹⁶Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, looking up to heaven, he blessed them and broke them into pieces, and he gave them to the disciples to serve to the crowd. ¹⁷And they all ate and were satisfied, and what was left over to them was picked up—12 baskets of broken pieces.

¹⁸And it happened that, while he was praying alone, the disciples were with him, and he questioned them, saying, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" ¹⁹So answering, they said, "John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and others that one of the ancient prophets has risen." ²⁰Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Then Peter answering said, "The Christ of God." ²¹But he strongly warned them, commanding them to tell this to no one, ²²saying, "It is necessary for the Son of Man to suffer many things and to be rejected by the elders and chief priests

and scribes, and to be killed, and to be raised on the third day.”²³Then he said to them all, “If anyone wants to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴For whoever would desire to save his life will lose it, but whoever would lose his life for my sake, this one will save it. ²⁵For what is a man profited, having gained the whole world, but destroying or losing himself? ²⁶For whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of this one when he comes in his own glory, and of the Father and of the holy angels. ²⁷But I say to you truly, there are some of those who are standing here who will certainly not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.”

²⁸And it happened that, about eight days after these words, taking along Peter and John and James, he went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And it happened that, as he was praying, the appearance of his face became different, and his clothing flashed white like lightning. ³⁰And behold, two men began talking with him, who were Moses and Elijah, ³¹who were seen in glory, speaking about his departure, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. ³²And Peter and those with him were weighted with sleep, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men who were standing with him. ³³And it happened that, as they were going away from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here, so let us make three tents, one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah” (not knowing what he says). ³⁴But as he was saying this, a cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered into the cloud. ³⁵And there was a voice from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, the one who is chosen; listen to him.” ³⁶And when the voice had happened, Jesus was found alone. Then they were silent and told no one in those days anything of the things they had seen.

³⁷And it happened that, on the next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. ³⁸And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, saying, “Teacher, I beg you to look upon my son, for he is my one and only {child}. ³⁹And behold, a spirit seizes him and he suddenly cries out, and it throws him into convulsions with foam. And it departs from him with difficulty, crushing him. ⁴⁰And I begged your disciples so that they would cast it out, but they were not able.” ⁴¹Then answering, Jesus said, “O unbelieving and perverted generation, until when will I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” ⁴²And while he was coming, the demon threw him down and shook him with convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy and gave him back to his father. ⁴³Then they were all amazed at the majesty of God. But while all were marveling at everything that he was doing, he said to his disciples, ⁴⁴“You put these words in your ears: For the Son of Man is going to be handed over into the hands of men.” ⁴⁵But they did not understand this word, and it was hidden from them, so they could not understand it, and they were afraid to question him about this word.

⁴⁶Then an argument started among them as to which of them might be the greatest. ⁴⁷But Jesus, knowing the reasoning in their hearts, took a little child, put him next to him, ⁴⁸and said to them, “Whoever welcomes this child in my name, welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me, welcomes the one who sent me. For the one who is least among you all, he is great.”

⁴⁹Then answering, John said, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name and we prevented him, because he does not follow with us.” ⁵⁰But Jesus said to him, “Do not prevent him, for whoever is not against you is for you.”

⁵¹And it happened that, when the days of his being taken up were being fulfilled, then he set {his} face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers before his face, and they went {and} entered into a Samaritan village so as to prepare for him. ⁵³But they did not welcome him, because his face was going to Jerusalem. ⁵⁴And when the disciples James and John saw, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned {and} rebuked them, ⁵⁶and they went on to another village.

⁵⁷And as they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “The foxes have dens, and the birds of the sky, nests, but the Son of Man does not have anywhere to lay {his} head.” ⁵⁹Then he said to another, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, permit me to go first to bury my father.” ⁶⁰But he said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead. But you, go {and} proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Then

still another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but first permit me to say goodbye to those in my home." ⁶²But Jesus replied, "No one, having put his hand on a plow, yet looking to the things behind, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Chapter 10

¹And after these things, the Lord also appointed ⁷²^[1] others, and sent them out by twos before his face to every city and place where he himself was about to go. ²And he said to them, "The harvest {is} plentiful, but the laborers {are} few. Therefore urge the Lord of the harvest that he would send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go. Behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴Do not carry a money bag, nor a sack, nor sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter into, first say, 'Peace {be} to this house!' ⁶And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷And remain in that house, eating and drinking what {is} from them, for the laborer {is} worthy of his wages. Do not move around from house to house. ⁸And whatever city you enter into, and they receive you, eat what is served to you, ⁹and heal the sick in it, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come close to you.' ¹⁰And into whatever city you might enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets {and} say, ¹¹'Even the dust that clings to us from your city on {our} feet we wipe off against you! But know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' ¹²I say to you that on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that city. ¹³Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works that happened in you had happened in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and for Sidon at the judgment than for you. ¹⁵And you, Capernaum, you will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will be brought down as far as Hades. ¹⁶The one who listens to you listens to me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷Then the 72 returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subjected to us in your name." ¹⁸And he said to them, "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. ¹⁹Behold, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will harm you at all. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subjected to you, but rejoice that your names are written in the heavens."

²¹At that hour he rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit, and said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you concealed these things from the wise and intelligent and revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for thus it was well pleasing before you. ²²All things have been handed over to me from my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and to whomever the Son desires to reveal him." ²³And having turned around to the disciples, he said privately, "Blessed {are} the eyes that see what you see! ²⁴For I say to you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear."

²⁵And behold, a certain lawyer stood up to test him, saying, "Teacher, doing what, will I inherit everlasting life?" ²⁶But he said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?" ²⁷And answering, he said, "You will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live." ²⁹But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Then answering, Jesus said, "A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers who, both having stripped him and having laid on blows, went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Then by coincidence a certain priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²And likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a certain Samaritan, as he traveled along, came upon him, and when he saw him, he felt compassion. ³⁴And having approached, he bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then, having put him on his own animal, he brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵And on the next day, taking out two denarii, he gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you might spend, when I return, I will repay you.' ³⁶Which of these three do you think became a neighbor to the one who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷And he said, "The one who showed mercy to him." Then Jesus said to him, "You go and do likewise."

³⁸And as they were traveling along, he entered into a certain village, and a certain woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, and she was sitting at the feet of Jesus,^[2] listening to his word. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted with much service, and coming up, she said, "Lord, are you not concerned that my sister has left me alone to serve? Therefore, speak to her so that she might help me." ⁴¹But answering, the Lord said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. For Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her."

10:1 ^[1], while others read Scholars are divided as to which is the correct reading.

10:39 ^[2] but some read

Chapter 11

¹And it happened that, when he was praying in a certain place, when he stopped, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples." ²And he said to them, "When you pray, say,

'Father, let your name be made holy.

Let your kingdom come.

³Give us our daily bread each day.

⁴And forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone

who owes us.

And may you not lead us into temptation.'"

⁵And he said to them, "Which of you will have a friend and will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend three loaves to me, ⁶since my friend has come to me from the road, and I do not have anything to serve to him?'

⁷And answering from inside, he may say, 'Do not cause me trouble. The door has already been shut, and my children are in the bed with me. I am not able to get up to give to you.' ⁸I say to you, even if he does not get up to give it to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence, rising up, he will give to him as much as he needs. ⁹I also say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

¹⁰For everyone who asks receives; and the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, it will be opened.

¹¹And which father among you, {his} son will ask for a fish, and instead of a fish, he will give him a snake?^[1] ¹²Or also he will ask for an egg, he will give him a scorpion? ¹³Therefore, if you who are evil know to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father who {is} from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

¹⁴And he was casting out a mute demon. And it happened that, when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the crowd marveled. ¹⁵But some of them said, "By Beelzebul, the ruler of demons, he is casting out the demons." ¹⁶And others tested him, seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is made desolate, and house against house falls. ¹⁸But if Satan is also divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say I cast out the demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹But if I cast out the demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Because of this, they will be your judges. ²⁰But if I cast out the demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you. ²¹When the strong man who is fully armed is guarding his own courtyard, his possessions are at peace, ²²but when a stronger than he attacks him, he will overcome him, take away his armor in which he trusted, and divide his spoils. ²³The one who is not with me is against me, and the one who does not gather with me scatters. ²⁴When the unclean spirit has gone out from the man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' ²⁵And having come, it finds it swept out and put in order. ²⁶Then it goes and takes along

seven other spirits more evil than itself and they having entered in, it resides there. And the last things of that man become worse than the first things.”

²⁷And it happened that, as he was saying these things, a certain woman from the crowd, lifting up {her} voice, said to him, “Blessed {is} the womb that bore you and the breasts that you nursed at.” ²⁸But he said, “Rather, blessed {are} the ones who hear the word of God and keep it.”

²⁹And as the crowds were increasing, he began to say, “This generation is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, but a sign will not be given to it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation. ³¹The Queen of the South will stand up in the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, greater than Solomon {is} here. ³²The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, greater than Jonah {is} here.

³³No one, having lit a lamp, puts it in a hidden place, nor under the measure, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. ³⁴The lamp of the body is your eye. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is also illuminated. But when it is evil, your body {is} also dark. ³⁵Therefore, beware that the light that {is} in you is not darkness. ³⁶If therefore your whole body {is} illuminated, not having any part dark, it will all be illuminated, as when the lamp with its brightness illuminates you.”

³⁷And when he had spoken, a Pharisee asks him that he would dine with him. He went in and reclined to eat. ³⁸And the Pharisee, seeing this, marveled that he did not first wash before the meal. ³⁹But the Lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the bowl, but the inside of you is full of greed and evil. ⁴⁰You foolish ones! Did not the one who made the outside also make the inside? ⁴¹But give as charity what is inside, and behold, all things are clean to you.

⁴²But woe to you Pharisees, because you tithe the mint and the rue and every garden herb, but you neglect the justice and the love of God. But it is necessary to do these things {and} not to neglect those things. ⁴³Woe to you Pharisees, for you love the first seats in the synagogues and the greetings in the marketplaces. ⁴⁴Woe to you, for you are like the unseen graves, and the men who are walking over them do not know it.”

⁴⁵Then answering, one of the lawyers says to him, “Teacher, saying these things, you insult us too.” ⁴⁶But he said, “Woe also to you lawyers! For you burden men with burdens difficult to carry, but you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers. ⁴⁷Woe to you, because you build the tombs of the prophets, but your fathers killed them. ⁴⁸So you testify and consent to the works of your fathers, for they killed them, and you are building. ⁴⁹Because of this, the wisdom of God also said, ‘I will send to them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and persecute’ ⁵⁰that the blood of all the prophets that has been shed from the foundation of the world may be required from this generation, ⁵¹from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the house. Yes, I say to you, it will be required from this generation. ⁵²Woe to you lawyers, because you have taken away the key of knowledge; you have not entered yourselves, and you have hindered those who are entering.”

⁵³After he went out from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to oppose him fiercely and to argue against him about many things, ⁵⁴lying in wait for him to trap something from his mouth.

11:11 ^[1]

Chapter 12

¹In those {times}, when myriads of the crowd were gathered together so that they trampled on each other, he began to say to his disciples first, “Guard yourselves from the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. ²But nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. ³Therefore, whatever you have

said in the darkness will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops. ⁴But I say to you, my friends, you should not be frightened of those who kill the body, and after that do not have anything more to do. ⁵But I will show you whom to fear. Fear the one who, after he has killed, has authority to throw into Gehenna. Yes, I say to you, fear him. ⁶Are not five sparrows sold for two assaria? Yet not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷But even the hairs of your head have all been numbered. Do not fear: you are more valuable than many sparrows. ⁸But I say to you, everyone who confesses me before men, the Son of Man will also confess him before the angels of God, ⁹but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. ¹⁰And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him, but to the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven. ¹¹And when they bring you to the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not worry about how or what you should speak in your defense or what you should say, ¹²for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that hour what is necessary to say."

¹³Then someone from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Man, who appointed me a judge or a mediator over you?" ¹⁵Then he said to them, "See and keep yourselves from all covetousness, because one's life is not in the abounding to him of his possessions." ¹⁶Then he spoke to them a parable, saying, "The land of a certain rich man yielded abundantly, ¹⁷and he reasoned with himself, saying, 'What should I do, since I do not have anywhere to gather my crops?' ¹⁸And he said, 'I will do this: I will take down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will gather all of my grain and good things. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many good things lying in store for many years. Relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" ²⁰But God said to him, 'Foolish one, this night they are demanding your soul from you, and what you have prepared, whose will it be?' ²¹Thus {is} the one who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

²²Then he said to his disciples, "Because of this I say to you, do not worry about {your} life, what you will eat—and not about {your} body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body {than} clothes. ²⁴Consider the ravens, that they neither sow nor reap, to whom is neither storeroom nor barn, but God feeds them. How much more valuable you are than the birds! ²⁵But which of you by being anxious is able to add a cubit to his lifespan? ²⁶If then you are not able to do the least, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies—how they grow. They do not labor, neither do they spin. But I say to you, not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ²⁸And if God so clothes the grass in the field, which exists today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more you, O you of little faith! ²⁹And you, do not seek what you might eat and what you might drink, and do not be anxious. ³⁰For all the nations of the world seek these things, but your Father knows that you need them. ³¹But seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³²Do not fear, little flock, because your Father is very pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give alms. Make for yourselves purses that will not wear out—unfailing treasure in the heavens, where thief does not come near, nor moth destroy. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵Let your loins be girded, and the lamps be kept burning, ³⁶and you {be} like men waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that when he comes and knocks, they may immediately open for him. ³⁷Blessed {are} those servants whom the master will find watching when he comes. Truly I say to you that he will gird himself and have them recline to eat, and he will come {and} serve them. ³⁸Even if he comes in the second, or even in the third watch, and finds them thus, blessed are those. ³⁹But understand this, that if the master of the house had known at which hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also be ready, because in that hour you do not expect, the Son of Man is coming."

⁴¹Then Peter said, "Lord, are you speaking this parable to us, or also to everyone?" ⁴²And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful, wise manager whom the master will appoint over his care, to give them {their} portion of food at the right time? ⁴³Blessed {is} that servant whom his master will find doing so when he comes. ⁴⁴Truly I say to you that he will appoint him over all his possessions. ⁴⁵But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master delays to return,' and begins to beat the male servants and the female servants, and to eat and drink, and to become drunk, ⁴⁶the master of that servant will arrive in a day that he does not expect, yes, in an hour that he does not know, and will cut him in two and appoint his place with the unfaithful. ⁴⁷Now that servant, the one who knew the will of his

master and did not get ready or do according to his will, will be beaten much. ⁴⁸But the one who did not know and did things worthy of blows will be beaten little. But everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required from him, and to whom much has been provided, even more will be asked of him.

⁴⁹I came to throw fire upon the earth, and how I wish that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how I am distressed until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I came to give peace on the earth? No, I say to you, but rather division. ⁵²For from now on there will be five in one house divided—three against two and two against three. ⁵³They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against {her} daughter and daughter against {her} mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against {her} mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴And he was also saying to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, ‘A shower is coming,’ and it happens thus. ⁵⁵And when a south wind is blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the face of the sky and of the earth, but how do you not know how to interpret this time? ⁵⁷And why do you not even judge for yourselves what {is} righteous? ⁵⁸For as you are going with your adversary to the magistrate, make an effort on the way to be released from him so that he might not drag you to the judge, and the judge deliver you to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison. ⁵⁹I say to you, you will certainly not come out from there until you have paid the very last lepton.”

Chapter 13

¹And some were present at that time who were reporting to him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ²And answering, he said to them, “Do you think that these Galileans were more sinful than all the Galileans because they suffered this? ³No, I say to you. But if you do not repent, you will all perish in the same way. ⁴Or those 18 on whom the tower fell in Siloam and killed them: Do you think that they were worse debtors than all the men who reside in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I say to you. But if you do not repent, you will all likewise perish.”

⁶Then he spoke this parable: “Someone had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it, but did not find any. ⁷And he said to the gardener, ‘Behold, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and have not found any. Cut it down. For what reason is it even idling the ground?’ ⁸But answering, he says to him, ‘Master, leave it this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹If it bears fruit in the coming one ... but if not, you will cut it down!’”

¹⁰And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbaths, ¹¹and behold, a woman having a spirit of weakness for 18 years, and she was bent over and was not able to straighten up to the complete. ¹²And when Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, “Woman, you are released from your weakness.” ¹³And he placed {his} hands on her, and immediately she was straightened up, and she glorified God. ¹⁴But answering, the synagogue ruler, being indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the crowd, “There are six days on which it is necessary to work. Therefore come {and} be healed on them, and not on the day of the Sabbath.” ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, “Hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from the stall and lead it away to drink? ¹⁶But this one, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound, behold, for 18 years, ought she not to have been released from this bond on the day of the Sabbath?” ¹⁷And as he was saying these things, all those who were opposing him were put to shame, but the whole crowd was rejoicing at all the glorious things that were being done by him.

¹⁸Then he said, “What is the kingdom of God like, and to what will I compare it? ¹⁹It is like a mustard seed that a man took {and} threw into his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the sky nested in its branches.”

²⁰And again he said, “To what will I compare the kingdom of God? ²¹It is like yeast that a woman took {and} mixed with three seahs of flour until it was all leavened.”

²²And he was traveling through cities and villages, teaching and making {his} journey toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, "Lord, if the ones who are being saved {are} few?" And he said to them, ²⁴"Struggle to enter through the narrow door, because many, I say to you, will seek to enter, but will not be able. ²⁵After the master of the house gets up and closes the door, then you will begin to stand outside and to knock on the door, saying, 'Lord, open for us.' But he will answer {and} say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from.' ²⁶Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank before you, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷And he will speak, saying to you, 'I do not know where you are from. Get away from me, all you workers of unrighteousness!' ²⁸In that place, there will be wailing and the grinding of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you are thrown outside. ²⁹And they will come from east and west and from north and south and will recline to eat in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, there are last ones who will be first, and there are first ones who will be last."

³¹At that hour, certain Pharisees approached, saying to him, "Leave and go away from here, because Herod wants to kill you." ³²And he said to them, "Go {and} tell that fox, 'Behold, I am casting out demons and performing healings today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will be finished.' ³³Nevertheless, it is necessary for me to journey today, and tomorrow, and the following day, for it is not possible for a prophet to perish outside of Jerusalem. ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I have desired to gather your children the way a hen her own brood under {her} wings, but you were not willing. ³⁵Behold, your house has been left to you. And I say to you, you will certainly not see me until it comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Chapter 14

¹And it happened that, when he went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees on a Sabbath to eat bread, they were also watching him closely. ²And behold, a certain man who was edematous {was} before him. ³And answering, Jesus spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴But they kept silent. And, taking hold of him, he healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, "Of which of you will a son or an ox fall into a well, and he will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?" ⁶And they were not able to give an answer to these things.

⁷Then he was speaking a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the first places, {and} saying to them, ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not recline to eat in the first place, lest a more honorable than you may have been invited by him, ⁹and when the one who invited you and him arrives, he will say to you, 'Give {your} place to this one,' and then you will begin with shame to take the last place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go {and} recline to eat in the last place, so that when the one who has invited you comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, come up higher.' Then there will be glory to you before all those reclining to eat with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹²Then he also said to the one who had invited him, "When you make a lunch or a supper, do not invite your friends, nor your brothers, nor your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and repayment happen to you. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, {and} the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they do not have to repay you. For it will be repaid to you in the resurrection of the righteous."

¹⁵And when one of those who reclined to eat heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed {is} whoever will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" ¹⁶But he said to him, "A certain man made a large supper and invited many. ¹⁷And he sent his servant at the hour of the supper to say to those who were invited, 'Come, because it is now ready.' ¹⁸And they all from one began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I have need to go out to see it. I ask you, have me excused.' ¹⁹And another said, 'I have bought five pairs of oxen, and I am going to try them out. I ask you, have me excused.' ²⁰And another said, 'I have married a wife, and because of this I am not able to come.' ²¹And the servant came {and} reported these things to his master. Then becoming angry, the

master of the house said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' ²²And the servant said, 'Master, what you commanded has happened, and there is still room.' ²³And the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the roads and hedges and compel them to come in, so that my house may be filled. ²⁴For I say to you that none of those men who were invited will taste of my supper.'"

²⁵And large crowds were journeying with him, and he turned {and} said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters and also even his own life, he is not able to be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry his cross and come after me is not able to be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down {and} calculate the cost—whether he has for completion? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going to fight with another king in war, will not sit down {and} first determine whether he is able with 10,000 to meet the one coming against him with 20,000? ³²But if not, while he is still far away, sending a delegation, he asks the things for peace. ³³In the same way, then, every one of you who does not renounce all the things that he himself possesses is not able to be my disciple. ³⁴Salt then {is} good, but if the salt indeed is made tasteless, with what will it be seasoned? ³⁵It is useful neither for the soil nor for the manure pile. They throw it outside. The one who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Chapter 15

¹And all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming to him to listen to him. ²And both the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling, saying, "This one receives sinners and eats together with them."

³And he spoke this parable to them, saying, ⁴"Which man among you, having 100 sheep and having lost one of them, does not leave the 99 in the wilderness and go after the lost one until he finds it? ⁵And having found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And coming to the house, he calls together {his} friends and {his} neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice together with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷I say to you that in the same way, there will be joy in heaven over one sinner who repents, more than over 99 righteous who have no need of repentance.

⁸Or what woman, having ten drachmas, if she should lose one drachma, would not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she has found it? ⁹And having found it, she calls together {her} friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice together with me, for I have found the drachma that I lost.' ¹⁰In the same way, I say to you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

¹¹Then he said, "A certain man had two sons, ¹²and the younger of them said to {his} father, 'Father, give me the portion of the wealth that falls to me.' And he distributed {his} livelihood to them. ¹³And after not many days, the younger son gathered everything together {and} went to a distant country, and there he wasted his wealth, living recklessly. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine happened throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵And he went {and} attached himself to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be satisfied from the carob pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave to him. ¹⁷But coming to himself, he said, 'How many hired servants of my father have more than enough bread, but I am perishing from hunger here! ¹⁸I will get up {and} go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired servants.'" ²⁰And he got up {and} went to his own father. But while he was still far away, his father saw him and felt compassion, and he ran, fell upon his neck, and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring the first robe and clothe him, and put a ring on his hand, and sandals on {his} feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat {and} celebrate! ²⁴For this son of mine was dead, and has come back to life; he was lost, and he has been found.' Then they began to celebrate. ²⁵And his older son was in the field, and as he came {and} approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And summoning one of the servants, he

asked what these things might be. ²⁷And he said to him, 'Your brother has come and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has received him back in good health.' ²⁸But he became angry and was not willing to go in, and his father came out {and} entreated him. ²⁹But answering, he said to his father, 'Behold, for so many years I am slaving for you, and I have never disregarded your command, and you never gave a young goat to me so that I might celebrate with my friends, ³⁰but when this son of yours came, the one having devoured your livelihood with prostitutes, you killed for him the fattened calf.' ³¹But he said to him, 'Child, you are always with me, and all that {is} mine is yours. ³²But it was proper to celebrate and to rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead, and lived, and he had been lost, and was found.'"

Chapter 16

¹And he also said to the disciples, "There was a certain rich man who had a manager, and he was reported to him as wasting his possessions. ²And he called him {and} said to him, 'What {is} this I hear about you? Give a report of your management, for you are no longer able to manage.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What should I do, since my master is taking away the management from me? I am not strong to dig. I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I know what I will do, so that when I am removed from the management, they will welcome me into their houses.' ⁵And having summoned each one of the debtors of his master, he said to the first one, 'How much do you owe to my master?' ⁶And he said, '100 baths of olive oil.' Then he said to him, 'Take your bill and, sitting down, quickly write 50.' ⁷Then to another he said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' And he said, '100 cors of wheat.' He says to him, 'Take your bill, and write 80.' ⁸And the master praised the unrighteous manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the sons of this age are shrewder than the sons of the light in their own generation. ⁹And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails, they may welcome you into the eternal dwellings. ¹⁰The one {who is} faithful in very little is also faithful in much, and the one {who is} unrighteous in very little is also unrighteous in much. ¹¹If therefore you have not been faithful in unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true to you? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in what belongs to another, who will give to you what {is} your own? ¹³No servant is able to serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and he will love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and he will despise the other. You are not able to serve God and wealth."

¹⁴And the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they were ridiculing him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "You are the ones justifying yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what {is} exalted among men {is} an abomination before God. ¹⁶The Law and the Prophets {were} until John. From then on, the kingdom of God is proclaimed as good news, and everyone is forcing their way into it. ¹⁷But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of the law to fall.

¹⁸Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and the one who marries one divorced from a husband commits adultery.

¹⁹Now there was a certain rich man, and he was putting on purple and fine linen, feasting sumptuously every day. ²⁰But a certain poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, afflicted with sores, ²¹and longing to be fed from the things falling from the table of the rich man. But even the dogs were coming {and} licking his sores. ²²Then it happened that the poor man died, and he was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. Then the rich man also died and was buried, ²³and in Hades, lifting up his eyes, being in torment, he sees Abraham from afar, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴And crying out, he said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus likewise bad things. But now he is comforted here, and you are tormented. ²⁶And with all these things, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those wanting to cross from here to you may not be able, nor may they go across from there to us.' ²⁷Then he said, 'I beg you then, Father, that you would send him to the house of my father— ²⁸for I have five brothers—in order that he might warn them, so that they may not also come to this place of torment.' ²⁹But Abraham says, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them listen to them.' ³⁰But he said, 'No, Father

Abraham, but if someone should go to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

Chapter 17

¹Then he said to his disciples, "It is impossible for traps not to come, but woe to the one through whom they come!

²It would be better for him if a millstone were lying around his neck and he were thrown into the sea than that he should trap one of these little ones. ³Pay attention to yourselves. If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. ⁴And if he sins against you seven times in the day, and seven times returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you will forgive him."

⁵And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase faith to us." ⁶So the Lord said, "If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted, and be planted in the sea,' and it would listen to you. ⁷But which of you {is it}, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, who will say to him, having come in from the field, 'Come immediately {and} recline to eat'? ⁸Instead, will he not say to him, 'Prepare something I may eat and, girding yourself, serve me while I eat and drink, and after these things you will eat and drink'? ⁹He does not have gratitude to the servant because he did the things commanded, does he? ¹⁰Thus also you, when you have done all the things commanded to you, say, 'We are worthless servants. We have done what we ought to do.'"

¹¹And it happened in the journeying to Jerusalem that he was passing through between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered into a certain village, ten men who were lepers met him, who stood at a distance ¹³and they lifted up their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." ¹⁴And when he saw them, he said to them, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And it happened that, as they went away, they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, seeing that he had been healed, returned, glorifying God with a loud voice. ¹⁶And he fell on {his} face at his feet, giving thanks to him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then answering, Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? But where {are} the nine? ¹⁸Were they not found returning to give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹And he said to him, "Rise up, {and} go. Your faith has saved you."

²⁰And having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, he answered them and said, "The kingdom of God is not coming with observation. ²¹Neither will they say, 'Behold, here!' or 'There!' For behold, the kingdom of God is within you."

²²Then he said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it. ²³And they will say to you, 'Behold, there!' or 'Behold, here!' Do not go out or run after them, ²⁴for just as the lightning flashing from a place under the sky shines to a place under the sky, so will the Son of Man be.^[1] ²⁵But first it is necessary for him to suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. ²⁶And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will also be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷They were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage—until that day Noah entered into the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸Likewise, just as it happened in the days of Lot—they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building. ²⁹But in the day Lot went out from Sodom, it rained fire and sulfur from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰It will be according to these things in the day the Son of Man is revealed. ³¹In that day, whoever is on the housetop and his goods are in the house, let him not go down to take them away; and the one in the field, likewise let him not turn to the things behind. ³²Remember the wife of Lot. ³³Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, but whoever will lose it will preserve it. ³⁴I say to you, in that night there will be two in one bed. The one will be taken, and the other will be left. ³⁵There will be two grinding in the same place. The one will be taken, but the other will be left." ³⁶^[2] [Two in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.] ³⁷And answering, they say to him, "Where, Lord?" So he said to them, "Where the body {is}, there also the vultures will be gathered together."

17:24 ^[1] but the best manuscripts do not.

17:36 ^[2]

Chapter 18

¹Then he spoke a parable to them to {show that} it was necessary for them always to pray and not to become discouraged, ²saying, "In a certain city there was a certain judge, not fearing God and not respecting men. ³And there was a widow in that city, and she was coming to him, saying, 'Vindicate me against my opponent.' ⁴And for a time he was not willing, but after these things he said to himself, 'Even if I do not fear God or respect man, ⁵yet because this widow causes me trouble, I will vindicate her, so that she will not beat me up by coming to the end.'" ⁶Then the Lord said, "Listen to what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God do the vindication of his elect, the ones crying out to him day and night, and he delays long over them? ⁸I say to you that he will do the vindication of them quickly. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he indeed find faith on the earth?"

⁹Then he also spoke this parable to some who were persuaded in themselves that they were righteous and who disdained others: ¹⁰"Two men went up into the temple to pray—the one a Pharisee, and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing, was praying these things about himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men—robbers, unrighteous, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week. I tithe all that I acquire.' ¹³But the tax collector, standing at a distance, did not even want to lift up {his} eyes toward heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, have mercy on me, the sinner.' ¹⁴I say to you, this one went down to his house justified rather than that one. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹⁵And they were bringing even the infants to him so that he might touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they were rebuking them. ¹⁶But Jesus summoned them, saying, "Permit the little children to come to me, and do not forbid them. For of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁷Truly I say to you, whoever will not receive the kingdom of God like a child will certainly not enter into it."

¹⁸And a certain ruler asked him, saying, "Good Teacher, doing what will I inherit everlasting life?" ¹⁹But Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one {is} good except God alone. ²⁰You know the commandments—do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not testify falsely, honor your father and mother." ²¹But he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." ²²But Jesus, hearing, said to him, "One thing is still lacking to you. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in the heavens—and come, follow me." ²³But he, hearing these things, became extremely sad, for he was very rich. ²⁴Then Jesus, looking at him, ^[1]said, "How difficultly those who have riches are entering into the kingdom of God! ²⁵For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter into the kingdom of God." ²⁶Then the ones who heard said, "Then who is able to be saved?" ²⁷Then he said, "The impossible with men is possible with God." ²⁸Then Peter said, "Behold, we have left everything ^[2] and have followed you." ²⁹So he said to them, "Truly I say to you that there is no one who has left a house or a wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰who will by no means not receive much more in this time—and in the age that is coming, everlasting life."

³¹Then he took the Twelve aside {and} said to them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all the things that have been written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be accomplished. ³²For he will be given over to the Gentiles, and he will be mocked, and will be mistreated, and will be spit upon. ³³And having whipped him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise up." ³⁴And they understood none of these things, and this word was hidden from them, and they did not understand the things that were spoken.

³⁵And it happened that, as he came near to Jericho, a certain blind man was sitting by the road begging. ³⁶And hearing a crowd going by, he was asking what this might be. ³⁷And they reported to him, "Jesus the Nazarene is passing by." ³⁸And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me." ³⁹And the ones who were walking ahead were rebuking him, so that he would be silent. But he kept crying out much more, "Son of David, have mercy on me." ⁴⁰Then Jesus stood still {and} commanded him to be brought to him. Then when he had come near, he

asked him, ⁴¹"What do you wish I should do for you?" So he said, "Lord, that I might see again." ⁴²And Jesus said to him, "See again. Your faith has saved you." ⁴³And immediately he saw again, and he followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, seeing this, gave praise to God.

18:24 ^[1] should be included here. Compare verse 23.

18:28 ^[2] but the best manuscripts read .

Chapter 19

¹And he entered {and} was passing through Jericho. ²And behold a man, called Zacchaeus by name, and he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. ³And he was trying to see Jesus, who he was, but he was not able from the crowd, because he was small in stature. ⁴And running on ahead, he climbed into a sycamore tree so that he might see him, because he was about to pass through that way. ⁵And when he came to the place, looking up, Jesus said to him, "Zacchaeus, hastening, come down, for it is necessary for me to stay in your house today." ⁶And hastening, he came down and welcomed him, rejoicing. ⁷And when they saw this, they all complained, saying, "He has gone in to lodge with a sinful man." ⁸But Zacchaeus stood {and} said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my possessions I give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anything from anyone, I will restore four-fold." ⁹Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

¹¹And as they were listening to these things, he proceeded to speak a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and they thought that the kingdom of God was about to appear immediately. ¹²Therefore he said, "A certain well-born man journeyed to a distant country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. ¹³So calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas and said to them, 'Conduct business in that I go.' ¹⁴But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this one to rule over us.' ¹⁵And it happened that, when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded to be called to him those servants to whom he had given the silver, so that he might know what they had gained by doing business. ¹⁶Then the first came {and} said, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' ¹⁷And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant! Because you were faithful in very little, be having authority over ten cities.' ¹⁸And the second came {and} said, 'Your mina, master, has made five minas.' ¹⁹So he also said to this one, 'And you be over five cities.' ²⁰And the other one came saying, 'Master, behold your mina, which I have been keeping put away in a cloth, ²¹for I feared you, because you are a harsh man. You take up what you did not put down, and you reap what you did not sow.' ²²He says to him, 'By your mouth I will judge you, wicked servant! Did you know that I am a harsh man, taking up what I did not put down, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³And for what reason did you not put my silver in a bank, and when I returned, I would have collected it with interest?' ²⁴And he said to those standing by, 'Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.' ²⁵And they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.' ²⁶I say to you that to everyone who has, it will be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. ²⁷But these enemies of mine, the ones who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and kill them before me."

²⁸And when he had said these things, he journeyed ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹And it happened that, when he came near to Bethphage and Bethany, to the hill that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village opposite, in which, entering, you will find a colt tied up, on which no one of men has ever sat. Untie it {and} bring it here. ³¹And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' thus you will say, 'The Lord has need of it.'" ³²So the ones who were sent went {and} found it just as he had said to them. ³³And as they were untying the colt, the owners of it said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴So they said, "The Lord has need of it." ³⁵And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks upon the colt, they mounted Jesus on it. ³⁶And as he went along, they were spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷And as he was already coming near to the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice {and} praise God with a loud voice concerning all of the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸saying, "Blessed is the king who comes

in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" ³⁹And some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." ⁴⁰And answering, he said, "I say to you that if these were silent, the stones would cry out."

⁴¹And as he approached, seeing the city, he wept over it, ⁴²saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things toward peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. ⁴³For the days will come upon you, and your enemies will build a barricade around you, and they will surround you and press in on you from every side. ⁴⁴And they will dash you to the ground and your children within you. And they will not leave stone upon stone in you because you did not know the time of your visitation."

⁴⁵And entering into the temple, he began to cast out those who were selling, ⁴⁶saying to them, "It is written, 'My house {will be} a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of robbers.'"

⁴⁷And he was teaching each day in the temple. And the chief priests and the scribes and the first of the people were seeking to kill him, ⁴⁸And they were not finding something that they might do, for all the people were hanging on him listening.

Chapter 20

¹And it happened that, on one of the days when he was teaching the people in the temple and proclaiming the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes approached with the elders. ²And they spoke, saying to him, "Tell us by what authority you are doing these things, or who the one is who gave you this authority." ³But answering, he said to them, "I also will ask you a word, and you say to me: ⁴The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or from men?" ⁵Then they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we should say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'For what reason did you not believe him?' ⁶But if we should say, 'From men,' the whole people will stone us, for it is persuaded that John was a prophet." ⁷And they answered that they did not know from where. ⁸And Jesus said to them, "Nor will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

⁹Then he began to speak this parable to the people: "A man planted a vineyard and rented it out to farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰And at the time he sent a servant to the farmers, so that they would give him of the fruit of the vineyard. But the farmers sent him away, having beaten him, empty. ¹¹And he proceeded to send another servant, but they also beat that one and treated him shamefully {and} sent him away empty. ¹²And he proceeded to send a third, but they also wounded this one {and} threw him out. ¹³So the lord of the vineyard said, 'What should I do? I will send my beloved son. Perhaps they will respect him.' ¹⁴But when the farmers saw him, they discussed among themselves, saying, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him so that the inheritance may become ours.' ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard {and} killed him. What then will the lord of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and kill these farmers and will give the vineyard to others." But when they heard this, they said, "May it not be!" ¹⁷But looking at them, he said, "What then is this that is written:

'The stone that the builders rejected, this has become the head of the corner'?

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces. and on whomever it may fall, it will crush him."

¹⁹And the scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him in that hour, and they feared the people, for they knew that he had spoken this parable against them. ²⁰And watching him carefully, they sent spies who pretended themselves to be righteous, so that they might take hold of his word, in order to deliver him to the rule and to the authority of the governor. ²¹And they asked him, saying, "Teacher, we know that you speak and teach rightly, and you do not receive a face, but you teach the way of God in truth. ²²Is it lawful for us to give tribute to Caesar, or not?" ²³But perceiving their craftiness, he said to them, ²⁴"Show me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have?" And they said, "Caesar's." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Therefore give back the things of Caesar to Caesar, and

the things of God to God." ²⁶And they were not able to take hold of {his} word in front of the people, and marveling at his answer, they became silent.

²⁷Then some of the Sadducees came, the ones who say that there is no resurrection, {and} they questioned him, ²⁸saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us, if the brother of anyone should die, having a wife, and he is childless, that his brother should take {his} wife, and raise up seed for his brother. ²⁹Therefore, there were seven brothers, and the first, having taken a wife, died childless; ³⁰and the second ³¹and the third took her; and likewise the seven also left no children, and died. ³²Afterward the woman also died. ³³Therefore, in the resurrection, of which of them will she be the wife? For the seven had her {as} wife." ³⁴And Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. ³⁵But those who are considered worthy to obtain that age and the resurrection that {is} from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶For neither are they able to die anymore, for they are {like} the angels; and they are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. ³⁷But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed at the bush, when he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸And he is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for all are alive to him." ³⁹Then answering some of the scribes said, "Teacher, you have spoken well." ⁴⁰For they no longer dared to ask him anything.

⁴¹Then he said to them, "How do they say that the Christ is the son of David? ⁴²For David himself says in the book of Psalms,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right,

⁴³until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."

⁴⁴David therefore calls him 'Lord.' And how is he his son?"

⁴⁵And while all the people were listening, he said to his disciples, ⁴⁶"Beware of the scribes, who desire to walk in long robes and who love greetings in the marketplaces and the first seats in the synagogues and the first places at the banquets. ⁴⁷They devour the houses of widows, and for a pretext they pray at length. These will receive greater condemnation."

Chapter 21

¹And looking up, he saw the rich who were putting their gifts into the treasury. ²And he saw a certain poor widow putting two lepta there. ³And he said, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all. ⁴For all these put in the gifts out of their abundance. But she, out of her poverty, put in all the livelihood that she had."

⁵And as some were speaking about the temple, that it was decorated with beautiful stones and offerings, he said, ⁶"These things that you are looking at, the days will come in which stone upon stone will not be left, which will not be torn down." ⁷So they questioned him, saying, "Teacher, when therefore will these things be, and what {will be} the sign when these things are about to happen?" ⁸Then he said, "Be careful that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am {he},' and, 'The time has come near.' Do not go after them. ⁹But when you hear of wars and rebellions, do not be terrified, for these things must happen first, but not immediately the end."

¹⁰Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹There will be both great earthquakes, and famines and plagues in various places. There will be both terrifying events and great signs from heaven. ¹²But before all of these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for the sake of my name. ¹³It will turn out for you for a testimony. ¹⁴But put in your hearts not to prepare to be defended, ¹⁵for I will give to you a mouth and wisdom that all the ones opposing you will not be able to resist or contradict. ¹⁶But you will be delivered even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put to death some of you. ¹⁷And you will be hated by

all because of my name. ¹⁸And a hair of your head will not at all perish. ¹⁹By your endurance, you will gain your souls.

²⁰But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. ²¹Then let those in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those in the midst of it leave, and let those in the fields not enter into it. ²²For these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all the things that have been written. ²³But woe to the ones having in the womb and to the ones nursing in those days! For there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people. ²⁴And they will fall by the mouth of the sword, and they will be led captive into all the nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled by the nations until the times of the nations are fulfilled.

²⁵And there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars, and distress of nations on the earth in perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶Men will be fainting from fear and expectation of the things that are coming upon the inhabited world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and much glory. ²⁸But when these things begin to happen, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is coming near."

²⁹And he spoke a parable to them: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they already sprout, seeing for yourselves you know that the summer is already near. ³¹Thus also you, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I say to you, this generation will certainly not pass away until they all happen. ³³The heaven and the earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

³⁴But pay attention to yourselves, so that your hearts may not be burdened with hangover and drunkenness, and everyday worries, and that sudden day may come upon you ³⁵like a trap, for it will come upon all who are sitting on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake in every time, praying, so that you may be strong enough to escape all these things that are about to happen, and to stand before the Son of Man."

³⁷And during the days, he was teaching in the temple, but during the nights, he went out {and} lodged on the hill that is called Olivet. ³⁸And all the people were getting up early to him to hear him in the temple.

Chapter 22

¹And the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was coming near. ²And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how they might kill him, for they were fearing the people.

³Then Satan entered into Judas, the one called Iscariot, who was from the number of the Twelve. ⁴And he went {and} spoke with the chief priests and captains about how he might deliver him to them. ⁵And they rejoiced, and they agreed to give him silver. ⁶And he agreed and began seeking an opportunity to deliver him to them away from the crowd.

⁷Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, on which it was necessary to sacrifice the Passover. ⁸And he sent Peter and John, saying, "Going, prepare for us the Passover, so that we may eat it." ⁹And they said to him, "Where do you wish that we should prepare it?" ¹⁰And he answered them, "Behold, when you have entered into the city, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him into the house into which he enters. ¹¹And say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' ¹²And that one will show you a large upper room, furnished. Prepare it there." ¹³And they went {and} found it just as he had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴And when the hour came, he reclined to eat, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I say to you that I will certainly not eat it until when it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷And he took a cup, {and} having given thanks, he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I say to you, from now on I will certainly not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹And he took bread, {and} having given thanks, he broke it, and gave to them, saying,

"This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in my remembrance." ²⁰And the cup in the same way after the supper, saying, "This cup {is} the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. ²¹But behold, the hand of the one betraying me {is} with me on the table. ²²For the Son of Man indeed goes according to what has been determined. But woe to that man through whom he is betrayed!" ²³And they began to discuss among themselves about which of them therefore might be the one who was about to do this.

²⁴Then a quarrel also happened among them about which of them seems to be greater. ²⁵But he said to them, "The kings of the nations lord it over them, and the ones who have authority over them are called Benefactors. ²⁶But you be not thus. Instead, let the greater among you become like the younger. and the one who leads like the one who serves. ²⁷For who {is} greater, the one who reclines to eat or the one who serves? {Is it} not the one who reclines to eat? But I am in the midst of you as one who serves. ²⁸But you are the ones who have continued with me in my trials. ²⁹And I grant to you, just as my Father has granted to me, a kingdom, ³⁰so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel.

³¹Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has asked to sift you like wheat. ³²But I have asked concerning you that your faith may not fail. And you, when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." ³³But he said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." ³⁴But he said, "I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today before you deny three times that you know me."

³⁵And he said to them, "When I sent you out without a money bag and sack and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?" And they said, "Nothing." ³⁶Then he said to them, "But now, the one who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a sack. And the one who does not have a sword, let him sell his cloak and buy one. ³⁷For I say to you, this that is written must be accomplished in me, 'And he was reckoned with the lawless.' For indeed the thing concerning me has an accomplishment." ³⁸Then they said, "Lord, behold! Here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

³⁹And going out, he went according to {his} custom to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples also followed him. ⁴⁰And having come to the place, he said to them, "Pray not to enter into temptation." ⁴¹And he went away from them about the throw of a stone, and having put down {his} knees, he was praying, ⁴²saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. But let not my will, but yours, happen." ⁴³^[1] [And an angel from heaven appeared to him, strengthening him. ⁴⁴^[2] And being in agony, he was praying more earnestly, and his sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground.] ⁴⁵And having risen up from the prayer, he came to the disciples, {and} found them sleeping from the sorrow. ⁴⁶And he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise up {and} pray, so that you may not enter into temptation."

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, behold, a crowd, and the one called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. And he came near to Jesus to kiss him. ⁴⁸But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" ⁴⁹And when those around him saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, if we will strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰And a certain one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹But answering, Jesus said, "Allow up to this!" And touching {his} ear, he healed him. ⁵²Then Jesus said to those who had come out against him—chief priests and captains of the temple and elders—"Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³When I was with you each day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the authority of the darkness."

⁵⁴Then seizing him, they led him away and brought him into the house of the high priest. And Peter was following from a distance. ⁵⁵And they having kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and having sat down together, Peter was sitting in the midst of them. ⁵⁶Then a certain female servant, seeing him sitting towards the light and looking steadily at him, said, "This one also was with him." ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸And after a little while another saw him {and} said, "You are also of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." ⁵⁹And about one hour having passed, a certain other one was insisting, saying, "In truth, this one was also with him, for he is also a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying." And immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. ⁶¹And the Lord turned {and} looked at Peter, and Peter remembered the word of

the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before a rooster crows today you will deny me three times." ⁶²And going outside, he wept bitterly.

⁶³And the men who were holding him mocked {and} beat him. ⁶⁴And having blindfolded him, they were questioning him, saying, "Prophecy! Who is the one who hit you?" ⁶⁵And they were saying many other things to him, blaspheming him.

⁶⁶And when it became day, the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes, and they led him into their Sanhedrin, ⁶⁷saying, "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I told you, you would certainly not believe; ⁶⁸and if I questioned you, you would certainly not answer. ⁶⁹But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." ⁷⁰Then they all said, "Therefore are you the Son of God?" And he said to them, "You are saying that I am." ⁷¹And they said, "What further need do we have of testimony? For we ourselves have heard from his own mouth."

22:43 ^[1]

22:44 ^[2]

Chapter 23

¹And the whole multitude of them rose up {and} brought him to Pilate. ²And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this one perverting our nation and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." ³Then Pilate questioned him, saying, "Are you the King of the Jews?" But answering him, he said, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no cause in this man." ⁵But they were insisting, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, indeed, beginning from Galilee as far as here." ⁶And when Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under the authority of Herod, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem himself in those days.

⁸And when Herod saw Jesus, he rejoiced greatly, for he had been desiring to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign happen by him. ⁹Then he questioned him in many words, but he answered him nothing. ¹⁰And the chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Then Herod, with his soldiers, also despised him and mocked him. Putting elegant clothing around him, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹²Then both Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day, for they were previously being in hostility between themselves.

¹³Then Pilate called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴{and} said to them, "You brought this man to me as turning the people away, and behold, I, having examined him before you, found nothing in this man as cause for what you are accusing against him. ¹⁵But neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us, and behold, nothing that is worthy of death has been done by him. ¹⁶Therefore, having punished him, I will release him." ¹⁷^[1] [But he had obligation to release to them one {prisoner} at every feast.] ¹⁸But they cried out all together, saying, "Take away this one, but release to us Barabbas!" ¹⁹(He had been put in prison for a certain rebellion that happened in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Then Pilate again addressed them, desiring to release Jesus. ²¹But they were shouting, saying, "Crucify, crucify him." ²²Then he spoke to them a third time, "For what evil has this one done? No cause for death have I found in him. Therefore, having punished him, I will release him." ²³But they were insisting with loud voices, demanding for him to be crucified, and their voices prevailed. ²⁴And Pilate decreed for their demand to happen. ²⁵Then he released the one who had been put in prison for rebellion and murder, whom they were requesting, but he handed over Jesus to their will.

²⁶And as they led him away, seizing Simon, a certain Cyrenean coming from the country, they put the cross on him, to carry behind Jesus.

²⁷And a great crowd of the people was following him, and of women who were mourning and wailing for him.

²⁸But turning to them, Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed {are} the barren, yes, the wombs that did not give birth and the breasts that did not nurse.' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do these things in the moist tree, what will happen in the dry?"

³²And others, two criminals, were also being led away with him to be put to death.

³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals—one at the right and one at the left. ³⁴^[2] [But Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."] But, dividing up his garments, they threw lots. ³⁵And the people stood by watching, and the rulers were also ridiculing him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." ³⁶Then the soldiers also mocked him, coming up {and} offering him vinegar, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸And there was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹Then one of the criminals having been hung blasphemed him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." ⁴⁰But answering, the other, rebuking him, said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same judgment? ⁴¹And we justly, for we are receiving worthy of what we did. But this one did nothing wrong." ⁴²And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³And he said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

⁴⁴And it was already about the sixth hour, and darkness was over the whole land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁵The sun failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in the middle. ⁴⁶And crying out with a loud voice, Jesus said, "Father, into your hands I entrust my spirit." And having said this, he breathed out. ⁴⁷And the centurion, having seen the thing having happened, glorified God, saying, "Truly this man was righteous." ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had come together for this spectacle, having seen the things having happened, returned, beating {their} breasts. ⁴⁹But all the ones acquainted with him, and the women who followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

⁵⁰And behold, a man named Joseph was a council member, a good and righteous man, ⁵¹(he had not agreed with the council and their action) from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who was waiting for the kingdom of God. ⁵²This one, approaching Pilate, requested the body of Jesus. ⁵³And taking it down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth, and placed it in a hewn tomb where no one ever had lain. ⁵⁴And it was the Day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was dawning. ⁵⁵And the women who had come out of Galilee with him, having followed after, saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶Then, returning, they prepared spices and ointments. And on the Sabbath they rested, according to the commandment.

23:17 ^[1]

23:34 ^[2]

Chapter 24

¹Then on the first of the week, deeply at dawn, they came to the tomb, bringing the spices that they had prepared.

²And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but having entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴And it happened that, while they were perplexed about this, and behold, two men in flashing clothing stood by them. ⁵And as they became terrified and bowed {their} faces toward the ground, they said to them, "Why are you seeking the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here, but has been raised! Remember how he spoke to you, still being in Galilee, ⁷saying that it was necessary for the Son of Man to be delivered into the hands of sinful men and to be crucified, and on the third day to rise up." ⁸And they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they reported all these things to the Eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰And they were Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and

Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, telling these things to the apostles. ¹¹And these words seemed before them like nonsense, and they disbelieved them. ¹²But Peter, rising up, ran to the tomb, and stooping down, he sees only the linen cloths. So he went away to his home, wondering what had happened.

¹³And behold, on that same day, two of them were going to a distant village that was named Emmaus, 60 stadia from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking to each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵And it happened, while they talked and discussed, that Jesus himself, approaching, was going with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were being held so as not to recognize him. ¹⁷Then he said to them, "What {are} these words that you are exchanging with each other as you are walking?" And they stood still, gloomy. ¹⁸Then, answering, one named Cleopas said to him, "Are you alone visiting Jerusalem and have not known the things having happened in her in these days?" ¹⁹And he said to them, "What kind?" And they said to him, "The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who was a man, a prophet powerful in work and word in front of God and all the people, ²⁰and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to a judgment of death and crucified him. ²¹But we were hoping that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. But indeed also with all these things, he is spending this third day since these things happened. ²²But indeed, some women among us astonished us, having been at the tomb early ²³and not finding his body, they came saying they had also seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴And some of those with us went to the tomb and they found thus, just as the women had indeed said, but they did not see him." ²⁵And he said to them, "O foolish ones and slow in heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things, and to enter into his glory?" ²⁷And beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, he explained to them the things concerning himself in all the Scriptures. ²⁸And they drew near to the village where they were going, and he acted as if he would travel further. ²⁹And they urged him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day has already declined." And he went in to stay with them. ³⁰And it happened that, when he had reclined to eat with them, taking the bread, he blessed it, and having broken it, he was giving it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he became invisible from them. ³²And they said to one another, "Was not our heart burning as he spoke to us on the way, as he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³And rising up that same hour, they returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven having been gathered, and those with them, ³⁴saying, "Truly the Lord has been raised, and he has been seen by Simon!" ³⁵And they related the things on the way, and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

³⁶And as they were saying these things, he himself stood in the midst of them and said to them, "Peace to you." ³⁷But being frightened and becoming terrified, they thought they were seeing a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why have you been troubled, and why are doubts arising in your heart? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that I myself am. Touch me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see me having." ⁴⁰And having said this, he showed them {his} hands and {his} feet. ⁴¹And as they were still disbelieving and wondering from the joy, he said to them, "Do you have something eatable here?" ⁴²So they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, ⁴³and taking it, he ate it before them.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These {are} my words that I spoke to you when I was still with you, that all the things having been written about me in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, must be fulfilled."

⁴⁵Then he opened their mind to understand the Scriptures, and he said to them, ⁴⁶"Thus it has been written: The Christ would suffer, and rise up from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And I am sending upon you the promise of my Father. But you stay in the city until you put on power from heaven."

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as towards Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹And it happened that, while he was blessing them, he separated from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they, having worshiped him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and they were through all in the temple, blessing God.

John

Chapter 1

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him came into being not one thing that has come into being. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man having been sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness in order that he might testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸That one was not the light, but came so that he might testify about the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to all men, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, and the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own did not receive him. ¹²But as many as received him, he gave to them the authority to become children of God, to those believing in his name. ¹³These were not born from bloods, nor from the will of the flesh, nor from the will of a man, but from God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelled among us, and we beheld his glory, glory as of the One and Only from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵John testifies about him and has cried out, saying, "This was the one of whom I said, 'He who is coming after me has become greater than me, for he was before me.'" ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received even grace after grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses. Grace and truth came about through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has seen God at any time. The One and Only God, who is in the bosom of the Father, that one has made him known.

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem so that they might ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰And he confessed—and he did not deny, but confessed—"I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" And he says, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you, so that we might give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said,

"I am a voice, crying out in the wilderness:

'Make the way of the Lord straight,'

just as Isaiah the prophet said." ²⁴And the ones who had been sent were from the Pharisees, ²⁵and they asked him and said to him, "Why do you baptize then if you are not the Christ nor Elijah nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, saying, "I baptize in water. In the midst of you stands one you do not know, ²⁷the one coming after me, of whom I am not worthy that I might untie the strap of his sandal." ²⁸These things came about in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing. ²⁹The next day he sees Jesus coming to him and says, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who is taking away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he concerning whom I said, 'After me comes a man who has become greater than me, for he was before me.' ³¹And I did not know him, but so that he might be revealed to Israel, because of this I came baptizing in water." ³²And John testified, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending like a dove from heaven, and it remained upon him. ³³And I did not recognize him, but the one who sent me to baptize in water, that one said to me, 'Upon whomever you might see the Spirit descending and remaining on him, he is the one baptizing in the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day, John was standing again with two of his disciples, ³⁶and having seen Jesus walking by, he says, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷And his two disciples heard him speaking, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸But Jesus, having turned and having seen them following, says to them, "What do you seek?" And they said to him, "Rabbi

(which being translated means Teacher), where are you staying?" ³⁹He says to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he is staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two having heard from John and having followed him was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. ⁴¹This one first finds his own brother Simon and says to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus. Jesus, having looked at him, said, "You are Simon, the son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

⁴³The next day Jesus wanted to go away to Galilee, and he finds Philip and says to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, from the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip finds Nathaniel and says to him, "We have found the one whom Moses wrote about in the law, and the prophets—Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth." ⁴⁶And Nathaniel said to him, "Is any good thing able to be from Nazareth?" Philip says to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathaniel coming to him and says about him, "Behold, a true Israelite, in whom is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathaniel says to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, being under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹Nathaniel replied to him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus replied and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you underneath the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he says to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Chapter 2

¹And on the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Now Jesus also was invited, and his disciples, to the wedding. ³And having run out of wine, the mother of Jesus says to him, "They do not have wine." ⁴And Jesus says to her, "Woman, what to me and to you? My hour is not yet come." ⁵His mother says to the servants, "Whatever he might say to you, do." ⁶Now there were six stone water pots standing there for the ceremonial washing of the Jews, each containing two or three metretres. ⁷Jesus says to them, "Fill the water pots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸And he says to them, "Draw now and take it to the head waiter." And they carried it. ⁹But as the head waiter tasted the water that had become wine (and he did not know where it was from, but the servants—those who had drawn the water—knew), the head waiter calls the bridegroom ¹⁰and says to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and the cheaper wine when they have become drunk. You have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹This beginning of the signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. ¹²After this he and his mother and brothers and his disciples went down to Capernaum, and they stayed there not many days.

¹³And the Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he found in the temple those selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting there. ¹⁵And having made a whip from cords, he drove them all out from the temple, and the sheep and the oxen, and he scattered the coins of the money changers and overthrew their tables. ¹⁶And to those selling pigeons, he said, "Take these things away from here. Do not make the house of my Father a house of commerce." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸Then the Jews responded and said to him, "What sign do you show us, since you are doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰Then the Jews said, "This temple was built in 46 years, and you will raise it up in three days?" ²¹But that one was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²³Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover, at the festival, many believed in his name, seeing his signs that he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus himself did not trust himself to them because he knew all men, ²⁵and because he did not have need that anyone would testify about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Chapter 3

¹Now there was a man from the Pharisees, Nicodemus was his name, a ruler of the Jews. ²This one came to him at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you have come from God as a teacher, for no one is able to do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus replied and said to him, "Truly, truly I say to you, unless someone would be born again, he is not able to see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus says to him, "How is a man able to be born, being an old man? He is not able to enter a second time into the womb of his mother and to be born, is he?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone would be born from water and Spirit, he is not able to enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶What has been born from the flesh is flesh, and what has been born from the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'It is necessary for you to be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So is everyone who has been born from the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus replied and said to him, "How are these things able to happen?" ¹⁰Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?" ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you that we speak what we know, and we testify about what we have seen, and you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³And no one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, thus it is necessary for the Son of Man to be lifted up ¹⁵so that all who believe in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in him would not perish but would have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send the Son into the world so that he might condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸The one who believes in him is not condemned, but the one who does not believe has already been condemned because he has not believed in the name of the One and Only Son of God. ¹⁹Now this is the judgment: that the light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light, for their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who is doing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, so that his deeds might not be exposed. ²¹But the one who does the truth comes to the light, so that his deeds might be revealed, that they have been worked in God."

²²After this, Jesus and his disciples went into the land of Judea, and he tarried there with them and was baptizing. ²³Now John was also baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because much water was there, and they were coming and were being baptized— ²⁴for John had not yet been thrown into prison. ²⁵Then a dispute came about from the disciples of John with a Jew concerning ceremonial washing. ²⁶And they went to John and said to him, "Rabbi, the one who was with you beyond the Jordan, about whom you had testified, behold, he is baptizing, and they are all going to him." ²⁷John replied and said, "A man is not able to receive anything unless it has been given to him from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves testify to me that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before that one.' ²⁹The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. But the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the voice of the bridegroom. Therefore, this my joy has been made complete. ³⁰It is necessary for that one to increase, but for me to decrease.

³¹The one who comes from above is above all things. The one who is from the earth is from the earth and speaks from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all things. ³²He testifies about that which he has seen and heard, but no one receives his testimony. ³³The one who has received his testimony has set his seal that God is true. ³⁴For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God. For he does not give the Spirit by measure. ³⁵The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who disobeys the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him."

Chapter 4

¹Then when Jesus knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John ²(although Jesus himself was not baptizing, but his disciples), ³he left Judea and went back again to Galilee. ⁴Now it

was necessary for him to go through Samaria. ⁵Then he comes to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶Now the well of Jacob was there. Then Jesus, having grown weary from the journey, was sitting right beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷A woman from Samaria comes to draw water. Jesus says to her, "Give me to drink," ⁸for his disciples had gone away into the city so that they might buy food. ⁹Then the Samaritan woman says to him, "How do you, being a Jew, ask from me to drink, being a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews do not have dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered and said to her, "If you had known the gift of God and who it is who is saying to you, 'Give me to drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman says to him, "Sir, you do not have a vessel and the well is deep. From where then do you have the living water? ¹²You are not greater, are you, than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, and his sons and his cattle?" ¹³Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks from this water will thirst again, ¹⁴but whoever may drink from the water that I will give him will never thirst into eternity. Instead, the water that I will give him will become a fountain of water in him, springing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman says to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I might not thirst and might not come here to draw water." ¹⁶He says to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered and said to him, "I do not have a husband." Jesus says to her, "You have rightly said, 'I do not have a husband,' ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband. This you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman says to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where it is necessary to worship." ²¹Jesus says to her, "Believe me, woman, that an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³However, an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father also is seeking such ones who are worshiping him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those worshiping him, it is necessary to worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman says to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (the one called Christ). When he may come, that one will declare everything to us." ²⁶Jesus says to her, "I am, the one speaking to you."

²⁷And at this, his disciples came, and they were amazed that he was speaking with a woman. Nevertheless, no one said, "What are you seeking?" or "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water pot and went back into the town and says to the men, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all things, as much as I have done. This is not the Christ, is it?" ³⁰They went out from the town and came to him. ³¹In the meantime, the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know." ³³So the disciples said to each other, "No one brought him to eat, did he?" ³⁴Jesus says to them, "My food is that I might do the will of the one who sent me and might complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, 'There are still four months, and the harvest comes? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and see the fields, for they are already white for harvest! ³⁶The one who is harvesting receives wages and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that the one who is sowing and the one who is harvesting might rejoice together. ³⁷For in this the saying is true, 'One is the one sowing, and another, the one harvesting.' ³⁸I sent you to harvest that on which you have not labored. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Now many of the Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the report of the woman, testifying, "He told me everything that I have done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²And they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your speech, for we ourselves have heard, and we know that this one is truly the Savior of the world."

⁴³Now after those two days, he departed from there into Galilee; ⁴⁴for Jesus himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country. ⁴⁵When therefore he came into Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all the things, as much as he had done in Jerusalem at the festival, for they had also gone to the festival.

⁴⁶Then he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine, and there was a certain royal official whose son in Capernaum was ill. ⁴⁷He, having heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, went to him and asked that he would come down and heal his son, for he was about to die. ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you

would see signs and wonders, you would certainly not believe.” ⁴⁹The royal official says to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” ⁵⁰Jesus says to him, “Go. Your son lives.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went away. ⁵¹Now while he was going down, his servants met him and reported to him, saying that his son lives. ⁵²So he asked from them the hour in which he began to improve. Therefore, they replied to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” ⁵³Then the father realized that it was at that hour in which Jesus had said to him, “Your son lives.” And he himself and his whole household believed. ⁵⁴Now Jesus again did this second sign, having come from Judea to Galilee.

Chapter 5

¹After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, which in Hebrew is called Bethesda, having five roofed porches. ³In these were lying a crowd of those who are sick, blind, lame, or paralyzed. ^{[1] 4[2]} [For an angel of the Lord went down into the pool and stirred up the water at certain times, and whoever then first stepped in after the water was stirred was healed from whatever disease he suffered from.] ⁵Now a certain man was there, having 38 years in his illness. ⁶Jesus, having seen this one lying there and having known that he already is there a long time, says to him, “Do you want to be healthy?” ⁷The sick man replied to him, “Sir, I do not have a man so that, when the water is stirred up, he might put me into the pool. But as I am going into it, another goes down before me.” ⁸Jesus says to him, “Get up, take up your mat, and walk.” ⁹And immediately the man became healthy, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath. ¹⁰So the Jews said to the one who was healed, “It is the Sabbath and not permitted for you to carry your mat.” ¹¹But he replied to them, “The one who made me healthy, that one said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’” ¹²They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Pick it up and walk?’” ¹³But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had gone away secretly, a crowd being in the place. ¹⁴After this, Jesus finds him in the temple and said to him, “Behold, you have become healthy! No longer sin, so that something worse might not happen to you.” ¹⁵The man went away and announced to the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him healthy. ¹⁶And because of this, the Jews began to persecute Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷But he replied to them, “My Father is working even now, and I am working.” ¹⁸Because of this, therefore, the Jews sought even more to kill him, because he not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God his own Father, making himself equal to God.

¹⁹Therefore, Jesus answered and said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son is able to do nothing from himself except only what he would see the Father doing, for whatever that one would do, these things also the Son does in the same way. ²⁰For the Father loves the Son and he shows him everything that he himself does, and he will show him greater works than these so that you might be amazed. ²¹For just as the Father raises the dead and makes them alive, so also the Son makes alive whom he desires. ²²For not even the Father judges anyone, but he has given all judgment to the Son ²³so that all will honor the Son just as they honor the Father. The one not honoring the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you that the one hearing my word and believing the one who sent me has eternal life and does not come into judgment, but he has passed from death to life. ²⁵Truly, truly, I say to you that an hour is coming, and is now, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who have heard will live. ²⁶For just as the Father has life in himself, so also he gave to the Son to have life in himself, ²⁷and he gave him authority to do judgment, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not be amazed at this, for an hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹and will come out—those who have done good, to a resurrection of life, but those who have practiced evil, to a resurrection of judgment.

³⁰I am able to do nothing from myself. Just as I hear, I judge, and my judgment is righteous because I do not seek my own will but the will of the one who sent me. ³¹If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. ³²There is another who is testifying about me, and I know that the testimony that he testifies about me is true. ³³You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth. ³⁴But I do not receive the testimony from man, but I say these things

so that you might be saved. ³⁵That one was the lamp that was burning and shining, but you desired to exult in his light for an hour. ³⁶But I have the testimony that is greater than that of John: for the works that the Father has given me so that I would accomplish them—the very works that I do—testify about me that the Father has sent me. ³⁷And the Father who sent me has himself testified about me. You have neither heard his voice nor have seen his form at any time. ³⁸And you do not have his word remaining in you, for the one whom he has sent, this one you do not believe. ³⁹You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life, and these are the ones testifying about me, ⁴⁰and you are not willing to come to me so that you might have life. ⁴¹I do not receive glory from men, ⁴²but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves. ⁴³I have come in the name of my Father, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you receive that one. ⁴⁴How are you able to believe, receiving glory from one another, and are not seeking the glory that is from the only God? ⁴⁵Do not think that I myself will accuse you before the Father. The one accusing you is Moses, in whom you have hoped. ⁴⁶For if you believed Moses, you would believe me, because that one wrote about me. ⁴⁷But if you do not believe the writings of that one, how will you believe my words?"

5:3 [1]

5:4 [2]

Chapter 6

¹After these things, Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (of Tiberias). ²Now a great crowd was following him because they were seeing the signs that he was doing on those being sick. ³Now Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴(Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near.) ⁵Then Jesus, having lifted up his eyes and having seen that a great crowd is coming to him, says to Philip, "From where might we buy bread so that these might eat?" ⁶(But he said this, testing him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.) ⁷Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, so that each one might receive a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, says to him, ⁹"Here is a little boy who has five barley bread loaves and two small fish, but what are these to so many?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the men sit down." (Now there was a lot of grass in the place.) So the men sat down, about 5,000 in number. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and having given thanks, he gave them to those reclining to eat; likewise also with the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²But as they were filled, he says to his disciples, "Gather up the remaining broken pieces, so that nothing might be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up and filled 12 baskets of broken pieces from the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴Therefore, the men, having seen the sign he did, said, "This truly is the prophet who is coming into the world." ¹⁵Then Jesus, having realized that they were about to come and to seize him so that they might make him king, withdrew again onto the mountain by himself alone.

¹⁶Now as it became evening, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷and having gotten into a boat, they were going over the sea to Capernaum, and darkness had already happened, but Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸A strong wind was blowing, and the sea was being aroused. ¹⁹Then, having rowed about 25 or 30 stadia, they see Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened. ²⁰But he says to them, "It is I! Do not be afraid." ²¹Then they were willing to receive him into the boat, and immediately the boat came to the land to which they were going.

²²The next day, the crowd that had been standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there except one and that Jesus had not entered into the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had departed alone. ²³Other boats came from Tiberias close to the place where they had eaten the bread loaves after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴Therefore, when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples are there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum seeking Jesus. ²⁵And having found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus replied to them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek me not because you saw signs, but because you ate from the bread loaves and were filled. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life which the Son of Man will give you, for God the

Father has set his seal on this one.” ²⁸Then they said to him, “What should we do, so that we might work the works of God?” ²⁹Jesus replied and said to them, “This is the work of God: that you would believe in the one whom that one has sent.” ³⁰So they said to him, “What sign then do you do, so that we might see and might believe you? What will you work?” ³¹Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Then Jesus replied to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses has not given you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is the one coming down from heaven and giving life to the world.” ³⁴So they said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” ³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. The one coming to me will certainly not hunger, and the one believing in me will certainly not ever thirst. ³⁶But I told you that you have both seen me and do not believe. ³⁷Everyone whom the Father gives me will come to me, and the one coming to me I will certainly not throw out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not in order that I might do my own will, but the will of the one who sent me. ³⁹But this is the will of the one who sent me, that I would not lose from it anyone whom he has given me, but will raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him would have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

⁴¹Then the Jews began to murmur about him because he said, “I am the bread that has come down from heaven.” ⁴²And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How then does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” ⁴³Jesus replied and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one is able to come to me unless the Father who sent me would draw him, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, ‘And all will be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and has learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the one who is from God—he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Truly, truly, I say to you, the one believing has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread which comes down from heaven, so that a person might eat from it and might not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that has come down from heaven. If anyone eats from this bread, he will live into eternity. Now my flesh is also the bread that I will give for the life of the world.”

⁵²Then the Jews began to argue among themselves, saying, “How is this one able to give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³Therefore, Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you would eat the flesh of the Son of Man and would drink his blood, you do not have life in yourselves. ⁵⁴The one eating my flesh and drinking my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶The one eating my flesh and drinking my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so the one eating me, he will also live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that has come down from heaven, not just as the fathers ate and died. The one eating this bread will live into eternity.” ⁵⁹He said these things in a synagogue, teaching in Capernaum.

⁶⁰Then many of his disciples, having heard, said, “This word is hard; who is able to listen to it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were murmuring about this, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then if you would see the Son of Man going up to where he was before...?” ⁶³The Spirit is the one making alive; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit, and they are life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones not believing and who was the one who would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “Because of this, I have said to you that no one is able to come to me unless it would have been granted to him by the Father.”

⁶⁶From this time, many of his disciples stayed behind and no longer were walking with him. ⁶⁷Therefore, Jesus said to the Twelve, “You do not want to go away also, do you?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom will we go? You have words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God.” ^[1] ⁷⁰Jesus replied to them, “Did not I choose you, the Twelve, and one of you is a devil?” ⁷¹(Now he was speaking of Judas, {son} of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him.)

6:69 ^[1] is in the best ancient copies. Some later copies add an additional description, and they read:

Chapter 7

¹And after these things, Jesus traveled about in Galilee, for he did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. ²(Now the festival of the Jews, the Shelter Festival, was near.) ³Then his brothers said to him, "Leave this place and go to Judea, so that your disciples also will see your works that you do. ⁴For no one does anything in secret and seeks himself to be in openness. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵For not even his brothers were believing in him. ⁶Jesus therefore says to them, "My time is not yet come, but your time is always ready. ⁷The world is not able to hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that the works of it are evil. ⁸You go up to the festival; I am not yet going to this festival, because my time has not yet been fulfilled." ⁹Now having said these things to them, he remained in Galilee.

¹⁰But when his brothers had gone up to the festival, then he also went up, not publicly, but as in secret.

¹¹Therefore, the Jews were looking for him at the festival and saying, "Where is that one?" ¹²And there was much murmuring among the crowds about him. Some were saying, "He is good." But others were saying, "No, but he leads the crowd astray." ¹³However, no one was speaking openly about him, because of the fear of the Jews.

¹⁴Now the festival already being half over, Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach. ¹⁵Therefore, the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this one know the scriptures, not being educated?" ¹⁶Then Jesus answered them and said, "My teaching is not mine, but of the one who sent me. ¹⁷If anyone desires to do his will, he will know about this teaching, whether it is from God, or I speak from myself. ¹⁸The one speaking from himself seeks his own glory, but the one seeking the glory of the one who sent him, this one is true, and there is no unrighteousness in him. ¹⁹Did not Moses give you the law? Yet none of you does the law. Why do you seek to kill me?" ²⁰The crowd answered, "You have a demon. Who seeks to kill you?" ²¹Jesus answered and said to them, "I did one work, and you all marvel. ²²For this reason, Moses has given you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and on the Sabbath you circumcise a man. ²³If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses might not be broken, why are you angry with me because I made a man completely healthy on the Sabbath?" ²⁴Do not judge according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment."

²⁵Then some from the Jerusalemites said, "Is not this the one they seek to kill? ²⁶And see, he speaks openly, and they say nothing to him. The rulers do not truly know that this is the Christ, do they? ²⁷But we know where this one is from. But when the Christ would come, no one knows where he is from." ²⁸Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "You both know me and know where I am from. And I have not come from myself, but the one who sent me is true, whom you do not know. ²⁹I know him because I am from him, and he sent me." ³⁰Therefore, they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. ³¹But many from among the crowd believed in him, and they were saying, "When the Christ may come, he will not do more signs than what this one has done, will he?" ³²The Pharisees heard the crowd murmuring these things about him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers so that they might arrest him. ³³Therefore, Jesus said, "I am still with you for a short time, and then I go away to the one who sent me. ³⁴You will seek me, but you will not find me, and where I am, you will not be able to come." ³⁵The Jews therefore said among themselves, "Where is this one about to go that we will not find him? He is not about to go to the dispersion of the Greeks and to teach the Greeks, is he? ³⁶What is this word that he said, 'You will seek me, but will not find me, and where I am, you will not be able to come?'"

³⁷But on the last, great day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone may thirst, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸The one believing in me, just as the scripture says, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his stomach.'" ³⁹(Now he said this about the Spirit, whom those who had believed in him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.) ⁴⁰Then some from the crowd, having heard these words, said, "This is truly the prophet." ⁴¹Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Indeed, the Christ does not come from Galilee, does he? ⁴²Has the Scripture not said that the Christ will come from the seed of David and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" ⁴³So a division happened in the crowd because of him. ⁴⁴(Now some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.)

⁴⁵Then the officers came back to the chief priests and Pharisees, and those ones said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" ⁴⁶The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken like this." ⁴⁷So the Pharisees replied to them, "You have not also been deceived, have you?" ⁴⁸None from the rulers have believed in him, or from the Pharisees, have they? ⁴⁹But this crowd that does not know the law, they are accursed." ⁵⁰Nicodemus (the one who came to him earlier, being one from them) says to them, ⁵¹"Our law does not judge a man unless it might first hear from him and might know what he does, does it?" ⁵²They answered and said to him, "You are not also from Galilee, are you? Search, and see that no prophet rises up from Galilee."

⁵³^[1] [Then each went to his own house.

7:53 ^[1]

Chapter 8

¹^[1] Now Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²Now early in the morning he came to the temple again, and all the people came to him. ³Now the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and they placed her in the middle. ⁴The priests say to him, testing him in order to have an accusation against him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such people, but what do you say now?" ⁶But Jesus, having bent down, began to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷But when they continued asking him questions, he stood up and said to them, "The one among you who has no sin, let him throw a stone at her first." ⁸And again, having stooped down, he wrote on the ground with his finger. ⁹But each of the Jews went out, beginning with the oldest, so that they all went out, and he was left alone, with the woman being in the midst. ¹⁰And Jesus, having stood up, said to the woman, "Where are they? Did no one condemn you?" ¹¹And she said to him, "No one, Lord." And he said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, from now sin no longer.]"

¹²Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; the one following me may certainly not walk in the darkness but will have the light of life." ¹³Then the Pharisees said to him, "You testify about yourself; your testimony is not true." ¹⁴Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I testify about myself, my testimony is true. For I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I came from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge according to the flesh; I do not judge anyone. ¹⁶But even if I judge, my judgment is true, because I am not alone, but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷But even in your law it is written that the testimony of two men is true. ¹⁸I am the one testifying about myself, and the Father who sent me testifies about me." ¹⁹Therefore, they said to him, "Where is your father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father; if you had known me, you would have known my Father also." ²⁰He said these words in the treasury, teaching in the temple, and no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

²¹Then again he said to them, "I go away, and you will seek me and you will die in your sin. Where I go away, you are not able to come." ²²Then the Jews said, "He will not kill himself, will he? Is that why he says, 'Where I go, you are not able to come?'" ²³And he said to them, "You are from the things below; I am from the things above. You are from this world; I am not from this world. ²⁴Therefore, I said to you that you will die in your sins. For unless you would believe that I am, you will die in your sins." ²⁵Therefore, they said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "What have I even been saying to you from the beginning? ²⁶I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you. But the one who sent me is true; and the things that I heard from him, these things I say to the world." ²⁷(They did not understand that he was speaking to them about the Father.) ²⁸Then Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then will you know that I am, and that I do nothing from myself. But just as the Father taught me, I speak these things. ²⁹And the one who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, because I always do what is pleasing to him." ³⁰As he is speaking these things, many believed in him.

³¹Then Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in him, "If you remain in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will free you." ³³They replied to him, "We are the seed of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone; how can you say, 'You will be free?'" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to

you, that everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵Now the slave does not remain in the house into eternity; the son remains into eternity. ³⁶Therefore, if the Son frees you, you will be truly free. ³⁷I know that you are the seed of Abraham, but you seek to kill me, because my word has no place in you. ³⁸What I have seen with the Father, I say; and therefore, what you heard from the father, you do." ³⁹They answered and said to him, "Our father is Abraham." Jesus says to them, "If you were children of Abraham, you would do the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰But now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. ⁴¹You do the works of your father." Then they said to him, "We have not been born from sexual immorality; we have one Father: God." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would have loved me, for I came from God and am here; for neither have I come from myself, but that one sent me. ⁴³Because of what do you not understand my speech? It is because you are not able to hear my words. ⁴⁴You are from your father, the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. That one was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he would speak a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵But because I speak the truth, you do not believe me. ⁴⁶Which one of you convicts me concerning sin? If I speak the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷He who is from God hears the words of God; because of this you do not hear, because you are not from God." ⁴⁸The Jews answered and said to him, "Do we not rightly say that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Now I do not seek my glory; there is one seeking and judging. ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will certainly not see death into eternity." ⁵²The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham and the prophets died; but you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will certainly not taste death into eternity.' ⁵³You are not greater than our father Abraham who died, are you? The prophets also died. Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing; it is my Father who glorifies me—about whom you say, 'He is our God.' ⁵⁵And you have not known him, but I know him. And if I would say that I do not know him, I would be like you, a liar. However, I know him and keep his word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced that he might see my day, and he saw and was glad." ⁵⁷Therefore the Jews said to him, "You do not yet have 50 years, and you have seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham came into existence, I am." ⁵⁹Therefore, they picked up stones in order to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out from the temple.

8:1 [1]

Chapter 9

¹And passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this one or his parents, so that he might be born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither did this one sin, nor his parents, but so that the works of God might be revealed in him. ⁴It is necessary for us to work the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one is able to work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud from the saliva and smeared the mud on his eyes. ⁷And he said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam," (which is translated "Sent"). So he went away and washed and came back seeing. ⁸Then the neighbors and those who had seen him previously, that he was a beggar, began saying, "Is not this the one sitting and begging?" ⁹Some said, "It is he." Others said, "Not at all, but that one is like him." He kept saying, "It is me." ¹⁰Therefore, they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" ¹¹That one answered, "The man who is called Jesus made mud and smeared {it} on my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So having gone and having washed, I received my sight." ¹²And they said to him, "Where is that one?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They bring him, the one who was formerly blind, to the Pharisees. ¹⁴(Now it was a Sabbath on the day Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.) ¹⁵Then again the Pharisees also began asking him how he had received his sight. But he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Then some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How is a man, a sinner, able to do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷Therefore, they ask the blind man again, "What do you say

about him, since he opened your eyes?" And he said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸Therefore, the Jews did not believe about him that he was blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. ¹⁹And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, whom you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰So his parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees, we do not know, or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he has full maturity. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said these things because they were afraid of the Jews. For the Jews had already agreed that if anyone would confess him as the Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Because of this, his parents said, "He has full maturity; ask him." ²⁴Therefore, for a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵Then that one replied, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I know: that being blind, now I see." ²⁶Then they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you did not listen! Why do you want to listen again? You do not want to become his disciples also, do you?" ²⁸And they reviled him and said, "You are a disciple of that one, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." ³⁰The man answered and said to them, "Now this is a remarkable thing, that you do not know where he is from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not hear sinners, but if someone is devout and does his will, he hears this one. ³²From eternity it has never been heard that anyone opened the eyes of one having been born blind. ³³If this one were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." ³⁴They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and you are teaching us?" And they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and having found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶That one replied and said, "And who is he, sir, so that I might believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have both seen him, and that one is the one speaking with you." ³⁸Now he said, "Lord, I believe" and he worshiped him. ³⁹And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those not seeing might see and those seeing might become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard these things and asked him, "We are not also blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin, but now you say, 'We see.' Your sin remains."

Chapter 10

¹"Truly, truly, I say to you, the one not entering through the gate into the sheep pen but climbing up some other way, that one is a thief and a robber. ²But the one entering through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens for this one, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵Now they will certainly not follow a stranger, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus spoke this parable to them, but those ones did not understand what it was that he was saying to them.

⁷Therefore, Jesus said to them again, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the gate of the sheep. ⁸Everyone who came before me is a thief and a robber, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹I am the gate. If anyone enters through me, he will be saved, and he will go in and go out and will find pasture. ¹⁰The thief does not come except in order that he might steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they might have life and might have it abundantly. ¹¹I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²And the hired man, not being a shepherd, of whom the sheep are not his own, sees the wolf coming and abandons the sheep and escapes, and the wolf seizes and scatters them, ¹³because he is a hired man, and it is not a concern to him about the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd, and I know those of mine, and those of mine know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not from this sheep pen. It is necessary for me to bring them also, and they will hear my voice and there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷Because of this the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I might take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it away from me, but I lay it down from myself. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. I received this command from my Father."

¹⁹A division again occurred among the Jews because of these words. ²⁰Now many of them were saying, "He has a demon and is insane. Why do you listen to him?" ²¹Others were saying, "These are not the words of a demon-possessed man. A demon is not able to open the eyes of the blind, is he?"

²²Then the Festival of Dedication in Jerusalem happened. It was winter,^[1] ²³^[2] and Jesus was walking in the temple on the porch of Solomon. ²⁴Then the Jews surrounded him and began saying to him, "How long are you taking away our life? If you are the Christ, tell us openly." ²⁵Jesus replied to them, "I told you, but you do not believe. The works that I do in the name of my Father, these testify concerning me. ²⁶But you do not believe, because you are not from my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸And I give them eternal life, and they will certainly not perish into eternity, and no one will snatch any of them from my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them from the hand of the Father. ³⁰I and the Father are one." ³¹The Jews took up stones again so that they might stone him. ³²Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of those works are you stoning me?" ³³The Jews answered him, "We are not stoning you for a good work, but for blasphemy, and because you, a man, are making yourself God." ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, "You are gods"?' ³⁵If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture is not able to be broken), ³⁶do you say to the one the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God?' ³⁷If I am not doing the works of my Father, do not believe me. ³⁸But if I am doing them, even if you do not believe me, believe in the works so that you might know and might understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father." ³⁹Therefore, they were seeking to seize him again, but he went away out of their hand.

⁴⁰And he went away again beyond the Jordan to the place where John first was baptizing, and he stayed there.

⁴¹And many came to him and were saying, "John indeed did no sign, but all that John said about this one was true."

⁴²And many believed in him there.

10:22 ^[1] at the beginning of verse 23.

10:23 ^[2] at the beginning of verse 23 instead of at the end of verse 22.

Chapter 11

¹Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus from Bethany, from the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Now it was Mary who anointed the Lord with myrrh and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.

³Therefore, the sisters sent to him, saying, "Sir, behold, he whom you love is sick." ⁴But having heard it, Jesus said, "This sickness is not to death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it." ⁵(Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.) ⁶Therefore, when he heard that he was sick, he then indeed stayed two days in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this, he says to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples say to him, "Rabbi, right now the Jews are seeking to stone you, and you are going back there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not 12 hours in the day? If someone walks in the daytime, he does not stumble, because he sees by the light of this world. ¹⁰But if someone walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹He said these things, and after this, he says to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going so that I may wake him out of sleep." ¹²Therefore, the disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."

¹³(Now Jesus had spoken about his death, but those ones thought that he is speaking about the sleep of slumber.)

¹⁴Therefore, Jesus then said to them plainly, "Lazarus has died. ¹⁵And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Therefore, Thomas, who is called Didymus, said to {his} fellow disciples, "Let us also go, so that we may die with him."

¹⁷Therefore, having come, Jesus found him having already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about 15 stadia away. ¹⁹And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, so that they might comfort them about {their} brother. ²⁰Then Martha, when she heard, "Jesus is coming," went to meet him, but Mary was sitting in the house. ²¹Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

²²But even now, I know that whatever you would ask from God, God will give to you." ²³Jesus says to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha says to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; the one believing in me, even if he dies, will live; ²⁶and everyone living and believing in me may certainly not die into eternity. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She says to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." ²⁸And having said this, she went away and called her sister Mary privately, having said, "The Teacher is here and is calling you." ²⁹Now when she heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰(Now Jesus had not yet come into the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him.) ³¹Then the Jews who were with her in the house and comforting her, having seen that Mary got up quickly and went out, followed her, having thought that she was going to the tomb so that she might weep there. ³²Then as soon as Mary came to the place where Jesus was, having seen him, she fell down at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When therefore Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews having come with her weeping, he was deeply disturbed in the spirit and he troubled himself. ³⁴And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They say to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶Then the Jews said, "Behold how much he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Was this one, who opened the eyes of the blind man, not able to act so that this one also would not die?" ³⁸Therefore, Jesus again, being deeply disturbed in himself, went to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus says, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the one who had died, says to him, "Lord, he will already stink, for it is four days." ⁴⁰Jesus says to her, "Did I not say to you that, if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" ⁴¹Therefore, they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up {his} eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. ⁴²Now I have known that you always hear, but because of the crowd that is standing around I said this, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³And having said this, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his feet and hands having been bound with cloths, and his face having been bound with a cloth. Jesus says to them, "Untie him, and let him go."

⁴⁵Therefore, many of the Jews who had come to Mary and had seen what he did believed in him. ⁴⁶But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things that Jesus had done.

⁴⁷Therefore, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Sanhedrin together and said, "What will we do, for this man does many signs? ⁴⁸If we leave him alone like this, all will believe in him, and the Romans will come and will take away both our place and nation." ⁴⁹But one certain man among them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You do not know anything. ⁵⁰You do not consider that it is better for you that one man would die for the people, and the whole nation would not perish." ⁵¹(Now this he said not from himself, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, ⁵²and not only for the nation, but so that also the children of God who had been scattered would be gathered together into one.) ⁵³Therefore, from that day they plotted so that they might put him to death.

⁵⁴Therefore, Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but he departed from there into the country near the wilderness, into a town called Ephraim. There he stayed with the disciples. ⁵⁵Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem from the country before the Passover so that they might purify themselves. ⁵⁶So they were looking for Jesus and speaking one with another as they stood in the temple, "What does it seem to you? That he may certainly not come to the festival?" ⁵⁷Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given an order so that if anyone might know where he was, he should report it so that they might seize him.

Chapter 12

¹Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²So they made him a dinner there, and Martha was serving, but Lazarus was one of those reclining to eat with him. ³Then Mary, having taken a litra of perfumed oil of very precious pure nard, anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. Now the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfumed oil. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, the one who was going to betray him, says, ⁵"For what reason was this perfumed oil

not sold for 300 denarii and given to the poor?" ⁶(Now he said this, not because it was a concern to him about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having the moneybag, he was stealing what was put in it.) ⁷Therefore Jesus said, "Leave her alone so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

⁹Then a large crowd of the Jews learned that he is there, and they came, not only for Jesus, but also so that they might see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰But the chief priests plotted so that they might also put Lazarus to death; ¹¹for because of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

¹²On the next day the great crowd, the one that came to the festival, having heard that Jesus is coming to Jerusalem, ¹³took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet him and cried out, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one coming in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel." ¹⁴Now Jesus, having found a young donkey, sat on it, just as it is written, ¹⁵"Do not fear, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on the colt of a donkey." ¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him. ¹⁷Then the crowd testified that they had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him up from the dead. ¹⁸For this reason also the crowd went out to meet him: because they heard that he had done this sign. ¹⁹Therefore, the Pharisees said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing! Behold, the world has gone after him!"

²⁰Now certain Greeks were among those going up so that they might worship at the festival. ²¹Then these men went to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." ²²Philip goes and speaks to Andrew; Andrew and Philip go and speak to Jesus. ²³Now Jesus answers them, saying, "The hour has come so that the Son of Man might be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat, having fallen into the earth, dies, it remains by itself; but if it would die, it bears much fruit. ²⁵The one loving his life loses it, but the one hating his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone would serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there will my servant also be. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. ²⁷Now my soul has been troubled, and what might I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have both glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹Then the crowd that stood by, also having heard it, were saying that thunder had occurred. Others were saying, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for me, but for you. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world: Now will the ruler of this world be thrown out. ³²And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw everyone to myself." ³³Now he was saying this to indicate what kind of death he was about to die. ³⁴Then the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Christ remains into eternity. And how do you say that it is necessary for the Son of Man to be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" ³⁵Jesus then said to them, "The light will be with you yet a short time. Walk while you have the light, so that darkness might not overtake you. And the one walking in the darkness does not know where he goes. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light so that you may be sons of light."

Jesus said these things, and having departed, was hidden from them. ³⁷Although he had done so many signs before them, they were not believing in him ³⁸so that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, in which he said:

"Lord, who has believed our report,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

³⁹For this reason they were not able to believe, for Isaiah had again said,

⁴⁰"He has blinded their eyes, and he has hardened their heart;

so that they might not see with {their} eyes and might understand with {their} heart,
and might turn,
and I will heal them.”

⁴¹Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke about him. ⁴²But nevertheless, even many of the rulers believed in him; but because of the Pharisees, they were not confessing it so that they would not be put out of the synagogue. ⁴³For they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God.

⁴⁴Now Jesus cried out and said, “The one believing in me, believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me, ⁴⁵and the one seeing me sees the one who sent me. ⁴⁶I have come as a light to the world, so that all who believe in me might not remain in the darkness. ⁴⁷And if anyone hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I have not come so that I might judge the world, but so that I might save the world. ⁴⁸The one rejecting me and not receiving my words has one judging him. The word which I have spoken, this will judge him on the last day. ⁴⁹For I did not speak from myself, but the Father himself who sent me has given me the command, what I should say and what I should speak. ⁵⁰And I know that his command is eternal life. Therefore, what I say, just as the Father has spoken to me, thus I speak.”

Chapter 13

¹Now before the Festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come so that he might depart from this world to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²And while supper was happening, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas, {son} of Simon Iscariot, so that he might betray him, ³knowing that the Father had given everything to him, into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴he gets up from supper and takes off his outer clothing. And having taken a towel, he wrapped it around himself. ⁵Then he pours water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the disciples and to dry them with the towel that was tied around himself. ⁶Then he comes to Simon Peter. He says to him, “Lord, do you wash my feet?” ⁷Jesus answered and said to him, “What I do you do not understand now, but you will understand after these things.” ⁸Peter says to him, “You may certainly not wash my feet into eternity.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.” ⁹Simon Peter says to him, “Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.” ¹⁰Jesus says to him, “The one who has been washed has no need, except to wash his feet, but he is completely clean, and you are clean, but not all.” ¹¹(For he knew who is betraying him; for this reason he said, “Not all are clean.”)

¹²So when he had washed their feet and taken his garments and sat down again, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done for you? ¹³You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and you are speaking correctly, because I am. ¹⁴If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash the feet of one another. ¹⁵For I have given you an example so that you also would do just as I did to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking about all of you; I know whom I have chosen—but so that the scripture might be fulfilled: ‘The one eating bread with me lifted up his heel against me.’ ¹⁹From this moment I tell you, before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe that I am. ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, the one receiving whomever I might send receives me, and the one receiving me receives the one who sent me.”

²¹Having said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit, and he testified and said, “Truly, truly, I say to you that one of you will betray me.” ²²The disciples began looking at each other, wondering about whom he was speaking. ²³Now one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining to eat against the chest of Jesus. ²⁴Therefore, Simon Peter motioned to this one to ask, “Who is it about whom he is speaking?” ²⁵So having thus leaned back against the chest

of Jesus, that one says to him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶Jesus answered, "It is that one to whom I, having dipped the piece of bread, will hand it over and give it to him." Then having dipped the bread, he gave it to Judas, {son} of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷And after the bread, Satan then entered into him. Therefore, Jesus says to him, "What you are doing, do quickly." ²⁸(Now none of those reclining to eat knew why he said this to him. ²⁹For some were thinking, since Judas had the moneybag, that Jesus says to him, "Buy the things we need to have for the festival," or so that he might give something to the poor.) ³⁰Therefore, having received the bread, he went out immediately. Now it was night.

³¹Therefore, when he had gone out, Jesus says, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²And God will glorify him in himself, and he will glorify him immediately. ³³Little children, I am with you for still a short time. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, 'Where I go, you are not able to come.' Now I also say this to you. ³⁴I give to you a new commandment, so that you would love one another; just as I have loved you, so also you would love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another."

³⁶Simon Peter says to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I go, you are not able to follow me now, but you will follow later." ³⁷Peter says to him, "Lord, why am I not able to follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster may certainly not crow before which you will deny me three times."

Chapter 14

¹"Do not let your heart be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ²In the house of my Father are many rooms. But if not, I would have told you, for I am going to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. ⁴And you know the way where I am going." ⁵Thomas says to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How are we able to know the way?" ⁶Jesus says to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you will know my Father also. And from now on you know him and have seen him." ⁸Philip says to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." ⁹Jesus says to him, "So long a time I am with you, and you do not know me, Philip? The one who has seen me has seen the Father. How do you say, 'Show us the Father?' ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from myself, but the Father remaining in me is doing his work. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me. But if not, believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Truly, truly, I say to you, the one believing in me, the works that I do, he also will do, and he will do greater than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And whatever you might ask in my name, this I will do so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. ¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments, ¹⁶and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Comforter so that he may be with you into eternity— ¹⁷the Spirit of Truth whom the world is not able to receive, because it does not see him nor know him. You know him, for he remains with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come back to you. ¹⁹Yet a short time and the world no longer sees me, but you see me. Because I live, you will also live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹The one having my commandments and keeping them, this is the one loving me, and the one loving me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and I will show myself to him." ²²Judas (not Iscariot) says to him, "Lord, why is it that you are about to show yourself to us and not to the world?" ²³Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word. And my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and we will make residence with him. ²⁴The one not loving me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine, but of the Father who sent me.

²⁵I have said these things to you while I am remaining with you. ²⁶Now the Comforter—the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything, and he will remind you of everything that I said to you. ²⁷I leave you peace; I give you my peace. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. ²⁸You heard that I said to you, 'I am going away, and I will come back to you.' If you loved me,

you would be glad, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I am. ²⁹And now I have told you before it happens so that, when it may happen, you will believe. ³⁰I will not speak with you much longer, for the ruler of this world is coming. And he has nothing in me, ³¹but so that the world might know that I love the Father, and just as the Father commanded me, thus I do. Get up. Let us go from here.”

Chapter 15

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²Every branch in me not bearing fruit, he takes it away; and every one that bears fruit, he prunes it so that it might bear more fruit. ³You are already clean through the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I in you. Just as a branch is not able to bear fruit from itself unless it remains in the vine, so neither can you, unless you remain in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. The one remaining in me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for without me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown outside like a branch and is dried up, and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned up. ⁷If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, ask whatever you desire, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father has been glorified in this, that you would bear much fruit and you would be my disciples. ⁹Just as the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept the commandments of the Father and remain in his love. ¹¹I have spoken these things to you so that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete. ¹²This is my commandment, that you would love one another just as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this—that he would lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do the things that I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, for all the things I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you would go and would bear fruit, and your fruit would remain, so that whatever you would ask of the Father in my name, he would give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you so that you would love one another. ¹⁸If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before you. ¹⁹If you were from the world, the world would love its own. But because you are not from the world, but I chose you from the world, on account of this the world hates you. ²⁰Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they kept my word, they will also keep yours. ²¹But they will do all these things to you because of my name, because they do not know the one who sent me. ²²If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³The one hating me also hates my Father. ²⁴If I had not done the works that no one else did among them, they would have no sin, but now they have both seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵But this is in order that the word that is written in their law might be fulfilled, ‘They hated me without a cause.’ ²⁶When the Comforter whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of Truth who goes out from the Father—may come, he will testify about me. ²⁷But you are also testifying, because you are with me from the beginning.

Chapter 16

¹“I have spoken these things to you so that you might not fall away. ²They will cause you to be put out of the synagogues. But an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think he offers a service to God. ³And they will do these things, because they have not known the Father nor me. ⁴But I have spoken these things to you so that when their hour may come, you may remember that I told you about them. But I did not tell you these things in the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I go to the one who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sadness has filled your heart. ⁷But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I would go away. For if I do not go away, the Comforter will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And having come, the Comforter will reprove the world about sin and about righteousness and about judgment— ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰and about righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will no longer see me; ¹¹and about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. ¹²I

have many more things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them now. ¹³But when that one, the Spirit of Truth, comes, he will guide you into the whole truth, for he will not speak from himself, but he will say whatever he will hear, and he will announce to you things that are coming. ¹⁴That one will glorify me, because he will take from the things of mine and he will announce it to you. ¹⁵Everything, as much as the Father has, is mine. Therefore, I said that he will take from the things of mine and he will announce it to you. ¹⁶And in a little while you no longer see me, and again a little while and you will see me.” ¹⁷Then some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while and you do not see me, and again a little while and you will see me,’ and, ‘Because I go to the Father?’” ¹⁸Therefore they were saying, “What is this ‘A little while?’ We do not know what he is saying.” ¹⁹Jesus knew that they wanted to question him, and he said to them, “Are you seeking among yourselves concerning this because I said, ‘A little while and you do not see me, and again a little while and you will see me?’” ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will be glad. You will be grieved, but your sorrow will become joy. ²¹When a woman gives birth, she has pain because her hour has come, but when she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers her suffering, because of the joy that a man has been born into the world. ²²And so you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your heart will be glad, and no one takes away your joy from you. ²³And in that day you will ask me nothing. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you might ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive so that your joy may be fulfilled.

²⁵I have said these things to you in figures of speech; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech, but instead I will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on behalf of you, ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father, and I have come into the world. Again, I am leaving the world, and I am going to the Father.” ²⁹His disciples say, “See, now you are speaking plainly, and you are not speaking in figures of speech. ³⁰Now we know that you know all things, and you do not have need that anyone would question you. In this we believe that you have come from God.” ³¹Jesus answered them, “Just now do you believe? ³²Behold, an hour is coming—and has come—that you might be scattered, each one to his own, and you might leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. ³³I have spoken these things to you so that you might have peace in me. In the world you have troubles, but have courage. I have conquered the world.”

Chapter 17

¹Jesus said these things and, having lifted up his eyes to the heaven, he said, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so that the Son might glorify you, ²just as you gave him authority over all flesh, so that everyone whom you have given him, he would give to them eternal life. ³Now this is eternal life, that they would know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. ⁴I glorified you on the earth, having completed the work that you have given me so that I might do it. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me along with yourself with the glory that I had with you before the world was made. ⁶I revealed your name to the men whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you, ⁸for I have given them the words that you gave me, and they received them and truly knew that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹I ask on behalf of them. I do not ask on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰And all things that are mine are yours, and what are yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me so that they would be one, just as we are. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. And I protected them, and not one of them perished, except for the son of destruction, so that the scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I am saying these things in the world so that they would have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not from the world, just as I am not from the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you would take them away from the world, but that you would keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not from the world, just as I am not from the world. ¹⁷Sanctify

them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸Just as you sent me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I have sanctified myself, so that they themselves may also be sanctified in truth. ²⁰But I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word ²¹so that they would all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, so that they also would be in us, so that the world would believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you gave me, I also have given to them, so that they would be one, just as we are one: ²³I in them, and you in me so that they may be made complete as one, so that the world may know that you sent me and you loved them just as you loved me. ²⁴Father, those you have given me, I desire that they also may be with me where I am, in order to see my glory, which you gave me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵Righteous Father, even the world did not know you, but I know you; and these know that you sent me. ²⁶And I made your name known to them, and I will make it known so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Chapter 18

¹Having spoken these words, Jesus went out with his disciples across the brook of the Kidron, where there was a garden into which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, the one betraying him, also knew the place, for Jesus often gathered there with his disciples. ³So Judas, leading the cohort of soldiers and officers from the chief priests and from the Pharisees, comes there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all the things happening to him, having gone out, asked them, "Whom do you seek?" ⁵They answered him, "Jesus the Nazarene." He says to them, "I am." Now Judas, the one betraying him, was also standing with them. ⁶So when he said to them, "I am," they went backward and fell to the ground. ⁷Then again he asked them, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus the Nazarene." ⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that I am. So if you are seeking me, allow these to go away." ⁹This was so that would be fulfilled the word that he said: "Of those whom you have given me, I lost none from among them." ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. Now the name of the servant was Malchus. ¹¹Then Jesus said to Peter, "Put the sword into its sheath. The cup which the Father has given me, should I certainly not drink it?"

¹²Then the cohort of soldiers and the commander and the officers of the Jews seized Jesus and tied him up. ¹³And they led him first to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴Now Caiaphas was the one who had given the advice to the Jews that it would be better for one man to die on behalf of the people.

¹⁵Now Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. ¹⁶But Peter was standing at the door outside, so the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the female doorkeeper, and he brought Peter in. ¹⁷Then the female servant, the doorkeeper, says to Peter, "Are you not also from the disciples of this man?" He says, "I am not." ¹⁸Now the servants and the officers were standing there, having made a charcoal fire, for it was cold, and they were warming themselves. But Peter was also with them, standing there and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest then asked Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I was always teaching in the synagogue and in the temple where all the Jews come together, and I said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them. Behold, these people know what I said." ²²Now when he had said this, one of the officers standing there gave Jesus a slap, saying, "Do you answer the high priest in this manner?" ²³Jesus answered him, "If I spoke wrongly, testify about the wrong, but if rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴Then Annas sent him, tied up, to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. Then they said to him, "Are you not also from among his disciples?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One from among the servants of the high priest, who was a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, says, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷Peter then denied it again, and immediately a rooster crowed.

²⁸Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the governor's palace. Now it was early in the morning, and they did not enter into the governor's palace so that they would not be defiled, but might eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and says, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰They answered and said to him, "If this one were not an evildoer, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹Therefore, Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." ³²This was so that the word of Jesus would be fulfilled which he spoke to indicate by what kind of death he was about to die.

³³Then Pilate entered into the governor's palace again and summoned Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you speak this from yourself, or did others speak to you about me?" ³⁵Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What did you do?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my servants would fight so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But now my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate then said to him, "So then, are you a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, so that I would bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is from the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate says to him, "What is truth?" And having said this, he went out again to the Jews and says to them, "I find no guilt in him." ³⁹But there is the custom to you that I would release one person to you at the Passover. So do you desire that I would release the King of the Jews to you?" ⁴⁰Then they cried out again, saying, "Not this one, but Barabbas." Now Barabbas was a robber.

Chapter 19

¹Therefore, Pilate then took Jesus and whipped him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown from thorns. They put it on his head and put a purple garment on him. ³And they came to him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and they began giving him slaps to the face. ⁴Pilate went out again and says to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you so that you might know that I find no guilt in him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple garment. And he says to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶Therefore, when the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate says to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to the law he ought to die, because he made himself to be the Son of God." ⁸Therefore, when Pilate heard this word, he became even more afraid, ⁹and he entered into the governor's palace again and says to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Then Pilate says to him, "Are you not speaking to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you, and I have authority to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You do not have any authority over me, except for what has been given to you from above. Therefore, the one who handed me over to you has a greater sin." ¹²At this, Pilate was seeking to release him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you release this one, you are not a friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar." ¹³Therefore, Pilate, having heard these words, brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place called "The Pavement," but in Hebrew, "Gabbatha." ¹⁴Now it was the day of preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. And he says to the Jews, "Behold your king!" ¹⁵But they cried out, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" Pilate says to them, "Should I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king except Caesar." ¹⁶Therefore, he then handed him over to them so that he might be crucified, and they took Jesus and led him away.

¹⁷And he went out, carrying the cross for himself, to the place called "The Place of a Skull," which in Hebrew is called "Golgotha." ¹⁸They crucified him there, and with him two others, on this side and on that side, and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹Now Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross. Now on it was written: JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰Therefore, many of the Jews read this title, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. And it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'That one said, 'I am King of the Jews.''" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³Then, when the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four shares—a share for each soldier—and the tunic. Now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to each other, “We should not tear it, but instead we should cast lots for it, whose it will be.” This happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled which says,

“They divided my garments among themselves

and cast lots for my clothing.”

Therefore, the soldiers did this. ²⁵Now standing beside the cross of Jesus were his mother and the sister of his mother, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶Then Jesus, having seen his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, says to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷Then he says to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been completed, so that the scripture might be completed, says, “I thirst.” ²⁹A container full of sour wine was placed there, so having put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop staff, they lifted it up to his mouth. ³⁰Therefore, when Jesus took the sour wine, he said, “It is finished.” And having bowed his head, he gave up his spirit.

³¹Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross during the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was an especially important day), asked Pilate that their legs would be broken and they would be taken away. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man and of the other one who had been crucified with him. ³³But having come to Jesus, as they saw that he had already died, they did not break his legs. ³⁴However, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. ³⁵And the one who saw this has testified, and his testimony is true. And that one knows that he speaks the truth, so that you would also believe. ³⁶For these things happened in order that the scripture would be fulfilled, “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷And again, another scripture says, “They will look at him whom they pierced.”

³⁸Now after these things, Joseph who was from Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus (but secretly for fear of the Jews), asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus. And Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Now Nicodemus also came—who at first had come to him at night—bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about 100 litras in weight. ⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and wrapped it in linen cloths with the spices, just as was the custom of the Jews to prepare for burial. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden, a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. ⁴²Therefore, because of the day of preparation of the Jews and because the tomb was close by, they laid Jesus there.

Chapter 20

¹Now early on the first day of the week, being still dark, Mary Magdalene comes to the tomb and sees the stone having been rolled away from the tomb. ²So she runs and comes to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and she says to them, “They took away the Lord from the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³Then Peter and the other disciple went out, and they went to the tomb. ⁴Now the two were running together, and the other disciple quickly ran ahead of Peter and arrived at the tomb first. ⁵And having stooped down, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not enter. ⁶Simon Peter then also arrived following him and entered into the tomb. And he sees the linen cloths lying there ⁷and the cloth that had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths, but having been folded up in one place by itself. ⁸So then the other disciple, the one who first arrived at the tomb, also went in, and he saw and believed. ⁹For they did not yet understand the scripture that it was necessary for him to rise from the dead. ¹⁰So the disciples went away again to their own homes.

¹¹But Mary was standing outside at the tomb, weeping. Then as she was weeping, she stooped down and looked into the tomb. ¹²And she sees two angels in white having sat, one at the head and one at the foot of where the

body of Jesus had lain. ¹³And those say to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She says to them, "Because they took away my Lord, and I do not know where they put him." ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus says to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, thinking that he is the gardener, says to him, "Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you put him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus says to her, "Mary." Having turned, she says to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni" (which means "Teacher"). ¹⁷Jesus says to her, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet gone up to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I go up to my Father and your Father, and my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene comes, telling the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and that he said these things to her.

¹⁹Therefore, being evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of where the disciples were having been closed for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst of them and says to them, "Peace to you."

²⁰And having said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Therefore, the disciples rejoiced, having seen the Lord. ²¹Then he said to them again, "Peace to you. Just as the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²And having said this, he breathed on them and says to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whoever's sins you may forgive, they have been forgiven to them; whoever's sins you may keep back, they have been kept back."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, who was called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵Then the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will certainly not believe."

²⁶And after eight days his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Jesus comes, the doors having been closed, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace to you." ²⁷Then he says to Thomas, "Place your finger here and see my hands. And reach out your hand and put it into my side. And do not be unbelieving, but believing."

²⁸Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God." ²⁹Jesus says to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those not having seen, and having believed."

³⁰Then Jesus also did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which have not been written in this book,

³¹but these have been written so that you would believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and so that believing, you would have life in his name.

Chapter 21

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. Now in this manner he showed himself: ²they were together—Simon Peter, and Thomas who was called Didymus, and Nathaniel who was from Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others from his disciples. ³Simon Peter says to them, "I am going fishing." They say to him, "We also are coming with you." They went out and got into a boat, but they caught nothing during that night. ⁴Now, when it was already morning, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it is Jesus. ⁵So Jesus says to them, "Children, do you not have any fish to eat?" They answered him, "No." ⁶But he said to them, "Throw the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they threw their net and did not have the strength to draw it in because of the large number of fish. ⁷Then that disciple whom Jesus loved says to Peter, "It is the Lord." Therefore Simon Peter, having heard that it was the Lord, put on his outer garment (for he was undressed), and threw himself into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat (for they were not far from the land, but about 200 cubits away), dragging the net of the fish. ⁹Therefore, when they got out upon the land, they see a charcoal fire kindled, and fish laid on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus says to them, "Bring some of the fish that you just caught." ¹¹Simon Peter then went up and pulled the net to the shore, full of large fish; 153. But being so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus says to them, "Come, eat breakfast." But none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" They knew that it is the Lord. ¹³Jesus comes and takes the bread and gives it to them, and the fish in the same way. ¹⁴This was already the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples, having been raised from the dead.

¹⁵Then when they ate breakfast, Jesus says to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He says to him, "Yes Lord, you know that I love you." He says to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶He says to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He says to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." He says to him, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷He says to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he says to him, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus says to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to clothe yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you become old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will clothe you and carry you where you do not want." ¹⁹Now he said this, indicating with what manner of death he will glorify God. And having said this, he says to him, "Follow me." ²⁰Having turned around, Peter sees the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also leaned back against his chest at the dinner and said, "Lord, who is the one betraying you?" ²¹Therefore, having seen him, Peter says to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this one?" ²²Jesus says to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what to you? You follow me." ²³So this word spread among the brothers, that that disciple does not die. But Jesus did not say to him that he does not die, but, "If I want him to remain until I come, what to you?"

²⁴This is the disciple who testifies about these things and who wrote these things, and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵Now there are also many other things that Jesus did, which, if each one were written down, I imagine not even the world itself to have enough room for the books being written.

Acts

Chapter 1

¹I made the first account, O Theophilus, about all that Jesus began both to do and to teach, ²until that day when he was taken up, having given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen, ³to whom also, after he had suffered, he presented himself living with many proofs, appearing to them for 40 days and speaking things concerning the kingdom of God. ⁴And meeting together with them, he commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to await the promise of the Father, “which you heard from me, ⁵that John indeed baptized with water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit after these not many days.”

⁶They therefore having assembled, they were asking him, saying, “Lord, if you are restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?” ⁷But he said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or the seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And having said these things, as they were looking, he was raised up, and a cloud hid him from their eyes. ¹⁰And while they were looking intently into heaven as he was going up, and behold, two men stood by them in white clothes. ¹¹And they said, “Men, Galileans, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, thus will come, in which manner you saw him going into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill that is called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, having a journey of a Sabbath. ¹³And when they arrived, they went up into the upper chamber where they were staying, both Peter and John, and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas of James. ¹⁴They all were continuing unanimously in prayer, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers.

¹⁵And in those days Peter, having stood up in the midst of the brothers, said (and the multitude of names to the same was about 120), ¹⁶“Men, brothers, it was necessary for the scripture to be fulfilled that the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to the ones who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered with us and received a share of this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now indeed this one bought a field from the wage of unrighteousness, and having fallen headfirst, he burst open in the middle, and all his entrails were poured out. ¹⁹And it became known to all those living in Jerusalem. Therefore that field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰“For it is written in the book of Psalms,

‘Let his habitation be made desolate,

and let not one dwelling be in it,’ and

‘Let another take his overseership.’

²¹Therefore it is necessary, of the men who accompanied us during all the time in which the Lord Jesus came in and went out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us—one of these {is} to become a witness with us of his resurrection.” ²³And they stood up two, Joseph, the one called Barsabbas, who was named Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And praying, they said, “You, Lord, heart-knower of all, show which one from these two you have chosen ²⁵to take this place of ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias, and he was chosen together with the 11 apostles.

Chapter 2

¹And when the day of Pentecost was completely filled, they were all together to the same. ²And suddenly a sound came from heaven, as of a strong wind being borne along, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³And tongues as if of fire appeared to them, distributing themselves, and they sat upon each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them to speak out.

⁵Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, godly men, from every nation of those under heaven. ⁶And when this sound happened, the multitude came together and was confused, because each one was hearing them speaking in his own language. ⁷And they were all amazed and were marveling, saying, "Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how are we hearing, each in our own language in which we were born? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and those inhabiting Mesopotamia, Judea and also Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and also Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya that {are} near Cyrene, and Romans visiting, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we are hearing them speaking in our tongues the great things of God." ¹²So they were all amazed and were perplexed, saying one to another, "What does this want to be?" ¹³But others, mocking, were saying, "They are filled with sweet wine."

¹⁴But Peter, having stood with the eleven, raised up his voice and spoke out to them, "Men, Jews, and all who are inhabiting Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and take my words into your ears. ¹⁵For these are not drunk as you are assuming, for it is the third hour of the day. ¹⁶But this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷"And it will be in the last days," God says,

"I will pour out from my Spirit on all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters will prophesy

and your young men will see visions

and your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸And even on my male servants and on my female servants in those days

I will pour out from my Spirit, and they will prophesy.

¹⁹And I will give wonders in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

²⁰The sun will be turned to darkness,

and the moon to blood

before the great and remarkable day of the Lord comes.

²¹And it will be, everyone who may call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

²²Men, Israelites, hear these words: Jesus the Nazarene {was} a man attested to you by God with mighty deeds and wonders and signs that God did through him in the midst of you, as you yourselves know. ²³This one, given up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you killed by the hand of the lawless, having fastened, ²⁴whom God raised up, having loosed the agonies of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says about him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right so that I should not be moved.

²⁶Because of this, my heart was glad and my tongue exulted.

And indeed, my flesh will also dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
nor will you allow your Holy One to see decay.

²⁸You made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with gladness with your face.'

²⁹Men, brothers, it is possible to speak with confidence to you about the patriarch David, both that he died and {that} he was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Therefore, being a prophet and having known that God had sworn to him with an oath to set from the fruit of his loins upon his throne, ³¹having foreseen this, he spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see decay.

³²This Jesus, God has raised up, of which we all are witnesses. ³³Therefore, having been exalted to the right of God and having received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you both see and hear.

³⁴For David did not ascend to the heavens, but he himself says,

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right

³⁵until I make your enemies a stool for your feet.'"

³⁶Therefore, let all the house of Israel know certainly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷And hearing this they were pierced in the heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men, brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Then Peter said to them, "Repent and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is to you and to your children and to all who are at a distance, as many as the Lord our God may call." ⁴⁰And with many other words he testified and urged them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." ⁴¹Therefore, having received his word, they were baptized, and about 3,000 souls were added in that day. ⁴²And they were continuing in the teaching of the apostles and in fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers.

⁴³And fear was coming on every soul, and many wonders and signs were happening through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all those believing were to the same and had all things in common, ⁴⁵and they were selling {their} properties and {their} possessions and they were distributing them to all, as anyone might have need ⁴⁶and, continuing unanimously every day in the temple and breaking bread in each house, they were sharing food with exultation and sincerity of heart, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with the whole people, and each day the Lord was adding those who were being saved to the same.

Chapter 3

¹Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ²And a certain man, being lame from the womb of his mother, was being carried, whom each day they placed at the gate of the temple that is called Beautiful to ask for alms from those going into the temple, ³who, seeing Peter and John being about to enter into the temple, asked to receive alms. ⁴But Peter, looking intently at him with John, said, "Look at us." ⁵So he paid

attention to them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not possess, but what I have, this I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk." ⁷And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God. ¹⁰And they recognized him, that he was the one sitting for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

¹¹And as he was holding Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon's, marveling. ¹²But Peter, seeing this, replied to the people, "Men, Israelites, why do you marvel at this? Or why do you look intently at us, as if we have made him to walk by our own power or godliness? ¹³The God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his Servant Jesus, whom you indeed delivered up and rejected before the face of Pilate, when that one had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a man, a murderer, to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Originator of Life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, this one whom you see and know, his name has made strong. And the faith that {is} through him has given to him this complete health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he has fulfilled thus. ¹⁹Repent, therefore, and turn back for your sins to be wiped away, ²⁰so that times of refreshment may come from the face of the Lord and he may send the one appointed for you, Christ Jesus, ²¹whom it is necessary for heaven to receive until the times of the restoration of all things, about which God spoke from the age through the mouth of his holy prophets. ²²Moses indeed said, 'The Lord our God^[1] will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You will listen to him according to everything—whatever he may speak to you. ²³But it will be that every soul that does not listen to that prophet will be destroyed from the people.' ²⁴And indeed, all the prophets from Samuel and those after him, as many as have spoken, have also announced these days. ²⁵You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed will all the families of the earth be blessed.' ²⁶God, having raised up his Servant, sent him to you first, blessing you by turning each of you from your wickedness."

3:22 ^[1] while other ancient manuscripts read and still others read

Chapter 4

¹And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came up to them, ²greatly troubled because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection that {is} from the dead. ³And they laid hands on them and put them in custody until the next day, since it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men became about 5,000.

⁵And it happened that on the next day their rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶and Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were from the high priestly family. ⁷And having set them in {their} midst, they asked them, "By what power or in what name have you done this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being questioned today concerning a good deed to a sick man, by what means he was made well, ¹⁰let it be known to you all and to all the people of Israel that in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this one this {man} stands before you healthy. ¹¹He is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the head of the corner. ¹²And there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

¹³And seeing the boldness of Peter and John, and realizing that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they marveled, and they recognized them, that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴But seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵But having commanded them to go outside the

Sanhedrin, they conferred among themselves, ¹⁶saying, "What should we do to these men? For it is evident to everyone living in Jerusalem that a notable sign has happened through them, and we are not able to deny it. ¹⁷But so that it may not be spread unto more among the people, let us warn them no longer to speak in this name to any of men." ¹⁸And summoning them, they commanded them neither to speak nor to teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But answering, Peter and John said to them, "Whether it is right before God to listen to you rather than to God, you judge. ²⁰For we are not able not to speak what we have seen and heard." ²¹So, having warned them further, they released them, finding nothing for which they might punish them, on account of the people, for they were all glorifying God for what had happened. ²²For the man to whom this sign of healing had happened was more than 40 years old.

²³But having been released, they came to {their} own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴And having heard, they raised their voice unanimously to God and said, "Lord, you {are} the one who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that {is} in them, ²⁵the one who said by the Holy Spirit from the mouth of our father David, your servant,

'Why did the Gentiles rage,

and the peoples imagine useless things?

²⁶The kings of the earth took their stand

and the rulers were gathered to the same

against the Lord and against his Christ.'

²⁷For in truth both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together in this city against your holy Servant Jesus, whom you anointed, ²⁸to do all that your hand and your counsel had predetermined to happen. ²⁹And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness ³⁰as you stretch out your hand to heal and for signs and wonders to happen through the name of your holy Servant Jesus." ³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak the word of God with boldness.

³²Now the multitude of those who believed was one in heart and soul. And not one said that any of the things that were to him was his own, but everything was common to them. ³³And with great power the apostles were proclaiming the testimony of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴For there was not anyone needy among them, for all who were owners of lands or houses, selling them, were bringing the price of the things being sold ³⁵and they were laying it at the feet of the apostles, and it was being distributed to each one, according as anyone had need.

³⁶Then Joseph, who was called Barnabas by the apostles (which, being translated, is Son of Encouragement), a Levite from Cyprus by lineage, ³⁷selling a field that was to him, brought the money and laid it at the feet of the apostles.

Chapter 5

¹Now a certain man, Ananias by name, with Sapphira his wife, sold a piece of land, ²and he kept back from the price, {his} wife also knowing, and bringing a certain portion, he laid it at the feet of the apostles. ³But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart for you to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back from the price of the land? ⁴While it remained, did it not remain yours, and being sold, was it {not} in your authority? How {is it} that you placed this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God." ⁵And hearing these words, Ananias, falling down, expired, and great fear came upon all who heard. ⁶So rising up, the young men wrapped him up and, carrying him out, they buried him.

⁷And an interval of about three hours happened, and his wife, not knowing what had happened, came in. ⁸And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much." ⁹So Peter said to her, "How {is it} that it was agreed together by you to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who buried your husband {are} at the door, and they will carry you out." ¹⁰And immediately she fell down at his feet and expired. And having come in, the young men found her dead, and carrying her out, they buried her beside her husband. ¹¹And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all those hearing these things.

¹²And many signs and wonders were happening through the hands of the apostles among the people, and they were all unanimously at the Porch of Solomon. ¹³But none of the others dared to join them; however, the people extolled them. ¹⁴And more believers were being added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and of women, ¹⁵so that they even carried the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, so that as Peter came by, at least {his} shadow might overshadow any one of them. ¹⁶And a multitude also came together from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted by unclean spirits, who were all healed.

¹⁷But rising up, the high priest and all those with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees) were filled with jealousy, ¹⁸and they laid hands on the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, bringing them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and, standing in the temple, speak to the people all the words of this life." ²¹And having heard this, they entered into the temple about daybreak and were teaching. And having arrived, the high priest and those with him called together the Sanhedrin, even all the elders of the sons of Israel, and sent to the prison to bring the apostles. ²²But having arrived, the officers did not find them in the prison, so having returned, they reported, ²³saying, "We found the prison shut in all security and the guards standing at the doors, but having opened, we found no one inside." ²⁴And when both the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed concerning them, as to what this might become. ²⁵Then someone, having arrived, reported to them, "Behold, the men whom you put in the prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶Then the captain, going with the officers, brought them back, not with violence, for they feared the people, lest they stone them. ²⁷And having brought them, they set them in the Sanhedrin, and the high priest interrogated them, ²⁸saying, "We commanded you with a command not to teach in this name, and behold, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you desire to bring upon us the blood of this man." ²⁹But answering, Peter and the apostles said, "It is necessary to obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you killed, having hung him on a tree. ³¹God has exalted this one to his right as Prince and Savior, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. ³²And we are witnesses of these things, and the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those obeying him."

³³But having heard this, they were furious and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a certain Pharisee, Gamaliel by name, a law teacher, honored by all the people, rising up in the Sanhedrin, commanded to put the apostles outside for a little. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men, Israelites, pay attention to yourselves, what you are about to do to these men. ³⁶For before these days, Theudas rose up, saying himself to be somebody, to whom was joined a number of men, about 400, who was killed, and all, as many as were persuaded by him, were dispersed, and they came to nothing. ³⁷After this one, Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away people after him. That one also perished, and all, as many as were persuaded by him, were scattered. ³⁸And now I say these things to you: Keep away from these men and release them, for if this counsel or this work is from men, it will be destroyed, ³⁹but if it is from God, you will not be able to destroy them, lest you may even be found God-opposers." And they were persuaded by him. ⁴⁰And summoning the apostles, having beaten them, they commanded them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and they released them. ⁴¹Therefore, they indeed went out from the face of the Sanhedrin rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the Name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and in each house, they did not cease teaching and proclaiming the gospel—Jesus {is} the Christ.

Chapter 6

¹Now in those days, when the disciples were multiplying, a complaint by the Hellenists began against the Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving. ²So the Twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples {and} said, "It is not acceptable for us to leave behind the word of God to serve tables. ³So brothers, choose from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this task. ⁴But we will continue in prayer and in the ministry of the word." ⁵And the statement was pleasing before the whole multitude. So they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte from Antioch. ⁶They brought them before the apostles, and they prayed {and} placed their hands upon them.

⁷So the word of God kept spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly, and a large crowd of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹But there arose some people who {were} from the synagogue that is called Freedmen, and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia. They were debating with Stephen. ¹⁰But they were not able to stand against the wisdom and the Spirit by whom he spoke. ¹¹Then they bribed men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹²They also stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and approaching him, they seized him and brought him to the Sanhedrin. ¹³And they brought false witnesses, saying, "This man does not stop speaking words against the holy place and the law. ¹⁴For we have heard him say that this Jesus the Nazarene will destroy this place and change the customs that Moses handed down to us." ¹⁵And looking intently at him, everyone who was sitting in the Sanhedrin saw his face as the face of an angel.

Chapter 7

¹Then the high priest said, "Are these things thus?" ²Then he said,

"Men, brothers, and fathers, listen to me: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, even before he lived in Haran; ³and he said to him, 'Go out from your land and from your relatives, and come into the land that I will show you.' ⁴Then going out from the land of the Chaldeans, he lived in Haran. And from there, after the death of his father, {God} brought him into this land, in which you live now. ⁵But he did not give him an inheritance in it—not even a stride of a foot. But he promised to give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him—although he did not have a child. ⁶But God spoke to him like this, that his seed would be strangers in a foreign land, and that they would enslave him and treat him badly for 400 years. ⁷But I will judge the nation that will enslave him,' said God, 'and after that they will come out and serve me in this place.' ⁸And God gave him the covenant of circumcision, and so he became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac of Jacob, and Jacob of the 12 patriarchs. ⁹And the patriarchs, being jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt. But God was with him ¹⁰and he rescued him from all his afflictions, and he gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he appointed him governor over Egypt and {over} all his household. ¹¹Then came a famine over all Egypt and Canaan, and great tribulation, and our fathers did not find food. ¹²But when Jacob heard there was grain in Egypt, he first sent our fathers. ¹³And during {their} second time, Joseph was made known to his brothers, and the family of Joseph became known to Pharaoh. ¹⁴Then sending them back, Joseph summoned Jacob, his father, and all {his} relatives, 75 souls in {all}. ¹⁵So Jacob went down to Egypt, and he and our fathers died. ¹⁶And they were carried over to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham bought for a price in silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem. ¹⁷And as the time of the promise that God had promised to Abraham approached, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt, ¹⁸until there arose over Egypt another king who did not know Joseph. ¹⁹Taking advantage of our people, he mistreated {our} fathers, to make their exposed babies to not be kept alive. ²⁰At that time Moses was born; and he was beautiful to God. He was nourished for three months in the house of {his} father. ²¹But when he was exposed, the daughter of Pharaoh took him and raised him for herself as a son.

²²And Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and works. ²³But when he was about 40 years of age, it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the sons of Israel. ²⁴And seeing a certain one being mistreated, he defended him and made vengeance for the one being oppressed by striking the Egyptian: ²⁵and he thought {his} brothers would understand that God by his hand was giving salvation to them, but they did not understand. ²⁶And on the next day he appeared to them as they were quarreling, and he urged them to peace, saying, 'Men, you are brothers. Why is it that you are hurting each other?' ²⁷But the one injuring {his} neighbor pushed him away, {and} said, 'Who appointed you a ruler and a judge over us?' ²⁸You do not want to kill me in the same way you killed the Egyptian yesterday, do you?' ²⁹Then Moses ran away at this statement, and he became a foreigner in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons. ³⁰And when 40 years were past, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. ³¹And when Moses saw the fire, he marveled at the sight; and as he approached to look at it, there came a voice of the Lord: ³²'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob.' And becoming terrified, Moses did not dare to look. ³³And the Lord said to him, 'Untie the sandals of your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. ³⁴I have certainly seen the oppression of my people who {are} in Egypt, and I have heard their groans, and I have come down to rescue them; so now come, I will send you to Egypt.' ³⁵This same Moses, whom they rejected, saying, 'Who appointed you a ruler and a judge?'—God sent him as both a ruler and a redeemer with the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush. ³⁶He led them out, doing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and at the Sea of Reeds, and in the wilderness during 40 years. ³⁷It is this Moses who said to the sons of Israel, 'God will raise up a prophet like me for you from among your brothers.' ³⁸This is the one who was in the assembly in the wilderness with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, who received living words to give to us. ³⁹Our fathers were not willing to be obedient to him, but instead they pushed him away, and turned back in their hearts to Egypt. ⁴⁰They had said to Aaron, 'Make for us gods who will lead us. As for this Moses, who brought us from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him.' ⁴¹So they made an image of a calf in those days and brought a sacrifice to the idol and rejoiced in the work of their hands. ⁴²But God turned away and gave them up to serve the host of heaven, just as it is written in the book of the prophets,

'You did not offer to me slain beasts and sacrifices

for 40 years in the wilderness, did you, O house of Israel?

⁴³And you took up the tabernacle of Molech

and the star of your god Rephan,

{and} the images that you made to worship them:

and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.'

⁴⁴The tabernacle of the testimony was with our fathers in the wilderness, just as the one speaking to Moses had commanded, to make it according to the pattern that he had seen. ⁴⁵Our fathers, under Joshua, received it and brought it with them when they took possession of the nations whom God drove out from the face of our fathers until the days of David, ⁴⁶who found favor before God, and he asked to find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. ^[1] ⁴⁷However, Solomon built the house for him. ⁴⁸But the Most High does not live in houses made with hands, just as the prophet says,

⁴⁹'Heaven {is} my throne, and the earth {is} the footstool for my feet.

What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord,

or what {is} the place for my rest?

⁵⁰Did my hand not make all these things?'

⁵¹O stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers—also you.

⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who told in advance about the coming of the Righteous One, of whom you have now become betrayers and murderers, ⁵³who received the law as ordained by angels, but did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now hearing these things, they were cut to their hearts, and they ground {their} teeth at him. ⁵⁵But being full of the Holy Spirit {and} looking intently into heaven, he saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷But shouting with a loud voice, they covered their ears and rushed at him all at once. ⁵⁸And throwing him outside the city, they stoned him. And the witnesses laid aside their outer garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he was calling out and saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰But having knelt down on {his} knees, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And having said this, he fell asleep.

7:46 ^[1] but the best ancient manuscripts have .

Chapter 8

¹And Saul was agreeing with his execution.

And there began on that day a great persecution against the church that {was} in Jerusalem, and they all were scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ²And devout men carried away Stephen and made great lamentation over him. ³But Saul was harming the church, entering according to the houses, dragging out both men and women, {and} delivering them to prison.

⁴Then those who had been scattered went about proclaiming the gospel—the word. ⁵And Philip went down to the city of Samaria, proclaiming to them the Christ. ⁶And the crowds with one accord were paying attention to the things being spoken by Philip when they heard them and saw the signs that he was doing. ⁷For many of them having unclean spirits, they were coming out, crying out with a loud voice. And many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸And there was much joy in that city.

⁹But a certain man named Simon was formerly practicing sorcery in the city and astonishing the nation of Samaria, claiming himself to be someone great, ¹⁰to whom they all, from least to greatest, were paying attention, saying, “This {man} is the power of God which is called Great.” ¹¹And they were listening to him, because he had amazed them for a long time with {his} sorceries. ¹²But when they believed Philip, proclaiming the gospel about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³And Simon himself also believed and, having been baptized, he was continuing with Philip. And seeing signs and mighty deeds happening, he was amazed.

¹⁴Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, ¹⁵who, having come down, prayed for them, so that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶For he had not yet fallen upon any of them, but they had only been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷Then they were laying {their} hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸And when Simon saw that the Spirit was being given through the laying on of the hands of the apostles, he offered them money, ¹⁹saying, “Give to me also this authority, so that whoever I lay {my} hands on may receive the Holy Spirit.” ²⁰But Peter said to him, “Your silver with you is for destruction, because you thought to obtain the gift of God through money. ²¹There is to you no part or share in this matter, because your heart is not right before God. ²²Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord, if therefore the intention of your heart will be forgiven to you. ²³For I see that you are in the poison of bitterness and the bond of unrighteousness.” ²⁴But answering, Simon said, “You pray to the Lord for me, so that nothing of which you have spoken may happen to me.”

²⁵Therefore, when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they were returning to Jerusalem and proclaiming the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is desert.) ²⁷And he arose {and} went, and behold, a man from Ethiopia, a eunuch, an official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was over all her treasure, who had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and he was returning and sitting in his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and be joined to this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him, {and} heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "For how would I be able, unless someone will guide me?" And he summoned Philip, having come up, to sit with him. ³²And the passage of the Scripture which he was reading was this,

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and like a lamb before its shearer {is} silent,
thus he does not open his mouth.

³³In humiliation his justice was taken away.

Who can fully describe his generation?

For his life was taken from the earth."

³⁴And answering, the eunuch said to Philip, "I am begging you, about whom is the prophet saying this— concerning himself, or about some other {person}?" ³⁵And Philip opened his mouth, and having begun with this scripture, he proclaimed the gospel to him—Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch says, "Behold, water! What is preventing me to be baptized?" ³⁷^[1] [And Philip said to him, "If you believe from your whole heart, you will be saved." And he answered {and} said, "I believe in the Christ, the Son of God."] ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up from the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched away Philip, and the eunuch did not see him anymore, for he went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip was found at Azotus and passed through, proclaiming the gospel to all the cities until his coming to Caesarea.

8:37 ^[1]

Chapter 9

¹But Saul, still speaking threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, having gone to the high priest, ²asked letters from him to Damascus, to the synagogues, so that if he might find anyone being of the Way, both men and women, having bound them, he might bring them to Jerusalem. ³And as he was traveling, it happened that he came near to Damascus, and suddenly there shone on him a light from heaven; ⁴and he fell to the ground {and} heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he {said}: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting; ⁶but get up and enter into the city, and it will be told to you what it is necessary for you to do." ⁷But the men who are travelling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice, but seeing no one. ⁸And Saul rose up from the ground, but his eyes being opened, he was seeing nothing, but leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. ⁹And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a certain disciple in Damascus named Ananias. And the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias!" And he said, "Behold, I {am here}, Lord." ¹¹And the Lord {said} to him: "Having risen up, go to the street which is called Straight, and at the house of Judas, seek a man named Saul, from Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. ¹²And he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so that he might see again." ¹³But

Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for this one is a chosen instrument of mine who will carry my name before the Gentiles, and also kings, and the sons of Israel; ¹⁶for I will show him how much it is necessary for him to suffer for my name." ¹⁷And Ananias departed, and entered into the house. And having laid {his} hands on him, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord has sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road on which you were going—so that you might see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately {something} like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again, and rising up, he was baptized; ¹⁹and having taken food, he was strengthened.

And he stayed with the disciples in Damascus certain days. ²⁰And immediately in the synagogues, he proclaimed Jesus, that this one is the Son of God. ²¹And all who were hearing were amazed and were saying, "Is not this the one who destroyed those in Jerusalem who call on this name? And he has come here for this reason, so that having been bound, he might bring them to the chief priests." ²²But Saul was becoming more powerful and stirring up the Jews who lived in Damascus, proving that Jesus is the Christ.

²³But when many days were completed, the Jews took counsel together to kill him. ²⁴But their plot became known to Saul. And indeed they were watching the gates both day and night in order to kill him. ²⁵But his disciples, taking him by night, let him down through the wall, lowering him in a basket.

²⁶And when he had come to Jerusalem, he was attempting to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he is a disciple. ²⁷But taking hold of him, Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how he had seen the Lord on the road and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus. ²⁸And so he was with them coming in and going out in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. ²⁹Also, he was speaking and debating with the Hellenists; but they were trying to kill him. ³⁰But when the brothers learned of this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus.

³¹Then, the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace, being built up and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, was increasing. ³²Now it happened that Peter was going throughout the whole {region} to come down also to the saints who are living in Lydda. ³³And he found there a certain man named Aeneas, lying in a bed for eight years, who was paralyzed. ³⁴And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed," and immediately he arose. ³⁵And all who were living in Lydda and in Sharon saw him, who turned to the Lord.

³⁶Now there was in Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated to say, "Dorcas." She was full of good works and giving of alms that she did. ³⁷And it happened that in those days, having been sick, she died. And having washed her, they laid her in an upper room. ³⁸And since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, having heard that Peter is in it, sent two men to him, begging him, "Do not delay to come to us." ³⁹And so having arisen, Peter went with them, whom, having arrived, they brought to the upper room, and all the widows stood by him weeping, and showing him coats and garments, as many as Dorcas made while being with them. ⁴⁰But Peter, having put out all of them and kneeling down, prayed, and having turned to the body, he said, "Tabitha, arise." Then she opened her eyes, and having seen Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹And having given {his} hand to her, he raised her up; and having called the saints and the widows, he presented her alive. ⁴²And this became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. ⁴³Now it happened that he stayed many days in Joppa with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Chapter 10

¹Now {there was} a certain man in Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion from the regiment that was called 'Italian,' ²devout and fearing God with all his household, making many gifts of alms to the people and praying to God through all. ³About the ninth hour of the day, he clearly saw in a vision as if an angel of God were coming to him and saying to him, "Cornelius!" ⁴But he stared at him and having become terrified, he said, "What is it, sir?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have gone up for a memorial offering before God. ⁵And now, send

men to Joppa and summon a certain Simon who is called Peter. ⁶He is staying with a certain Simon, a tanner, to whom is a house by the sea." ⁷And when the angel who spoke to him left, he called two of {his} house servants and a devout soldier of those who served him. ⁸And having told them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹And on the next day at about the sixth hour, as they were traveling and were approaching the city, Peter went up to the housetop to pray. ¹⁰And he became hungry and wanted to eat, but while they were preparing, a vision came upon him, ¹¹and he sees the sky having been opened, and a certain container descending like a large sheet, being let down by four corners to the earth, ¹²In which were all the four-footed animals and creeping things on the earth, and birds of the sky. ¹³And a voice came to him: "Get up, Peter, kill and eat." ¹⁴But Peter said, "Not at all, Lord; for I have never eaten anything defiled and unclean." ¹⁵And the voice to him again a second {time}: "What God has cleansed, you must not make unclean." ¹⁶And this happened for three times, and the container was immediately taken back up to the sky.

¹⁷And while Peter was very confused in himself about what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who had been sent by Cornelius stood before the gate, having found by inquiry the house of Simon. ¹⁸And they called out, asking if Simon, who was called Peter, was being shown hospitality there. ¹⁹And while Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you.^[1] ²⁰But having arisen, go down and go with them. Do not hesitate, because I have sent them." ²¹And so having gone down to the men, Peter said, "Behold, I am he whom you are seeking. What {is} the reason for which you are present?" ²²And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a man righteous and fearing God, and well-testified to by the whole nation of the Jews, was instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house and to hear a word from you." ²³Therefore, having invited them in, he hosted them.

And the next day, having arisen, he went with them, and some of the brothers who {were} from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴And the following day, they came to Caesarea. And Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵And it happened that as Peter entered, Cornelius met him, {and} falling down at {his} feet, he worshiped him. ²⁶But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Get up! I too am a man myself." ²⁷And while he was talking with him, he went in and finds many people gathered together. ²⁸And he was saying to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to associate with or to visit a foreigner, but God has shown me not to call a man defiled or unclean. ²⁹And that is why I came without arguing when I was summoned. Therefore, I ask you, for what reason did you summon me?" ³⁰And Cornelius said, "Four days ago at this very hour, I was praying at the ninth hour in my house; and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing. ³¹And he said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered before God. ³²Therefore, send to Joppa and summon Simon who is called Peter. He is staying in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.'^[2] ³³So immediately I sent for you, and you did well in coming. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear everything that you have been instructed by the Lord."^[3] ³⁴And Peter opened {his} mouth {and} said,

"In truth, I perceive that God is not one who shows partiality. ³⁵Instead, in every nation the one who fears him and works righteous deeds is acceptable to him. ³⁶The word that he sent to the sons of Israel, proclaiming the gospel of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all)— ³⁷you know the word which happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism that John proclaimed; ³⁸Jesus who {is} from Nazareth, how God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we {are} witnesses of all that he did, both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also killed him by hanging him on a tree. ⁴⁰God raised up this one on the third day and caused him to be seen, ⁴¹not by all the people, but by the witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to proclaim to the people and to testify that he is the one who has been chosen by God as a Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To this one, all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him shall receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

⁴⁴While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who were listening to {his} word. ⁴⁵And the faithful from the circumcision—all who had come with Peter—were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit

was poured out also on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they heard them speaking with tongues and praising God. Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷“No one is able to withhold water, is he, that these are not baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as we also {did}?” ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay for several days.

10:19 ^[1] or

10:32 ^[2]

10:33 ^[3] some ancient copies read

Chapter 11

¹Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those from the circumcision disputed with him; ³they said, “You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!” ⁴But Peter began to explain to them in an orderly manner, saying, ⁵“I was praying in the city of Joppa, and I saw in a trance a vision of a certain container coming down, like a large sheet being let down from the sky by {its} four corners, and it came as far as me. ⁶Gazing at it, I looked closely and saw the four-legged animals of the earth, and the wild beasts, and the creeping animals, and the birds of the sky. ⁷Then I also heard a voice saying to me, “Having arisen, Peter; kill and eat!” ⁸But I said, “By no means, Lord; for the profane or unclean has never entered into my mouth.” ⁹But the voice answered for a second {time} from heaven, “What God has cleansed, you must not make unclean.” ¹⁰And this happened three times, and then everything was pulled back up to the sky again. ¹¹And behold, right away three men stood at the house in which we were, having been sent from Caesarea to me. ¹²And the Spirit told me to go with them, not making any distinction. And these six brothers also went with me, and we entered into the house of the man. ¹³Then he reported to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, “Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter. ¹⁴He will speak to you a word by which you will be saved—you and all your household.” ¹⁵But as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them, just as also on us in the beginning. ¹⁶Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, “John baptized with water; but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁷If, therefore, God gave to them the same gift as also to us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I, able to oppose God?” ¹⁸And when they heard these things, they became quiet and glorified God, saying, “Then God has given repentance unto life to the Gentiles also.”

¹⁹Then those who had been scattered from the persecution that happened over Stephen spread as far as Phoenicia, and Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except only to Jews. ²⁰But there were some from them, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch {and} spoke also to the Greeks, proclaiming the gospel—the Lord Jesus. ²¹And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. ²²And the report about them came to the ears of the church that was in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas as far as Antioch. ²³When he came and saw the grace that {is} of God, he was glad and exhorted them all to remain with the Lord with purpose of heart. ²⁴For he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, and a considerable crowd was added to the Lord. ²⁵And he went out to Tarsus to search for Saul. ²⁶And when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So indeed it happened that for an entire year they were gathered together with the church and taught a considerable crowd. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

²⁷Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸And one from them, named Agabus, arose {and} indicated by the Spirit that a great famine was about to occur over the whole world. This happened in the days of Claudius. ²⁹So, the disciples, just as anyone prospered, each of them decided to send to the service to the brothers living in Judea, ³⁰which they also did, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Chapter 12

¹Now about that time, Herod the king laid hands on some of those from the church to harm them. ²And he killed James, the brother of John, with the sword. ³And when he saw that this is pleasing to the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. And those were the days of unleavened bread. ⁴And having arrested him, he put him in prison, handing him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him; he was intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. ⁵So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer was being made earnestly to God for him by the church. ⁶And when Herod was going to bring him out for trial, that night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards before the door were keeping watch over the prison. ⁷And behold, an angel of the Lord appeared by him, and a light shone in the prison cell. And he struck Peter on the side {and} woke him, saying, "Get up in haste," and his chains fell away from {his} hands. ⁸And the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." So he did thus. And he said to him, "Put on your outer garment and follow me." ⁹And going out, he followed him, but he did not know that what is being done by the angel is real, but he thought he is seeing a vision. ¹⁰But when they had passed by the first guard and the second, they came to the iron gate that led into the city; it opened for them by itself. And having gone out, they went down a street, and right away the angel went away from him. ¹¹And when Peter had come to himself, he said, "Now I truly know that the Lord has sent his angel and delivered me from the hand of Herod, and from all the expectations of the Jewish people." ¹²And having realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, who was called Mark, where many people were gathered together and are praying. ¹³And when he knocked at the door of the gate, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴And when she recognized the voice of Peter, from joy she did not open the gate; instead, running inside, she reported, "Peter stands at the gate!" ¹⁵But they said to her, "You are insane." But she insisted that it was thus. So they said, "It is his angel." ¹⁶But Peter continued knocking, and opening, they saw him and were amazed. ¹⁷And after motioning to them with {his} hand to be silent, he reported to them how the Lord had led him from the prison. And he said, "Report these things to James and the brothers." And having gone out, he went to another place. ¹⁸Now when it became day, there was no small disturbance among the soldiers over what then had happened to Peter. ¹⁹And Herod, having searched for him and not having found him, questioned the guards {and} ordered them to be put to death. And having gone down from Judea to Caesarea, he stayed there.

²⁰Now he was very angry with Tyre and Sidon. So they went to him together, and having persuaded Blastus, the one in charge of the bedchamber of the king, they asked for peace, because their food for {their} country was from the king's country. ²¹And on a set day, Herod clothed himself in royal clothing, and sitting on the throne, he made a speech to them. ²²But the people shouted, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" ²³And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give the glory to God; and becoming worm-eaten, he died.

²⁴But the word of God increased and was multiplied.

²⁵And Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem,^[1] having completed {their} service, having brought with them John, who was called Mark.

12:25 ^[1]

Chapter 13

¹Now there were in Antioch, in the church that was {there}, prophets and teachers: both Barnabas and Simeon (who is called Niger), and Lucius the Cyrenaeen, both Manaen (one brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. ²And while they are ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart, then, for me, Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ³Then having fasted and prayed and laid {their} hands on them, they sent them off.

⁴So they, having been sent out by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia; and from there they sailed away to Cyprus. ⁵And having arrived in Salamis, they were proclaiming the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And

they also had John as an assistant. ⁶And having passed through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a certain man, a magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name {was} Bar Jesus. ⁷He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus—an intelligent man. He summoned Barnabas and Saul, seeking to hear the word of God. ⁸But Elymas “the magician” (for thus his name is translated) opposed them; he sought to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹But Saul, who {is} also Paul, having been filled with the Holy Spirit, stared at him intently ¹⁰{and} said, “O one full of all deceit and all wickedness, son of the devil, enemy of all righteousness, will you not stop perverting the straight paths of the Lord? ¹¹And now behold, the hand of the Lord upon you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.” And immediately a mist and darkness fell on Elymas, and he is going around seeking one to lead him by the hand. ¹²Then having seen what had happened, the proconsul believed, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

¹³Now having set sail from Paphos, those around Paul came to Perga in Pamphylia. But John, withdrawing from them, returned to Jerusalem. ¹⁴But they having passed through from Perga, came to Antioch of Pisidia, and having gone into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, they sat down. ¹⁵And after the reading of the law and the prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent to them, saying, “Men, brothers, if there is among you any word of exhortation for the people, speak it.” ¹⁶So having arisen and motioned with {his} hand, Paul said, “Men, Israelites and ones who fear God, listen. ¹⁷The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and exalted the people when they stayed in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm he led them from it. ¹⁸And for a time of about 40 years, he put up with them in the wilderness.^[1] ¹⁹And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land for an inheritance. ²⁰And about 450 years after these things, he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. ²¹And then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul, son of Kish, a man from the tribe of Benjamin, for 40 years. ²²And having removed him, he raised up David for them as {their} king, to whom having testified, he also said, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, a man according to my heart, who will do all my will.’ ²³From the descendants of this one according to promise, God brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus. ²⁴John announced beforehand, before the face of his coming, a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵And as John was completing {his} work, he was saying, ‘Who do you think I am? I am not him. But behold, one is coming after me, of whom the sandals of {his} feet I am not worthy to untie.’ ²⁶Men, brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us the word about this salvation has been sent. ²⁷For those who are living in Jerusalem, and their rulers, did not recognize this one, and they fulfilled the voices of the prophets that are being read every Sabbath, condemning him. ²⁸And though they found no reason for death, they asked Pilate to kill him. ²⁹And when they had completed all that had been written about him, taking him down from the tree, they laid him in a tomb. ³⁰But God raised him from the dead. ³¹He was seen for many days by those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. ³²And we are proclaiming to you the gospel, the promise that was to {our} fathers. ³³For God has fulfilled this for our children, by raising up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm:

‘You are my Son; today I have fathered you.’

³⁴And that he raised him up from the dead, never to be about to return to decay, he has spoken in this way:

‘I will give you the holy {and} trustworthy {blessings} of David.’

³⁵On account of this he also says in another place:

‘You will not allow your Holy One to see decay.’

³⁶For indeed, David, having served the counsel of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid with his fathers, and saw decay. ³⁷But he whom God raised up did not see decay. ³⁸So let it be known to you, men, brothers, that because of this, forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and {freedom} from everything which you were not able to be justified in the law of Moses.^[2] ³⁹In this one every one who believes is justified. ⁴⁰So then be careful that the thing spoken about in the prophets may not happen to you:

⁴¹Look, you despisers, and be astonished and perish!

For I am doing a work in your days,

A work that you would never believe, even if someone would announce it to you.”

⁴²And as they were leaving, they begged them to speak to them these same words on the next Sabbath. ⁴³And when the synagogue meeting had ended, many of the Jews and the worshiping proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who speaking to them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

⁴⁴And on the next Sabbath, almost the whole city was gathered together to hear the word of the Lord. ⁴⁵But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and spoke against the things that were said by Paul, blaspheming. ⁴⁶And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly {and} said, “It was necessary for the word of God first to be spoken to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves not worthy of eternal life, behold, we will turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷For thus has the Lord commanded us:

‘I have placed you as a light for the Gentiles,

that you should be for salvation as far as the end of the earth.”

⁴⁸But hearing this, the Gentiles were glad and glorified the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout the whole region. ⁵⁰But the Jews stirred up the worshiping, influential women, and the leading men of the city, and a persecution arose against Paul and Barnabas, and they threw them out from their boundaries. ⁵¹But when they had shaken off the dust from {their} feet against them, they went to Iconium. ⁵²But the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

13:18 ^[1]

13:38 ^[2] in verse 39.

Chapter 14

¹And it happened that in Iconium they entered together into the synagogue of the Jews and spoke in such a way so that a great multitude both of Jews and of Greeks believed. ²But the Jews who were disobedient stirred up and embittered the souls of the Gentiles against the brothers. ³So they stayed there for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord who is testifying to the word of his grace by granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. ⁴But the population of the city was divided; and some were with the Jews, but some with the apostles. ⁵But when an attempt happened of both the Gentiles and the Jews (with their rulers) to mistreat and stone them, ⁶having become aware of it, they fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra, and Derbe, and the surrounding region, ⁷and there they continued to proclaim the gospel.

⁸And in Lystra a certain man sat, powerless in {his} feet, lame from the womb of his mother, who never had walked. ⁹This one heard Paul speaking. He looked intently at him and saw that he has faith to be saved. ¹⁰He said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet,” and he jumped up and walked around. ¹¹And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, “The gods being made like men have come down to us.” ¹²And they were calling Barnabas “Zeus,” and Paul “Hermes,” because he was the main speaker. ¹³And the priest of the temple of Zeus, which was in front of the city, brought oxen and wreaths to the gates, wanting to sacrifice with the crowds. ¹⁴But when hearing of it, the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, having torn their clothing, rushed out into the crowd, crying out ¹⁵and saying, “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same feelings as you. We are proclaiming the gospel to you, to turn from these useless things to a living God, who made the heaven, and the earth, and the sea, and all that {is} in them. ¹⁶In the generations gone by, he allowed all the nations to go {their} own ways. ¹⁷And yet, he did not leave himself without witness; doing good, giving you rains from the sky and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts with food and gladness.” ¹⁸And even saying these words, they barely restrained the crowds from sacrificing to them.

¹⁹But Jews from Antioch and Iconium came and persuaded the crowds. So having stoned Paul, they dragged him out of the city, thinking him to be dead. ²⁰But as the disciples surrounded him, arising, he entered into the city, and the next day, he went with Barnabas to Derbe. ²¹After they had both proclaimed the gospel in that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, and to Iconium, and to Antioch. ²²They were strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and {saying}, "It is necessary for us to enter into the kingdom of God through many afflictions." ²³And when they had appointed for them elders in every church, having prayed with fasting, they entrusted them to the Lord, in whom they had believed. ²⁴And when they passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. ²⁵And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. ²⁶From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed. ²⁷And when they arrived and gathered together the church, they reported all that God had done with them, and that he had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles. ²⁸And they stayed for not a little time with the disciples.

Chapter 15

¹And certain ones coming down from Judea taught the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised in the custom of Moses, you are not able to be saved." ²And when not a little dispute and debate happened to Paul and Barnabas with them, they appointed Paul and Barnabas, along with certain others from among them, to go up to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem about this question. ³Therefore, the ones who had been sent by the church passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria announcing the conversion of the Gentiles, and they brought great joy to all the brothers. ⁴And when they arrived at Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church, and the apostles, and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But certain ones who had believed, who {were} from the sect of the Pharisees, stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to command them to keep the law of Moses." ⁶And the apostles and the elders gathered together to see about this matter. ⁷And after much debate happened, Peter arose {and} said to them,

"Men, brothers, you know that from days of old among you, God chose the Gentiles to hear by my mouth the word of the gospel, and to believe. ⁸And God, the heart-knower, testified to them, giving them the Holy Spirit, just as also to us; ⁹and he did not distinguish between us and them, having made their hearts clean by faith. ¹⁰Now therefore why are you testing God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? ¹¹But we believe to be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, and they according to that {same} manner."

¹²And all the crowd kept silent and were listening to Barnabas and Paul explaining how many the signs and wonders God had worked among the Gentiles through them. ¹³And after they stopped speaking, James answered, saying,

"Men, brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simon has explained how God first concerned himself to take from the Gentiles a people for his name. ¹⁵And this agrees with the words of the prophets, just as it is written,

¹⁶After these things I will return,

and I will rebuild the tent of David, which has fallen down;

and I will rebuild its ruins and will restore it,

¹⁷so that the remnant of men may seek the Lord,

including all the Gentiles upon whom my name has been called upon them,

says the Lord who is doing these things ¹⁸known from eternity.^[1]

¹⁹Therefore, I am judging not to trouble those from the Gentiles who are turning to God, ²⁰but to write to them to keep away from the pollution of idols, and sexual immorality, and things that are strangled, and blood. ²¹For Moses has in every city, from ancient generations, those proclaiming him, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath.”

²²Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas chosen men from among them—Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers.

²³They wrote by their hand: “The apostles and the elders, brothers, to those throughout Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, who {are} brothers from among the Gentiles. Greetings! ²⁴Now, having heard that certain ones having gone out from us to disturb you with teachings that are upsetting your souls, who were not ordered by us, ²⁵it seemed good to us, having come together with one mind, to send to you chosen men along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶men who have handed over their souls for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas, and they are reporting to you the {same} thing in words. ²⁸For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to be laid upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: ²⁹to abstain from things sacrificed to idols, and blood, and things strangled, and sexual immorality. Keeping yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”

³⁰So when they were dismissed, they came down to Antioch; and having gathered the crowd together, they delivered the letter. ³¹And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of the encouragement. ³²Both Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, exhorted the brothers with many words and strengthened them. ³³And after they had spent time there, they were sent away with peace from the brothers to those who had sent them. ³⁴^[2] [But it seemed good to Silas for him to remain there, so only Judas traveled.] ³⁵But Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and proclaiming the gospel (with also many others), the word of the Lord.

³⁶But after some days, Paul said to Barnabas, “Having returned, then, let us visit the brothers in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord—how they are.” ³⁷But Barnabas wanted to also take with them John who was called Mark. ³⁸But Paul thought it wise not to take along him who had withdrawn from them from Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work. ³⁹And there arose a sharp disagreement, so as to separate them from each other, and Barnabas took Mark with him to sail away to Cyprus. ⁴⁰But Paul, having chosen Silas, left, after he had been entrusted by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

15:18 ^[1]

15:34 ^[2]

Chapter 16

¹And he also came down to Derbe and to Lystra; and behold, a certain disciple named Timothy was there, the son of a believing Jewish woman; but {his} father {was} a Greek. ²He was well spoken of by the brothers in Lystra and Iconium. ³Paul wanted this one to go out with him, and so having taken him, he circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴And as they were going through the cities, they were delivering to them to keep the decrees that had been decided by the apostles and elders who {were} in Jerusalem. ⁵So the churches were being strengthened in the faith and were increasing in number each day.

⁶And they went through the regions of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷And when they had come near Mysia, they were attempting to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them. ⁸And so passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. ⁹And a vision appeared to Paul during the night: A certain man of Macedonia was standing and calling him and saying, “Having coming over to Macedonia, help us.” ¹⁰And so when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go out to Macedonia, reasoning together that God had called us to proclaim the gospel to them.

¹¹And setting sail from Troas, we made a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day to Neapolis, ¹²from there to Philippi, which is the first city in the district of Macedonia, a colony, and we stayed in this city for some days.

¹³And on the Sabbath day, we went outside the city gate by a river, where we thought to be a place of prayer. And having sat down, we spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple of the city of Thyatira, worshiping God, was listening, of whom the Lord opened the heart to pay attention to what was being said by Paul. ¹⁵And when she was baptized, and her household, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, entering into my house, stay." And she persuaded us. ¹⁶And it happened that, as we were going to the place of prayer, a certain young female slave having a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷She, following after Paul and us, was shouting, saying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸And she did this for many days. But Paul, being greatly annoyed and having turned to the spirit, said, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out from her." And it came out that same hour.

¹⁹But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, having seized Paul and Silas, they dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are stirring up our city. They are Jews. ²¹And they are proclaiming customs that are not possible for us to accept nor to practice, being Romans." ²²And then the crowd rose up together against them, and the magistrates tore {their} garments off them, commanding them to be beaten with rods. ²³And when they had laid many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, having commanded the jailer to guard them securely, ²⁴who, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵But around midnight, Paul and Silas, praying, were singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶But suddenly a great earthquake happened, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and the chains of everyone were unfastened. ²⁷But the jailer became awake, and seeing the prison doors had been opened, having drawn {his} sword, he was about to kill himself, thinking the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted with a loud voice, saying, "Do not cause harm to yourself, because we are all here." ²⁹And so having called for lights, he rushed in, and being terrified, fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰and having brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do in order to be saved?" ³¹And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²And they spoke the word of the Lord to him, together with everyone who {was} in his house. ³³And having taken them at that same hour of the night, he washed them from the blows, and he was baptized immediately—he and all those {who were} his. ³⁴And having brought them up into {his} house, he set a table before them and exulted with {his} household, having believed in God.

³⁵Now when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Release those men." ³⁶And the jailer reported the words to Paul, "The magistrates have sent that you may be released. Now therefore, having come out, go in peace." ³⁷But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us in public without trial—men being Romans—they threw us into prison, and now they cast us out secretly? No indeed! Instead, coming themselves, let them lead us out." ³⁸But the officers reported these words to the magistrates, and they were terrified when they heard that they are Romans. ³⁹And having come, they apologized to them and having brought them out, they begged them to go away from the city. ⁴⁰But going out from the prison, they came to the house of Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they exhorted them and departed.

Chapter 17

¹Now having passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And according to {his} custom, Paul went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³fully opening and demonstrating that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and {saying}, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." ⁴And some from them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, both a large number of worshiping Greeks, and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews, having become jealous, and having taken certain wicked men of the marketplace, and having gathered a crowd together, they set the city in an uproar. And having assaulted the house of Jason, they sought to lead them to

the people. ⁶But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and certain brothers before the city officials, crying out, "Those who have turned the inhabited world upside down—they are here in this place also, ⁷whom Jason and all these men have welcomed, acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." ⁸And the crowd and the city officials were disturbed, hearing these things. ⁹And after they had received a bond from Jason and the rest of them, they released them.

¹⁰But immediately by night, the brothers sent away both Paul and Silas to Berea, who, when they arrived there, went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹Now these were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, who received the word with all readiness, examining the Scriptures each day, whether these things were so. ¹²Therefore many from them believed, including influential Greek women and not a few men. ¹³But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was also being proclaimed by Paul at Berea, they came and there stirred up and troubled the crowds. ¹⁴But then immediately, the brothers sent Paul away to go as far as to the sea, but both Silas and Timothy stayed there. ¹⁵But those who were leading Paul down took him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command to Silas and Timothy that they would come to him as quickly as possible, they departed.

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him, seeing the city being full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and those who were worshiping, and in the marketplace every day with those whom he met there. ¹⁸But also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to argue with him. And some said, "What is this babbler wanting to say?" But others {said}, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods," because he was proclaiming the gospel about Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And taking hold of him, they brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "Are we able to know what {is} this new teaching which is being spoken by you? ²⁰For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore, we want to know what these things want to be." ²¹(Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there spent their time in nothing other than either to tell something or to listen to something new.) ²²And Paul, having been stood in the middle of the Areopagus, said,

"Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³For passing through and observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, "To an Unknown God." What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I announce to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and all that {is} in it, he, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples built with hands. ²⁵Neither is he served by hands of men, as though he needed anything, himself giving to all life and breath and all things. ²⁶And from one man he made every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined {their} appointed seasons and the boundaries of their habitation, ²⁷to seek God and perhaps they might feel around for him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For in him we live and move and exist, as also a certain one of your own poets has said,

'For we also are {his} offspring.' ²⁹Therefore, being offspring of God, we ought not to consider the divine being to be like gold, or silver, or stone—images of the skill and imagination of man. ³⁰Therefore God, having overlooked the times of ignorance, now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has set a day in which he is about to judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he has appointed. He has provided signs to all, having raised him from the dead."

³²Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked him; but others said, "We will hear you again concerning this matter." ³³So, Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴But certain men who joined him believed, among whom included Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Chapter 18

¹After these things, having departed from Athens, he went to Corinth. ²And when he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy, and Priscilla, his wife, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to depart from Rome, he approached them, ³and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. ⁴And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath,

persuading both Jews and Greeks. ⁵But when both Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews Jesus to be the Christ. ⁶But as they are opposing and insulting him, shaking out {his} garment, he said to them, "Your blood be upon your head! I am clean! From now on I will go to the Gentiles." ⁷And having departed from there, he went to the house of a certain man named Titius Justus who worships God, whose house was next to the synagogue. ⁸But Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all those in his house; and many of the Corinthians, hearing about it, were believing and were being baptized. ⁹And through a vision in the night, the Lord said to Paul, "Do not be afraid, but continue speaking and do not be silent. ¹⁰For I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many people in this city." ¹¹And so he stayed there for a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

¹²But Gallio being governor of Achaia, the Jews rose up together against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat, ¹³saying, "This one persuades men to worship God contrary to the law." ¹⁴But when Paul was about to open {his} mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "O Jews, if it were some crime or evil wrongdoing, according to reason I would have endured you. ¹⁵But if these are questions about a word and names and your law, you will see to it yourselves. I do not want to be a judge of these matters." ¹⁶And so he sent them away from the judgment seat. ¹⁷But they all, having seized Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, were beating him in front of the judgment seat. But none of these things mattered to Gallio.

¹⁸And Paul, after having stayed there many days, left the brothers {and} sailed to Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila {were} with him. He had cut the hair of {his} head in Cenchrea because he had a vow. ¹⁹And when they came to Ephesus, he left them there, but he himself, having gone into the synagogue, reasoned with the Jews. ²⁰But when they asked him to stay for a longer time, he did not consent. ²¹But having left them and having said, "I will return again to you, God is willing" he set sail from Ephesus.

²²And having landed at Caesarea, having gone up and having greeted the church, he went down to Antioch. ²³And having spent some time there, he departed, going through the region of Galatia and Phrygia in succession, strengthening all the disciples.

²⁴Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came down to Ephesus, being mighty in the Scriptures. ²⁵He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, knowing only the baptism of John. ²⁶And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but hearing him, Priscilla and Aquila took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷And when he desired to pass over into Achaia, the brothers encouraged him {and} wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed by grace. ²⁸For he was powerfully refuting the Jews publicly, showing by the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.

Chapter 19

¹And it happened that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper parts to come down to Ephesus, and to find certain disciples. ²And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" But they said to him, "No, we have not even heard if there is a Holy Spirit." ³And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into the baptism of John." ⁴But Paul replied, "John baptized a baptism of repentance, telling the people that they should believe in the one who is coming after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵And having heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶And when Paul had laid {his} hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them and they began to speak in tongues and prophesy. ⁷And they were about 12 men in all.

⁸And having gone into the synagogue, he was speaking boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹But when some were hardened and being disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the crowd, having departed from them, he took the disciples with him, reasoning with them each day in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰And this happened for two years, so that all those who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. ¹¹And God was doing not ordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹²so that even

handkerchiefs and aprons from his body were taken to the sick and {their} illnesses departed from them, and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³But some traveling Jewish exorcists also tried to call on the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I command you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." ¹⁴And seven certain sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. ¹⁵But answering, an evil spirit said to them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" ¹⁶And the man in whom was the evil spirit, after leaping on them, overpowering them, prevailed over each of them so that they fled from that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷And this became known to all those living in Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. ¹⁸And many of those who believed were coming, confessing and declaring their deeds. ¹⁹And many of those who practiced the magical arts, having brought {their} books together, burned them before everyone. And they counted the value of them, and they found it to be 50,000 pieces of silver. ²⁰So the word of the Lord was spreading and prevailing according to power.

²¹Now as soon as this was completed, Paul determined in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia to travel to Jerusalem, having said, "After I have been there, it is necessary for me also to see Rome." ²²And having sent to Macedonia two of those helping him, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a time.

²³But at about that time, there was no small disturbance concerning the Way. ²⁴For a certain silversmith named Demetrius, making silver shrines of Artemis, brought in not a little business for the craftsmen. ²⁵And he, having gathered together the workmen of that occupation, said, "Men, you know that our prosperity is from this business. ²⁶And you see and hear that, not only at Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded {and} turned away a considerable crowd. He is saying that the things that are being made with hands are not gods. ²⁷And not only is this trade in peril for us to come to disrepute, but that even the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be considered as nothing. And indeed, her majesty is about to be destroyed—she whom all Asia and the world worships." ²⁸And having heard this and having become filled with anger, they cried out, saying, "Great {is} Artemis of the Ephesians." ²⁹And the city was filled with confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, having seized Paul's Macedonian travel companions, Gaius and Aristarchus. ³⁰But when Paul was desiring to enter in among the people, the disciples did not permit him. ³¹And also, some of the officials of Asia who {were} his friends sent to him exhorted him not to offer himself in the theater. ³²So then different ones were shouting a different thing, for the assembly was confused, and the majority did not know for what reason they had come together. ³³And some from the crowd instructed Alexander, whom the Jews had pushed forward. And Alexander motioned with {his} hand, wanting to give a defense to the assembly. ³⁴But when they had become aware that he is a Jew, there was one voice from all of them, as for two hours they are crying out, "Great {is} Artemis of the Ephesians." ³⁵But when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he says, "Men of Ephesus, what man indeed is there who does not know that the city of Ephesus is temple keeper of the great Artemis and of that which is fallen down from heaven? ³⁶So since these things are undeniable, it is necessary for you to be calmed and to do nothing rash. ³⁷For you brought these men {who are} neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of our goddess. ³⁸Therefore, if Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a word against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. Let them accuse one another. ³⁹But if you seek anything about other matters, it will be settled in the regular assembly. ⁴⁰For indeed we are in danger of being accused of rioting concerning this day. There is no reason about which we will be able to give an account concerning this disorder."^[1] ⁴¹And having said this, he dismissed the assembly.^[2]

19:40 ^[1]

19:41 ^[2]

Chapter 20

¹And after the uproar had ended, Paul summoned the disciples and after he encouraged them {and} said farewell, he departed to go to Macedonia. ²And when he had gone through those regions and had exhorted them with many words, he came to Greece. ³And after he had spent three months there, a plot was formed against him by the Jews as he is about to sail to Syria, so he decided to return through Macedonia. ⁴And accompanying him {were}

Sopater of Pyrrhus from Berea, and Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, and Gaius from Derbe, and Timothy, and Tychicus, and Trophimus from Asia. ⁵But they had gone before us {and} were waiting for us at Troas. ⁶And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and in five days we came to them in Troas, where we stayed for seven days.

⁷And on the first of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul spoke to them. He is about to depart the next day, and so he continued {his} message until midnight. ⁸And there were many lamps in the upper room where we were meeting together. ⁹And sitting on the window a certain young man named Eutychus, was falling into a deep sleep. As Paul is speaking even longer, having been overcome by sleep, he fell down from the third story and was picked up dead. ¹⁰But having gone down, Paul stretched out on him, and having embraced him, said, "Do not be upset, for his life is in him." ¹¹And when he had gone up and had broken bread and had eaten, he also talked with them much longer until dawn. In this way, he left. ¹²But they brought back the boy alive and were not moderately comforted.

¹³But we, having gone ahead to the ship, sailed away to Assos, from where we intended to take Paul on board, for thus he had arranged; he himself was intending to go on foot. ¹⁴And when he met us at Assos, taking him on board, we went to Mitylene. ¹⁵And having sailed from there we arrived the next day opposite Chios. And the following day, we landed at Samos, and the next day, we came to Miletus. ¹⁶For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be, if it was possible for him, in Jerusalem for the day of Pentecost.

¹⁷And from Miletus, having sent to Ephesus, he summoned the elders of the church. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them,

"You yourselves know, from the first day from when I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and tears and trials that happened to me in the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I kept back nothing that was useful which I did not declare to you, and I taught you in public and according to houses, ²¹testifying to both Jews and Greeks about repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, having been bound by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me in it, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city, saying that chains and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not consider {my} life to myself the value of a single word, so as to finish my race and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to solemnly testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that you all, among whom I went about proclaiming the kingdom, will see my face no more. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this present day that I am innocent from the blood of all. ²⁷For I did not hold back from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Guard yourselves and all the flock among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood.^[1] ²⁹I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰Even from you yourselves, men will arise speaking perverted things to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹So be alert, remembering that for three years I did not stop admonishing each one with tears night and day. ³²And now I am entrusting you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my needs and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things, I showed you that in this way it is necessary to work hard to help those who are weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

³⁶And having said these things, having bowed his knees, he prayed with them all. ³⁷But there was much weeping among them all, and having fallen upon Paul's neck, they were kissing him, ³⁸grieving mostly because of the word which he had spoken, that they were never going to see his face again. And then they escorted him to the ship.

20:28 ^[1], this could be translated as

Chapter 21

¹And it happened that when we set sail, having been torn from them, having run a straight course, we came to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. ²And when we found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, having gone aboard, we set sail. ³And having sighting Cyprus and leaving it behind on the left, we sailed on to Syria and landed at Tyre, for the ship was to unload {its} cargo there. ⁴And having found the disciples, we stayed there seven days. Through the Spirit they kept saying to Paul not to go to Jerusalem. ⁵Now when our days to supply happened, having departed, we went on our way, they all with {their} wives and children accompanying us as far as outside the city. And having knelt down on the shore {and} having prayed, ⁶we said farewell to each other, and we went up into the ship, and they returned to their own.

⁷And when we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and having greeted the brothers, we stayed with them for one day. ⁸And on the next day, having departed, we went to Caesarea and, having entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, who was from the seven, we stayed with him. ⁹Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesy. ¹⁰And as we stayed there for many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹And having come to us and having taken Paul's belt, having bound his own feet and hands, he said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'So the Jews in Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt, and they will hand him over into the hands of the Gentiles.'" ¹²And when we heard these things, both we and the local people were begging him not to go up to Jerusalem. ¹³Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready, not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." ¹⁴But since he would not be persuaded, we remained silent, saying, "Let the will of the Lord happen."

¹⁵And after having made preparations these days, we went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶And {some} of the disciples from Caesarea also came along with us, bringing us to Mnason, a certain early disciple from Cyprus, with whom we would stay.

¹⁷And when we had arrived in Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us gladly. ¹⁸And the next day Paul went with us to James, and all the elders were present. ¹⁹And having greeted them, he reported according to each thing that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. ²⁰And when they heard it, they glorified God and said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads there are who have believed among the Jews, and they are all zealous for the law. ²¹And they have been told about you, that you teach apostasy from Moses to all the Jews who {are} among the Gentiles, telling them not to circumcise {their} children, nor to walk in the customs. ²²What therefore is it? They will certainly hear that you have come. ²³So do this that we say to you. There are four men with us having a vow from themselves. ²⁴Having taken these men, be purified with them, and pay the expenses for them, so that they will shave {their} heads, and then everyone will know that what they have been told about you is false, but that you yourself walk in and obey the law. ²⁵But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we sent, having given judgment to keep themselves from things sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what is strangled, and from sexual immorality." ²⁶Then Paul, having taken the men the next day, having been purified with them, went into the temple, announcing the fulfillment of the days of purification, until the offering which was offered for each one of them.

²⁷But when the seven days were about to be finished, the Jews from Asia, having seen Paul in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd, and laid {their} hands on him, ²⁸shouting, "Men of Israel, help us. This is the man who teaches all men everywhere against the people, and the law, and this place. And besides, he has both brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place." ²⁹For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, whom they thought that Paul brought into the temple. ³⁰And the whole city was stirred up, and there became a mob of the people, and having laid hold of Paul, they dragged him outside the temple, and the doors were immediately shut. ³¹And as they were seeking to kill him, a report came up to the commander of the guard that all Jerusalem was stirred up. ³²Right away, having taken soldiers and centurions, he ran down to them. And when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. ³³Then, having approached him, the commander laid hold of him and commanded him to be bound with two chains. And then he asked who he is and what it is that

he had done. ³⁴But different ones in the crowd were shouting different things. But he, not being able to find out anything for certain because of the noise, commanded that he be brought into the fortress. ³⁵But when he came to the steps, he had to be carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd. ³⁶For the crowd of people followed after, shouting out, "Away with him!"

³⁷And as Paul is about to be brought into the fortress, he says to the commander, "If it is permitted for me to say something to you ...?" But he replied, "Do you know Greek? ³⁸Are you not then the Egyptian who before this day revolted and led the 4,000 men of the 'Assassins' out into the wilderness?" ³⁹But Paul said, "I am a Jewish man from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of a not insignificant city. And I ask you, allow me to speak to the people." ⁴⁰And when he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the steps, motioned with {his} hand to the people. And when there was a deep silence, he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, saying,

Chapter 22

¹"Men, brothers, and fathers, listen to my defense to you now."

²And when they heard that he was speaking to them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said,

³"I am a Jewish man, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but educated in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, instructed according to the strict ways of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today. ⁴I persecuted this Way as far as death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, ⁵as also the high priest testifies for me, and all the elders from whom also having received letters to the brothers in Damascus, I was going there indeed to bring back in bonds to Jerusalem those who were there in order that they might be punished. ⁶And it happened to me that, traveling and nearing Damascus, about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. ⁷And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' ⁸And so I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.' ⁹But those who were with me saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. ¹⁰But I said, 'What should I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Having arisen, go into Damascus, and there you will be told about everything that has been appointed for you to do.' ¹¹And when I could not see because of the glory of that light, being led by the hands by those who were with me, I came into Damascus. ¹²And a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, being testified to by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³came to me and having stood by me, said to me, 'Saul, brother, look up.' And that very hour I looked up to him. ¹⁴And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear the voice from his own mouth, ¹⁵for you will be a witness for him to all men about what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶And now why are you waiting? Having arisen, be baptized, and wash away your sins, having called on his name.' ¹⁷And it happened to me that when I had returned to Jerusalem and I was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance. ¹⁸And I saw him saying to me, 'Hurry and go away from Jerusalem in haste, because they will not accept your testimony about me.' ¹⁹And I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that I was imprisoning and beating those who believed in you according to the synagogues. ²⁰And when the blood of Stephen your witness was spilled, I myself also was standing by and agreeing, and guarding the outer garments of those who killed him.' ²¹But he said to me, 'Go, because I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"

²²And they listened to him until this word, and then they lifted up their voice, saying, "Remove such a one from the earth, for it is not right for him to live." ²³And as they were shouting and throwing off {their} outer garments, and throwing dust into the air, ²⁴the commander commanded him to be brought in to the fortress, commanding him to be examined by flogging, so that he might know for what reason they were shouting against him like that. ²⁵But when they had stretched him out for the whip, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "If it is lawful for you to whip a man who is a Roman and uncondemned ...?" ²⁶And when the centurion heard this, having gone to the commander, he reported, saying, "What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman." ²⁷And so, having come,

the commander said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?" And he said, "Yes." ²⁸And the commander answered, "I bought this citizenship with a large amount of money." But Paul said, "I, however, was indeed born {as one}." ²⁹Then those who were about to examine him drew back from him immediately, and the commander also was afraid, having learned that he was a Roman, and that he had bound him.

³⁰And on the next day, wanting to know for certain that which he was being accused by the Jews, he released him and commanded the chief priests and all the Sanhedrin to assemble. And having brought down Paul, he placed him among them.

Chapter 23

¹And having looked directly at the Sanhedrin, Paul said, "Men, brothers, I have lived as a citizen before God in all good conscience until this day." ²But the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth. ³Then Paul said to him, "God is about to strike you, you whitewashed wall. And do you sit judging me by the law, yet command me to be struck, against the law?" ⁴But those who stood by said, "Are you insulting the high priest of God?" ⁵And Paul said, "I did not know, brothers, that he is a high priest. For it is written,

You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people."

⁶But when Paul realized that the one group was Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he shouted in the Sanhedrin, "Men, brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. I am being judged concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead." ⁷And when he said this, an argument began between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the crowd was divided. ⁸For the Sadducees say there is no resurrection, nor angels, nor spirits, but the Pharisees confess all of them. ⁹And so a large uproar occurred, and some of the scribes of the group of the Pharisees, having arisen, contended, saying, "We find nothing evil in this man. But what if a spirit has spoken to him, or an angel?" ¹⁰And when a great argument happened, the commander, having feared that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down to seize him by force from the midst of them, and to bring him into the fortress.

¹¹But the following night the Lord, having stood beside him, said, "Have courage, for as you have testified to things concerning me in Jerusalem, so it is necessary also for you to testify in Rome."

¹²And when it became day, the Jews, having formed a conspiracy, cursed themselves, saying neither to eat nor to drink until they had killed Paul. ¹³And there were more than 40 who had formed this conspiracy. ¹⁴They, having gone to the chief priests and the elders, said, "We have cursed ourselves with a curse, to eat nothing until we have killed Paul. ¹⁵Now, therefore, you along with the Sanhedrin report to the commander as if you are going to examine more seriously the things concerning him, so that he will bring him down to you. But we are ready to kill him before his arrival." ¹⁶But having heard of the ambush, the son of the sister of Paul went and, having entered into the fortress, reported this to Paul. ¹⁷And so, having called one of the centurions, Paul said, "Take this young man to the commander, for he has something to report to him." ¹⁸So having taken him, he brought him to the commander and said, "The prisoner, Paul, having summoned me, asked me to bring this young man to you. He has something to say to you." ¹⁹So the commander, having taken hold of his hand and having withdrawn to a private place, asked him, "What is it that you have to report to me?" ²⁰So then he said, "The Jews have agreed to ask you that tomorrow you might bring Paul down to the Sanhedrin, as if they were going to inquire something more concerning him. ²¹Therefore you should not be persuaded by them, because more than 40 from these men lie in wait for him, who have cursed themselves neither to eat nor to drink until they have killed him. Even now they are ready, waiting for the promise from you." ²²So the commander dismissed the young man, having commanded him, "Tell no one that you have reported these things to me." ²³And having summoned a certain two of the centurions, he said, "Prepare 200 soldiers so that they might go as far as Caesarea, and 70 horsemen, and 200 spearmen from the third hour of the night, ²⁴and provide animals in order to, having set Paul on them, take him safely to Felix the governor." ²⁵Then he wrote a letter, having this form:

²⁶“Claudius Lysias to the most excellent Governor Felix, greetings. ²⁷This man, having been seized by the Jews and about to be killed by them, having come with detachment of soldiers, I rescued, having learned that he is a Roman. ²⁸And wanting to know the charge with which they accused him, I took him down to their Sanhedrin. ²⁹I learned that he was being accused concerning questions of their own law, but there was no accusation worthy of death or imprisonment. ³⁰And when a plot was to be against the man was revealed to me, immediately I sent him to you, also having commanded {his} accusers to speak against him in your {presence}.”

³¹So the soldiers, according to what had been commanded to them, having taken Paul, brought him by night to Antipatris. ³²And on the next day, having allowed the horsemen to continue with him, they returned to the fortress. ³³When they had entered into Caesarea and had delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him. ³⁴And when he had read the letter and had asked what province he was from, and had learned that {he was} from Cilicia, ³⁵he said, “I will hear you fully when your accusers also may come here,” having commanded him to be kept in the palace of Herod.

Chapter 24

¹And after five days, Ananias, the high priest, with certain elders, and an orator, a certain Tertullus, came down, who appeared to the governor against Paul. ²And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, “We have obtained great peace through you, and good reforms have happened to {our} nation through your foresight;

³both in every way and everywhere we acknowledge this, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness. ⁴However, in order that we may not bother you any longer, I beg you to briefly listen to us in your kindness. ⁵For we have found this man to be a troublemaker and inciting rebellion among all the Jews who {are} throughout the world. Also, he is a leader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶He even tried to desecrate the temple, and so we arrested him.^[1] [We wanted to judge him according to our law. ⁷[2] But Lysias, the officer, having come, took him by force out of our hands, ⁸[3] commanding his accusers to come to you.] Having inquired from him about all these matters, you yourself will be able to learn of what we are accusing him.” ⁹And the Jews also agreed, affirming that these charges were so.

¹⁰And the governor having motioned for him to speak, Paul answered, “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge to this nation, I gladly make my defense about the things concerning me.

¹¹You are able to find out that it has not been more than 12 days from when I went up to worship in Jerusalem.

¹²And they found me neither in the temple arguing with anyone, nor causing a rebellion of the crowd, neither in the synagogues, nor throughout the city. ¹³And they are not able to prove to you about that which they are now accusing me. ¹⁴But I confess this to you, that according to the Way that they call a sect, in that way I serve the God of our fathers, faithful to all that is according to the law and that has been written in the prophets. ¹⁵I have the hope in God which also these men themselves accept, that there is going to be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous. ¹⁶In this also I myself always strive to have a blameless conscience before God and men. ¹⁷Now after many years, I came to bring alms to my nation, and offerings. ¹⁸They found me in this, having been cleansed in the temple, not with a crowd nor with an uproar. ¹⁹But there are certain Jews from Asia who ought to be present before you and to make accusations, if they have anything against me. ²⁰Or let these here say what wrong they found when I stood before the Sanhedrin, ²¹other than about this one thing that I shouted when I stood among them, ‘I am being judged before you today concerning the resurrection of the dead.’”

²²And then Felix, more accurately knowing the things concerning the Way, adjourned them, saying, “When Lysias the commander may come down, I will decide the things concerning you.” ²³He had commanded the centurion for him to be kept in custody, but to have rest, and not to forbid his own friends to minister to him.

²⁴But after some days, having returned with Drusilla, his own wife, who was a Jewess, Felix summoned Paul and he heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵But as he is reasoning with him about righteousness, and self-control, and the judgment that is coming, Felix, having become frightened, answered, "Go away for now. But having found time, I will summon you." ²⁶At the same time, he also is hoping that money will be given to him by Paul, and therefore often summoning him, he was speaking to him. ²⁷But when two years had passed, Felix received a successor—Porcius Festus. But wanting to gain favor with the Jews, Felix left Paul imprisoned.

24:6 ^[1]

24:7 ^[2]

24:8 ^[3]

Chapter 25

¹Festus, then, having arrived in the province, after three days, went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem. ²Both the chief priests and the most prominent of the Jews made clear to him {the things} against Paul, and they begged him, ³requesting a favor against him—that he might summon him to Jerusalem—for an ambush was forming to kill him along the way. ⁴So Festus answered that Paul was being held at Caesarea, and that he himself was about to go there in haste. ⁵He said, "Therefore, the leaders among you, having come down together, if there is something wrong with the man, let them accuse him."

⁶And after he had stayed with them not more than eight or ten days, he went down to Caesarea. The next day, having sat in the judgment seat, he commanded Paul to be brought to him. ⁷And when he had come, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing many and serious charges which they were not able to prove, ⁸Paul, saying in defense, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar, have I sinned in anything." ⁹But Festus, wanting to do a favor for the Jews, answering Paul, said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and to be judged there before me about these things?" ¹⁰But Paul said, "I am standing before the judgment seat of Caesar, where it is necessary for me to be judged. I have done nothing wrong to the Jews, as you also very well know. ¹¹Therefore, if I have done wrong and have done anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die. But if there is nothing of which they can accuse me, no one is able to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar." ¹²Then, after having talked with the council, Festus answered, "To Caesar you have appealed. To Caesar you will go!"

¹³Now after some days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice, having come down to Caesarea, paid their respects to Festus. ¹⁴And while they were staying there for many days, Festus presented to the king the things concerning Paul, saying, "There is a certain man who has been left behind by Felix, a prisoner. ¹⁵When I was in Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews brought charges concerning him, requesting a judgment against him. ¹⁶I replied to them that it is not the custom of the Romans to hand over any man, or before the one who is accused may have {his} accusers face to face and receives an opportunity of a defense concerning the accusation. ¹⁷Therefore, when they had come together here, causing no delay, the next day, having sat in the judgment seat, I commanded the man to be brought in. ¹⁸When the accusers had stood up, they brought no charge concerning him of evil which I expected. ¹⁹Instead, they had certain disputes with him about their own religion and about a certain Jesus who was dead, whom Paul asserted to be alive. ²⁰And so I am uncertain about the things concerning this matter. I asked if he was willing to go to Jerusalem and there to be judged concerning these things. ²¹But when Paul had appealed for him to be kept for the decision of the emperor, I commanded him to be kept until when I might send him to Caesar." ²²And Agrippa replied to Festus, "I, myself, also was wanting to hear this man." "Tomorrow," he says, "you will hear him."

²³So on the next day, Agrippa and Bernice having come with much ceremony, and having entered into the hall with both the commanders and men who were prominent in the city, and having been commanded by Festus, Paul was brought in. ²⁴And Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all who are present with us, you see this man, concerning whom all the multitude of the Jews petitioned me both in Jerusalem and here also, shouting that he ought not to live any

longer. ²⁵But I learned that he had done nothing worthy of death; but he himself having appealed to the emperor, I decided to send him. ²⁶Concerning him, I do not have anything definite to write to my lord. For this reason, I have him before you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after this examination has happened, I might have something to write. ²⁷For it seems unreasonable to me to send a prisoner and to not state the charges against him.”

Chapter 26

¹And Agrippa said to Paul, “You are permitted to speak for yourself.” Then Paul, having stretched out {his} hand, made {his} defense.

²“Concerning all the things of which I am accused by the Jews, King Agrippa, I consider myself blessed that I am going to make my defense before you today; ³especially since you are an expert according to all the Jewish customs and also {their} controversies. So I ask you to hear me patiently. ⁴Indeed then, all the Jews know the manner of my life which {was} from my youth, that from the beginning has been among my nation and in Jerusalem, ⁵Knowing me from the beginning, if they were willing to testify, that I lived as a Pharisee, according to the strictest sect of our religion. ⁶And now I stand here being judged because of my hope of the promise that was made to our fathers by God, ⁷to which our 12 tribes hope to attain, in earnest serving night and day. Concerning this hope, I am being accused by the Jews, O King. ⁸Why is it judged unbelievable among you that God raises the dead? ⁹Then, I thought to myself that it was necessary to do many things opposed to the name of Jesus the Nazarene. ¹⁰And I did these things in Jerusalem, and I even locked up many of the saints in prison, having received the authority from the chief priests. and when they were being put to death, I cast my vote against them. ¹¹And often punishing them in all the synagogues, I forced them to blaspheme, and being greatly enraged against them, I persecuted them even as far as to foreign cities. ¹²While doing this, traveling to Damascus with authority and a commission that {was} from the chief priests, ¹³in the middle of the day, along the road, O King, I saw a light from heaven, beyond the brightness of the sun, shining around me and those who were traveling with me. ¹⁴And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against a goad.’ ¹⁵And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord replied, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶But get up and stand on your feet; because for this I appeared to you, to appoint you as a servant and a witness of both that which you have seen about me and of that which will be shown to you; ¹⁷rescuing you from the people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, ¹⁸to open their eyes to turn from darkness to light, and from the authority of Satan to God, for them to receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith that {is} in me.’ ¹⁹Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision; ²⁰but, to those in Damascus first, and also in Jerusalem, and in all the region of Judea, and to the Gentiles, I declared to repent and to turn to God, doing deeds worthy of repentance. ²¹For the sake of this, the Jews, having seized me in the temple, attempted to kill me. ²²Therefore having received help which is from God until this day, I stand, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing other than what both the prophets and Moses said is going to happen— ²³that the Christ {is} subject to suffering and that {as} the first from the resurrection of the dead, is going to proclaim light both to the people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴And as he is saying these things in his defense, Festus says with a loud voice, “Paul, you are insane; your great learning is turning you to insanity.” ²⁵But Paul says, “I am not insane, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking words of truth and of sanity. ²⁶For the king knows about these things, to whom I am indeed speaking boldly, for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this was not done in a corner. ²⁷Do you believe the prophets, King Agrippa? I know that you believe.” ²⁸But Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time, are you persuading me to become a Christian?” ²⁹But Paul replied, “I pray to God for, either in a short time or in a long time, not you only, but also all those hearing me today to become such as I also am, but without these chains.”

³⁰And then the king got up, and the governor, and Bernice, and those sitting with them; ³¹and when they had left, they talked to one another, saying, "This man is not doing anything worthy of death or of chains." ³²But Agrippa said to Festus, "This man was able to have been released if he had not appealed to Caesar."

Chapter 27

¹And when it was decided for us to sail to Italy, they handed over both Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion named Julius of the Augustan regiment. ²And having boarded a ship from Adramyttium, being about to sail to places along Asia, we set sail. Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, was with us. ³And the next day, we landed at Sidon, and Julius having treated Paul kindly, allowed him to go to {his} friends to receive {their} care. ⁴And from there, having put to sea, we sailed under Cyprus because of the winds that were against us. ⁵And when we had sailed across the sea past Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra of Lycia. ⁶And there, the centurion having found a ship from Alexandria sailing to Italy, he put us on it. ⁷And sailing slowly for many days and having arrived with difficulty near Cnidus, the wind no longer allowing us to go that way, we sailed along Crete, opposite Salmone. ⁸And sailing along it with difficulty, we came to a certain place called Fair Havens, which was near the city of Lasea.

⁹But much time having passed, and the voyage already being dangerous because even the fast had already passed, Paul was warning them, ¹⁰saying to them, "Men, I see that the voyage is about to be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives." ¹¹But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than the things spoken by Paul. ¹²But the harbor being unsuitable for wintering, the majority made a decision to sail from there, if somehow they might be able to arrive at Phoenix, to spend the winter there—a harbor in Crete, looking toward the southwest and toward the northwest. ¹³And when a south wind had blown gently, thinking they obtained {their} purpose, after they had weighed anchor, they sailed along close to Crete. ¹⁴But not long after, a violent wind called the northeaster rushed down from it. ¹⁵And having been seized and the ship not being able to face into the wind, having given way, we were driven along. ¹⁶But sailing under the lee of a certain island called Cauda, we were able with difficulty to gain control of the lifeboat. ¹⁷Having hoisted it up, they used ropes, binding the ship. And fearing lest they might run aground on Syrtis, having lowered the sea anchor, thus they were driven along. ¹⁸But with us being exceedingly battered by the storm, the next day, they began the jettisoning of the cargo. ¹⁹And on the third day, they threw overboard the equipment of the ship with their own hands. ²⁰But neither sun nor stars appearing for many days, and no small storm assaulting us, all remaining hope for us to be saved was taken away. ²¹And after being a long time without food, then having stood up in the midst of them, Paul said, "You men should indeed have obeyed me, to not set sail from Crete, and to suffer this injury and loss. ²²But now this I urge you, to take courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but {only} of the ship. ²³For this night an angel of the God of whom I am and whom I serve, stood beside me ²⁴saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar, and behold, God has graciously granted to you all those who are sailing with you.' ²⁵Therefore take courage, men! For I trust God that thus it will be, according to the way it was told to me. ²⁶But we must run aground upon some island."

²⁷And when the fourteenth night came, as we were being driven this way and that in the Adriatic Sea, about the middle of the night the sailors thought that they were approaching some land. ²⁸And taking soundings, they found 20 fathoms; but when they had gone a little further, and again taking soundings, they found 15 fathoms. ²⁹And fearing that we might crash somewhere against a rugged place, having lowered four anchors from the stern, they prayed for daytime to come. ³⁰But as the sailors were seeking to flee from the ship, and as they had lowered the lifeboat into the sea on a pretext as if intending to lower anchors from the bow, ³¹Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, "If these do not stay in the ship, you are not able to be saved." ³²Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the lifeboat and let it fall away. ³³And up until it was about to become daytime, Paul urged them all to take food, saying, "Today {is} the fourteenth day, anxiously waiting, you are continuing fasting, having eaten nothing. ³⁴Therefore, I urge you to take food, for this is for your salvation. For a hair from the head of none of you will perish." ³⁵And having said this and having taken bread, he gave thanks to God before everyone, and having broken

bread, he began to eat. ³⁶And they were all encouraged and themselves took food. ³⁷And in all, we were 276 souls in the ship. ³⁸And when they had eaten enough food, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea. ³⁹And when it was daytime, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a certain bay having a beach, onto which they discussed whether they might be able to drive the ship. ⁴⁰And having cut loose the anchors, they left them in the sea. At the same time, having loosened the bands of the rudders and having raised the foresail to the wind, they headed to the beach. ⁴¹But having come to a place between two seas, the ship ran aground, and the bow of the ship having stuck there, it remained immovable, but the stern was breaking up by the violence of the waves. ⁴²Now the plan of the soldiers was that they would kill the prisoners lest some of them, having swum away, would escape. ⁴³But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, stopped their plan, and so he commanded those who were able to swim, first having jumped overboard, to get to the land, ⁴⁴and then the rest, some on planks, and some on other things from the ship, and in this way, it happened that all were brought safely to the land.

Chapter 28

¹And having been brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta. ²And the native people offered to us not ordinary kindness, for having lit a fire, they welcomed us all, because of the rain that was beginning, and because of the cold. ³But when Paul had gathered a certain quantity of sticks and had placed them on the fire, a viper, having come out from the heat, fastened on to his hand. ⁴And when the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "This man certainly is a murderer, who having been saved from the sea, justice has not permitted him to live." ⁵Then, he, shaking off the snake into the fire, suffered no harm. ⁶But they were expecting him to begin to become inflamed or to suddenly fall down dead. But watching him for a long time and seeing nothing unusual happening to him, having changed their minds, they said that he is a god.

⁷Now in the {area} near that same place were lands of the most important man of the island, named Publius, who having welcomed us, kindly entertained us for three days. ⁸And it happened that the father of Publius was lying sick, having been afflicted with fever and dysentery. Paul went to him and having prayed, having placed {his} hands on him, he healed him. ⁹And after this happened, the rest of those on the island who had sickness also were coming and were being healed. ¹⁰They also honored us with many honors, and when we were setting sail, they gave us the things for {our} needs.

¹¹And after three months, we set sail in an Alexandrian ship that had wintered at the island, with a "Twin Gods" figurehead. ¹²And having landing at Syracuse, we stayed three days. ¹³Having sailed from there, we arrived at Rhegium, and after one day, a south wind having sprung up, we came to Puteoli the next day. ¹⁴Having found brothers there, we were begged to stay with them for seven days, and in this way, we came to Rome. ¹⁵From there, the brothers, having heard the things about us, came to a meeting with us as far as The Forum of Appius and The Three Taverns. Having seen them, Paul, having thanked God, took courage.

¹⁶And when we entered into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself with the soldier guarding him.

¹⁷And it happened that after three days, he called together those who were the most important of the Jews. And when they had come together, he said to them, "Men, brothers, having done nothing opposed to the people or the customs of {our} fathers, I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. ¹⁸After they had questioned me, they were intending to release me, because there is no reason in me for a death penalty. ¹⁹But the Jews objecting, I was forced to appeal to Caesar—not as if I have anything to accuse my nation. ²⁰Therefore, for this reason, I summoned you, to see and to speak with you. For I am bound with this chain because of the hope of Israel." ²¹But they said to him, "We neither received letters from Judea about you, nor have any of the brothers come {and} reported or said anything evil about you. ²²But we want to hear from you what you think, for concerning this sect, it is known to us that it is spoken against everywhere."

²³And when they had appointed a day for him, more people came to him at his lodging. He was explaining to them, testifying about the kingdom of God and persuading them about Jesus, both from the law of Moses and from the prophets, from morning until evening. ²⁴And some were convinced about the things which he was saying, but others did not believe. ²⁵And being in disagreement with one another, they left after Paul had spoken one word, "The Holy Spirit spoke well through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers ²⁶saying, 'Go to this people and say,

"By hearing you will hear, but you will certainly not understand;

and by seeing you will see, but you will certainly not perceive.

²⁷For the heart of this people has become dull,

and with {their} ears they hardly heard,

and they shut their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with {their} eyes,

and might hear with {their} ears,

and might understand with {their} heart and might turn again,

and I will heal them."

²⁸Therefore, let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles, they also will hear." ²⁹^[1]
[And when he had said these things, the Jews went away, having a great dispute among themselves.]

³⁰And he stayed for two whole years in his own rented house, and he was welcoming all those who are coming to him, ³¹proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching the things about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance.

28:29 ^[1]

Romans

Chapter 1

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called {to be} an apostle, having been set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand by his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³concerning his Son—who was born from a seed of David according to the flesh, ⁴who was designated the Son of God in power through the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead—Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we received grace and apostleship for obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, for the sake of his name, ⁶among whom are you also, called of Jesus Christ. ⁷To all those being in Rome, beloved of God, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁸First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ concerning all of you, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world. ⁹For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of his Son, how I continually make mention of you, ¹⁰always requesting in my prayers if somehow now at last I will be successful by the will of God to come to you. ¹¹For I long to see you so that I may give to you some spiritual gift, to strengthen you, ¹²and that is to be mutually encouraged with you through each other's faith, both yours and mine. ¹³Now I do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, that I often intended to come to you (but I was hindered until now), so that I might have some fruit among you also, just as also among the rest of the Gentiles. ¹⁴I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵So, as it depends on me, {I am} eager to proclaim the gospel also to you who {are} in Rome.

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, both to the Jew first and to the Greek. ¹⁷For the righteousness of God is revealed in it from faith to faith, just as it has been written, "But the righteous will live by faith."

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who through unrighteousness are holding back the truth, ¹⁹because that which {is} known about God is visible to them, for God has made it known to them. ²⁰For his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and divine nature, are clearly seen from the creation of the world, being understood through the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹For having known God, they did not glorify him as God, nor did they give him thanks. Instead, they became foolish in their thoughts, and their senseless heart was darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became foolish, ²³and exchanged the glory of the imperishable God for the likenesses of an image of perishable man, and of birds, and of four-footed beasts, and of creeping things.

²⁴Therefore, God gave them over to the lusts of their hearts for uncleanness, to dishonor their bodies among themselves; ²⁵who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and worshiped and served the creation instead of the Creator, who is blessed to eternity. Amen.

²⁶For this reason, God gave them over to dishonorable passions, for both their women exchanged natural relations for those contrary to nature, ²⁷and likewise, the men also, having left the natural use of the female, burned in their lust for one another, male with male bringing about shameless acts and receiving in themselves the penalty they deserved for their error.

²⁸And just as they did not approve of having God in {their} awareness, God gave them up to a depraved mind, to do those things that are not proper. ²⁹Having been filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, {and} malice, {they} are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, {and} evil intentions. {They are} gossips, ³⁰slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹senseless, faithless, heartless, {and}

unmerciful. ³²They, having understood the righteous decree of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do these things, but also approve of those who do them.

Chapter 2

¹Therefore, you are without excuse, O man—anyone who judges—for in that which you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. ²But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth upon those who practice such things. ³But do you think this, O man who judges those who are practicing such things and you are doing the same things, that you will escape from the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you scorn the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? ⁵But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart, you are storing up for yourself wrath on the day of wrath and of the revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶who will pay back to each according to his deeds: ⁷eternal life to those who according to consistent, good actions are seeking glory and honor and incorruptibility; ⁸but wrath and fierce anger to those who {are} from selfish ambition and who are disobeying the truth but obeying unrighteousness. ⁹Tribulation and distress will be on every human soul that brings about evil, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. ¹⁰But glory and honor and peace will be to everyone who practices good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. ¹¹For there is no favoritism with God. ¹²For as many as have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and as many as have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³For the hearers of the law {are} not righteous before God, but the doers of the law will be justified. ¹⁴For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature the things of the law, they, not having the law, are a law to themselves. ¹⁵They show the deeds of the law to be written in their hearts, the conscience bearing witness to them, the thoughts between themselves both accusing or even defending them ¹⁶on the day when God will judge the secrets of men, according to my gospel, through Christ Jesus.

¹⁷But if you name yourself a Jew and rely upon the law and boast in God, ¹⁸and know {his} will and approve of what is excellent, being instructed from the law; ¹⁹and you are convinced that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those in darkness, ²⁰an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, having in the law the form of knowledge and of the truth, ²¹then you, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You, who preach not to steal, do you steal? ²²You, who says not to commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You, who hate idols, do you rob temples? ²³You, who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? ²⁴For “the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,” just as it has been written. ²⁵For circumcision indeed benefits if you obey the law, but if you are transgressors of the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. ²⁶If, then, the uncircumcised one keeps the requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be considered as circumcision? ²⁷And the one who, by nature uncircumcised, fulfills the law, will condemn you as a transgressor of the law, though having the letter and circumcision! ²⁸For he is not a Jew who {is} one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which {is} outward in the flesh. ²⁹But the one who {is} inwardly a Jew, and circumcision of the heart in the Spirit, not in the letter; of him the praise {is} not from men but from God.

Chapter 3

¹What then {is} the advantage of the Jew, or what {is} the benefit of the circumcision? ²Great in every way! For first of all, that they were entrusted with the sayings of God. ³For what if some were unfaithful? Their unbelief will not abolish the faithfulness of God, will it? ⁴May it never be! Instead, let God be true, but every man a liar. Just as it has been written,

“That you might be shown to be righteous in your words,
and that you might prevail when you are judged.”

⁵But if our unrighteousness shows the righteousness of God, what will we say? God {is} not unrighteous for imposing {his} wrath, {is he}? (I speak according to men.) ⁶May it never be! Otherwise, how will God judge the world? ⁷But if the truth of God through my lie abounds to his glory, why am I still judged as a sinner? ⁸And not—just as we are blasphemed and just as some affirm us to say—“Let us do evil, so that good may come”? Their condemnation is just.

⁹What then? Are we excusing ourselves? Not at all. For we have already accused both Jews and Greeks, all of them, to be under sin. ¹⁰Just as it is written:

“There is none righteous, not even one.

¹¹There is none who understands.

There is none who seeks God.

¹²They all have turned away. They together have become useless.

There is none doing good—there is not even one.”

¹³“Their throat {is} an open grave.

Their tongues have deceived.

The poison of asps {is} under their lips.”

¹⁴“Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

¹⁵“Their feet {are} swift to pour out blood.

¹⁶Destruction and suffering {are} in their paths.

¹⁷And they have not known a way of peace.”

¹⁸“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those under the law, so that every mouth may be shut, and the whole world may become accountable to God. ²⁰{This is} because no flesh will be justified by the works of the law in his sight; for through the law {is} the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been made known. It was witnessed by the Law and the Prophets; ²²but the righteousness of God {is} through faith in Jesus Christ to all those who believe, for there is no distinction. ²³For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being freely justified by his grace through the redemption that {is} in Christ Jesus; ²⁵whom God presented as a propitiation through faith in his blood for a demonstration of his justice, because of the overlooking of the sins that happened previously ²⁶in the forbearance of God, for the demonstration of his righteousness at this present time, so that he could be just, and the justifier of the one who {is} of faith in Jesus.

²⁷Where then {is} boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? Of works? No, but through the law of faith.

²⁸For we reckon a man to be justified by faith apart from works of the law. ²⁹Or {is} God of Jews only? {Is he} not

also of Gentiles? Yes, of Gentiles also. ³⁰If, indeed, God {is} one, he will justify the circumcision by faith, and the uncircumcision through the faith.

³¹Do we then nullify the law through faith? May it never be! Instead, we uphold the law.

Chapter 4

¹What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has discovered? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has a reason to boast, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? "But Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to the one who works, the wage is not counted as a gift, but as an obligation. ⁵But to the one who does not work, but believes in the one who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness. ⁶Even as David also speaks of the blessing of the man to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷"Happy {are} those of whom {their} lawless deeds are forgiven,
and of whom {their} sins are covered.

⁸Happy {is} the man of whom the Lord will certainly not count sin."

⁹Then {is} this blessing to the circumcision, or also to the uncircumcision? For we say, "Faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness." ¹⁰How then was it counted? Being in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? {It was} not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision. ¹¹And he received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness of the faith that {was} in {his} uncircumcision, so that he would be the father of all those who believe through uncircumcision, so as to be counted for them as righteousness; ¹²and the father of circumcision to those who {are} not only from the circumcision, but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith of our father Abraham while uncircumcised.

¹³For the promise to Abraham or to his seed that he would be heir of the world {was} not through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if those from the law {are} heirs, faith has been made empty, and the promise has been nullified. ¹⁵For the law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, neither {is there} transgression. ¹⁶For this reason {it is} by faith, in order that according to grace, the promise might be certain to all the seed—not only to those from the law, but also to those from the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all, ¹⁷just as it is written, "I have appointed you the father of many nations," in the presence of God whom he trusted, who gives life to the dead and calls the things not existing into existence; ¹⁸who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to what he had been told, "So will your seed be." ¹⁹And not having become weak in the faith, he considered his own body as already having died (being about a hundred years old)—and the deadness of the womb of Sarah. ²⁰But toward the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, having given glory to God, ²¹and fully convinced that what he had promised, he is also able to do. ²²Therefore, this was also counted to him as righteousness. ²³Now it was not written only for his sake, that it was counted to him, ²⁴but also for our sake, to whom is about to be counted, to those who believe in the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Chapter 5

¹Therefore, having been justified by faith, let us have peace^[1] with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we also have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³And not only this, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering brings about endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope. ⁵And that hope does not disappoint, because the

love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. ⁶For we still being weak, yet at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For someone will hardly die on behalf of a righteous man. Perhaps, though, someone might even dare to die on behalf of a good person. ⁸But God proves his own love toward us, in that, we still being sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Much more then, now that we have been justified by his blood, we will be saved through him from the wrath. ¹⁰For if, being enemies, we have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹Not only this, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we now have received this reconciliation.

¹²Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and through sin, death, so also death spread to all people, concerning which all sinned. ¹³For until the law, sin was in the world, but sin was not charged, being no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless, death ruled from Adam until Moses, even over those who have not sinned like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who is coming.

¹⁵But not like the trespass, so also {is} the gift. For if by the trespass of one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound for the many! ¹⁶And the gift {is} not as through the one having sinned. For indeed, the judgment followed one unto condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses unto justification. ¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one, death ruled through the one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸So then, as through one trespass to all men unto condemnation, so also through one righteous act to all men unto justification of life. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one will the many be made righteous. ²⁰Now the law came in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin abounded, grace abounded even more, ²¹so that just as sin ruled in death, so also grace might rule through righteousness unto everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

5:1 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

Chapter 6

¹What then will we say? Should we continue in sin so that grace may abound? ²May it never be! We who died to sin, how will we still live in it? ³Or are you ignorant that as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried, then, with him through baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also certainly be united with {his} resurrection; ⁶knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, in order that the body of sin might be destroyed, that we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For the one having died is declared righteous from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live together with him, ⁹knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, no longer dies; death no longer has authority over him. ¹⁰For in that he died, he died to sin once for all. But in that he lives, he lives for God. ¹¹In the same way, you also must consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹²Therefore, do not let sin rule in your mortal body, to obey its lusts. ¹³And do not present your members as tools of unrighteousness unto sin. But present yourselves to God, as living from death, and your members to God as tools of righteousness. ¹⁴So do not allow sin to rule over you. For you are not under law, but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? May it never be! ¹⁶Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves to obey {as} slaves, you are slaves to whom you obey—whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God! For you were slaves of sin, but you have obeyed from the heart the pattern of teaching unto which you were given. ¹⁸Now having been freed from sin, you have been enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹I speak as a man because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and to more and more lawlessness, in the same way, now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification. ²⁰For when you were slaves of sin, you were free from righteousness. ²¹So what fruit then did you have from that of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of

those things {is} death. ²²But now, having been freed from sin and having been enslaved to God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the result {is} eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin {is} death, but the gift of God {is} eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Chapter 7

¹Or do you not know, brothers (for I am speaking to ones knowing the law), that the law rules over the man for as long as he lives? ²For the married woman has been bound by law to the living husband, but if the husband dies, she has been released from the law of the husband. ³So then, the husband being alive, if she is joined to another man, she will be called an adulteress. But if the husband dies, she is free from the law, so she is not an adulteress, having been joined to another man. ⁴Therefore, my brothers, you were also made dead to the law through the body of Christ, for you to be joined to another, to the one who was raised from the dead, in order that we might produce fruit for God. ⁵For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions that were through the law were working in our members to bear fruit to death. ⁶But now we have been released from the law, having died to that by which we were being held, so that we might serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

⁷What will we say then? {Is} the law sin? May it never be! However, I would not have known sin, if not through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law said, "Do not covet." ⁸But sin, having taken opportunity through the commandment, brought about every lust in me. For without law, sin {is} dead. ⁹Now at one time I was alive without law, but the commandment having come, sin came to life again, ¹⁰but I died. And the commandment that was to be life, it was found to be death for me. ¹¹For sin, having taken the opportunity through the commandment, deceived me, and through it, killed me. ¹²So then, the law {is} holy, and the commandment {is} holy and righteous and good.

¹³So did what {is} good become death to me? May it never be! But sin, in order that it might be shown {to be} sin through what {is} good, bringing about death in me, so that through the commandment, sin might become sinful beyond measure. ¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, having been sold into slavery under sin. ¹⁵For what I bring about, I do not understand. For what I want, this I do not do. But what I hate, this I do. ¹⁶But if what I do not want, this I do, I agree with the law that {it is} good. ¹⁷But now no longer I bring it about, but the sin living in me. ¹⁸For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, lives nothing good. For the desire is present in me, but not the ability to bring about the good. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want; but the evil I do not want, this I do. ²⁰Now if what I do not want, this I do, I no longer bring it about, but the sin living in me. ²¹I find, then, this law: the wanting to do good {is} in me, but that evil is present in me. ²²For I rejoice in the law of God with the inner man. ²³But I see a different law in my members fighting against the law of my mind and taking me captive by the law of the sin that exists in my members. ²⁴I am a miserable man! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with the mind, but with the flesh, the law of sin.

Chapter 8

¹{There is} therefore now no condemnation for those who {are} in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law was unable to do, being weak through the flesh, God did, having sent his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the righteous deeds of the law might be fulfilled in us, those walking not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those existing according to the flesh pay attention to the things of the flesh, but those according to the Spirit, to the things of the Spirit. ⁶For the mind of the flesh {is} death, but the mind of the Spirit {is} life and peace. ⁷{This is} because the mind of the flesh {is} hostile toward God, for it has not been subjected to the law of God, for it is not able to do so. ⁸But those existing in the flesh are not able to please God. ⁹However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. But if someone does not

have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of him. ¹⁰But if Christ {is} in you, the body {is} dead because of sin, but the Spirit {is} life because of righteousness. ¹¹If indeed the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life also to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors—not to the flesh to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you are about to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For as many as are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive again a spirit of slavery unto fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by which we cry, “Abba, Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. ¹⁷Now if children, then also heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time {are} not worthy {to be compared} with the glory that is about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the eager expectation of the creation waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that also the creation itself will be delivered from bondage to decay into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation groans and labors in pain together until now. ²³Not only that, but also we, having the firstfruits of the Spirit—even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for our adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope being seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Now in the same way, the Spirit also helps in our weakness. For we do not know what we should pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groans. ²⁷But the one who searches the hearts knows what {is} the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes on behalf of the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸For we know that for those who love God, God works all things together for good,^[1] for those who are called according to {his} purpose. ²⁹Because those whom he foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰Now those whom he predestined, these he also called. And those whom he called, these he also justified. And those whom he justified, these he also glorified.

³¹What then will we say about these things? If God {is} for us, who {is} against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but delivered him up on behalf of us all, how will he not also with him freely give us all things? ³³Who will bring an accusation against the chosen ones of God? God {is} the one who justifies. ³⁴Who {is} the one who condemns? Christ Jesus {is} the one who died—but more than that, having been raised, he also is at the right hand of God—he also intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶Just as it is written,

“For your benefit we are killed all day long.

We were considered as sheep for the slaughter.”

³⁷But in all these things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us. ³⁸For I have been convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor governments, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which {is} in Christ Jesus our Lord.

8:28 ^[1] some older versions read

Chapter 9

¹I tell the truth in Christ. I do not lie—my conscience bearing witness with me in the Holy Spirit—²that for me there is great sorrow and unceasing pain in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself would be cursed, set apart from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race according to the flesh; ⁴who are Israelites, of whom {are}

the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service, and the promises; ⁵of whom {are} the ancestors from whom also Christ {is} with respect to the flesh—he who {is} God over all, blessed to eternity. Amen.

⁶But {it is} not as though the word of God has failed. For not all these who {are} from Israel {are} Israel. ⁷Neither that all the children are the descendants of Abraham. But, “In Isaac your descendants will be called.” ⁸That is, the children of the flesh, these {are} not the children of God. But the children of the promise are regarded as descendants. ⁹For this {is} the word of promise: “At this time I will come, and a son will be given to Sarah.” ¹⁰Not only this, but Rebekah also conceived by one man, our father Isaac— ¹¹for not yet having been born, not yet having done anything good or bad, so that the purpose of God according to {his} choice might endure, ¹²not because of actions, but because of the one who calls—it was said to her, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³{It is} just as had been written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

¹⁴What then will we say? {There is} no unrighteousness with God{, is there}? May it never be! ¹⁵For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.” ¹⁶So then, {it is} not of the one who wills, nor of the one who runs, but of God, who shows mercy. ¹⁷For the scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I raised you up, so that I might demonstrate my power in you, and so that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” ¹⁸So then, he has mercy on whom he wishes, but whom he wishes, he makes stubborn.

¹⁹You will say then to me, “Why then does he still find fault? For who has ever withstood his will?” ²⁰O man, on the contrary, who are you who answers against God? The thing molded will not say to the one who molded it, “Why did you make me this way?” will it? ²¹Or does the potter not have authority over the clay to make from the same lump a container for honor, but another for dishonor? ²²But what if God, willing to show {his} wrath and to make his power known, endured with much patience containers of wrath prepared for destruction; ²³and so that he might make known the riches of his glory upon containers of mercy, which he had previously prepared for glory— ²⁴even us whom he called, not only from among the Jews, but also from among the Gentiles? ²⁵As he says also in Hosea:

“I will call those who were not my people, ‘my people,’

and the one who was not beloved, ‘Beloved.’

²⁶And it will be that in the place where it was said to them, ‘You {are} not my people,’

there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’”

²⁷But Isaiah cries out concerning Israel,

“Though the number of the sons of Israel might be as the sand of the sea,

the remnant will be saved,

²⁸for the Lord will carry out {his} word on the earth,

completely and without delay.”

²⁹And just as Isaiah had said previously,

“If the Lord of hosts had not left us descendants,

we would have become like Sodom,

and we would have been made like Gomorrah.”

³⁰What will we say then? That the Gentiles, who are not pursuing righteousness, obtained righteousness, but righteousness that {is} by faith. ³¹But Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not attain it through the law.

³²Why? Because it was not by faith, but as by works. They stumbled over the stone of stumbling, ³³just as it has been written,

“Behold, I place in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense,
and the one who believes in it will not be ashamed.”

Chapter 10

¹Brothers, the desire of my heart and {my} request to God {is} for them, for salvation. ²For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³For they do not know the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, they did not submit to the righteousness of God. ⁴For Christ {is} the fulfillment of the law for righteousness for everyone who believes. ⁵For Moses writes about the righteousness that {is} from the law: “The man who has done these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness from faith says this: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down); ⁷or, ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart.”

That is the word of faith, which we proclaim. ⁹For if with your mouth you confess Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses unto salvation. ¹¹For the scripture says, “Everyone who believes on him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no difference between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord {is} of all, being rich to all who call upon him. ¹³For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. ¹⁴How then would they call to whom they have not believed? And how would they believe in whom they have not heard? And how would they hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how would they preach, unless they would be sent? Just as it is written, “How beautiful {are} the feet of those who proclaim good news of good things!”

¹⁶But not all of them obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” ¹⁷So faith {is} from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. ¹⁸But I say, “Did they certainly not hear?” Yes, indeed.

“Their sound has gone out into all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.”

¹⁹But I say, “Did Israel certainly not know?” First Moses says,

“I will provoke you to jealousy by {what is} not a nation;
by means of a nation without understanding, I will provoke you to anger.”

²⁰Now Isaiah was very bold when he says,

“I was found by those not seeking me;
I appeared to those not asking for me.”

²¹But to Israel he says, “The whole day I reached out my hands to a disobedient and contradictory people.”

Chapter 11

¹I say then, God did not reject his people, did he? May it never be! For I also am an Israelite, from the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Or do you not know what

the scripture says about Elijah, how he pleaded with God against Israel? ³“Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have broken down your altars, and I alone was spared, and they seek my life.” ⁴But what does the divine response say to him? “I have reserved for myself 7,000 men who have not bent the knee to Baal.” ⁵Even so then, at this present time also there is a remnant according to the choice of grace. ⁶But if by grace, {it is} no longer by works. Otherwise grace would no longer be grace.^[1] ⁷What then? The thing Israel seeks, it did not obtain, but the chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened, ⁸just as it is written: “God gave them a spirit of dullness, eyes not to see, and ears not to hear, to this very day.” ⁹And David says,

“Let their table become for a net and for a trap,
and for a stumbling block and for a retribution for them.

¹⁰Let their eyes be darkened to not see,
and make their backs bend continually.”

¹¹I say then, “They did not stumble so as to fall, did they?” May it never be! Instead, by their transgression, salvation {is} to the Gentiles, to provoke them to jealousy. ¹²Now if their transgression {is} riches of the world, and their loss {is} riches of the Gentiles, how much greater {will} their completion {be}? ¹³Now I speak to you Gentiles. As much therefore as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry, ¹⁴if somehow I might provoke to jealousy those who {are} of my own flesh and might save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection {is} reconciliation of the world, what {is their} acceptance if not life from the dead? ¹⁶Now if the firstfruits {are} holy, the lump of dough also. And if the root {is} holy, the branches also. ¹⁷But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive branch, were grafted into them, and {became} partakers with them of the richness of the root of the olive tree, ¹⁸do not boast over the branches. But if you boast, you do not support the root, but the root, you. ¹⁹You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.” ²⁰{That is} true. They were broken off in {their} unbelief, but you stand firm in the faith. Do not think highly of yourself, but fear. ²¹For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. ²²See, then, kindness and severity of God: severity on those who fell, but kindness of God on you, if you continue in {his} kindness. Otherwise you also will be cut off. ²³But they, if they do not continue in {their} unbelief, will be grafted in. For God is able to graft them in again. ²⁴For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and contrary to nature were grafted into a good olive tree, how much more will these, who {are} according to nature, be grafted back into their own olive tree?

²⁵For I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, in order that you might not be wise in yourselves, for a partial hardening has occurred in Israel, until the completion of the Gentiles might come in; ²⁶and thus all Israel will be saved, just as it is written:

“From Zion will come the Deliverer.

He will remove ungodliness from Jacob.

²⁷And this {will be} the covenant from me to them,
when I will take away their sins.”

²⁸According to the gospel, {they are} enemies for your sake, but according to election, {they are} beloved because of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God {are} unchangeable. ³⁰For just as you were formerly disobedient to God, but now have received mercy in that disobedience, ³¹thus also, these now have been disobedient, that by the mercy shown to you, they might also now receive mercy. ³²For God has shut up all into disobedience, in order that he might have mercy on all.

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How unsearchable {are} his judgments, and his ways beyond discovering!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord
or who has become his advisor?

³⁵Or who has first given anything to him,
that he will be repaid by him?”

³⁶For from him and through him and to him {are} all things. To him {be} the glory to the ages. Amen.

11:6 ^[1]

Chapter 12

¹I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which {is} your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of the mind, for you to prove what {is} the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

³For I say, through the grace that has been given to me, to everyone who is among you to not think more highly of himself than what he ought to think, but to think with sound mind, as God has distributed to each one a measure of faith. ⁴For just as we have many members in one body, but not all the members have the same function, ⁵in the same way, the many are one body in Christ and individually members of each other. ⁶But we have different gifts according to the grace that has been given to us: if prophecy, according to the proportion of {his} faith; ⁷if service, in serving; if the one teaching, in teaching; ⁸if the one encouraging, in encouragement; the one giving, in generosity; the one leading, in diligence; the one showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

⁹Let love be without hypocrisy, abhorring the evil, holding on to the good; ¹⁰in love of the brothers, affectionate to one another; in honor, preferring one another; ¹¹in diligence, not hesitant; in the spirit, being eager; serving the Lord; ¹²in hope, rejoicing; in suffering, being patient; in prayer, persisting; ¹³in the needs of the saints, sharing; pursuing hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse; ¹⁵to rejoice with those who rejoice; to weep with those who weep; ¹⁶of the same mind toward one another, not thinking in proud ways, but accepting lowly people. Do not be wise in yourselves; ¹⁷repaying no one evil for evil; practicing good things in the sight of all men; ¹⁸if possible, what {is} from you, living at peace with all men; ¹⁹not avenging yourselves, beloved, but give way to the wrath, for it is written, “Vengeance {is} to me; I will repay,” says the Lord.”

²⁰“But if your enemy is hungry, feed him.

If he is thirsty, give him a drink.

For doing this, you will heap coals of fire on his head.”

²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Chapter 13

¹Let every soul be subject to governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and the ones that exist are appointed by God. ²Therefore, the one who resists that authority opposes the command of God, and the ones who oppose it will bring judgment on themselves. ³For rulers are not a terror to good deeds, but to evil deeds. Now do you desire not to be afraid of authority? Do good, and you will receive approval from it, ⁴for he is a servant of God to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not carry the sword in vain, for he is a servant of God, an avenger for wrath on the one who does evil. ⁵Therefore, you must obey, not only because of the wrath, but also because of conscience. ⁶For because of this you pay taxes also; for they are servants of God,

attending continually to this very thing. ⁷Pay back to everyone what {is} owed to them: tax to whom tax, toll to whom toll, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves {his} neighbor has fulfilled the law. ⁹For this: "Do not commit adultery, do not kill, do not steal, do not covet," and if any other commandment, it is summed up in this command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does not cause harm to a neighbor; therefore, love {is} the fulfillment of the law.

¹¹And this, knowing the time, that {it is} already the season for us to awake from sleep. For now our salvation {is} nearer than when we believed. ¹²The night has advanced, and the day has come near. Let us therefore put aside the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk decently, as in the day, not in drunken celebrations or drunkenness; let us not walk in sexual immorality and uncontrolled lust, not in strife and jealousy.

¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, for lusts.

Chapter 14

¹But receive the one who is weak in faith, not for passing judgment on opinions. ²One person believes to eat anything, but the one who is weak eats only vegetables. ³Let the one who eats not despise the one who does not eat, and let the one who does not eat not judge the one who eats. For God has accepted him. ⁴Who are you who judges a servant belonging to another? To his own master he stands or falls. But he will be made to stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One person judges day from day, but another person judges every day. Let each one be convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it for the Lord; and the one who eats, eats for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God, and the one who does not eat, does not eat for the Lord; he also gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives for himself, and none dies for himself. ⁸For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or whether we die, we are of the Lord. ⁹For to this purpose Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and of the living. ¹⁰But you, why do you judge your brother? And you also, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

"As I live," says the Lord, "to me every knee will bend,

and every tongue will confess to God."

¹²So then, each one of us will give an account concerning himself to God.

¹³Therefore, let us no longer judge one another, but instead judge this: that no one will place a stumbling block or a snare for {his} brother. ¹⁴I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing {is} unclean by itself, except to the one who considers anything to be unclean, for him {it is} unclean. ¹⁵For if for the sake of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food that one for whom Christ died.

¹⁶So do not allow your good to be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷For the kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸For the one who serves Christ in this way {is} acceptable to God and approved by men. ¹⁹So then, let us pursue the things of peace and the things that build up one another.

²⁰Do not destroy the work of God on account of food. All things {are} indeed clean, but {it is} evil for the man who eats through a stumbling block. ²¹{It is} good not to eat meat, nor to drink wine—nothing by which your brother stumbles or is caused to stumble or becomes weak. ²²The faith that you have, keep to yourself before God. Blessed {is} the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves. ²³But the one who doubts is condemned if he eats, because {it is} not from faith. And everything that {is} not from faith is sin.

Chapter 15

¹Now we who {are} strong ought to bear the weaknesses of the weak, and not to please ourselves. ²Let each of us please {his} neighbor for {his} good, for {his} building up. ³For even Christ did not please himself. Instead, just as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you fell on me." ⁴For whatever was previously written was written for our own instruction, in order that through patience and through encouragement of the scriptures we would have hope. ⁵Now may the God of patience and of encouragement grant you to think the same with each other according to Christ Jesus, ⁶so that with one mind you might glorify with one mouth the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Therefore, receive one another, just as Christ also received you, to the glory of God. ⁸For I say that Christ has been made a servant of the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God, to confirm the promises of the fathers, ⁹and for the Gentiles to glorify God for {his} mercy, just as it is written,

"For this reason, I will acknowledge you among the Gentiles
and sing praise to your name."

¹⁰And again it says,

"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles;
and let all the peoples praise him."

¹²And again, Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even the one who rises to rule over the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles will hope."

¹³Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, for you to abound in hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

¹⁴But I myself am also convinced about you, my brothers, that also you yourselves are full of goodness, having been filled with all knowledge, able to also exhort one another. ¹⁵But I wrote more boldly to you about some things as reminding you, through the grace having been given me by God, ¹⁶for me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, offering as a priest the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles might become acceptable, having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁷Therefore, in Christ Jesus I have reason to boast of things pertaining to God. ¹⁸For I will not dare to speak anything which Christ has not brought about through me for the obedience of the Gentiles—by word and deed, ¹⁹in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem, and round about as far as Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ; ²⁰but in this way, strongly desiring to proclaim the gospel, not where Christ has been named, in order that I might not build upon another man's foundation. ²¹But just as it is written:

"Those to whom was not reported concerning him will see him,
and those who have not heard will understand."

²²Therefore, I was also hindered many times from coming to you. ²³But now, no longer having any place in these regions, and having a longing for many years to come to you, ²⁴whenever I go to Spain, I indeed hope, passing through, to see you, and to be helped by you there, if I might first be satisfied for a while by you. ²⁵But now I am going to Jerusalem, ministering to the saints. ²⁶For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a certain contribution to the poor of the saints in Jerusalem. ²⁷Indeed, they were pleased, and they are their debtors. For if

the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they ought also to minister to them in material things.

²⁸Therefore, when I have completed this and have sealed this fruit to them, I will go through you to Spain. ²⁹But I know that coming to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

³⁰Now I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in {your} prayers to God for me, ³¹so that I might be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service in Jerusalem might be acceptable to the saints; ³²so that I might come to you in joy through the will of God, {and} might be refreshed together with you. ³³Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

Chapter 16

¹Now I commend to you Phoebe our sister, also being a servant of the church in Cenchrea, ²in order that you might receive her in the Lord, in a manner worthy of the saints, and stand by her in whatever matter she might have need of you. For she has also become a helper of many, and of myself as well.

³Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, ⁴who for my life laid down their own neck. To them not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles, ⁵and the church in their house. Greet Epänetus my beloved, who is the firstfruits of Asia to Christ. ⁶Greet Mary, who worked much for you. ⁷Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners who are prominent among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. ⁸Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. ⁹Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved. ¹⁰Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who {are} from the household of Aristobulus. ¹¹Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet those from the household of Narcissus, who are in the Lord. ¹²Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who work hard in the Lord. Greet Persis the beloved, who has worked much in the Lord. ¹³Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. ¹⁴Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers who {are} with them. ¹⁵Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who {are} with them. ¹⁶Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

¹⁷Now I urge you, brothers, to take note of those who are causing divisions and obstacles, contrary to the teaching that you have learned, and turn away from them. ¹⁸For ones such as these do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own stomach, and through {their} smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the innocent. ¹⁹For your obedience reaches to everyone. I rejoice, therefore, over you, but I want you to be wise as to the good, but innocent as to the evil. ²⁰Now the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

²¹Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen, greet you. ²²I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, greet you in the Lord. ²³Gaius, the host for me and for the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus the brother. ²⁴^[1] [The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.]

²⁵Now to the one who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, having been kept secret for long ages,

²⁶but now having been revealed through the prophetic writings, according to the command of the eternal God, to the obedience of faith, having been made known to all the nations,

²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom {be} the glory to eternity. Amen.

16:24 ^[1]

1 Corinthians

Chapter 1

¹Paul, called by Christ Jesus {to be} an apostle by the will of God, and Sosthenes the brother, ²to the church of God that is in Corinth, having been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called {to be} saints, with all those in every place who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, theirs and ours. ³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I always give thanks to my God for you because of the grace of God that was given to you in Christ Jesus. ⁵For in everything you were made rich in him, in all word and all knowledge, ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been confirmed among you, ⁷so that you do not lack in any gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will also confirm you to the end, blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God {is} faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

¹⁰Now I urge you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there might not be divisions among you, but that you might be joined together in the same mind and in the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been made clear to me concerning you, my brothers, by those of Chloe, that there are factions among you. ¹²Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank {God} that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one might say that you were baptized into my name. ¹⁶(Now I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know if I baptized any others.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to proclaim the gospel—not with wise speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be emptied.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and I will frustrate the understanding of the intelligent."

²⁰Where {is} the wise person? Where {is} the scholar? Where {is} the debater of this age? Has not God turned the wisdom of the world into foolishness? ²¹For since in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of the preaching. ²²For indeed, Jews ask for signs and Greeks seek wisdom. ²³But we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. ²⁴But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ {is} the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God {is} stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers, that not many {were} wise according to the flesh, not many {were} powerful, {and} not many {were} of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose the foolish things of the world in order that he might shame the wise, and God chose the weak things of the world in order that he might shame the strong, ²⁸and God chose the base things and the despised things of the world, {and} the things that are not, in order that he might bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹so that no flesh might boast before God. ³⁰But because of him, you are in Christ Jesus, who was made for us wisdom from God, righteousness, and also sanctification and redemption, ³¹so that, just as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Chapter 2

¹And I, brothers, having come to you, did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the mystery of God.^[1] ²For I decided not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴And my word and my proclamation {were} not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Now we speak wisdom among the mature, but not wisdom of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away. ⁷Instead, we speak the wisdom of God that has been hidden in a mystery that God predestined before the ages for our glory, ⁸which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had understood it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But just as it is written,

“What eye has not seen,

and ear has not heard,

and has not arisen in the heart of man,

these things God has prepared for those who love him.”

¹⁰For God has revealed them to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the deep things of God. ¹¹For who among men knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man that {is} within him? So also, no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²But we did not receive the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who {is} from God, so that we might know the things freely given to us by God. ¹³And we speak these things not in words taught by human wisdom but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual things with spiritual words.

¹⁴But the natural person does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he is not able to understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵But the spiritual one discerns all things, but he himself is discerned by no one.

¹⁶“For who has known the mind of the Lord—who will instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

2:1 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹And I, brothers, was not able to speak to you as to spiritual, but as to fleshly, as to infants in Christ. ²I gave you milk to drink, not solid food, for you were not yet able. Indeed, even now, you are not able. ³For you are still fleshly. For where there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly and walking according to men? ⁴For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not men? ⁵Who then is Apollos? And who is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave to each one. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused it to grow. ⁷So then, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God {is} the one who causes the growth. ⁸Now the one who plants and the one who waters are one, and each will receive his own wages according to his own labor. ⁹For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building.

¹⁰According to the grace of God that was given to me as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation, and another is building on it, but let each one be careful how he builds on it, ¹¹for no one is able to lay a foundation other than the one that has been laid, that is, Jesus Christ. ¹²Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, ¹³the work of each one will become evident, for the day will display it; for it is revealed in fire, and the fire itself will test of what sort is the work of each one. ¹⁴If anyone’s work that he built will remain,

he will receive a reward; ¹⁵if anyone's work will be burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, but as though through fire.

¹⁶Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and the Spirit of God lives in you? ¹⁷If anyone destroys the temple of God, God will destroy that person. For the temple of God is holy, which you are.

¹⁸Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks he is wise in this age, let him become a "fool," that he may become wise. ¹⁹For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written,

"He catches the wise in their craftiness."

²⁰And again,

"The Lord knows the reasonings of the wise, that they are futile."

²¹So then, let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²²whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come. All things are yours, ²³and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Chapter 4

¹In this manner let a man regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²In this case, it is required in stewards that one may be found faithful. ³But to me it is a very small thing that I would be examined by you or by a human court. For I do not examine myself. ⁴For I am aware of nothing against myself, but I am not justified by this; but the one who judges me is the Lord. ⁵Therefore, do not judge anything before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the purposes of the hearts. And then the praise from God will come to each one.

⁶Now, these things, brothers, I applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that through us you might learn this:

"Not beyond what is written,"

so that no one would be puffed up in favor of the one against the other. ⁷For who makes you superior? And what do you have that you did not receive? And if indeed you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

⁸Already you are satisfied! Already you have become rich! You began to reign apart from us, and I wish you really did reign, so that we also might reign with you. ⁹For I think God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as sentenced to death. For we have become a spectacle to the world—both to angels and to men. ¹⁰We {are} fools for Christ's sake, but you {are} wise in Christ. We {are} weak, but you {are} strong. You {are} honored, but we {are} dishonored.

¹¹Up to this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty and are poorly clothed and are brutally beaten and are homeless ¹²and are working hard, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; ¹³being slandered, we comfort. We have become as the scum of the world, the refuse of all things, even until now.

¹⁴I do not write these things as shaming you, but as my beloved children, I correct {you}. ¹⁵For if you would have myriads of guardians in Christ, yet {you would} not {have} many fathers; for I fathered you in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ¹⁶Therefore, I urge you, become imitators of me. ¹⁷For this reason I sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways that {are} in Christ Jesus, just as I teach everywhere in every church. ¹⁸Now some have been puffed up, as though I were not coming to you. ¹⁹But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not merely the word of these who have been puffed up, but their power. ²⁰For the kingdom of God {is} not in word but in power. ²¹What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod or with love and a spirit of gentleness?

Chapter 5

¹It is actually reported that {there is} sexual immorality among you, and such immorality which {is} not even among the Gentiles—that someone has his father’s wife. ²And you are puffed up, and you did not mourn instead, so that the one who did this deed might be removed from among you. ³For even I, being absent in body but being present in spirit, have already passed judgment on the one who did such a thing, as if being present. ⁴You and my spirit, having been assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, with the power of our Lord Jesus, ⁵hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. ⁶Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole loaf? ⁷Clean out the old yeast so that you may be new dough, just as you are unleavened bread. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has also been sacrificed. ⁸So then, we should celebrate the festival, not with old yeast, nor with yeast of evil and wickedness, but with unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

⁹I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— ¹⁰by no means the immoral people of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out from the world. ¹¹But now I wrote to you not to associate with anyone who is called a brother who is sexually immoral or greedy or an idolater or verbally abusive or a drunkard or a swindler. Do not even eat with such a person. ¹²For what to me to judge those outside? Do you not judge those inside? ¹³But God judges^[1] those outside.

“Remove the evil from among yourselves.”

5:13 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

Chapter 6

¹Do any of you dare, having a dispute with another, to go to court before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? ²Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy of the smallest cases? ³Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more, the matters of this life? ⁴So then, if you have legal disputes about things of this life, why do you appoint as judges those who are of no account in the church? ⁵I say this to your shame. {Is it} thus {that} there is not any wise man among you who will be able to discern between his brothers? ⁶But brother goes to court against brother, and this before unbelievers? ⁷This, therefore, is indeed already a complete defeat for you, since you have lawsuits among yourselves. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? ⁸But you do wrong and cheat, and this to your brothers! ⁹Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor those who practice homosexuality ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that {is what} some of you were. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

¹²“Everything is lawful for me,” but not everything is beneficial. “Everything is lawful for me,” but I will not be mastered by anything. ¹³“Food {is} for the stomach, and the stomach for food,” but God will do away with both this and those. Now the body {is} not for sexual immorality, but for the Lord and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴Now God indeed raised the Lord and will also raise up us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Therefore, having taken away the members of Christ, should I make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! ¹⁶Or do you not know that the one who is joined to the prostitute is one body? For it says, “The two will become as one flesh.” ¹⁷But the one who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality! Every sin that a man might commit is outside the body, but the one who is sexually immoral sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit in you, whom you have from God? And you are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body.^[1]

6:20 ^[1] But the best copies do not have this reading.

Chapter 7

¹Now concerning what you wrote: “{It is} good for a man not to touch a woman.” ²But because of immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. ³Let the husband give to the wife the duty and likewise the wife also to the husband. ⁴The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband {does}. And likewise, the husband also does not have authority over his own body, but the wife {does}. ⁵Do not deprive each other, except by mutual agreement for a season, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and then be together again, so that Satan might not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

⁶But I say these things as a concession, not as a command. ⁷But I wish for all men to be even as myself. But each one has his own gift from God, one indeed this way, and another that way. ⁸Now to the unmarried and to the widows I say that {it is} good if they remain as I also am. ⁹But if they do not have self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn. ¹⁰Now to the married I command—not I, but the Lord—a wife is not to be separated from her husband ¹¹(but even if she might be separated, let her remain unmarried, or let her be reconciled to the husband), and a husband is not to divorce a wife. ¹²But to the rest I say—I, not the Lord—if any brother has an unbelieving wife, and she agrees to live with him, let him not divorce her. ¹³And if any woman has an unbelieving husband, and he agrees to live with her, let her not divorce the husband. ¹⁴For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through the brother. Otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy. ¹⁵But if the unbeliever departs, let him go. In such cases, the brother or the sister is not bound, but God has called us to peace. ¹⁶For how do you know, woman, whether you will save the husband? Or how do you know, man, whether you will save the wife? ¹⁷However, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each one, thus let him walk. And in this way I direct in all the churches. ¹⁸Was anyone called, having been circumcised? Let him not be uncircumcised. Was anyone called in uncircumcision? Let him not be circumcised. ¹⁹Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God matters. ²⁰Each one, in the calling in which he was called, let him remain in that. ²¹Were you called as a slave? Let it not be a concern to you. But if indeed you are able to become free, then take advantage of it. ²²For the one who was called in the Lord as a slave is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise, the one who was called while free is a slave of Christ. ²³You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men. ²⁴Brothers, each one in that which he was called, let him remain with God in that.

²⁵Now concerning the virgins, I do not have a command of the Lord. However, I give an opinion as having received mercy from the Lord to be trustworthy. ²⁶Therefore, I think this is good, because of the coming distress, that {it is} good for a man to remain as he is. ²⁷Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. Are you released from a wife? Do not seek a wife. ²⁸But if indeed you would marry, you have not sinned; and if the virgin would marry, she has not sinned. But those of such kind will have distress in the flesh, and I want to spare you from this. ²⁹But this I say, brothers: The time is shortened, so that from now on, even those who have wives should be as those having none; ³⁰and those who weep, as not weeping; and those who rejoice, as not rejoicing; and those who buy, as not possessing; ³¹and those using the world, as not using it; for the present form of this world is passing away. ³²But I would like you to be free from concern. The unmarried man is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he might please the Lord. ³³But the married man is concerned about the things of the world, how to please the wife, and he is divided. And the unmarried woman or the virgin ³⁴is concerned about the things of the Lord, so that she might be holy both in the body and in the spirit. But the one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she might please the husband. ³⁵Now I say this for your own benefit, not in order to put any constraint on you, but toward what {is} appropriate and devoted to the Lord without any distraction. ³⁶But if anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward his virgin—if she is beyond the age of marriage and it must be so—he should do what he wants. He is not sinning; let them marry. ³⁷But the one who stands firm in his heart, not under compulsion, but having authority over his own will, and he has decided this in his own heart—to keep his own virgin—he will do well. ³⁸So then, the one who marries his own virgin does well, and the one who does not marry will do even better.

³⁹A wife is bound for as long as her husband lives. But if the husband dies, she is free to marry whomever she wishes, but only in the Lord. ⁴⁰Yet according to my judgment she would be happier if she would remain as she is. And I think that I also have the Spirit of God.

Chapter 8

¹Now about the things sacrificed to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²If anyone thinks he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But if anyone loves God, that one is known by him. ⁴So then, about the eating of the things sacrificed to idols: We know that an idol in the world {is} nothing and that {there is} no God except one. ⁵For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth, just as there are many "gods" and many "lords," ⁶yet for us {there is} one God the Father, from whom {are} all things and for whom we {are}, and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom all things {are}, and through whom we {are}.

⁷However, this knowledge {is} not in everyone. Instead, some, {being} in the custom of the idols until now, eat things sacrificed to idols, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸But food will not bring us near to God; neither are we made to lack if we do not eat, nor do we abound if we eat. ⁹But take care lest this authority of yours might become a stumbling-block for the weak. ¹⁰For if someone might see the one who has knowledge reclining to eat in an idol's temple, will his conscience, being weak, not be built up so as to eat the things sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So the one who is weak, the brother for whom Christ died, is destroyed through your knowledge. ¹²And thus sinning against your brothers and wounding their weak consciences, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will certainly not ever eat meat, so that I might not cause my brother to stumble.

Chapter 9

¹Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? ²If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you. For you are the proof of my apostleship in the Lord. ³My defense to those who examine me is this: ⁴Do we certainly not have the right to eat and to drink? ⁵Do we certainly not have the right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶Or do only Barnabas and I not have the right not to work? ⁷Who serves as a soldier at any time at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat its fruit? Or who shepherds a flock and does not drink from the milk of the flock? ⁸Am I not saying these things according to men, or does not the law also say this? ⁹For it is written in the law of Moses, "Do not muzzle an ox treading out grain." God does not care about the oxen, does he? ¹⁰Or is he speaking entirely for our sake? For it was written for our sake, the one who plows ought to plow in hope, and the one who threshes, in hope of sharing the harvest. ¹¹If we sowed spiritual things among you, {is it} too much if we will reap material things from you? ¹²If others shared the right over you, {do} we not even more? But we did not take advantage of this right. Instead we endured everything in order that we might not give any hindrance to the gospel of Christ. ¹³Do you not know that those working in the temple eat from the things of the temple; those serving at the altar partake from the altar? ¹⁴In the same way also, the Lord commanded those proclaiming the gospel to live from the gospel. ¹⁵But I have not taken advantage of {any} of these things. Now I do not write these things so that thus it might be done for me, for {it would be} better for me to die rather than {anyone} will make my boast empty. ¹⁶For if I proclaim the gospel, there is nothing for me to boast, because compulsion is placed upon me. For woe be to me if I would not preach the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this willingly, I have a reward. But if unwillingly, I have been entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸What then is my reward? That proclaiming the gospel without charge, I might offer the gospel so as not to take advantage of my right in the gospel. ¹⁹For being free from all, I enslaved myself to all in order that I might gain even more things. ²⁰And to the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law, as under the law, not being under the law myself in order to win those under the law.^[1] ²¹To those without the law, {I became} as without the law (not being without the law of God, but under the law of Christ) so that I might win those without the law. ²²To the weak I became weak so that I might win

the weak. I have become all things to everyone so that I might by all means save some. ²³But I do all things for the sake of the gospel so that I might become a partaker of it. ²⁴Do you not know that in a race all those who are running run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you might obtain it. ²⁵But everyone competing in the games exercises self-control in all things. They therefore {do it} in order that they might receive a perishable wreath, but we, an imperishable one. ²⁶Therefore, I run thus, not as without purpose; I fight thus, not as boxing the air. ²⁷But I subdue my body and enslave it, lest having preached to others, I myself might be disqualified.

9:20 ^[1] Some older versions leave this passage out.

Chapter 10

¹For I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, ²and they all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and they all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and they all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock following them, and that rock was Christ. ⁵But God was not well pleased with most of them, for they were scattered about in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things became examples for us so that we would not be ones who desire evil things, just as they also desired. ⁷Do not become idolaters, just as some of them {were}; even as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and to drink and rose up to play." ⁸Nor should we commit sexual immorality, just as many of them committed sexual immorality, and 23,000 people fell in one day. ⁹Nor should we put Christ to the test, just as many of them put him to the test and were destroyed by the snakes. ¹⁰Do not grumble, even as many of them grumbled and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as examples, but they were written for our admonition, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore, the one who thinks he stands, let him be careful that he might not fall. ¹³No temptation has seized you except what is common to humanity; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation, he will also provide the way of escape, so that you will be able to endure it.

¹⁴Therefore, my beloved ones, flee from idolatry. ¹⁵I speak as to sensible people. Judge for yourselves what I say.

¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing of the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because {there is} one bread, we who are many {are} one body; for we all partake from the one bread. ¹⁸Look at Israel according to the flesh; are not those who are eating the sacrifices partakers of the altar? ¹⁹What am I saying then: that food sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? ²⁰Rather, that what the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. But I do not want you to be sharers with the demons! ²¹You are not able to drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You are not able to partake of the table of the Lord and of the table of demons. ²²Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? We are not stronger than him, are we?

²³"All things {are} lawful," but not all things {are} beneficial. "All things {are} lawful," but not all things build up. ²⁴Let no one seek his own good, but that of the other person. ²⁵Eat everything that is sold in the market without asking for the sake of the conscience. ²⁶For "the earth {is} the Lord's, and the fullness of it." ²⁷If any of the unbelievers invite you, and you want to go, eat everything that is set before you without asking questions for the sake of the conscience. ²⁸But if someone says to you, "This is offered in sacrifice," do not eat it, for the sake of that one who informed you, and conscience—^[1] ²⁹now I say the conscience, not that of your own, but that of the other person. For why {is} my freedom judged by another's conscience? ³⁰If I partake with gratitude, why am I insulted for that which I give thanks? ³¹Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. ³²Give no offense either to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, ³³just as I also please all people in all things, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, so that they might be saved.

10:28 ^[1] But the best manuscripts do not have this.

Chapter 11

¹Be imitators of me, just as I also {am} of Christ.

²Now I praise you, because you remember me in all things and you hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you. ³Now I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man {is} the head of a woman, and God {is} the head of Christ. ⁴Every man who is praying or prophesying, having something on his head, dishonors his head. ⁵But every woman who is praying or prophesying with the head uncovered dishonors her head. For it is one and the same thing as having been shaved. ⁶For if a woman does not cover her head, let her hair also be cut off. But if {it is} disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or to be shaved, let her cover her head. ⁷For a man ought not to cover his head, being the image and glory of God. But the woman is the glory of man. ⁸For man is not from woman, but woman {is} from man. ⁹For indeed man was not created for the woman, but woman for the man. ¹⁰For this reason the woman ought to have authority on the head, because of the angels. ¹¹Nevertheless, in the Lord, woman {is} not independent from man, nor {is} man independent from woman. ¹²For even as the woman {is} from the man, so also the man {is} through the woman, but all things {are} from God. ¹³Judge for your own selves: Is it proper for a woman to pray to God uncovered? ¹⁴Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man might have long hair, it is a disgrace for him, ¹⁵but if a woman might have long hair, it is glory for her? For the long hair has been given to her as a covering. ¹⁶But if anyone thinks to be contentious about this, we do not have any other practice, nor the churches of God.

¹⁷But in commanding this, I do not praise you, for you come together not for the better but for the worse. ¹⁸For first, I hear that when you come together in the church, there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. ¹⁹For it is necessary indeed for there to be factions among you, so that also those who are approved may become evident among you. ²⁰So then, when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. ²¹For when eating, each one takes his own supper first; and one is indeed hungry, but one is drunk. ²²For do you certainly not have houses in which to eat and to drink? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I praise you for this? I do not praise you! ²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and having given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way also the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he would come. ²⁷Whoever, therefore, might eat the bread or might drink the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. ²⁸But let a man examine himself, and in this way let him eat from the bread, and let him drink from the cup. ²⁹For the one who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment to himself. ³⁰For this reason many among you {are} weak and sick, and many of you are fallen asleep. ³¹But if we were examining ourselves, we would not be judged. ³²But being judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we might not be condemned along with the world. ³³Therefore, my brothers, coming together to eat, wait for one another. ³⁴If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that you might not come together for judgment. Now {about} the remaining things, I will give directions when I come.

Chapter 12

¹Now about the spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to mute idols, in whatever ways you were led. ³Therefore, I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus {is} accursed," and no one is able to say, "Jesus {is} Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵And there are varieties of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶And there are varieties of workings, but the same God who works all things in everyone. ⁷Now to each one is given the outward display of the Spirit for the collective benefit. ⁸For to one is given by the Spirit a word of wisdom, and to

another, a word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; ⁹to another, faith by the same Spirit; and to another, gifts of healing by that one Spirit; ¹⁰and to another, workings of power; to another, prophecy; to another, discernments of spirits; to another, kinds of tongues; and to another, the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹But the one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing them to each one individually just as he desires.

¹²For even as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of the body, being many, are one body; so also {is} Christ. ¹³For indeed by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether bound or free, and all were made to drink one Spirit. ¹⁴For indeed the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Since I am not a hand, I am not of the body," not for this it is not of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," not for this it is not of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body {were} an eye, where {would} the hearing {be}? If the whole {were} an ear, where {would} the sense of smell {be}? ¹⁸But now God appointed the members, each one of them, in the body just as he desired. ¹⁹But if they were all one member, where {would} the body {be}? ²⁰But now there are many members, but one body. ²¹Now the eye is not able to say to the hand, "I do not have need of you," or again, the head to the feet, "I do not have need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body appearing to be weaker are much more essential; ²³and those of the body which we think to be less honorable, we bestow them greater honor; and our unrepresentable members have more dignity; ²⁴but our presentable members do not have need. But God has combined the body together, giving more honor to what is lacking it ²⁵so that there may be no division within the body, but that the members should care for one another the same. ²⁶And if one member suffers, all the members suffer together; if a member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has indeed appointed some in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, administration, {and} various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Not all {are} apostles, {are they}? Not all {are} prophets, {are they}? Not all {are} teachers, {are they}? Not all {do} miracles, {do they}? ³⁰Not all have gifts of healing, do they? Not all speak in tongues, do they? Not all interpret, do they? ³¹But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And now, I show you a more excellent way.

Chapter 13

¹If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but I do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but I do not have love, I am nothing. ³And if I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I might boast, but I do not have love, I gain nothing.^[1] ⁴Love is patient {and} is kind; love does not envy; love does not boast; it is not arrogant. ⁵It is not rude; it does not seek its own; it is not easily angered; it does not keep a count of wrongs. ⁶It does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never fails. But if {there are} prophecies, they will pass away; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰But when the perfect comes, that which {is} partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put away childish things. ¹²For now we see unclearly in a mirror, but then, face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I also have been fully known. ¹³But now these three remain: faith, hope, {and} love. But the greatest of these {is} love.

13:3 ^[1] Some other versions read

Chapter 14

¹Pursue love, but be zealous for spiritual gifts, but especially that you might prophesy. ²For the one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but he speaks mysteries in spirit. ³But the one who prophesies speaks to men for building up and encouragement and consolation. ⁴The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church. ⁵Now I desire you all to speak in

tongues, but even more, that you might prophesy. Now the one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues (unless he would interpret, so that the church might receive edification). ⁶But now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I benefit you unless I speak to you either in revelation or in knowledge or in prophecy or teaching? ⁷Even lifeless things giving sounds—whether flute or harp—if they would not give different sounds, how will the thing being played on the flute or the thing being played on the harp be known? ⁸For indeed, if a trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle? ⁹In the same way also you, unless you give intelligible speech with your tongue, how will the thing being spoken be understood? For you will be speaking into the air. ¹⁰There are doubtless so many kinds of languages in the world, and none {is} without meaning. ¹¹If then I would not know the meaning of the language, I will be a foreigner to the one speaking, and the one speaking {will be} a foreigner to me. ¹²So also you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts for the building up of the church, seek that you would abound in them. ¹³So let the one speaking in a tongue pray that he might interpret. ¹⁴If I would pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. ¹⁵What then is it? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind. I will sing with my spirit, and I will also sing with my mind. ¹⁶Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the “Amen” at your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? ¹⁷For you certainly give thanks well, but the other person is not built up. ¹⁸I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you; ¹⁹but in the church I prefer to speak five words with my mind so that I might also instruct others, than myriads words in a tongue.

²⁰Brothers, do not become children in {your} thinking. Rather, be childlike in evil, but become mature in the thoughts. ²¹In the law it is written,

“By people of other tongues and by the lips of strangers

I will speak to this people,

but not even in this way will they hear me,”

says the Lord. ²²So then, tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe, but to the unbelievers; but prophesy {is} not to the unbelievers, but to those who believe. ²³If, therefore, the whole church might come together to the same place and they would all speak in tongues, but ungifted or unbelievers would come in, will they not say that you are insane? ²⁴But if you all would prophesy, but some unbeliever or ungifted person might come in, he is convicted by all, he is examined by all, ²⁵the secrets of his heart become visible, and so, having fallen on {his} face, he will worship God, declaring, “God is really among you.”

²⁶What then is to be, brothers? When you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, or has an interpretation. Let all things happen for edification. ²⁷If anyone speaks in a tongue, {it should be} by two or at most three, and in turn, and one must interpret. ²⁸But if there is not an interpreter, let him be silent in the church. Instead, let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹But let two or three prophets speak, and let the others evaluate. ³⁰But if something is revealed to another who is sitting there, let the first be silent. ³¹For all are able to prophesy one by one so that all may learn, and all may be encouraged. ³²Indeed, the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. ³³For God is not of confusion, but of peace.

As in all the churches of the saints, ³⁴let the women be silent in the churches. For it is not permitted for them to speak, but to be in submission, just as also the law says. ³⁵But if they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home, for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in church. ³⁶Or did the word of God go out from you? Or did it come only to you?

³⁷If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that what I write to you is a command of the Lord. ³⁸But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant.^[1]

³⁹So then, brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues. ⁴⁰But let all things be done properly and in order.

14:38 ^[1] Some older versions have

Chapter 15

¹Now I make known to you, brothers, the gospel that I proclaimed to you, which also you received, on which also you stand, ²by which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the word I proclaimed to you, unless you believed in vain. ³For I delivered to you among the first what I also received—that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he was seen by Cephas, then by the Twelve. ⁶Then he was seen by more than 500 brothers at once, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he was seen by James, then by all the apostles. ⁸Now last of all, he was seen by me also, as if to a child born at the wrong time. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace that {was} in me was not in vain. Instead, I labored harder than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me. ¹¹Therefore, whether I or they, in this way we preach, and in this way you believed.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed that he was raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁴but if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching {is} in vain, and your faith {is} in vain. ¹⁵But also, we are found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified concerning God that he raised Christ, whom he has not raised, if then the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁷but if Christ has not been raised, your faith {is} in vain; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If only in this life we have hope in Christ, of all people we are most pitiful.

²⁰But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death {is} by a man, by a man also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For even as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; then at his coming, those of Christ. ²⁴Then {will be} the end, when he hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when he has abolished all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all the enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be abolished: death. ²⁷For “he has put everything under his feet.” But when it says, “he has put everything,” {it is} clear that the one who put everything in subjection to him {is} excepted. ²⁸Now when all things have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected all things to him, so that God might be all in all.

²⁹Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them? ³⁰Why also are we in danger every hour? ³¹I die every day, by the boasting in you, brothers, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord. ³²What {is} the profit to me, according to men, if I fought wild beasts at Ephesus? if the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.” ³⁴Be sober, as is right! And do not keep sinning. For some of you have no knowledge of God—I say this to your shame.

³⁵But someone will say, “How are the dead raised, and with what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶You foolish one! What you sow is not caused to live unless it dies. ³⁷And what you sow, you do not sow the body that will be, but a bare seed—perhaps wheat or something else. ³⁸But God gives it a body just as he desires, and to each of the seeds, its own body. ³⁹Not all flesh {is} the same. Instead, {there is} one flesh of men, and another flesh of animals, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish. ⁴⁰{There are} also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies. But the glory of the heavenly {is} one, and that of the earthly {is} another. ⁴¹{There is} one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars. For star differs from star in glory. ⁴²So also {is} the resurrection of the dead. What is sown in decay is raised in immortality. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵So also it is written, “The first man Adam became a living soul.” The last Adam {is} a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But the spiritual {is} not first, but the natural, then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man {is} of the earth,

made of dust. The second man {is} from heaven. ⁴⁸As the earthly, so also {are} those of the earth; and as the heavenly, so also {are} those of heaven. ⁴⁹And just as we have borne the image of the earthly, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

⁵⁰Now this I say, brothers, that flesh and blood are not able to inherit the kingdom of God. Neither does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹Behold! I tell you a mystery: We will not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵²in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For a trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For it is necessary for this perishable to put on incorruptibility, and this mortal to put on immortality. ⁵⁴But when this perishable has put on incorruptibility, and this mortal has put on immortality, then will come about the word that is written,

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“O death, where {is} your victory?

O death, where {is} your sting?”

⁵⁶But the sting of death {is} sin, and the power of sin {is} the law. ⁵⁷But thanks {be} to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! ⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brothers, become steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Chapter 16

¹Now concerning the collection that {is} for the saints, even as I directed the churches of Galatia, so also you must do. ²Every first of the week, let each of you put something aside, storing up from whatever he might have prospered, so that when I come, there will not be collections then. ³Now when I arrive, whomever you might approve, I will send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem. ⁴But if it is appropriate for me to go also, they will go with me. ⁵But I will come to you after I have passed through Macedonia, for I am going through Macedonia. ⁶But perhaps I will stay with you, or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my way wherever might I go. ⁷For I do not desire to see you now only in passing; for I hope to remain with you for some time, if the Lord would permit. ⁸But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹for a wide and effective door has opened for me, and many are opposing me.

¹⁰Now if Timothy would come, see that he would be unafraid with you, for he is doing the work of the Lord, as I {am.} ¹¹Therefore, let no one despise him. But help him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me, for I am expecting him with the brothers. ¹²Now concerning the brother Apollos, I strongly encouraged him that he would come to you with the brothers, but it was not at all {his} will that he would come now. However, he will come when he might have the opportunity.

¹³Stay alert; stand firm in the faith; act like men; be strong. ¹⁴Let all your things happen in love.

¹⁵Now I urge you, brothers (you know the household of Stephanas, that they are the firstfruits of Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints), ¹⁶that you also would be subject to those such as these and to everyone who is joining together in the work and laboring. ¹⁷Now I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what was lacking from you; ¹⁸for they refreshed my spirit and yours. So then, recognize those like these.

¹⁹The churches of Asia send greetings to you. Aquila and Priscilla enthusiastically greet you in the Lord, with the church in their home. ²⁰All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

²¹This greeting {is} in my own hand—Paul. ²²If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. Maranatha!

²³The grace of the Lord Jesus {be} with you. ²⁴My love {be} with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.^[1]

16:24 ^[1]

2 Corinthians

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy {our} brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, and to all the saints who are in all of Achaia. ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed {be} the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, ⁴the one who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we are able to comfort those {who are} in every kind of affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ abound toward us, in the same way also our comfort abounds through Christ. ⁶But if we are afflicted, {it is} for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, {it is} for your comfort, that is working in the patient endurance of the same sufferings that we also suffer. ⁷And our hope concerning you {is} firm, knowing that as you are partakers of the sufferings, in the same way also of the comfort. ⁸For we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the troubles that happened to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond {our} strength, so that we despaired even of life. ⁹Indeed, we have the sentence of death on us so that we would not be trusting in ourselves, but in God, who raises the dead, ¹⁰who rescued us from so great a deadly peril, and he will rescue us—on whom we have set our hope that he also will continue to deliver us, ¹¹you also joining together in prayer on our behalf—so that thanks may be given through many on our behalf for the gracious favor to us by many faces.

¹²For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience, that we have conducted ourselves in the world in holiness and sincerity of God, and not in fleshly wisdom, but in the grace of God, and all the more toward you.

¹³For we write no other things to you but that which you read or also understand. But now I hope that you will understand completely— ¹⁴just as you also have understood us in part—so that we are your boasting on the day of our Lord Jesus, just as you also {will be} ours.

¹⁵And with this confidence, I intended to come to you before so that you might have a second blessing, ¹⁶and to pass through you into Macedonia and to come to you again from Macedonia and to be sent on my way to Judea by you. ¹⁷Therefore, when I was planning this, I did not then take it lightly, did I? Or {was} what I planned according to fleshly planning, so that there would be with me “Yes, yes” and “No, no”? ¹⁸But God {is} faithful, so that our word to you is not “Yes” and “No.” ¹⁹For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, the one who was proclaimed among you by us—by me and Silvanus and Timothy—was not “Yes” and “No,” but it has become “Yes” in him. ²⁰For all the promises of God {are} “Yes” in him. So also through him the “Amen” {is} through us to God for {his} glory. ²¹Now God {is} the one who establishes us with you in Christ, and he anointed us, ²²the one who also sealed us and gave us the pledge of the Spirit in our hearts.

²³Now I call God as a witness to my soul that sparing you—I have not yet come to Corinth. ²⁴Not that we are ruling over your faith, but we are fellow workers for your joy, for you stand firm in the faith.

Chapter 2

¹For I decided this for myself, that I not would come to you again in sorrow. ²For if I cause you sorrow, then who {is} the one who cheers me up, except the one who was hurt by me? ³And I wrote this same thing so that, having come, I might not have sorrow from those over whom I should rejoice, having confidence in all of you that my joy is {the joy} of all of you. ⁴For I wrote to you from great affliction and anguish of heart, through many tears, not so that you would be grieved, but so that you might know the love that I have all the more for you.

⁵But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved {only} me, but in some measure—in order not to put it too harshly—all of you. ⁶This punishment on such a one—which {is} by the majority—{is} enough, ⁷so that, on the contrary, you should rather forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸So I encourage you to affirm {your} love for him. ⁹Indeed, I also wrote for this reason: so that I might know your proof, whether you are obedient in everything. ¹⁰Now to whomever you forgive anything, I also {forgive}—for indeed the one whom I have forgiven (if I have forgiven anything), {is} for your sake in the presence of Christ, ¹¹so that we would not be taken advantage of by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

¹²Now having come to Troas, indeed a door for the gospel of Christ was opened to me in the Lord. ¹³I had no relief in my spirit, as I did not find my brother Titus there. So having left them, I went on to Macedonia.

¹⁴But thanks {be} to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ and makes known through us the aroma of the knowledge of him in every place. ¹⁵For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing— ¹⁶to one indeed, an aroma from death to death, but to the other, an aroma from life to life. And in regard to these things, who {is} worthy? ¹⁷For we are not like the many who are selling the word of God for profit, but instead, as from sincerity—even as from God—we speak before God in Christ.

Chapter 3

¹Are we beginning to praise ourselves again? Or we do not need, like some, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we? ²You yourselves are our letter written in our hearts, known and read by all men, ³revealing that you are a letter of Christ cared for by us, not written with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of hearts of flesh. ⁴Now we have such confidence through Christ toward God. ⁵Not that we are competent from ourselves to consider anything as from ourselves. Instead, our competence {is} from God, ⁶who indeed made us competent as ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. ⁷Now if the ministry of death—engraved in letters on stones—came in such glory that the sons of Israel were not able to look directly at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, which was fading, ⁸how will the ministry of the Spirit not be with much more glory? ⁹For if the ministry of condemnation {was} glory, the ministry of righteousness abounds much more in glory! ¹⁰For indeed, that which was glorious is not glorious in this respect, because of the glory that exceeds it. ¹¹For if that which is fading away {was} with glory, much more {is} that which remains with glory!

¹²Therefore, having such a hope, we act with much boldness, ¹³and not like Moses putting a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel would not look directly at the end of that which was fading away. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened, for until the present day, the same veil remains at the reading of the old covenant, not being lifted, because in Christ is it fading away. ¹⁵But until today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart, ¹⁶but whenever one might turn to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord {is}, {there is} freedom. ¹⁸Now we all, with unveiled face, seeing as a reflection the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Chapter 4

¹Therefore, having this ministry, just as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. ²Instead, we have rejected the shameful hidden things, not walking in craftiness, nor distorting the word of God, but by the presentation of the truth, commending ourselves to every man's conscience before God. ³But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴in whom the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, so that they do not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves, but Christ Jesus {as} Lord, and ourselves {as} your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," {is} the one who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in jars of clay, so that the surpassing power might be from God and not from us; ⁸in every way being afflicted, but not being overwhelmed; being perplexed, but not despairing; ⁹being persecuted, but not being forsaken; being struck down, but not perishing; ¹⁰always carrying in {our} body the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus also may be shown in our body; ¹¹for we who are alive are always being handed over to death for the sake of Jesus so that also the life of Jesus may be shown in our mortal flesh. ¹²So then, death is at work in us, but life in you. ¹³But having the same spirit of faith according to that which was written: "I believed; therefore I spoke," we also believe; therefore we also speak, ¹⁴knowing that the one who raised Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you. ¹⁵For all these things {are} for your sake, so that the grace, having abounded to more and more, may cause thanksgiving to increase to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not become discouraged. Rather, even if our outer man is wasting away, yet our inner {man} is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our momentary, light affliction is producing in us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison. ¹⁸We are not watching the things that are seen, but the things that are not seen. For the things that are seen {are} temporary, but the things that are not seen {are} eternal.

Chapter 5

¹For we know that if our earthly dwelling—this tent—would be destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in the heavens, not made by human hands. ²For indeed, in this we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling that {is} from heaven, ³and if indeed we have put it on, we will not be found naked. ⁴For indeed, we who are in this tent groan, being burdened because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, so that the mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now the one who prepared us for this very thing {is} God, who gave us the Spirit {as} the down payment. ⁶Therefore, always being confident and knowing that being at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord— ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Now we are confident and would prefer rather to be absent from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹And therefore we strive, whether being at home or being away, to be pleasing to him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ so that each one may receive back the things {done} in the body, according to what he did, whether good or evil.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men. But we are clearly known by God, and I hope also to be clearly known in your consciences. ¹²We are not again commending ourselves to you but are giving you an opportunity to boast on our behalf, so that you may have {an answer} for those who boast about the face and not about the heart. ¹³For if we are out of our minds, {it is} for God; if we are in our right minds, {it is} for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ compels us, having concluded this: that one died for all; therefore, all died. ¹⁵And he died for all so that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for the one who died for them and was raised.

¹⁶Therefore, from now on we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we regarded Christ according to the flesh, yet now we no longer regard him {that way}. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone {is} in Christ, {he is} a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new. ¹⁸Now all these things {are} from God, the one who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹just as God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them and having committed to us the word of reconciliation.

²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as God is appealing through us: We plead with you on behalf of Christ: "Be reconciled to God!" ²¹The one who did not know sin he made sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

Chapter 6

¹Now working together with him, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain— ²for he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you,

and in a day of salvation I helped you.”

Behold, now {is} the favorable time. Look, now {is} the day of salvation—³placing no stumbling block in anything, so that {our} ministry might not be discredited, ⁴instead, we commend ourselves in everything as God’s servants; in great endurance, in affliction, in distress, in hardship, ⁵in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in hard work, in sleeplessness, in hunger, ⁶in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in genuine love, ⁷in the word of truth, in the power of God; through the weapons of righteousness {for} the right hand and the left, ⁸through honor and dishonor, through bad report and good report; as imposters, yet true; ⁹as being unknown, yet well known; as dying yet—behold!—living; as being disciplined, yet not being killed; ¹⁰as being sorrowful, but always rejoicing; as poor, but making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing all things.

¹¹Our mouth has been opened to you, Corinthians; our heart has been opened wide. ¹²You are not restrained by us, but you are restrained in your inner parts; ¹³and in similar exchange—I speak as to children—open yourselves wide also. ¹⁴Do not be yoked together with unbelievers, for what partnership {does} righteousness and lawlessness {have}? Or what fellowship {does} light {have} with darkness? ¹⁵And what agreement {does} Christ {have} with Beliar? Or what share {does} a believer {have} with an unbeliever? ¹⁶And what agreement {does} the temple of God {have} with idols? For we are the temple of the living God, just as God said:

“I will dwell among them, and walk among them;

and I will be their God,

and they will be my people.”

¹⁷Therefore,

“Come out from among them,

and be separate,” says the Lord,

“and touch no unclean thing,”

“and I will receive you.”

¹⁸“And I will be to you as a Father,

and you will be to me as sons and daughters,”

says the Lord Almighty.

Chapter 7

¹Therefore, beloved, having these promises, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

²Make room for us! We have wronged no one; we have harmed no one; we have exploited no one. ³I do not speak for {your} condemnation; for I have already said that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together.

⁴Great {is} my confidence in you; great {is} my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with encouragement. I overflow with joy in all our afflictions.

⁵For even when we had come to Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled in every way—conflicts without, fears within. ⁶But God, the one who comforts the humble, comforted us by the arrival of Titus, ⁷and not only by his arrival, but also by the comfort with which he had been comforted by you, reporting to us your longing, your mourning, {and} your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more. ⁸For even if I grieved you in the letter, I do not regret it (even though I did regret it, seeing that that letter grieved you, if only for an hour). ⁹Now I rejoice, not that

you were grieved, but that you were grieved to the point of repentance. For you were grieved with respect to God, so that you would not suffer loss in anything through us. ¹⁰For the sorrow with respect to God works repentance towards salvation without regret. But the sorrow of the world produces death. ¹¹For behold how much earnestness this very same thing has produced in you, this sorrow with respect to God: what eagerness to defend yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, {and} what avenging of wrong! In everything you have proved yourselves to be pure in this matter. ¹²So even though I wrote to you, {it was} not for the sake of the one who did wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but so that your earnestness which {is} on our behalf might be revealed to you before God. ¹³For this reason we are encouraged.

Now in addition to our own comfort, we rejoiced even more at the joy of Titus, because his spirit had been refreshed by all of you. ¹⁴For if I had boasted anything to him about you, I was not ashamed, but as we have spoken everything to you in truth, in the same way also our boasting became the truth to Titus. ¹⁵And his affections towards you are even greater, remembering the obedience of all of you, how you received him with fear and trembling. ¹⁶I rejoice that in everything I am confident in you.

Chapter 8

¹Now we make known to you, brothers, the grace of God that has been given in the churches of Macedonia, ²that during a great trial of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty overflowed into the riches of their generosity. ³For I testify that {they gave} according to {their} ability, and beyond {their} ability, voluntarily, ⁴with much urging, they pleaded with us for the blessing and the fellowship of this ministry that {is} to the saints. ⁵And not as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and then to us, by the will of God. ⁶So we urged Titus that, just as he had begun, in the same way he would also complete among you this act of grace as well. ⁷But even as you abound in everything—in faith and in speech and in knowledge and in all diligence and in our love from you,^[1] so also you should abound in this act of grace. ⁸I say this not according to a command but also testing the sincerity of your love through the diligence of others. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that he became poor for your sake, {though} being rich, so that {through} his poverty you might become rich. ¹⁰And I give {my} opinion in this, for this is profitable for you who not only began to do this a year ago, but also desired to do it. ¹¹But now also finish doing it, so that just as {there was} the readiness of the desire, so also there may be the completion, from that which you have. ¹²For if the readiness is present, {it is} acceptable according to whatever one might have, not according to what he does not have. ¹³For {this is} not for the ease of others {and} your affliction, but for equality. ¹⁴At the present time, your abundance {is} for their need, so that also their abundance may be for your need, so that there may be equality, ¹⁵just as it is written:

“The one with much did not have too much,
and the one with little did not have too little.”

¹⁶But thanks {be} to God, the one who put the same earnestness on your behalf into the heart of Titus. ¹⁷For he not only accepted {our} appeal, but being very earnest, he has gone to you of his own accord. ¹⁸Now we have sent with him the brother who {is} praised among all of the churches in the gospel. ¹⁹And not only {this}, but he also was chosen by the churches as our traveling companion, along with this act of grace which is being administered by us to the glory of the Lord, and {to show} our readiness. ²⁰We took this precaution, {so that} no one might blame us concerning the administration by us of this generous gift. ²¹For we considered beforehand {what is} good, not only before the Lord, but also before men. ²²Now we sent our brother with them, whom we have tested in many ways {and} often being eager. But now he is even more eager because of {his} great confidence that {is} in you. ²³As for Titus, {he is} my partner and fellow worker for you. As {for} our brothers, {they are} messengers of the churches, a glory of Christ. ²⁴Therefore, prove to them to the faces of the churches the proof of your love and of our boasting about you.

8:7 ^[1] Some other versions read

Chapter 9

¹For concerning the ministry that {is} to the saints, it is unnecessary for me to write to you. ²For I know your readiness, of which I boasted to the Macedonians concerning you, that Achaia has been ready since last year, and your zeal has stirred up most of them. ³But I have sent the brothers so that our boasting which {is} about you might not be futile in this matter, so that you might be ready, as I was saying. ⁴Otherwise, if Macedonians might come with me and might find you unprepared, we would be ashamed—in order not to speak of you—in this confidence. ⁵So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers that they would go to you beforehand and prepare in advance this promised gift of yours, to be ready in this way as a blessing and not as something forced.

⁶Now this {I say}: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows with blessings will also reap with blessings. ⁷{Let} each one {give} just as he has decided in {his} heart, not from sorrow or from compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things, always, having all you need, you may abound in every good work. ⁹Just as it is written:

“He scattered widely, he gave to the poor,
his righteousness endures to eternity.”

¹⁰Now the one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and will increase the fruits of your righteousness, ¹¹in every way enriching you for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us. ¹²For the ministry of this service not only is fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Because of the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for {your} obedience to your confession of the gospel of Christ and the generosity of {your} fellowship with them and with everyone. ¹⁴And their prayers {are} for you, longing for you because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. ¹⁵Thanks {be} to God for his indescribable gift!

Chapter 10

¹Now I, Paul, myself who {am} meek according to face among you, but being absent, am bold toward you, appeal to you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ. ²Now I beg of you that, being present, I will not need to be bold with the confidence with which I plan to be courageous against some of those who regard us as walking according to the flesh. ³For walking in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare {are} not fleshly, but {are} divinely powerful for the destruction of strongholds {and} pulling down arguments ⁵and every high thing that rises up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive into obedience of Christ. ⁶And we have readiness to avenge every act of disobedience, when your obedience would be complete. ⁷You are looking at the things according to face. If anyone is convinced that he is Christ's, let him consider this again within himself: that just as he {is} Christ's, so also {are} we. ⁸For even if I might boast somewhat further about our authority, which the Lord gave us to building up and not for your destruction, I will not be ashamed, ⁹so it would not appear as if I would terrify you through {my} letters. ¹⁰Indeed, someone says, “{His} letters {are} weighty and forceful, but {his} bodily presence {is} weak, and {his} speech is worthless.” ¹¹Let such a one consider this, that what we are in word through letters being absent, that {we are} also in deed being present. ¹²For we do not dare to group or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But these—who measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves with themselves—do not understand. ¹³We, however, will not boast about the things beyond measure, but according to the measure of the area that God has assigned to us, a measure that reached even as far as you. ¹⁴For we are not overextending ourselves, as though we did not reach to you, for we came even as far as to you with the gospel of Christ. ¹⁵Neither do we boast beyond limits in the labors of others, but having hope that as your faith continues to grow, our area among you will greatly expand ¹⁶to preach the gospel in the regions beyond you—not to boast about the things accomplished in another's area.

¹⁷“But let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

¹⁸For that one who commends himself is not approved, but whom the Lord commends.

Chapter 11

¹I wish that you would bear with me in a little bit of foolishness, but you are indeed bearing with me! ²For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, for I promised you in marriage to one husband, to present you {as} a pure virgin to Christ. ³But I am afraid lest, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your thoughts might be led astray from the sincerity and the purity that {are} in Christ. ⁴For if one who comes proclaims another Jesus whom we did not proclaim, or you receive a different spirit which you did not receive or a different gospel which you did not accept, you are bearing with it well! ⁵For I consider myself not inferior to the “super-apostles.” ⁶But even if I am untrained in speech, yet not in knowledge. But in every way we have made this clear to you in all things. ⁷Or did I commit a sin, humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I freely preached the gospel of God to you? ⁸I robbed other churches, having accepted wages for the ministry to you. ⁹And being present with you—and I being in need—I did not burden anyone. For the brothers who came from Macedonia completely met my need, and in everything, I kept and will continue to keep myself from being a burden to you. ¹⁰The truth of Christ is in me, so that this boasting of mine will not be silenced in the regions of Achaia. ¹¹Why? Because I do not love you? God knows {I do}! ¹²And what I do I will also keep doing so that I may take away the opportunity of those who desire an opportunity, so that they may be regarded in what they are boasting about just as we also {are}. ¹³For these of such kind {are} false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴And no wonder, for Satan himself disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵Therefore, {it is} no great thing if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

¹⁶I say again: Let not anyone think me to be a fool. But if not, receive me even as a fool so that I too may boast a little bit. ¹⁷What I am saying, I am not saying according to the Lord, but as in foolishness, in this boastful confidence. ¹⁸Since many boast according to the flesh, I will also boast. ¹⁹For you, being wise, gladly put up with the foolish. ²⁰For you put up with it if anyone enslaves you, if anyone consumes you, if anyone takes advantage of you, if anyone exalts himself, if anyone slaps you in the face. ²¹According to dishonor, I say that with respect to that, we were weak! However, in whatever anyone might dare to boast—I am speaking in foolishness—I too dare to boast. ²²Are they Hebrews? I {am} also. Are they Israelites? I {am} also. Are they descendants of Abraham? I {am} also. ²³Are they servants of Christ? (I speak as out of my mind.) I {am} more so: in even more hard work, in far more imprisonments, in beatings beyond measure, often in danger of death. ²⁴Five times I received from Jews 40 {lashes} minus one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. I have spent a night and a day in the deep; ²⁶in frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, in danger from robbers, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from the Gentiles, in danger in the city, in danger in the wilderness, in danger at sea, in danger from false brothers; ²⁷in hard work and hardship, in many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often in fasting, in cold and nakedness; ²⁸apart from these external things, {there is} the pressure on me of the daily concern for all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who has been caused to stumble, and I do not burn? ³⁰If it is necessary to boast, I will boast about the things of {my} weakness. ³¹The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, the one who is blessed to eternity, knows that I am not lying!

³²in Damascus, the governor of Aretas the king was guarding the city of Damascus to arrest me. ³³But I was lowered in a basket through a window through the wall, and I escaped from his hands.

Chapter 12

¹It is necessary to boast, {though} not profitable. But I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who, 14 years ago—whether in the body, I do not know, or out of the body, I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up as far as the third heaven. ³And I know that such a man—whether in the body, or out of the body, I do not know, God knows— ⁴that he was caught up into paradise and heard inexpressible words

which are not permitted for a man to speak. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast. But on behalf of myself I will not boast, except about {my} weaknesses. ⁶For even if I desire to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from this, {so that} no one might think more of me than what he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷And therefore, so that I would not become arrogant by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me—a messenger from Satan—so that he might torment me, so that I would not become arrogant. ⁸Three times I begged the Lord about this, that it would depart from me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is enough for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So I will rather gladly boast in my weakness so that the power of Christ might reside on me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content for Christ’s sake in weaknesses, in insults, in troubles, in persecutions and distressing situations; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

¹¹I have become a fool! You forced me to this, for I should have been commended by you, for I was not at all inferior to the “super-apostles,” even though I am nothing. ¹²Indeed, the signs of an apostle were performed among you with all perseverance—signs and wonders and miracles. ¹³For in what respect is it that you were treated worse than the rest of the churches, except that I myself did not burden you? Forgive me this wrong!

¹⁴Behold! I am ready to come to you this third time, and I will not burden you. For I do not seek what {is} yours, but you. For the children should not save up for the parents, but the parents for the children. ¹⁵Now I will most gladly spend and be completely spent for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less? ¹⁶But be that as it may, I did not burden you, but, being a crafty person, I caught you by deceit. ¹⁷I did not take advantage of you by any of those whom I sent to you, did I? ¹⁸I urged Titus {to go} and sent the {other} brother with him. Titus did not take advantage of you, did he? Did we not walk in the same spirit? {Did we} not {walk} in the same steps?

¹⁹Do you think all of this time that we have been defending ourselves to you? Before God in Christ we are speaking, but all these things, beloved, {are} for your strengthening. ²⁰For I fear that perhaps when I come I may not find you such as I wish, and I may not be found by you such as you wish; perhaps {there may be} quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, rivalries, slander, gossip, arrogance, {and} disorder, ²¹lest having come to you again, my God might humble me before you, and I would be grieved by many of those who have sinned and who have not repented of the impurity and sexual immorality and lustful indulgence that they practiced.

Chapter 13

¹This {is} the third time that I am coming to you. “Every matter must be established by the mouth of two or three witnesses.” ²I have already warned when being present the second time, and now even though being absent, I warn those who sinned before and all the rest, that if I would come to them again, I will not spare anyone, ³since you are seeking proof of the Christ speaking in me, who is not weak toward you but is powerful among you. ⁴For he was indeed crucified in weakness, but he lives by God’s power. For we also are weak in him, but we will live with him by God’s power toward you. ⁵Examine yourselves, whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ {is} in you—unless you are unapproved? ⁶And I hope that you will realize that we are not unapproved. ⁷Now we pray to God that you may not do anything wrong, not so that we might appear approved, but so that you might do what {is} good, even if we {might seem} to be unapproved. ⁸For we are not able to do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. ⁹For we rejoice whenever we are weak, but you are strong. We also pray this: for your perfection. ¹⁰Therefore, I write these things while being absent so that when I am present, I would not treat you harshly according to the authority which the Lord gave to me for building up and not for tearing down.

¹¹Finally, brothers, rejoice! Be restored, be encouraged, be of the same mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet each other with a holy kiss. All of the saints greet you.^[1]

¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit {be} with all of you.^[2]

13:12 ^[1] to verse 13, but the best manuscripts include it here.

13:13 ^[2] from verse 12 and place it this verse. The text of this verse then becomes verse 14.

Galatians

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle—not from men nor by man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, the one who raised him from the dead— ²and all the brothers with me, to the churches of Galatia: ³Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴the one who gave himself for our sins so that he might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵to him {be} the glory forever {and} ever. Amen.

⁶I am amazed that you are turning away so quickly to a different gospel from the one who called you by the grace of Christ, ⁷which is not another, except certain ones are causing you trouble and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven might proclaim to you a gospel other than the one we proclaimed to you, let him be cursed. ⁹As we have said before, and now I say again, “If someone proclaims to you a gospel other than the one you received, let him be cursed.” ¹⁰For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? If I was still pleasing men, I would not be a servant of Christ.

¹¹For I make known to you, brothers, that the gospel which was proclaimed by me is not according to man. ¹²For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but by revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹³For you have heard about my former life in Judaism, that I was persecuting the church of God beyond measure, and I was destroying it. ¹⁴And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my {own} race, being extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵But when the one who had set me apart from the womb of my mother and called me through his grace was pleased ¹⁶to reveal his Son in me, so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood, ¹⁷nor I did go up to Jerusalem to those {who were} apostles before me. Instead, I went to Arabia and again returned to Damascus.

¹⁸Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and I stayed with him 15 days. ¹⁹But I did not see another of the apostles except James, the brother of the Lord. ²⁰Now what I write to you, behold, before God, I am not lying. ²¹Then I went to the regions of Syria and Cilicia. ²²Now I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea that {are} in Christ. ²³But they were only hearing, “The one formerly persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith which he formerly was destroying,” ²⁴and they glorified God in me.

Chapter 2

¹Then after 14 years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, also taking Titus along with me. ²Now I went up according to a revelation and set before them the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, but privately to those who seemed to be important, lest I might run—or had run—in vain. ³But not even Titus, who {was} with me, who was a Greek, was forced to be circumcised. ⁴But it was because of the false brothers who came in secretly, who came in secretly to spy on our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus so that they will enslave us, ⁵we did not even yield in submission to them for an hour, so that the truth of the gospel might remain with you. ⁶Now from those seeming to be something (what sort they were formerly matters nothing to me; God does not accept the face of man)—indeed, those seeming important added nothing to me. ⁷But on the contrary, having seen that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcision, just as Peter to the circumcision ⁸(for the one who worked in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcision also worked in me to the Gentiles), ⁹and having understood the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John, those seeming to be pillars, gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, so that we would be to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcision, ¹⁰only that we might remember the poor, the same thing that I was also eager to do.

¹¹Now when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹²For before certain ones came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles. But when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, being afraid of those from the circumcision. ¹³And the rest of the Jews also joined with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴But when I saw that they were not walking correctly according to the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of all of them, "If you, being a Jew, live like a Gentile, and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?" ¹⁵We {are} Jews by birth, and not sinners from the Gentiles; ¹⁶but knowing that no man is justified by the works of the law except through faith in Jesus Christ, we also believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law. For by works of the law no flesh will be justified. ¹⁷But if, seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were also found {to be} sinners, {is} Christ then a minister of sin? May it never be! ¹⁸For if I again rebuild those things which I destroyed, I prove myself to be a transgressor. ¹⁹For I, through the law, died to the law so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ, ²⁰and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. But that which I now live in the flesh, I live in faith that {is} of the Son of God, the one who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness {is} through the law, then Christ died for nothing!

Chapter 3

¹O foolish Galatians! Who bewitched you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? ²I want to learn only this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing of faith? ³Are you so foolish? Having begun by Spirit, are you now finishing by flesh? ⁴Have you suffered so many things for nothing—if indeed it was really for nothing? ⁵Therefore, the one providing the Spirit to you and working miracles among you, {is it} by works of the law, or by hearing of faith? ⁶Just as Abraham "believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness," ⁷know, then, that those by faith, these are sons of Abraham. ⁸But the scripture, having foreseen that God justifies the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, "In you all the nations will be blessed." ⁹So then, those by faith are blessed along with the faithful Abraham. ¹⁰For as many as are of works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed {is} everyone who does not abide by all the things written in the book of the law to do them." ¹¹Now, that no one is justified before God by the law {is} clear, because, "The righteous will live by faith." ¹²Now the law is not by faith, but, "The one who does these things will live in them." ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed {is} everyone who hangs on a tree"— ¹⁴so that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, so that through faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

¹⁵Brothers, I speak according to man. Nevertheless, no one sets aside or adds to a covenant established by man. ¹⁶Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. It does not say, "and to seeds," as to many, but as to one, "and to your seed," who is Christ. ¹⁷Now I say this: The law, having come after 430 years, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God to nullify the promise. ¹⁸For if the inheritance {is} from the law, {it is} no longer from promise. But God has shown kindness to Abraham through a promise. ¹⁹What, then, {is} the law? It was added because of transgressions, having been put into effect through angels by the hand of a mediator until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made. ²⁰Now a mediator is not for one, but God is one. ²¹Therefore {is} the law against the promises? May it never be! For if a law was given that was able to make alive, then righteousness would have come by the law. ²²But the scripture imprisoned all things under sin so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those believing.

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned to the faith about to be revealed. ²⁴So then the law became our guardian until Christ, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But faith having come, we are no longer under a guardian. ²⁶For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For as many as have been baptized into Christ put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹Now if you {are} of Christ, then you are seed of Abraham, heirs according to promise.

Chapter 4

¹Now I say, for as much time as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, being master of all. ²But he is under guardians and stewards until the date appointed by {his} father. ³So also, when we were children, we were being enslaved by the elemental principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth his Son, having been born from a woman, having been born under the law, ⁵in order that he might redeem those under the law, so that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶Now because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So then, you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, also an heir through God.

⁸But at that time, not having known God, you were enslaved to those by nature not being gods. ⁹But now, having come to know God, or rather, having come to be known by God, how are you turning again to the weak and worthless elemental principles, to which once more you want to be enslaved again? ¹⁰You observe days and months and seasons and years! ¹¹I am afraid for you lest I have labored among you for nothing.

¹²I beg you, brothers, become as I am, for I also {am} as you. You did me no harm. ¹³Now you know that because of a weakness of the flesh I proclaimed the gospel to you the first time. ¹⁴And you did not despise your trial in my flesh nor reject me, but you welcomed me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Where, then, {is} your blessing? For I testify to you that, if possible, having torn out your eyes, you would have given them to me. ¹⁶So then, speaking truth to you, have I become your enemy? ¹⁷They are zealous for you, not rightly, but they desire to separate you, so that you would be zealous for them. ¹⁸Now {it is} always good to be zealous for good, and not only when I am present with you. ¹⁹My little children, with whom I am in labor again until Christ would be formed in you— ²⁰but I am desiring to be present with you now and to change my tone, because I am perplexed about you.

²¹Tell me, you who desire to be under law, do you not listen to the law? ²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave girl and one by the free woman. ²³And the one was born from the slave girl according to flesh, but the other, from the free woman, through promise. ²⁴These are being spoken as an allegory, for they are two covenants. One {is} from Mount Sinai, giving birth to slavery; this is Hagar. ²⁵Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponding to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶But the Jerusalem above is free, which is our mother. ²⁷For it is written,

"Rejoice, you barren one who does not give birth;

break forth and shout, you who are not suffering the pains of childbirth;

because the children of the desolate one {are} more

than those of the one having a husband."

²⁸Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹But just as then, the one who was born according to flesh was persecuting the one according to Spirit, so {it} also {is} now. ³⁰But what does the scripture say? "Throw out the slave girl and her son. For the son of the slave girl will certainly not inherit with the son of the free woman."

³¹Therefore, brothers, we are not children of a slave girl, but of the free woman.

Chapter 5

¹For freedom Christ set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not again be subjected to a yoke of slavery.

²Behold, I, Paul, say to you that if you would be circumcised, Christ will benefit you nothing. ³Now I testify again to every man being circumcised that he is obligated to do the whole law. ⁴You were cut off from Christ, whoever is being justified by law; you fell from grace. ⁵For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is capable of anything, but {only} faith

working through love. ⁷You were running well. Who hindered you, not to be persuaded by truth? ⁸This persuasion {is} not from the one calling you! ⁹A little leaven leavens the whole lump. ¹⁰I am confident in you in the Lord that you will think nothing otherwise. But the one troubling you will bear the judgment, whoever he may be. ¹¹But brothers, if I still proclaim circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the stumbling block of the cross has been removed. ¹²I wish those disturbing you will even castrate themselves!

¹³For you have been called to freedom, brothers, only not the freedom for an opportunity for the flesh; rather, through love serve one another. ¹⁴For all the law has been fulfilled in one command, in this, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵But if you are biting and devouring one another, watch out that you might not be consumed by one another.

¹⁶Now I say, walk by the Spirit and you would certainly not fulfill the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh desires against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh. For these oppose each other, so that you are not doing these things that you would desire. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: sexual immorality, impurity, depravity, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, rivalry, dissension, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, about which I warn you, just as I warned you before, that those practicing such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, {and} self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴But those of Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with the passions and the desires.

²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become boastful, provoking one another, envying one another.

Chapter 6

¹Brothers, even if a man might be caught in any trespass, let you, the spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself, lest you also might be tempted. ²Carry one the burdens of another, and thus you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if anyone thinks himself to be something, being nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have reason to boast in himself alone and not in someone else. ⁵For each one will carry his own burden.

⁶But let the one being taught the word share in all good things with the one teaching. ⁷Do not be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever a man may sow, that he will also reap. ⁸For the one sowing to his own flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction. But the one sowing to the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹But we should not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time, not becoming weary, we will reap. ¹⁰So then, as we have time, we should do good to all, but especially to those of the household of the faith.

¹¹See what large letters I wrote to you with my own hand. ¹²As many as desire to make a good impression in the flesh, they compel you to be circumcised, only so that they might not be persecuted for the cross of Christ Jesus. ¹³For not even those who have been circumcised keep the law themselves, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴But may it never be to me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision is anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶And as many as will walk in this standard, peace and mercy upon them and upon the Israel of God.

¹⁷From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I carry in my body the marks of Jesus.

¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ {be} with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Ephesians

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God, to the saints who are [in Ephesus]^[1] and faithful in Christ Jesus. ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed {be} the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴just as he chose us in him from the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of his grace that he has freely given us in the Beloved One, ⁷in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he caused to abound to us in all wisdom and understanding. ⁹He made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he had planned in him, ¹⁰with a view to an administration of the fullness of time, to bring all things together in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on earth, in him, ¹¹in whom we were also allotted as a possession. We were predestined according to the purpose of the one who works out everything according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ, would be for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him, you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and you believed in him, you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a down payment of our inheritance until the redemption of the full possession, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵Because of this, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and the love^[2] for all the saints, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, making mention {of you} in my prayers, ¹⁷so that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸that the eyes of {your} heart may be enlightened so that you may know what is the hope of his calling {and} what {are} the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what {is} the incomparable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of the force of his strength, ²⁰which he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one coming. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all in all.

1:1 ^[1]

1:15 ^[2], but the best manuscripts include it.

Chapter 2

¹And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authorities of the air, the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience, ³in which we all also once lived in the evil desires of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the body and of the mind. And we were by nature children of wrath, as also the rest. ⁴But God being rich in mercy because of his great love with which he loved us, ⁵and we being dead in trespasses, he made us alive together in Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages that are coming he might show the immeasurably great riches of his grace in {his} kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this {is} not from yourselves; {it is} the gift of God, ⁹not from works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works that God prepared beforehand, so that we would walk in them.

¹¹Therefore, remember that once you {were} Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “uncircumcised” by those who are called “circumcised” in the flesh, performed by human hands. ¹²For at that time you were apart from Christ, excluded from the community of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and destroyed in his flesh the middle wall of partition, the hostility. ¹⁵He abolished the law of commandments in regulations so that he might make the two into one new man in himself, making peace, ¹⁶and so that he might reconcile both to God as one body through the cross, putting to death the hostility in it. ¹⁷And he came {and} proclaimed peace to you who {were} far away and peace to those who {were} near, ¹⁸for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then, you are no longer strangers and foreigners. Instead, you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. ²⁰You have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fit together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God in the Spirit.

Chapter 3

¹For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles, ²if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God that was given to me for you, ³according to the revelation made known to me, the mystery about which I already wrote in brief. ⁴Concerning that, when you read it, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men as it now has been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets— ⁶that the Gentiles are to be fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, ⁷for which I became a servant by the gift of the grace of God that was given to me through the working of his power. ⁸To me—the least of all the saints—this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to reveal for everyone what {is} the administration of the mystery that was hidden from the ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that now through the church the multifaceted wisdom of God might be made known to the rulers and to the authorities in the heavenly places, ¹¹according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in him. ¹³Therefore, I ask you not to be discouraged by my sufferings for you, which is your glory.

¹⁴For this reason I bend my knees to the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶so that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸so that you may be fully able to comprehend, along with all the saints, what {is} the width and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ, which goes beyond knowledge so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰And to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that is working in us, ²¹to him {be} the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever {and} ever. Amen.

Chapter 4

¹Therefore I, the prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk worthily of the calling by which you were called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, putting up with one another in love, ³doing your best to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴{There is} one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who {is} over all and through all and in all. ⁷And to each one of us grace has been given according to the measure of the gift of Christ. ⁸Therefore it says:

“When he ascended to the heights,
 he led captives into captivity,
 {and} he gave gifts to men.”

⁹And this “He ascended,” what is it except that he also descended into the lower regions of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is also himself he who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. ¹¹And he himself gave the apostles, and the prophets, and the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of serving, for the building up of the body of Christ, ¹³until we all reach to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children tossed back and forth by the waves and carried away by every wind of teaching through the trickery of people in cleverness for deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, let us grow up in all things into him who is the head, {even} Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, being joined and held together by every supporting ligament, according to the working in measure of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for building up itself in love.

¹⁷Therefore, I say this and strongly urge you in the Lord, to walk no longer as the Gentiles also walk, in futility of their minds. ¹⁸They have been darkened in {their} understanding, being alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their hearts. ¹⁹They, being dead to all feeling, have handed themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. ²⁰But you did not thus learn about Christ, ²¹if indeed you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus. ²²You are to put aside what belongs to {your} former manner of life, the old man that is corrupt because of {its} deceitful desires, ²³and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and to put on the new man that was created according to God—in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

²⁵Therefore, putting aside lying, let each of you speak truth with his neighbor, because we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry and do not sin. Do not let the sun go down on your indignation, ²⁷nor give an opportunity to the devil. ²⁸The thief must steal no longer. But rather, he must labor, working good with {his} hands, so that he may have something to share with those who have a need. ²⁹Do not let any corrupt talk come out from your mouth, but whatever {is} good for building up of the {one in} need, so that it might give grace to the hearers, ³⁰and do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness, and rage, and anger, and quarreling, and insults be removed from yourselves, along with all malice. ³²Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.

Chapter 5

¹Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and walk in love, as also Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God for a fragrant aroma.

³But sexual immorality and every impurity or greed must not even be named among you, just as is proper for saints, ⁴and filthiness and foolish talk or crude jokes—which are not fitting—but instead, thanksgiving. ⁵Indeed, know this for certain, that every sexually immoral or unclean or greedy person—that is, an idolater—has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore, do not become partners with them, ⁸because formerly you were darkness, but now {are} light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), ¹⁰carefully testing what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹And do not take part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather even expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light is revealed, for everything that is revealed is light. ¹⁴Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Watch carefully, therefore, how you walk—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶redeeming the time because the days are evil. ¹⁷Because of this, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord {is}. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, in which is recklessness. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to each other in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and singing psalms in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰giving thanks always for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father, ²¹submitting yourselves to one another in reverence for Christ—

²²wives, to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For a husband is the head of the wife as Christ also {is} the head of the church—he himself {is} the savior of the body. ²⁴But as the church is subject to Christ, so also {are} wives to {their} husbands in everything. ²⁵Husbands, love {your} wives just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶so that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷so that he might present the church to himself as glorious, not having stain or wrinkle or any of those things, but so that she might be holy and blameless. ²⁸In the same way, husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own body, but he nourishes and treats it with care, just as Christ also {does} the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹“For this reason a man will leave {his} father and {his} mother and will be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” ³²This mystery is great—but I am speaking about Christ and about the church. ³³Nevertheless, you also—each one of you—must love his own wife in this way—as himself, and the wife must respect {her} husband.

Chapter 6

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is righteous. ²“Honor your father and mother” (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³“so that it may be well with you and you may be long-lived on the earth.” ⁴And fathers, do not provoke your children to anger. Instead, raise them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

⁵Slaves, obey {your} masters according to the flesh with fear and trembling, in honesty of your heart, as to Christ, ⁶not with eye-service as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the soul, ⁷serving with a good attitude, as to the Lord and not to men, ⁸knowing that each person, if he does something good, this he will receive from the Lord, whether slave or free.

⁹And masters, do the same to them. Stop using threats. You know that the Master, both theirs and yours, is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the force of his strength. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, to enable you to stand against the scheming of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-controllers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Because of this, put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand, therefore, having girded up your loins with the truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the readiness of the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In everything take up the shield of the faith, by which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit. And to this end, be watchful with all perseverance and requests for all the saints, ¹⁹and for me, so that a message might be given to me when I open my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel ²⁰(for which I am an ambassador in chains), so that in it I may speak boldly, as it is necessary for me to speak.

²¹But so that you also may know the things concerning me, how I am doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will make known to you everything, ²²whom I have sent to you for this very purpose, so that you may know the things about us and your hearts may be encouraged.

²³Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Grace {be} with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptibility.

Philippians

Chapter 1

¹Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the overseers and deacons. ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all {my} remembrance of you, ⁴always, in every prayer of mine for all of you, making {my} prayer with joy ⁵because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; ⁶having been persuaded of this very thing, that the one having begun a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Jesus Christ; ⁷just as it is right for me to think this {way} about all of you because, I have you in {my} heart, all of you being partakers with me of grace both in my chains and in {my} defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God {is} my witness, how I long for all of you with the inner parts of Christ Jesus. ⁹And I pray this: that your love would abound still more and more in knowledge and all understanding ¹⁰so that you may approve what excels, so that you might be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹being filled with the fruit of righteousness that {is} through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

¹²Now I want you to know, brothers, that the things concerning me have really happened for the advancement of the gospel. ¹³As a result, my chains in Christ became apparent among the whole palace guard and all the others. ¹⁴And most of the brothers have been encouraged in the Lord by my chains to dare more fearlessly to speak the word. ¹⁵Some indeed even proclaim Christ because of envy and strife, but also some because of goodwill, ¹⁶the ones from love having understood that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel, ¹⁷but the ones from selfish ambition proclaim Christ not sincerely, supposing to raise up trouble in my chains. ¹⁸What then? Only that in every way—whether in pretext or in truth—Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹for I know that this will result to me in deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰according to my eager expectation and hope that I will in nothing be ashamed, but in everything have boldness, and that now, as always, Christ will be exalted in my body, whether through life or through death. ²¹For to me to live {is} Christ, and to die {is} gain. ²²Now if to live in the flesh, this {is} fruitful labor for me, but I do not know which I will choose. ²³But I am hard pressed between the two, having the desire to depart and to be with Christ, for {that is} very much better, ²⁴but to remain in the flesh {is} more necessary for your sake. ²⁵And having been persuaded of this, I know that I will remain and will continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith ²⁶so that in me your boasting in Christ Jesus might abound through my coming to you again. ²⁷Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ so that whether having come and having seen you or whether being absent, I might hear about you, that you stand firm in one spirit, with one soul striving together for the faith of the gospel. ²⁸And do not be frightened in anything by those opposing you. This is a sign to them of {their} destruction, but of your salvation—and this from God. ²⁹For it has been freely given to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer on behalf of him, ³⁰having the same struggle which you saw in me, and now you hear in me.

Chapter 2

¹Therefore, if {there is} any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affections and compassions, ²fulfill my joy that you might think the same, having the same love, united in soul, thinking the one thing. ³{Do} nothing according to selfish ambition or according to empty conceit, but with humility considering others better than yourselves, ⁴each one not considering the things of themselves, but also the things of each other. ⁵Have this attitude in you which also {was} in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, existing in the form of God,
did not consider being equal with God
something to be grasped.

⁷Instead, he emptied himself,
having taken the form of a servant,
having been born in the likeness of men,
and having been found in appearance as a man,

⁸he humbled himself, having become obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore, God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that {is} above every name

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee would bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue would confess that Jesus Christ {is} Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²So then, my beloved, just as you always obeyed, not only as in my presence, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³For God is the one working in you both to will and to work for {his} good pleasure. ¹⁴Do all things without complaining or arguing ¹⁵so that you might become blameless and pure, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding forth the word of life for my boasting on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain nor labor in vain. ¹⁷But even if I am being poured out as an offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Now in the same manner, you also rejoice and rejoice with me.

¹⁹Now I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon so that I also might be encouraged, having come to know the things concerning you. ²⁰For I have no one like-minded, who will be genuinely anxious about the things concerning you, ²¹for they all seek their own things, not the things of Jesus Christ. ²²But you know his proven worth, that as a child with {his} father, he served with me in the gospel. ²³Therefore, I hope to send him at once, as soon as I would see {how} the things concerning me {go}. ²⁴But I trust in the Lord that I myself will also come soon. ²⁵Now I consider it necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister for my needs, ²⁶seeing that he has been longing to be with you all, and he is distressed because you heard that he was sick. ²⁷For indeed he was sick nearly to death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only, but also on me, so that I might not have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸Therefore, I sent him all the more eagerly, so that, having seen him again, you might rejoice, and I might be free from pain. ²⁹Therefore, welcome him in the Lord with all joy, and hold in honor those like him, ³⁰since for the sake of the work of Christ, he came near even to death, risking {his} life so that he might make up your lack of service to me.

Chapter 3

¹{As to} the rest, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write these same things to you {is} no trouble, and {is} a safeguard for you. ²Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the mutilation. ³For we are the

circumcision—the ones worshiping by the Spirit of God and boasting in Christ Jesus and having no confidence in the flesh, ⁴although I myself having confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else thinks to have confidence in the flesh, I even more: ⁵circumcision on the eighth day, from the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; according to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶according to zeal, persecuting the church; according to righteousness that {is} in the law, having become blameless. ⁷Whatever {things} were gains for me, I consider these {things} loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸But on the contrary, I consider even all things to be loss because of the surpassing value of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, because of whom I have suffered the loss of all things—and I consider them dung—so that I might gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having my own righteousness that {is} from law, but that which {is} through faith in Christ—the righteousness from God by faith— ¹⁰to know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death, ¹¹if, in some way, I might attain to the resurrection that {is} from the dead. ¹²Not that I already received it, or have already been made perfect, but I am pursuing it, if perhaps I might also grasp that for which I was also grasped by Christ Jesus. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider myself to have grasped it. But one thing: forgetting what {is} behind and straining for what {is} ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward calling of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Therefore, as many as are perfect should think this {way}; and if you think differently about anything, God will also reveal that to you. ¹⁶However, in what we have attained, we should live in it.

¹⁷Become imitators of me, brothers, and watch closely those who are walking in this manner, just as you have us {as} an example. ¹⁸For many walk—about whom I have often told you, but now even weeping, I say—{as} enemies of the cross of Christ, ¹⁹whose end {is} destruction, whose god {is their} belly, and {whose} glory {is} in their shame, who think about earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship exists in heaven, from where we also eagerly await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to conformity to his glorious body, according to the working of his power even to subject all things to himself.

Chapter 4

¹Therefore, my brothers, beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to think the same in the Lord. ³Yes, I also ask you, true companion, to help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with also Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names {are} in the Book of Life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord {is} near. ⁶Be anxious about nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God, ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸{As to} the rest, brothers, as many as are true, as many as honorable, as many as just, as many as pure, as many as lovely, as many as reputable, if anything {is} virtuous, and if anything {is} praiseworthy, think about these things. ⁹And what you learned and received and heard and saw in me, do these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰Now I greatly rejoice in the Lord, because now at last you renewed {your} concern on my behalf, for which indeed you were concerned, but were lacking opportunity. ¹¹Not that I speak according to need, for I myself have learned in whatever I am to be content. ¹²I know both {how} to be brought low, and I know {how} to abound. In each {situation} and in all {situations}, I have learned both to be filled and to be hungry, and to abound and to be in need. ¹³I can do all things in the one who strengthens me. ¹⁴However, you did well, having shared together in my affliction. ¹⁵Now you Philippians also know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I went out from Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving except you alone, ¹⁶for even in Thessalonica, both once and twice you sent for my needs. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your account. ¹⁸Now I have all things in full, and I abound. I have been filled, having received from Epaphroditus the things from

you, an aroma, a sweet smell, an acceptable, pleasing sacrifice to God. ¹⁹Now my God will fulfill all your need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰Now to our God and Father {be} the glory forever {and} ever. Amen.

²¹Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers with me greet you. ²²All the saints greet you, but especially those from the household of Caesar.

²³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ {be} with your spirit. Amen. ^[1]

4:23 ^[1]

Colossians

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God, and Timothy {our} brother, ²to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ in Colossae. Grace to you, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.^[1]

³We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, always praying for you, ⁴having heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope that is being reserved for you in the heavens, which you heard before in the word of truth, the gospel, ⁶which being present among you just as also in all the world, is bearing fruit and growing, just as also in you, from the day you heard it and learned about the grace of God in truth, ⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf,^[2] ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹Because of this, from the day we heard this, we also have not stopped praying for you and asking that you might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, ¹⁰to walk worthily of the Lord in every pleasing way, bearing fruit in every good deed and growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹being strengthened with all power according to the power of his glory to all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has made you able to share the inheritance of the saints in the light.^[3] ¹³He rescued us from the authority of the darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.^[4] ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For in him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible. Whether thrones or dominions or governments or authorities, all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from among the dead, so that he himself might become first among all things. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and to reconcile through him all things to himself, having made peace through the blood of his cross, through him, whether the things on the earth or the things in the heavens. ²¹At one time you also were alienated and enemies in thought, in evil deeds. ²²But now you have been reconciled by the body of his flesh through death to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³if indeed you continue in the faith, founded and firm and not being moved from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which was proclaimed to every creature that {is} under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a servant.

²⁴Now I rejoice in {my} sufferings for you, and I fill up in my flesh the lack of the afflictions of Christ for the sake of his body, which is the church, ²⁵of which I became a servant according to the stewardship of God that was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden from the ages and from the generations, but now has been revealed to his saints, ²⁷to whom God desired to make known what {is} the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸We proclaim him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom so that we may present every man complete in Christ. ²⁹For this also I labor, striving according to his working that is working in me in power.

1:2 ^[1]

1:7 ^[2]

1:12 ^[3]

1:14 ^[4]

Chapter 2

¹For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and those at Laodicea and as many as have not seen my face in the flesh ²so that their hearts might be encouraged, having been brought together in love and into all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, into knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ, ³in whom all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden. ⁴I say this so that no one might deceive you with persuasive speech. ⁵For even if I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in the spirit, rejoicing and seeing your good order and the strength of your faith in Christ.

⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in him, ⁷being rooted and built up in him and confirmed in the faith just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸Beware lest someone will be the one who takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elemental teaching of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him all the fullness of deity dwells in bodily form, ¹⁰and you are filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority, ¹¹in whom you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands in the removal of the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism and in whom you were raised up through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And you, being dead in the trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive together with him, having forgiven us all of {our} trespasses,^[1] ¹⁴having canceled the written record of the decrees against us, which were opposed to us, and he has taken it out from {our} midst, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵Having stripped the rulers and the authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, having triumphed over them in the cross.

¹⁶Therefore, do not let anyone judge you in food or in drink or in regard to a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, ¹⁷which are a shadow of the things coming, but the body {is} of Christ. ¹⁸Let no one delighting in false humility and worship of the angels deprive you of your prize, standing on things he has seen, becoming puffed up without cause by the mind of his flesh ¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from which the whole body, being supplied and held together through the joints and ligaments, grows with the growth from God.

²⁰If you died with Christ from the elemental principles of the world, why, as living in the world, are you being subjected to its decrees: ²¹"You may not handle, nor taste, nor touch!" ²²which are all for destruction with the use, according to the commands and teachings of men; ²³which, having indeed a word of wisdom in self-made religion and false humility {and} severity of the body, are not of any value against the indulgence of the flesh.

2:13 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹If, therefore, you were raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. ²Think about the things above, not the things on the earth. ³For you died, and your life has been hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.^[1]

⁵Put to death, therefore, the members that {are} on the earth—sexual immorality, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and envy, which is idolatry, ⁶because of which the wrath of God is coming,^[2] ⁷in which you also formerly walked when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must also lay aside all such things—wrath, anger, evil desire, slander, {and} obscene speech from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, having taken off the old man with its practices ¹⁰and having put on the new man who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of the one who created it; ¹¹where there is no Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, freeman, but Christ {is} all, and in all.

¹²Therefore, as chosen ones of God, holy and beloved, put on inner parts of mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, {and} patience, ¹³bearing with one another and being gracious to each other if someone may have a complaint against someone else; just as also the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴But above all these things, love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body, and become thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, {and} spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And everything, whatever you might do in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

¹⁸Wives, be subjected to {your} husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands, love {your} wives, and do not be embittered against them. ²⁰Children, obey {your} parents in all things, for this is pleasing in the Lord. ²¹Fathers, do not provoke your children, so that they may not be discouraged. ²²Slaves, obey {your} masters according to the flesh in all things, not with eyeservice as people pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³Whatever you might do, work from the soul as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴knowing that you will receive from the Lord the reward of the inheritance. You are serving the Lord Christ. ²⁵For the one doing unrighteousness will receive what he did unrighteously, and there is no favoritism.

3:4 ^[1]

3:6 ^[2]

Chapter 4

¹Masters, give to {your} slaves what {is} right and fair, knowing that you also have a master in heaven.

²Continue steadfastly in prayer, staying alert in it in thanksgiving, ³praying together for us also, so that God may open a door to us for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, on account of which also I have been bound, ⁴in order that I may make it clear, as I ought to speak. ⁵Walk in wisdom toward those outside, redeeming the time, ⁶your words always with grace, seasoned with salt, to know how it is necessary for you to answer each one.

⁷All the things concerning me, Tychicus will make known to you, the beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow slave in the Lord, ⁸whom I sent to you for this very {reason}, so that you might know the things concerning us and that he might encourage your hearts.^[1] ⁹Together with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother who is from among you, they will make known to you all the things here.

¹⁰Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, greets you, and Mark, the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received orders; if he may come to you, receive him), ¹¹and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God being from the circumcision, who have been a comfort to me. ¹²Epaphras greets you. He {is} from among you, a servant of Christ Jesus, always striving on behalf of you in prayers so that you may stand complete and fully assured in all the will of God. ¹³For I testify for him that he has much hard labor on behalf of you and of those in Laodicea and of those in Hierapolis. ¹⁴Luke, the beloved physician, greets you, and also Demas. ¹⁵Greet the brothers in Laodicea, and Nympha, and the church in her house. ¹⁶And when this letter has been read among you, make sure that it would be read also in the church of Laodicea and that you also would read the one from Laodicea. ¹⁷And say to Archippus, "Look to the ministry that you have received in the Lord so that you may fulfill it."

¹⁸This greeting is by my own hand—Paul. Remember my chains. Grace {be} with you.

4:8 ^[1]

1 Thessalonians

Chapter 1

¹Paul and Silvanus and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace and peace to you.^[1]

²We always give thanks to God for all of you, continually making mention of you in our prayers, ³remembering your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ before our God and Father; ⁴knowing, brothers loved by God, your election, ⁵because our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance—just as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much hardship, with joy of the Holy Spirit. ⁷As a result, you became an example to all those who believe in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For from you the word of the Lord has been sounded out not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but your faith toward God has gone out into every place. Therefore, we do not have need to say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us what kind of reception we had with you and how you turned to God from the idols to serve the living and true God ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, the one rescuing us from the wrath that is coming.

1:1 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you has not been in vain. ²But having previously suffered and having been shamefully treated at Philippi, just as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much struggle. ³For our exhortation was not from error, nor from impurity, nor in deceit, ⁴but just as we have been examined by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing to men, but to God, the one who examines our hearts. ⁵For we did not come at that time in words of flattery, just as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God {is} witness— ⁶nor seeking glory from men, either from you or from others, ⁷being able to be a burden as apostles of Christ; but we became little children in the midst of you, as if a mother might comfort her own children.^[1] ⁸Having affection for you in this manner, we were pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own souls. For you had become beloved to us. ⁹For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil, night and day working in order not to burden any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰You {are} witnesses, and {so is} God, how holy and righteous, and blameless we became toward you who believe, ¹¹just as you know as each one of you, as a father his own children, ¹²exhorting you and encouraging and testifying for you to walk worthily of God, who is calling you into his own kingdom and glory.

¹³And because of this, we also thank God constantly, that having received the word of God, heard from us, you accepted it not {as} the word of man, but just as it truly is, the word of God, which is also working in you who believe. ¹⁴For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God that are in Judea in Christ Jesus, because the same things you also suffered from your own countrymen, just as they also from the Jews, ¹⁵who have killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets and have persecuted us and are not pleasing to God and {are} hostile to all men, ¹⁶forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles so that they might be saved, to always fill up their sins. But the wrath has come upon them to the end.

¹⁷But we, brothers, having been separated from you for the time of an hour, by face, not in heart, became extremely eager to see your faces, in much desire. ¹⁸For we desired to come to you—indeed I, Paul, both once and

twice—but Satan hindered us. ¹⁹For what {is} our hope or joy or crown of boasting?^[2] Or {is it} not even you before our Lord Jesus at his coming? ²⁰For you are our glory and joy.

2:7 ^[1]

2:19 ^[2] two ancient versions have a word translated as or

Chapter 3

¹Therefore, enduring it no longer, we thought it good to be left behind at Athens alone, ²and we sent Timothy, our brother and a servant of God in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and to comfort you regarding your faith,^[1] ³that no one be disturbed by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that for this we are appointed. ⁴For even when we were with you, we were telling you in advance that we are about to suffer affliction, and it happened, just as you also know. ⁵Because of this, I also no longer enduring it, sent to know about your faith, lest the tempter had somehow tempted you, and our labor might have been in vain. ⁶But just now Timothy has come to us from you and has brought to us the good news of your faith and love and that you always have good memories of us, longing to see us just as we also, you. ⁷Because of this, brothers, we were comforted by you in all our distress and affliction, by your faith. ⁸For now we live, if you yourselves stand firm in the Lord. ⁹For what thanks are we able to give back to God concerning you for all the joy in which we rejoice before our God because of you,^[2] ¹⁰night and day pleading earnestly to see your face and to provide what {is} lacking in your faith?

¹¹But may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²Now may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we also toward you, ¹³to strengthen your hearts, blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Amen!

3:2 ^[1]

3:9 ^[2] with

Chapter 4

¹So finally, brothers, we beg and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, just as you received from us about how it is necessary for you to walk and to please God (just as also you are walking), so that you might abound even more. ²For you know what commands we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: to keep yourselves from sexual immorality; ⁴for each of you to know to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ⁵not in the passion of lust (just as also the Gentiles who do not know God); ⁶that no one transgress and exploit his brother in this matter, for the Lord is an avenger concerning all these things, just as we also forewarned you and testified. ⁷For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in sanctification. ⁸Therefore, the one rejecting this rejects not man, but God, who gives^[1] his Holy Spirit to you^[2]

⁹But concerning brotherly love, you have^[3] no need {for us} to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another. ¹⁰For indeed, you do this to all the brothers who {are} in all Macedonia. But we exhort you, brothers, to abound even more ¹¹and to strive to live quietly and to perform your own things and to work with your own hands, just as we commanded you, ¹²so that you may walk properly before those outside and may have need of nothing.

¹³Now we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, concerning those who are asleep, so that you may not grieve just as also the rest who have no hope. ¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, so God will also bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus. ¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left behind until the coming of the Lord, may certainly not go before those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with a trumpet of God, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left behind, will be

caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and in this way we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore, comfort one another with these words.

4:8 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

4:8 ^[2] some ancient manuscripts read

4:9 ^[3] but the best manuscripts read

Chapter 5

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need {for us} to write to you. ²For you yourselves know perfectly well that the day of the Lord comes in this manner—like a thief in the night. ³When they may say, “Peace and safety,” then sudden destruction comes on them like birth pains to the one having in the womb, and they will certainly not escape. ⁴But you, brothers, are not in darkness, so that the day might overtake you like a thief. ⁵For you are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We are not of the night, nor of the darkness; ⁶so then, we should not sleep as the rest, but we should keep watch and be sober. ⁷For those who are sleeping sleep at night, and those who are getting drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But we, being of the day, should stay sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and of love, and a helmet—the hope of salvation. ⁹For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰the one who died for us so that, whether we might be awake or asleep, we would live together with him. ¹¹Therefore, comfort one another and build up one the other, just as also you are doing.

¹²Now we ask you, brothers, to acknowledge those who are laboring among you and leading you in the Lord and admonishing you, ¹³and to regard them highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴Now we exhort you, brothers: Admonish the disorderly, encourage the discouraged, help the weak, be patient toward all. ¹⁵See that no one would pay back evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good, both for one another and for all. ¹⁶Rejoice always. ¹⁷Pray without ceasing. ¹⁸In everything give thanks, for this {is} the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies. ²¹Test all things^[1] Hold fast to what {is} good. ²²Stay away from all appearance of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your entire spirit, and soul, and body be kept blamelessly at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴Faithful {is} he who calls you, who will also do it.

²⁵Brothers, pray also for us.

²⁶Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. ²⁷I solemnly charge you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.^[2]

²⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.^[3]

5:21 ^[1] many ancient manuscripts read

5:27 ^[2]

5:28 ^[3]

2 Thessalonians

Chapter 1

¹Paul and Silvanus and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

²Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, just as it is fitting, because your faith is increasing greatly, and the love of each one of you all for one another is increasing; ⁴so that we ourselves boast in you among the churches of God about your endurance and faith in all your persecutions and afflictions that you endure, ⁵evidence of the righteous judgment of God, for you to be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; ⁶if indeed {it is} righteous for God to return affliction to those who are afflicting you, ⁷and relief to you who are being afflicted with us at the revealing of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his mighty angels, ⁸in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who have not known God and on those who are not obeying the gospel of our Lord Jesus, ⁹who will pay the penalty—eternal destruction away from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his power, ¹⁰when he comes on that day to be glorified by his saints and to be marveled at by all those who have believed, for our testimony to you has been believed. ¹¹For this we also pray always for you, so that our God may consider you worthy of the calling and he may fulfill every desire of goodness and work of faith in power ¹²so that the name of our Lord Jesus might be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Chapter 2

¹Now about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering to him, we ask you, brothers, ²for you not to be quickly shaken in {your} mind and not to be troubled either by a spirit or by a word or by a letter as if from us, as if that the day of the Lord has already come. ³May no one deceive you in any way, for it may not come unless first the apostacy and the man of lawlessness may be revealed, the son of destruction,^[1] ⁴the one who opposes and exalts himself against everything being called god or an object of worship. As a result, he sits in the temple of God, showing that he himself is God. ⁵Do you not remember that, still being with you, I was telling you these things? ⁶And now you know what is restraining him, until his revealing in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already working, but the one who restrains him now will do so until he might be out of the way, ⁸and then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth, and will bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming, ⁹the arrival of whom is according to the work of Satan in all power and signs and false wonders ¹⁰and in all deceit of unrighteousness to those who are perishing, because of which they did not receive the love of the truth for them to be saved. ¹¹And because of this, God is sending to them a working of error for them to believe the lie ¹²so that they might all be judged, those who have not believed the truth, but have taken pleasure in unrighteousness.

¹³Now we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers having been loved by the Lord. For God chose you as firstfruits for salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth.^[2] ¹⁴He called you to this through our gospel, to the acquiring of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵So then, brothers, stand firm and hold tight to the traditions that you were taught, whether by word or by our letter.

¹⁶Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷may he comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

2:3 ^[1]

2:13 [2]

Chapter 3

¹Finally, brothers, pray for us so that the word of the Lord might run and might be glorified, just as also with you, ²and so that we might be rescued from the perverse and evil men, for not everyone {has} faith. ³But the Lord is faithful, who will strengthen and keep you from the evil one. ⁴Now we are confident in the Lord about you that you are doing and will do the things we command. ⁵Now may the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ.

⁶Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, for you to keep away from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the traditions which you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know in what manner it is necessary to imitate us, because we did not behave disorderly among you, ⁸nor did we eat bread from anyone for free, but, working night and day in toil and hardship not to burden any of you, ⁹not because we do not have authority, but in order that we might offer ourselves {as} an example to you to imitate us. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we were commanding you this, "If anyone is not willing to work, do not even let him eat." ¹¹For we hear about some who are walking idly among you, not working, but meddling. ¹²But such ones we are commanding and exhorting in the Lord Jesus Christ, that working with quietness, they might eat their own bread. ¹³But you, brothers, do not become weary in doing what is right. ¹⁴Now if anyone does not obey our word through the letter, note this one—not to associate with him, so that he may be put to shame. ¹⁵And do not consider him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

¹⁶Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace through all in every way. The Lord be with you all. ¹⁷This greeting is in my own hand—Paul—which is a sign in every letter. In this manner I write. ¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ {be} with you all.

1 Timothy

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of the Lord Jesus Christ our hope, ²to Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³As I urged you when I was going into Macedonia, remain in Ephesus so that you can command certain ones not to teach differently, ⁴and not to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which promote arguments rather than the stewardship of God, which {is} by faith. ⁵Now the goal of this command is love from a pure heart, and a good conscience, and a sincere faith, ⁶from which some, having missed the mark, have turned away to foolish talk, ⁷wanting to be teachers of the law, not understanding either what they are saying or about which they make confident affirmations. ⁸But we know that the law (is) good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹knowing this, that the law is not made for the righteous, but for the lawless and the rebellious, the ungodly and the sinful, the godless and the profane, father-killers and mother-killers, man-slayers, ¹⁰the immoral, male-liers, man-stealers, liars, perjurers, and if anything else is contrary to healthy teaching, ¹¹according to the gospel of glory of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted.

¹²I have gratitude to the one who strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me trustworthy, placing me into service, ¹³formerly being a blasphemer and a persecutor and an aggressor, but I was shown mercy because not knowing, I acted in unfaithfulness. ¹⁴Indeed, the grace of our Lord overflowed with the faith and love that {are} in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵This word {is} trustworthy and worthy of all acceptance, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—of whom I am the first. ¹⁶But for this reason I was shown mercy, so that in me, the first, Jesus Christ might demonstrate all patience as an example for those who would trust in him for eternal life. ¹⁷Now to the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, {be} honor and glory to eternity forever. Amen.

¹⁸This command I am placing before you, {my} child, Timothy, in accordance with the earlier prophecies about you, that by them you might fight the good fight, ¹⁹holding faith and a good conscience, which some, having rejected, have shipwrecked regarding the faith, ²⁰of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have given over to Satan so that they may be taught not to blaspheme.

Chapter 2

¹I urge, therefore, first of all, for requests, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings to be made for all men, ²for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may live a peaceful and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. ³This {is} good and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For {there is} one God, and one mediator of God and of men—the man Christ Jesus, ⁶the one who gave himself {as} a ransom for all, the testimony in its own times, ⁷for which I was made a herald and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ, I am not lying—a teacher of the nations in faith and truth.

⁸Therefore, I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger and argument, ⁹likewise women to adorn themselves in proper attire, with modesty and self-control, not in braids and gold, or pearls, or expensive clothing, ¹⁰but what befits women professing godliness, through good works. ¹¹Let a woman learn in quietness, in all submission. ¹²But I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in quietness. ¹³For Adam was formed first, then Eve, ¹⁴and Adam was not deceived, but the woman, having been deceived, came into transgression. ¹⁵But she will be saved through childbearing, if they remain in faith and love and holiness with self-control.

Chapter 3

¹This word {is} trustworthy: "If someone aspires to be an overseer, he desires a noble work." ²Therefore, the overseer must be irreproachable, a husband of one wife, sober, self-controlled, orderly, hospitable, able to teach, ³not a drunkard, not a brawler, but gentle, peaceful, not money-loving, ⁴managing his own household well, having children in obedience with all honor ⁵(for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), ⁶not a new convert, so that he may not fall, being puffed up, into the judgment of the devil. ⁷But he must also have a good reputation with those outside, so that he may not fall into disgrace and the trap of the devil. ⁸Likewise deacons {must be} dignified, not double-talkers, not indulging in much wine, not greedy, ⁹holding the mystery of the faith with a clean conscience. ¹⁰And let them also be tested first; then let them serve, being blameless. ¹¹Likewise the women {must be} dignified, not slanderers, sober, trustworthy in everything. ¹²Deacons are to be husbands of one wife, managing their own children and households well. ¹³For those having served well acquire for themselves a good standing and much confidence in the faith that {is} in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you in quickness, ¹⁵but if I delay, so that you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and support of the truth. ¹⁶Indeed, admittedly great is the mystery of godliness:

"Who was revealed in flesh,
was justified in the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was proclaimed among the nations,
was believed in the world,
was taken up in glory."

Chapter 4

¹Now the Spirit says specifically that in later times some will leave the faith, attending to deceiving spirits and teachings of demons, ²through the hypocrisy of liars, their own consciences having been seared, ³forbidding to marry, to abstain from foods that God created for receiving with thanksgiving by the faithful and the ones knowing the truth. ⁴For every creation of God {is} good, and nothing being received with thanksgiving {is} vile, ⁵for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

⁶Placing these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being nourished by the words of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. ⁷But reject the profane and old-womanish myths. Instead, train yourself for godliness, ⁸for "bodily training is valuable for a little, but godliness is valuable for all things, having promise for this present life and the coming one." ⁹That word {is} trustworthy and worthy of all acceptance, ¹⁰for unto this we toil and struggle, because we have hoped in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers. ¹¹Command and teach these things. ¹²Let no one despise your youth, but be an example for the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. ¹³Until I come, attend to the reading, to the exhortation, to the teaching. ¹⁴Do not neglect the gift in you, which was given to you through prophecy, with the imposition of the hands of the elders. ¹⁵Study these things, be in them, so that your progress may be apparent to all. ¹⁶Pay attention to yourself and to the teaching. Continue in these things, for, doing this, you will save both yourself and your listeners.

Chapter 5

¹Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, ²older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity. ³Honor widows—real widows. ⁴But if any widow has children or grandchildren, first let them learn to honor their own household and to make repayment to {their} forebears, for this is pleasing before God. ⁵But the genuine and left-alone widow hopes in God and continues in requests and prayers night and day. ⁶But the one cavorting, living, has died. ⁷Also command these things, so that they may be irreproachable. ⁸But if someone does not provide for his own, and especially for household members, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. ⁹Let a widow be enrolled being not less than 60 years old, a wife of one husband, ¹⁰attested in good works: if she has raised children, if she has received strangers, if she has washed the feet of the saints, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has pursued every good work. ¹¹But refuse younger widows, because when they become wanton against Christ, they want to marry, ¹²having judgment because they have broken their first pledge. ¹³But at the same time, they also learn to be lazy, wandering about the houses, and not only lazy, but also babblers and busybodies, saying what they should not. ¹⁴Therefore, I want younger ones to marry, bear children, manage a household, give no opportunity for slander to the one opposing. ¹⁵For already some have turned aside after Satan. ¹⁶If any believing woman has widows, let her help them, and let the church not be weighed down, so that it may help the genuine widows.

¹⁷The elders having ruled well, let them be considered worthy of double honor, especially the ones toiling in the word and teaching. ¹⁸For the Scripture says, “You will not muzzle a threshing ox,” and, “The worker {is} worthy of his wages.” ¹⁹Against an elder do not receive an accusation, except if on two or three witnesses. ²⁰The ones sinning, rebuke before all, so that the rest also may have fear. ²¹I adjure you, before God and Christ Jesus and the chosen angels, that you keep these things without partiality, doing nothing out of favoritism. ²²Place hands hastily on no one, nor share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. ²³No longer drink only water, but use a little wine because of your stomach and frequent illnesses. ²⁴The sins of some men are evident, going ahead into judgment, but also they follow after some. ²⁵Likewise, good works {are} also evident, and the ones having otherwise are not able to be hidden.

Chapter 6

¹As many slaves as are under the yoke, let them regard their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be blasphemed. ²But the ones having believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brothers, but let them serve them more, because they are believers and beloved, the ones partaking of the service. Teach and encourage these things.

³If anyone is teaching differently and does not accede to the healthy words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the teaching according to godliness, ⁴he is puffed up, understanding nothing, but being sick about controversies and word-battles, from which come envy, strife, blasphemies, evil suspicions, ⁵friction, between men having been corrupted {as to} the mind and having been deprived of the truth, considering godliness to be a means of gain.^[1] ⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, so that neither are we able to take anything out. ⁸But having food and clothing, with these we will be satisfied. ⁹Now the ones wanting to be rich fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, whatever plunges men into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For a root of all evils is the love of money, which, some desiring, have been led away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many sorrows.

¹¹But you, O man of God, flee these things, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith, grasp eternal life, to which you were called and confessed the good confession before many witnesses. ¹³I command you before God, the one enlivening all, and Christ Jesus, the one having testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, ¹⁴{that} you keep the commandment spotless, irreproachable, until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵whom in its own times the blessed and only

Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, will reveal, ¹⁶the One having immortality alone, occupying unapproachable light, whom none of men has seen, nor is able to see, to whom {be} honor and eternal power. Amen.

¹⁷Command the rich in the present age not to be proud, nor to hope in the uncertainty of riches, but in God, the one providing us all things richly unto enjoyment, ¹⁸to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, willing to share, ¹⁹storing up for themselves a good foundation for what is coming, so that they may grasp genuine life.

²⁰O Timothy, guard the deposit, avoiding the profane chatter and contradictions of miscalled knowledge, ²¹which some, professing, have missed the mark regarding the faith. Grace {be} with you.

6:5 ^[1] but the best ancient copies do not.

2 Timothy

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God, according to the promise of life that {is} in Christ Jesus, ²to Timothy, {my} beloved child: Grace, mercy, {and} peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I have gratitude to God, whom I serve from {my} ancestors, with a clean conscience, as I have constant remembrance of you in my prayers night and day, ⁴longing to see you, remembering your tears, that I may be filled with joy, ⁵having received remembrance of the genuine faith in you which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced that {it is} also in you, ⁶for which reason I am reminding you to rekindle the gift of God that is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God did not give us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of discipline. ⁸Therefore, do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me, his prisoner, but suffer together for the gospel, according to the power of God ⁹who has saved us and called us with a holy calling—not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before eternal times, ¹⁰and which now has been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus who has both put an end to death and brought to light life and immortality through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,^[1] ¹²for which reason I also suffer these things. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am certain that he is able to guard my deposit until that day.

¹³Keep the example of the healthy words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that {are} in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴Guard the good deposit through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

¹⁵You know this, that all who {are} in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

¹⁶May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chain, ¹⁷but when he was in Rome he diligently searched for me and found me. ¹⁸May the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord in that day. And how much he served in Ephesus, you know very well.

1:11 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹You, therefore, my child, be strengthened in the grace that {is} in Christ Jesus. ²And what you have heard from me along with many witnesses, entrust these things to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³Suffer together as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the affairs of life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him. ⁵Also, if anyone competes, he is not crowned if he has not competed lawfully. ⁶The hardworking farmer ought to be first to receive of the crops. ⁷Think about what I am saying, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. ⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, from the seed of David, according to my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering unto chains like a criminal. But the word of God is not bound. ¹⁰Because of this, I endure all things for the chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation that {is} in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹This word {is} trustworthy:

“For if we died with him, we will also live with him.

¹²If we endure, we will also reign with him.

If we deny him, he also will deny us.

¹³If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful,

for he is not able to deny himself.”

¹⁴Remind them of these things, charging them before God not to battle about words; {it is} useful for nothing, to the destruction of those who hear.^[1] ¹⁵Strive to present yourself approved to God, a worker not ashamed, cutting the word of truth straight. ¹⁶But avoid profane empty discussions, for they will advance into greater ungodliness, ¹⁷and their word will have a spreading like gangrene, among whom are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸who have missed the mark regarding the truth, saying the resurrection has already happened, and who are destroying the faith of some. ¹⁹Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are his” and “Everyone who names the name of the Lord must abstain from unrighteousness.” ²⁰Now in a great house, there are not only gold and silver containers, but also wood and clay, and both some for honor and some for dishonor. ²¹Therefore, if someone has cleansed himself from these, he will be a container for honor, having been sanctified, useful to the Master, having been prepared for every good work. ²²So flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, {and} peace with those who call on the Lord from a clean heart. ²³But avoid foolish and ignorant questions, knowing that they give birth to battles. ²⁴But the slave of the Lord must not battle, but be kind toward all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵in meekness educating those who oppose him. God may perhaps give them repentance for the knowledge of the truth, ²⁶and they may become sober again from the trap of the devil, having been captured by him for the will of that one.

2:14 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹But know this, that in the last days there will be difficult times. ²For men will be self-loving, money-loving, boasters, proud, blasphemous, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³unloving, irreconcilable, slanderous, unrestrained, violent, not good-loving, ⁴betrayers, reckless, puffed up, pleasure-loving rather than God-loving, ⁵having a form of godliness, but denying its power. And turn away from these. ⁶For among them are those who are entering into households and captivating foolish women who are loaded with sins, led away by various desires, ⁷always learning, but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁸And what way Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these oppose the truth, men {whose} mind is corrupted, unapproved regarding the faith. ⁹But they will not advance unto more, for their foolishness will be obvious to all, as also that of those became. ¹⁰But you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹persecutions, sufferings, such as happened to me in Antioch, in Iconium, in Lystra; what kind of persecutions I endured. But the Lord rescued me from them all. ¹²And indeed, all those who want to live piously in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. ¹³But evil men and impostors will advance unto the worse, leading astray and being led astray. ¹⁴You, however, remain in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you learned them, ¹⁵and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith that {is} in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture {is} God-breathed and {is} profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, {and} for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Chapter 4

¹I adjure you before God and Christ Jesus, the one who is going to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²Preach the word; be ready opportunely, inopportunely; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all patience and teaching. ³For there will be a time when they will not endure healthy teaching. Instead, they will heap up for themselves teachers according to their own desires, {their} ear itching, ⁴and will both turn {their} ear away from the truth and be turned aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things. Suffer hardship. Do the work of an evangelist. Carry out fully your service. ⁶For I am already being poured out, and the time of my departure is here. ⁷I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸Now the crown of righteousness

has been reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved his appearing.

⁹Hasten to come to me quickly, ¹⁰for Demas has deserted me, having loved the present age, and has gone to Thessalonica, Crescens to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Getting Mark, bring him with you, because he is useful to me for service. ¹²But I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, bring when you come, and the books, especially the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith did much harm to me. The Lord will repay him according to his deeds, ¹⁵whom you also, guard yourself against, because he greatly opposed our words. ¹⁶At my first defense, no one appeared with me, but everyone deserted me. May it not be counted against them. ¹⁷But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully carried out and all the Gentiles might hear. And I was rescued out of the mouth of the lion. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and will save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him {be} the glory to eternity forever. Amen.

¹⁹Greet Priscilla and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus remained at Corinth, and Trophimus I left sick at Miletus. ²¹Hasten to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and the brothers.

²²The Lord {be} with your spirit. Grace {be} with you.

Titus

Chapter 1

¹Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of the chosen people of God and the knowledge of the truth that agrees with godliness, ²with the certain hope of everlasting life that God, who does not lie, promised before all the ages of time. ³But at the right time, he revealed his word by the proclamation that I was entrusted with by the command of God our Savior. ⁴To Titus, a true son in a common faith. Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

⁵For this purpose I left you in Crete, that you might set in order things not yet complete and ordain elders in every city as I directed you— ⁶if anyone is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of reckless behavior or rebellion. ⁷For the overseer must be blameless, as the household manager of God, not arrogant, not easily angered, not addicted to wine, not a brawler, {and} not a greedy man. ⁸Instead, he must be hospitable, a friend of what is good, sensible, righteous, holy, {and} self-controlled. ⁹He must hold tightly to the trustworthy message that is in accordance with the teaching, so that he may be able both to encourage others with sound teaching and rebuke those who oppose him.

¹⁰For there are many people, both rebellious, empty talkers, and deceivers, especially those from the circumcision. ¹¹It is necessary to stop them. They are upsetting whole households, teaching what they should not for the sake of shameful profit. ¹²One of them, of their own prophets, has said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy bellies.” ¹³This testimony is true. For this reason, rebuke them severely, so that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not paying any attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵All things {are} pure to those who {are} pure. But to those who are corrupt and unbelieving, nothing {is} pure, but both their minds and consciences have been corrupted. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but they deny him by {their} actions, being detestable and disobedient and unfit for any good work.

Chapter 2

¹But you, speak what fits with sound teaching. ²Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, {and} in perseverance. ³Older women likewise {are to be} reverent in behavior, not slanderers or enslaved to much wine, {but to be} teachers of what is good. ⁴In this way they may train the younger women to be lovers of their husbands {and} lovers of their children, ⁵to be sensible, pure, good housekeepers, {and} subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God may not be insulted. ⁶In the same way, exhort the younger men to be sensible. ⁷In all ways present yourself {as} an example of good works. In the teaching, be uncorrupted, with dignity, ⁸{and} a sound message {that is} above criticism, so that the opponent may be ashamed, having nothing bad to say about us. ⁹Slaves are to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be pleasing, {and} not to argue, ¹⁰not to steal, but instead to demonstrate all good faith, so that in every way they may bring credit to the teaching that {is} about God our Savior. ¹¹For the grace of God has appeared for salvation to all men, ¹²training us, so that, rejecting godlessness and worldly passions, we might live in a sensible and righteous, and godly way in the present age, ¹³while we look forward to receiving the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He gave himself for us in order to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a special people, zealous for good works.

¹⁵Speak of these things, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Chapter 3

¹Remind them to submit to rulers {and} authorities, to obey them, to be ready for every good work, ²to revile no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing all humility toward all men. ³For once we also were foolish {and} disobedient. We were led astray {and} enslaved by various passions and pleasures. We lived in evil and envy, detestable, {and} hating one another. ⁴But when the kindness and love for mankind of God our Savior appeared, ⁵{it was} not by works of righteousness that we did, but by his mercy that he saved us, through the washing of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he richly poured on us through our Savior Jesus Christ, ⁷so that having been justified by the grace of that one, we might become heirs according to the certain hope of everlasting life.

⁸This message {is} trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage themselves in good works. These things are good and useful for men. ⁹But avoid foolish debates, and genealogies, and strife, and conflict about the law because they are unprofitable and worthless.

¹⁰Reject a divisive person after one or two warnings, ¹¹knowing that such a person has turned from the right way and is sinning, being self-condemned.

¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, hurry to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³Diligently send on their way Zenas the lawyer and Apollos, so that they lack nothing. ¹⁴And also, our own must learn to engage themselves in good works toward essential needs, in order not to be unfruitful.

¹⁵All those who {are} with me greet you. Greet those who love us in faith. Grace {be} with all of you.

Philemon

Chapter 1

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and {our} brother Timothy to Philemon, the beloved and our fellow worker, ²and to Apphia {our} sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house. ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I always thank my God, making mention of you in my prayers, ⁵hearing of your love and the faith that you have in the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, ⁶that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of everything good that {is} among us for Christ. ⁷For I had much joy and comfort because of your love, because the inner parts of the saints are being refreshed by you, brother.

⁸Therefore, having much boldness in Christ to command you the thing that is proper to do, ⁹because of love I appeal to you instead—being such a one as Paul, an elder, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whom I have fathered in {my} chains. ¹¹He formerly was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me, ¹²whom I have sent back to you—him—this one is my inner parts. ¹³I desired to keep him with me, so that he might serve me on behalf of you in the chains of the gospel. ¹⁴But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your good deed might not be as according to compulsion but according to good will. ¹⁵For perhaps for this reason he was separated from you for an hour, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave, but better than a slave—a beloved brother, especially to me, but much more so to you, in both the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷Therefore, if you have me as a partner, receive him as me. ¹⁸But if he has wronged you or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, wrote this with my own hand. I myself will pay it back—in order not to say to you that you also owe me even your own self! ²⁰Yes, brother, may I benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my inner parts in Christ.

²¹Having confidence in your obedience, I wrote to you, having known that you will do even beyond what I am saying. ²²But at the same time, also prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be given back to you.

²³Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, ²⁴Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, {and} Luke, my fellow workers.

²⁵The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ {be} with your spirit. Amen.

Hebrews

Chapter 1

¹God, having spoken long ago to {our} fathers through the prophets at many times and in many ways, ²in these last days, has spoken to us through a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the ages; ³who, being the brightness of {his} glory and exact representation of his being, upholding all things by the word of his power and having made cleansing for sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high; ⁴having become far superior to the angels just as he has inherited a more excellent name than them. ⁵For to which of the angels did he ever say,

“You are my son,
today I have fathered you”?

Or again,

“I will be as a father to him,
and he will be as a son to me”?

⁶But again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “And let all God’s angels worship him.” ⁷And with regard to the angels he says,

“He who makes his angels spirits,
and his servants flames of fire.”

⁸But to the Son {he says},

“Your throne, O God, {is} forever {and} ever,
and the scepter of righteousness {is} the scepter of his kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of exultation more than your companions.”

¹⁰“And in the beginning, O Lord, you laid the earth’s foundation,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

¹¹They will perish, but you will continue
and they will all wear out like a garment.

¹²And you will roll them up like a cloak,
and they will be changed like a garment.

But you are the same,
and your years will not end.”

¹³But to which of the angels has he said at any time,
 “Sit at my right hand
 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits, being sent for service for the sake of those who are going to inherit salvation?

Chapter 2

¹Therefore it is far more necessary for us to give attention to what we have heard, so that we might not drift away from it. ²For if the message spoken through angels became reliable, and every transgression and disobedience received just punishment, ³how will we escape, having ignored so great a salvation? This, first having been received to be spoken by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard it; ⁴God also testifying to it by signs and wonders and various miracles, and by the distributions of the Holy Spirit according to his will.

⁵For {it was} not to angels that {God} subjected the world that is coming, about which we are speaking. ⁶Instead, someone has somewhere testified, saying,

“What is man, that you remember him
 or a son of man, that you care for him?”

⁷You made him a little lower than the angels;
 you crowned him with glory and honor.^[1]

⁸You subjected everything under his feet.”

For in subjecting all things, he left nothing not subjected to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him. ⁹But we see Jesus, who was made somewhat less than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of {his} suffering of death, so that by God's grace he might taste death on behalf of everyone. ¹⁰For it was proper for him, for whom all things {exist} and through whom all things {exist}, having brought many sons into glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings. ¹¹For both the one who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified {are} all from one. For this reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers,
 I will praise you in the midst of the assembly.”

¹³And again,
 “I will trust in him.”

And again,
 “Behold, {here am} I and the children whom God has given me.”

¹⁴Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he likewise also shared in the same, so that through death he might abolish the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and might free those, as many as all {their} lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For of course {it is} not angels he is concerned with, but {it is} the descendant of Abraham he is concerned with. ¹⁷So he was obligated to become like {his} brothers in all ways, so that he would be a merciful and faithful high priest concerning the things of God to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸For in that he himself suffered, having been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

2:7 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹Therefore, holy brothers, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider carefully the apostle and high priest of our confession, Jesus, ²being faithful to the one who appointed him, as also Moses {was} in his house. ³For he has been considered worthy of greater glory than Moses, just as much greater honor than the house has the one who built it. ⁴For every house is built by someone, but the one who built everything {is} God. ⁵And Moses {was} faithful as a servant in his entire house, for a testimony of what will be spoken of in the future; ⁶but Christ, as a Son over his house—whose house we are if we hold fast to the confidence and the boasting of {our} hope. ⁷Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says:

“Today, if you hear his voice,

⁸do not harden your hearts

as in the rebellion,

in the day of testing in the wilderness

⁹where your fathers tested {me} by testing {me},

and they saw my works

¹⁰for 40 years. Therefore I was displeased with that generation

and I said, ‘They are always being led astray in {their} hearts

and they have not known my ways.’

¹¹As I swore in my wrath,

‘If they will enter into my rest ...!’”

¹²Be careful, brothers, so that there will not be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God. ¹³Instead, encourage one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” so that no one among you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we have become partakers of Christ if we firmly hold to the beginning of {our} confidence until the end. ¹⁵About this it has been said,

“Today, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts,

as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶For which ones who heard rebelled? {Was it} not all those who came out from Egypt through Moses? ¹⁷And with whom was he angry for 40 years? {Was it} not with those who sinned, whose dead bodies fell in the wilderness?

¹⁸And to whom did he swear that they would not enter into his rest, if not to those who disobeyed? ¹⁹And we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

Chapter 4

¹Therefore, let us be afraid lest while there remains a promise of entering into his rest, any of you might seem to have failed to attain it. ²For we also are having good news proclaimed {to us} just as to them also. But the message

of the hearing did not benefit them, not having been united with faith in those who heard it.^[1] ³For we who have believed enter into rest, just as he said,

“As I swore in my wrath,

They will never enter into my rest.”

Even so, {his} works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴For he has somewhere spoken thus about the seventh {day}:

“And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” ⁵And again in this {same passage},

“They will never enter into my rest.”

⁶Therefore, because it remains for some to enter into it, and those who previously had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in, because of {their} disobedience. ⁷He has again set a certain day calling it “Today,” speaking through David after so much time, just as it had been said,

“Today if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts.”

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, he would not have spoken about another day after this. ⁹Therefore there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. ¹⁰For the one who has entered into his rest has himself also rested from his works, just as God {did} from his own. ¹¹Therefore let us be eager to enter into that rest, so that no one might fall into the same kind of disobedience. ¹²For the Word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And nothing created is hidden before God. Instead, everything {is} bare and laid open to the eyes of him to whom we {must give} account.

¹⁴Therefore, having a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us firmly hold to {our} profession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is not able to sympathize with our weaknesses, but being tempted in all ways according to {our} likeness without sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace for timely help.

4:2 ^[1]

Chapter 5

¹For every high priest having been chosen from among men on the behalf of men is appointed in the things concerning God, so that he may offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; ²being able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and who are being deceived, because he also is subject to weakness. ³And because of this, he is obligated, just as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. ⁴And no one takes {this} honor for himself, but {only} when called by God, just as also Aaron {was}. ⁵In the same way also, Christ did not honor himself to become high priest. Instead, the one speaking to him {said},

“You are my Son;

today I have become your Father.”

⁶{It is} just as he also says in another {place},

“You {are} a priest forever

after the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷He, during the days of his flesh, offered up both prayers and requests with loud cries and tears to the one who is able to save him from death and was heard because of {his} godly life. ⁸Even though being a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered. ⁹And having been made perfect, he became, for all those who obey him, the source of eternal salvation, ¹⁰having been designated by God {as} high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

¹¹Concerning him the message to us {is} great, but hard to say since you have become dull in hearing. ¹²For even though by this time you ought to be teachers, you again have need of one to teach you some of the basic principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to have need of milk, not solid food! ¹³For anyone who takes milk {is} inexperienced with the message of righteousness, because he is a little child. ¹⁴But solid food is for the mature, who by practice have trained {their} senses for distinguishing both of good and of evil.

Chapter 6

¹So then, having left the beginning of the message of Christ, let us go forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith in God, ²teaching about baptisms, and laying on of hands, and resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. ³And this we will do if God permits. ⁴For {it is} impossible for those who were once enlightened and having tasted the heavenly gift, and having become sharers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵and who have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶but having fallen away—to restore them again to repentance while crucifying the Son of God for themselves and publicly shaming him. ⁷For land that has drunk the rain that often comes upon it and produces plants useful to those for whom it was also cultivated receives a blessing from God; ⁸but bearing thorns and thistles, {it is} worthless and close to a curse, the end of which {is} for burning.

⁹But concerning you, beloved ones, we are convinced of things better and accompanying salvation, even if we speak thus. ¹⁰For God {is} not unjust, to forget your work and the love that you have shown for his name, having served the saints and serving them. ¹¹And we long for each of you to show the same diligence toward the assurance of {your} hope to the end ¹²so that you might not become lazy, but imitators of those who by faith and patience inherit the promises.

¹³For God, having made a promise to Abraham, swore by himself, since he had no one greater by {whom} to swear, ¹⁴saying, “I will most certainly bless you, and I will certainly increase you.” ¹⁵And in this way, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise. ¹⁶For men swear by someone greater, and the oath {is} for confirmation of the end of each of their disputes. ¹⁷When God, wanting even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable quality of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath ¹⁸so that by two unchangeable things—in which {it is} impossible for God to lie—we, who have fled for refuge, might have a strong encouragement to hold firmly to the hope set before us; ¹⁹which we have as an anchor of the soul, both reliable and steadfast, and entering into the inner place {behind} the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered in, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Chapter 7

¹For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ²to whom also Abraham gave a tenth of everything, first indeed translated as “king of righteousness,” and then also “king of Salem,” that is, “king of peace,” ³without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

⁴But see how great this one {was}, to whom the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth from the plunder. ⁵And those indeed from the sons of Levi who receive the priesthood have a command according to the law to collect tithes

from the people, that is, from their brothers, even though they have come from the loins of Abraham. ⁶But Melchizedek, whose descent was not traced from them, received tithes from Abraham, and blessed the one having the promises. ⁷But without any argument, the lesser is blessed by the greater. ⁸And in this case, mortal men receive tithes, but in that case it is testified that he lives on. ⁹And, so to speak, Levi, the one receiving tithes, also paid tithes through Abraham, ¹⁰because he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met Abraham.

¹¹So if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need {was there} for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and to not be called according to the order of Aaron? ¹²For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity a change of the law also happens. ¹³For he about whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has attended to the altar. ¹⁴For {it is} clear that our Lord is risen from Judah, a tribe toward which Moses said nothing concerning priests. ¹⁵And this is even more clear, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, ¹⁶who became {a priest}, not according to a law of fleshly command, but according to the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷For he is testified to:

“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

¹⁸For on the one hand, annulment of the former commandment happens because it {is} weak and useless ¹⁹{for the law made nothing perfect}, and on the other hand {is} the introduction of a better hope, through which we come near to God. ²⁰And by as much as not without an oath,—for they without an oath are become priests, ²¹but he with an oath-taking, through God saying to him,

“The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind:

“You {are} a priest forever”— ²²in the same way also, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant. ²³And they, on the one hand, who became priests are many, since death prevents them from continuing, ²⁴but Jesus, on the other hand, since he remains forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵Therefore he is also able to save completely those who approach God through him, always living to intercede for them. ²⁶For such a high priest is indeed suitable for us: holy, innocent, pure, separated from sinners, and having become higher than the heavens; ²⁷who does not have each day the need, even as the high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people, for he did this, having offered himself once for all. ²⁸For the law appoints {as} high priests men having weaknesses, but the word of the oath, which {came} after the law, a Son, made perfect forever.

Chapter 8

¹Now the point of the things being said {is} this: We have a high priest who has sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ²a servant of the holy {place} and the true tabernacle that the Lord, not a man, set up. ³For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore {it is} necessary also for this one to have something that he might offer. ⁴Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the law; ⁵who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to complete the tabernacle, for he says, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown to you on the mountain.” ⁶But now he has received a much better ministry, just as he is also the mediator of a better covenant, which is enacted on better promises. ⁷For if that first {covenant} was faultless, no place would have been sought for a second. ⁸For finding fault with them, he says,

“Behold, the days are coming—says the Lord—

when I will make a new covenant

with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah;

⁹not according to the covenant

that I made with their fathers
 on the day when I took them by their hand
 to lead them out of the land of Egypt,
 because they did not continue in my covenant,
 and I disregarded them—
 says the Lord.

¹⁰For this {is} the covenant
 that I will make with the house of Israel
 after those days—
 says the Lord.

I will put my laws into their minds,
 and I will write them on their hearts,
 and I will be their God,
 and they will be my people.

¹¹And they will certainly not teach each one his fellow citizen,
 and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'
 for they will all know me,
 from the least of them to the greatest.

¹²For I will be merciful toward their evil deeds,
 and their sins I will certainly not remember any longer."

¹³By saying, "new," he has made the first obsolete, and what has been made obsolete and the disappearance of what grows old {is} near.

Chapter 9

¹Now indeed the first {covenant} had regulations for worship and an earthly holy {place}. ²For a tabernacle was prepared, the first {tent}, in which {were} both the lampstand and the table, and the presentation of the bread, which is called the holy {place}. ³And behind the second curtain {was} a tent which is called the Holy of Holies, ⁴having a golden altar for incense and the ark of the covenant, being covered completely with gold, in which {was} a golden jar holding the manna, and the rod of Aaron that had budded, and the tablets of the covenant. ⁵And above it, glorious cherubim are overshadowing the atonement lid, about which it is not now {the time} to speak in detail. ⁶And when these things are thus prepared, the priests always enter into the first tent, performing {their} services; ⁷but into the second {tent}, only once a year the high priest {enters}, {and} not without blood that he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people. ⁸The Holy Spirit shows that the way into the holy {place} is not yet visible while the first tabernacle still has a place, ⁹which {is} a symbol for the present time, in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered, not being able according to conscience to perfect the worshiper, ¹⁰only concerning food and drink and various washings, regulations of the body, imposed until the time of reformation.

¹¹But Christ, having come as a high priest of the good things that have come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made by human hands, that is not of this creation;^[1] ¹²and not by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood, he entered into the holy {place} once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkling of a heifer's ashes on those who have become unclean sanctify them for the cleansing of {their} flesh, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, cleanse your^[2] conscience from dead works to serve the living God! ¹⁵And for this reason, he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, a death having taken place for redemption of those under the first covenant from their transgressions, those who are called might receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. ¹⁶For where {there is} a covenant, {there is} a necessity for the death of the one who made it to be proven. ¹⁷For a covenant {is} valid on the basis of a death, because it never has force when the one who made it is alive. ¹⁸So not even the first {covenant} was established without blood. ¹⁹For every command according to the law had been spoken by Moses to all the people, having taken the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and red wool and hyssop, he sprinkled both the scroll itself and all the people, ²⁰saying, "This {is} the blood of the covenant that God has commanded for you." ²¹And in the same manner, he sprinkled the blood on both the tabernacle and on all the containers of the service. ²²And according to the law, almost everything is cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

²³Therefore {it is} a necessary on the one hand for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but on the other hand, the heavenly things themselves, with much better sacrifices than these. ²⁴For Christ did not enter into a holy {place} made with hands, a copy of the true one—but into heaven itself, to appear now in the presence of God for us. ²⁵And not in order to offer himself many times, even as the high priest enters into the holy {place} each year with the blood of another; ²⁶since it is necessary for him to suffer many times from the foundation of the world. But now he has appeared once at the end of the ages for the annulment of sin through the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷And just as men are appointed to die once, and after that, the judgment, ²⁸so also, Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time apart from sin, for salvation to those who are eagerly waiting for him.

9:11 ^[1]

9:14 ^[2] instead of .

Chapter 10

¹For the law, having a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the very image of those things—is never able to make perfect those who approach with the same sacrifices that they continually bring every year. ²Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, because no one would still have consciousness of sins, those who worship having been cleansed once for all? ³But with those sacrifices {there is} a reminder of sins every year. ⁴For {it is} impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. ⁵Therefore, entering into the world, he says,

"Sacrifice and offering

you did not desire,

but a body you prepared for me;

⁶in whole burnt offerings and concerning sin {offerings}

you did not take pleasure.

⁷Then I said, 'Behold, I have come—

{as} it is written about me in a section of a scroll—

to do your will, O God.”

⁸When he says above, “Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor did you take pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the law), ⁹then he said, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He takes away the first {practice} in order to establish the second {practice}. ¹⁰By that will, we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. ¹¹And indeed every priest stands every day ministering, and repeatedly offering the same sacrifices that never are able to take away sins. ¹²But he, having offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, sat down at the right hand of God; ¹³waiting from then until his enemies might be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴For by one offering he has perfected forever those who are being sanctified. ¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶“This is the covenant that I will make with them

after those days, says the Lord.

putting my laws in their hearts,

and I will write them on their minds.” ¹⁷And {then},

“Their sins and their lawless deeds

I will certainly not still remember.”

¹⁸Now where {there is} forgiveness for these, {there is} no longer sacrifice for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, brothers, having confidence to enter the holy {place} by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰which has established for us a new and living way through the curtain, that is, his flesh, ²¹and a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with true hearts in full assurance of faith, {our} hearts having been sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and {our} bodies having been washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold tightly the confession of {our} hope without wavering, because the one who has promised {is} faithful. ²⁴And let us consider one another, to stimulate love and good deeds, ²⁵not abandoning our own meeting together, just as {is} the habit of some, but encouraging, and even more as you see the day approaching.

²⁶For if we deliberately keep on sinning after we receive the knowledge of the truth, a sacrifice for sins no longer remains, ²⁷but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and of fiery zeal being about to consume the enemies.

²⁸Anyone who has rejected the law of Moses dies without mercy at {the testimony of} two or three witnesses.

²⁹How much worse punishment do you think will deserve the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has considered the blood of the covenant—by which he was sanctified—{as} profane, and has insulted the Spirit of grace! ³⁰For we know the one who said, “Vengeance {is} mine; I will pay back.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” ³¹{It is} a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God!

³²But remember the former days, in which, having been enlightened, you endured a great struggle of suffering,

³³sometimes being publicly exposed to both ridicule and persecution, and other times having become partners of those who are are being treated in this way. ³⁴For you also showed compassion to the prisoners, and you accepted with joy the seizure of your possessions, knowing yourselves to have a better and everlasting possession.^[1] ³⁵So do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶For you have need of endurance so that, having done the will of God, you might receive the promise.

³⁷“For in a very little {while},

the one who is coming will come and will not delay.

³⁸But my righteous one will live by faith,

and if he would shrink back, my soul is not pleased with him.”

³⁹But we are not of shrinking back to destruction, but of faith to the preservation of the soul.

10:34 ^[1]

Chapter 11

¹Now faith is assurance {of things} being hoped for, proof of things not being seen. ²For by this the elders were approved. ³By faith we understand the ages to have been prepared by the command of God—what is seen was not made from what is visible. ⁴By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he was attested to be righteous, God testifying because of his gifts, and through faith, having died, he still speaks. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken up, not seeing death, and “He was not found, because God took him.” For before {his} removal, he was reported to have pleased God. ⁶Now without faith {it is} impossible to please him, for it is necessary for the one who comes to God to believe that he exists and is a rewarder of those who seek him. ⁷By faith Noah, having been given a divine message about things not yet being seen, having become reverently obedient, built an ark for salvation of his household, through which he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that is according to faith. ⁸By faith, Abraham, being called, obeyed to go out to a place that he was going to receive for an inheritance and went out, not knowing where he is going. ⁹By faith he lived in a land of promise as a foreigner, having lived in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the fellow heirs of the same promise, ¹⁰for he was looking forward to the city having foundations, whose architect and builder {is} God. ¹¹By faith, even Sarah herself received ability for the conception of a descendant, even beyond the time of full age, since she considered {to be} faithful the one who had promised.^[1] ¹²Therefore, also from one {man}—and he being made dead—these were born, just as the stars of the sky in number, and countless as the sand along the shore of the sea. ¹³In faith all these died without receiving the promises, but seeing and greeting them from far off, and having confessed that they are foreigners and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴For those who say such things make it clear that they seek a homeland. ¹⁵And if indeed they had been thinking of that one from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But now, they desire a better one, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed of them, to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. ¹⁷By faith Abraham, being tested, offered Isaac, even the one who had received the promises offered up {his} one and only {son}. ¹⁸To him it had been said, “Through Isaac your descendants will be named,” ¹⁹having reasoned that God is able to raise up even from the dead, and in a parable, he received him back from there. ²⁰By faith also, concerning what is coming, Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau. ²¹By faith Jacob, when he is dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, {leaning} on the end of his staff. ²²By faith Joseph, coming to an end, spoke about the departure of the sons of Israel from Egypt and instructed them about his bones. ²³By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents because they saw {he was} a beautiful child, and they were not afraid of the command of the king. ²⁴By faith Moses, having become great, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. ²⁵Instead, he chose to suffer with the people of God, rather than to have the temporary enjoyment of sin. ²⁶He reasoned that the reproach of the Christ {was} greater riches than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking away to {his} reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not having feared the anger of the king, for he endured as if he were seeing the unseen one. ²⁸By faith he performed the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch them. ²⁹By faith they passed through the Sea of Reeds as if over dry land. When the Egyptians took this attempt, they were swallowed up. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, having been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who disobeyed, having received the spies with peace. ³²And what more might I say? For the time will fail me, telling about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, and also Samuel and the prophets, ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, worked justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴extinguished the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were healed from illnesses, became mighty in battle, {and} defeated foreign armies. ³⁵Women received back their dead from resurrection, but others were tortured, not accepting release, so that they might experience a better resurrection; ³⁶and others received trials of mocking and of whippings, and even of chains and of imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tested, they died with slaughter of the sword, they went about in sheepskins {and} in goatskins,

destitute, oppressed, mistreated;^[2] ³⁸(of whom the world was not worthy), being caused to wander about in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹And all these, having been commended because of {their} faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰God having planned something better concerning us, so that without us, they would not be made perfect.

11:11 ^[1]

11:37 ^[2]

Chapter 12

¹Therefore, we also, having so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, having laid aside every weight and the easily entangling sin, let us run with endurance the race that is placed before us, ²looking away to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of the faith, who because of the joy that is placed before him, endured the cross, despising its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³For think about the one who has endured such opposition by sinners against himself, so that you might not become weary in your souls, giving up.

⁴You have not yet resisted to the point of blood, struggling against sin, ⁵and you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons:

“My son, do not think lightly of the Lord’s discipline,
nor be wearied when you are reproved by him;”

⁶For whom the Lord loves, he disciplines,
and he punishes every son whom he receives.

⁷{If} you endure in discipline, God offers himself to you as to sons. For what son {is there} whom {his} father does not discipline? ⁸But if you are without discipline, of which all {men} have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not {his} sons. ⁹Furthermore, on the one hand, we had the fathers of our flesh {as} discipliners and we respected them; on the other hand, will we not much more be subjected to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For on the one hand, they disciplined us for a few days according to what they think {best}, but he, on the other hand, for {our} benefit, to partake of his holiness. ¹¹Now every discipline does not seem to be joy at the time, but pain, but afterward it produces the peaceful fruit of righteousness for those who have been trained by it. ¹²Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are paralyzed, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that the lame might not be sprained, but rather might be healed.

¹⁴Pursue peace with all {men}, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord, ¹⁵exercising care that no one is lacking from the grace of God, not any root of bitterness is growing up to cause trouble, and by this many might become defiled, ¹⁶not any sexually immoral or profane one such as Esau, who in exchange for one meal sold his own birthright. ¹⁷For you know that even afterwards, desiring to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, because he found no opportunity for repentance, even though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what that can be touched and to a blazing fire and to darkness and to gloom and to a storm, ¹⁹and to a trumpet blast and to a voice of words whose hearers begged for not a word to be added to them. ²⁰For they could not endure what was commanded: “If even an animal might touch the mountain, it must be stoned.”^[1] ²¹And what appeared was so fearful {that} Moses said, “I am terrified and trembling.” ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the assembly ²³and to the church of the firstborn, who have been registered in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous ones made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood speaking better than Abel’s. ²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused the one who warns them on earth, much less we who turn away from the one from heaven; ²⁶the voice of whom at that time shook the earth, but now he has promised, saying, “Once more I will

shake not only the earth, but also the heavens.” ²⁷But this {phrase}, “Once more,” indicates the removal of the things that are shaken, that is, of what has been created, so that what is not shaken might remain. ²⁸Therefore, receiving an unshakeable kingdom, let us have gratitude, through which we may worship in a manner pleasing to God, with reverence and awe, ²⁹for indeed our God {is} a consuming fire.

12:20 ^[1]

Chapter 13

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not forget hospitality, for through this, some have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. ³Remember the prisoners, as if you were bound with them, {and} those who are mistreated, as if you also were with them in body. ⁴Marriage {is} honorable in all, and the marriage bed {is} pure, for God will judge sexually immoral people and adulterers. ⁵{Your} conduct {is to be} free from the love of money, being content with the things you have, for he himself has said, “I will never leave you, nor never will I forsake you.” ⁶So then, we are confident to say,

“The Lord is {my} helper, and I will not be made afraid.

What will a man do to me?”

⁷Consider your leaders, who spoke the Word of God to you, of whom considering the result of {their} conduct, imitate {their} faith. ⁸Jesus Christ {is} the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be carried away by various and strange teachings. For it is good for the heart to be confirmed by grace, not by foods that do not help those who walk by them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve in the tabernacle do not have the right to eat. ¹¹For the blood of those animals is brought for sins by the high priest into the holy {place}, {but} the bodies of these are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate, in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Let us therefore go to him outside the camp, bearing his reproach. ¹⁴For we do not have a permanent city here, but we are seeking one that is to come. ¹⁵Through him, let us offer up a sacrifice of praise through all to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶But let us not neglect the doing of good and sharing, for God is pleased with such sacrifices. ¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give account, in order that they might do this with joy and not with groaning, for this would be useless to you.

¹⁸Pray for us, for we are persuaded that we have a good conscience, desiring to live rightly in all things. ¹⁹But I encourage you even more to do this, so that I will be returned to you sooner.

²⁰Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep, our Lord Jesus, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹may he equip you with everything good to do his will, working in us what {is} pleasing before him, through Jesus Christ, to whom {be} the glory forever {and} ever. Amen.

²²Now I encourage you, brothers, bear with the word of encouragement, for only in a few {words} I have written to you. ²³Know that our brother Timothy has been set free, with whom I will see you if he comes soon.

²⁴Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.

²⁵Grace {be} with you all.

James

Chapter 1

¹James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes that {are} in the dispersion: Rejoice!
²Consider it all joy, my brothers, when you fall into various trials, ³knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴But let endurance have a perfect work, so that you may be perfect and whole, lacking in nothing.
⁵Now if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask from God, who gives to all generously and not reproaching, and it will be given to him. ⁶But let him ask in faith, doubting nothing, for the one who doubts has become like a wave of the sea, wind-blown and tossed. ⁷For let that man not think that he will receive anything from the Lord, ⁸a double-minded man, unsettled in all his ways. ⁹Now let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰but the rich in his lowliness, because he will pass away like a flower of the grass. ¹¹For the sun rose with heat and dried up the grass, and its flower fell off and the beauty of its face perished. Thus also the rich will wither in his journeys. ¹²Blessed {is} the man who endures trial. For, becoming approved, he will receive the crown of life, which he promised to the ones who love him. ¹³Let no one being tempted say, "I am tempted by God," because God is untempted by evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each is tempted by his own desire, dragged away and enticed. ¹⁵Then desire, having conceived, bears sin, and sin, having grown up, gives birth to death. ¹⁶Do not be led astray, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good present and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no change or shadow of turning. ¹⁸Having willed, he gave birth to us by the word of truth, for us to be something like a firstfruits of his creatures. ¹⁹Know, my beloved brothers: But let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger. ²⁰For the anger of man does not work the righteousness of God. ²¹Therefore, laying aside all filth and abundance of wickedness, in humility receive the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word and not only hearers, deluding yourselves. ²³For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man beholding the face of his birth in a mirror. ²⁴For he beheld himself and went away and immediately forgot of what sort he was. ²⁵But the one having gazed into the perfect law of freedom and having continued, not having become a hearer of forgetfulness, but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in his doing. ²⁶If anyone thinks to be religious, not bridling his tongue, but deceiving his heart, the religion of that one {is} worthless. ²⁷Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to look upon orphans and widows in their distress, to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Chapter 2

¹My brothers, do not with favoritism have the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory. ²For if a gold-ringed man in splendid clothing comes into your synagogue, and a poor one in filthy clothing also comes in, ³and you look at the one wearing splendid clothing and say, "You sit here well," and to the poor one you say, "You stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," ⁴have you not distinguished among yourselves and become judges of evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, did not God choose the poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to the ones who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor! Do not the rich overpower you and themselves drag you into court? ⁷Do they not blaspheme the good name that has been called upon you? ⁸If, however, you fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You will love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. ⁹But if you favor, you are committing sin, convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever might keep the whole law but stumble in one thing has become guilty of all. ¹¹For the one who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If, then, you do not commit adultery but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²Thus speak and thus act, as ones who are going to be judged by means of the law of freedom. ¹³For judgment {is} merciless to those who have not done mercy. Mercy boasts against judgment.

¹⁴What {would be} the profit, my brothers, if someone said he had faith, but he did not have works? Faith is not able to save him, is it? ¹⁵If a brother or sister were unclothed and lacking daily food, ¹⁶and one of you said to them, "Go in peace, warm yourself and be satisfied," but you did not give them the necessary things for the body, what {would be} the profit? ¹⁷Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith from works. ¹⁹You believe that God is one. You do well. The demons also believe, and they tremble. ²⁰But do you wish to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is idle?^[1] ²¹Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? ²²You see that faith was working with his works and faith was perfected from works. ²³And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "And Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness," and he was called a friend of God. ²⁴You see that a man is justified from works and not from faith alone. ²⁵And similarly was not Rahab the prostitute also justified from works, having welcomed the messengers and having sent them away by another road? ²⁶For just as the body without the spirit is dead, thus also faith without works is dead.

2:20 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹Do not become many teachers, my brothers, knowing that we will receive greater judgment. ²For we all stumble much. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able to bridle even the whole body. ³Now if we put bits into the mouths of horses for them to obey us, we also turn their whole body. ⁴Behold also the ships, being so large and driven by strong winds, it is turned by the smallest rudder where the inclination of the one steering desires. ⁵Thus also the tongue is a small member, but it boasts great things. Behold how small a fire kindles so large a forest. ⁶The tongue is also a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is placed among our members, the thing staining the whole body and setting the course of existence on fire, and it is set on fire by Gehenna. ⁷For every kind, both of beasts and birds, both of reptiles and marine animals, is being tamed and has been tamed by the human kind. ⁸But none of men is able to tame the tongue, an unsettled evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have come into being according to the likeness of God. ¹⁰Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing. It is not necessary, my brothers, for these things to happen thus. ¹¹A spring does not gush the sweet and the bitter from the same opening, does it? ¹²A fig tree is not able to make olives, is it, my brothers, or a grapevine, figs? Nor salty to make sweet water.

¹³Who {is} wise and understanding among you? Let him show his works from good conduct in the humility of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie against the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but {it is} earthly, soulish, demonic. ¹⁶For where {there is} jealousy and ambition, there {is} unsettledness and every wicked deed. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, cooperative, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, sincere. ¹⁸And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Chapter 4

¹From where {are} wars and from where {are} battles among you? {Are they} not from there, from your lusts, which fight in your members? ²You covet, and you do not have. You kill and envy, and you are not able to obtain. You battle and war. You do not have because you do not ask. ³You ask and you do not receive, because you ask badly, so that you may spend on your lusts. ⁴Adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wants to be a friend of the world is made an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you think that the scripture says vainly, "The Spirit whom he caused to live in us longs with jealousy"? ⁶But he gives greater grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but he gives grace to the humble." ⁷Be submitted, therefore, to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Come near to God and he will come near to you. Cleanse {your}

hands, sinners, and purify {your} hearts, double-minded. ⁹Be miserable and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be changed into mourning, and {your} joy into gloom. ¹⁰Be humbled before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

¹¹Do not speak against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother speaks against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge. ¹²The lawgiver and judge is one, the one who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you, the one judging a neighbor?

¹³Come now, the ones saying, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to this city and do a year there and trade and gain." ¹⁴You who do not know the thing of tomorrow, what {is} your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little and then disappears. ¹⁵Instead, you should say, "If the Lord wishes, we will both live and do this or that." ¹⁶But now you are boasting in your pretensions. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷Therefore to the one having known to do good and not doing it, to him it is sin.

Chapter 5

¹Come now, the rich, weep, wailing because of your coming miseries. ²Your wealth has rotted and your clothes have become moth-eaten. ³Your gold and silver have been tarnished, and their rust will be for a testimony against you and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have stored up in the last days. ⁴Behold, the pay of the workers who have reaped your fields, which has been withheld from you, is crying out, and the cries of the ones harvesting have entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. ⁵You have lived luxuriously on the earth and have lived self-indulgently. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶You have condemned, you have killed the righteous. He does not resist you.

⁷Therefore, wait patiently, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer awaits the valuable fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and the late. ⁸You also wait patiently. Strengthen your hearts, because the coming of the Lord has come near. ⁹Do not complain, brothers, against one another, so that you may be not judged. Behold, the judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰Take an example, brothers, of the suffering and the patience of the prophets, those who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we call blessed those who have endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the end of the Lord, that the Lord is greatly compassionate and merciful.

¹²But before all, my brothers, do not swear, neither by heaven nor by the earth, nor by any other oath. But let your "Yes" be "Yes" and "No," "No," so that you may not fall under judgment.

¹³Is anyone among you suffering hardship? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Let him summon the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, having anointed him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵And the prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up. And if he may have committed sins, it will be forgiven to him. ¹⁶Therefore, confess {your} sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The working prayer of the righteous {is} very strong. ¹⁷Elijah was a man of similar passions to us, and he prayed with prayer for it not to rain, and it did not rain upon the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth produced its fruit.

¹⁹My brothers, if anyone among you may have been led astray from the truth and someone turns him back, ²⁰let him know that the one who turns back a sinner from the wandering of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

1 Peter

Chapter 1

¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the elect exiles of the dispersion of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ²according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying of the Spirit for obedience and the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be multiplied to you.

³Blessed {is} the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to his great mercy, has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴for an imperishable and undefiled and unfading inheritance, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are protected by the power of God through faith, for a salvation {that is} ready to be revealed in the last times. ⁶In this you greatly rejoice, if now it is necessary to have been distressed a little bit in various trials ⁷so that the proof of your faith—{which is} more precious than gold that perishes, but, being tested by fire—it might be found to result in praise, and glory, and honor at the revealing of Jesus Christ, ⁸whom, not having seen, you love, in whom, not seeing him now, but believing, you exult with inexpressible joy and are filled with glory, ⁹receiving for yourselves the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. ¹⁰The prophets searched and inquired carefully about this salvation, who prophesied about this grace in you, ¹¹examining about whom or of what time the Spirit of Christ in them was revealing, testifying beforehand about the sufferings of Christ and the glory after that. ¹²It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in those things which have now been declared to you by those who proclaimed the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—into which things angels long to look.

¹³Therefore, having girded up the loins of your mind, being fully sober, hope in the grace that is being brought to you in the revelation of Jesus Christ, ¹⁴as obedient children, not being conformed to {your} former desires in your ignorance. ¹⁵But as the one who called you {is} holy, you also become holy in all {your} behavior. ¹⁶For it is written, “You will be holy, because I {am} holy.” ¹⁷And if you call “Father” the one judging impartially according to the work of each one, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your journey, ¹⁸knowing that you have been redeemed not with perishable silver or gold from your futile behavior handed down from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as an unblemished and spotless lamb, ²⁰having been foreknown before the foundation of the world, but he has been revealed in these last times for your sake, ²¹those through him believing in God, who has raised him from the dead and has given him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. ²²Having purified your souls by obedience to the truth for sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,^[1] ²³having been born again, not from perishable seed, but from imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴For,

“All flesh {is} like grass,

and all its glory {is} like the flower of the grass.

The grass was dried up, and {its} flower fell off,

²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this is the word that has been proclaimed to you.

1:22 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹Therefore, having put aside all evil and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, ²as newborn babies, long for pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up to salvation, ³if you have tasted that the Lord {is} kind, ⁴coming to him, a living stone, having been rejected by men, but chosen by God, precious, ⁵and you, like living stones, are being built up {as} a spiritual house, into a holy priesthood to offer the spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶Therefore, it stands in scripture:

“Behold, I lay in Zion a cornerstone,

chosen, precious.

And the one believing in him may certainly not be ashamed.”

⁷Therefore, this honor {is} to you who believe. But to the unfaithful,

“The stone that was rejected by the builders,

this has become the head of the corner”—

⁸and,

“A stone of stumbling

and a rock of offense.”

They stumble, disobeying the word—to which also they were appointed. ⁹But you {are} a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for possession, so that you might proclaim the wonderful actions of the one who called you from darkness into his marvelous light, ¹⁰who once

{were} not a people, but now

the people of God; the ones who

had not received mercy, but now

you have received mercy.

¹¹Beloved, I exhort you as foreigners and exiles to abstain from fleshly desires, which make war against {your} soul, ¹²keeping your behavior among the Gentiles good, so that, in whatever they speak about you as evildoers, from observing {your} good works, they might glorify God in the day of visitation.

¹³Be subjected to every human authority for the sake of the Lord, whether to the king as supreme, ¹⁴or to governors, as through him having been sent, to punish evildoers and to praise doers of good. ¹⁵For this is the will of God— doing good to silence the ignorant talk of foolish people, ¹⁶and as free people, not having {your} freedom as a covering for wickedness, but as servants of God. ¹⁷Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

¹⁸House slaves, be subject to {your} masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the perverse.

¹⁹For this {is} praiseworthy if anyone endures sorrow while suffering injustice because of conscience {toward} God.

²⁰For what kind of credit {is there} if, sinning and being tormented, you will endure? But if doing good and suffering, you will endure, this {finds} favor with God. ²¹For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving an example for you so that you might follow in his footsteps;

²²“who committed no sin,

neither was deceit found in his mouth;”

²³who being reviled, did not revile back; suffering, he did not threaten, but he committed himself to the one who judges justly; ²⁴who himself carried our sins in his body to the tree, so that having been separated from {our} sins, we might live for righteousness, of whose wounds you were healed. ²⁵For you as sheep are being led astray, but now you have been returned to the shepherd and overseer of your souls.

Chapter 3

¹In the same way, wives, being subjected to your own husbands, so that even if some are disobedient to the word, they will be won without a word, through the behavior of {their} wives, ²having seen your pure behavior with respect; ³whose adornment, let be not with the outward braiding of {their} hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or wearing fine clothing, ⁴but the inner man of the heart, in the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious before God. ⁵For in this manner also holy women who hope in God formerly adorned themselves, being subject to their own husbands, ⁶as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose children you have become, doing what is good and not being afraid of any terror.

⁷Husbands, in the same way, living with {your} wife according to understanding, as with a weaker container, assigning her honor as also fellow heirs of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.

⁸Now finally, all of you, be likeminded, compassionate, loving as brothers, tenderhearted, humble; ⁹not paying back evil in exchange for evil or insult in exchange for insult, but on the contrary, blessing, because to this you were called, so that you might inherit a blessing.

¹⁰For, "Let the one desiring to love life and to see good days

stop {his} tongue from evil and {his} lips from speaking deceit.

¹¹But let him turn away from evil and let him do good.

Let him seek peace and pursue it, ¹²for

the eyes of the Lord {are} upon the righteous, and his ears {are} upon their requests.

But the face of the Lord {is} against those doing evil."

¹³And who {is} the one who will harm you if you become a zealot of what is good? ¹⁴But even if you suffer because of righteousness, {you are} blessed. But, do not fear their fear, nor be troubled. ¹⁵Instead, sanctify the Lord Christ in your hearts, always ready with an answer for everyone who asks you the reason for the hope in you, ¹⁶but with meekness and fear, having a good conscience, so that when you are being slandered, those who are insulting your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed. ¹⁷For {it is} better doing good, if desiring the will of God, to suffer, than doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also died once for sins—the righteous on behalf of the unrighteous—so that he might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but having been made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he preached, having gone to the spirits in prison, ²⁰having disobeyed formerly, when the patience of God was waiting in the days of Noah, while an ark is being constructed, in which a few—that is, eight souls—were saved through water. ²¹And the antitype, baptism, now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but the appeal of a good conscience to God—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels, and authorities, and powers had been subjected to him.

Chapter 4

¹Therefore, Christ having suffered in the flesh, also arm yourselves with the same intention, for the one who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²in that for the rest of {his} time in the flesh, he no longer lives for the desires of men, but for the will of God. ³For enough time has passed doing the will of the Gentiles, living in

sensuality, passions, drunkenness, carousing, drunken parties, and in lawless idolatry, ⁴in which, being surprised that you are not running with them in the same outpouring of {their} reckless behavior, insulting you; ⁵they will give an account to the one who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For because of this the gospel was preached also to the dead, so as a result, they might be judged in the flesh according to men, but they might live in the spirit according to God.

⁷Now the end of all things has come near. Therefore be of sound mind, and be sober for prayers; ⁸above all, having fervent love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins; ⁹hospitable to one another without complaining; ¹⁰just as each one has received a gift, ministering it to yourselves, as good stewards of the diverse grace of God. ¹¹If anyone speaks—as with words of God; if anyone serves—as from the strength that God supplies, so that in all God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory and the power forever {and} ever. Amen.

¹²Beloved, do not regard as strange the fiery trial among you that is happening for a testing to you, as something strange happening to you, ¹³but, however much you experience the sufferings of Christ, rejoice, so that also, at the revealing of his glory, you may rejoice, being full of joy. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, {you are} blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵So, do not let any of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evildoer, or as a meddler, ¹⁶but if as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this name. ¹⁷For {it is} the time to begin the judgment with the household of God; but if first with us, what {will be} the end of those disobeying the gospel of God?

¹⁸And “If with difficulty the righteous are being saved,

where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

¹⁹So then, also let those suffering according to the will of God entrust their souls to the faithful Creator in well-doing.

Chapter 5

¹Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, {as your} fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, who also {is} a partaker of the glory that is about to be revealed: ²Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight—not under compulsion, but willingly, according to God—not greedily, but eagerly; ³and not as lording it over those who are assigned to you, but be examples of the flock. ⁴And when the Chief Shepherd has been revealed, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. ⁵In the same way, you younger men, submit to elders. And all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. ⁶Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God so that he may exalt you in due time, ⁷having cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, is walking around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in the faith, knowing that your brotherhood that {is} in the world is enduring the same sufferings. ¹⁰But the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, having suffered for a little while, will himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, {and} establish you. ¹¹To him {be} the dominion forever. Amen.

¹²Through Silvanus, the faithful brother, as I regard him, I wrote to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand in it. ¹³She {who is} in Babylon, chosen together with you, greets you, as well as Mark, my son. ¹⁴Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to you all who {are} in Christ.

2 Peter

Chapter 1

¹Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have received a faith equal in value with us, by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: ²May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. ³As his divine power has given to us all the things for life and godliness through the knowledge of the one who called us through {his} glory and excellence, ⁴through which he has given to us the precious and great promises so that through them you might be sharers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world by lust, ⁵and now with respect to this, applying all diligence, supply in your faith, goodness; and in goodness, knowledge; ⁶and in knowledge, self-control; and in self-control, endurance; and in endurance, godliness; ⁷and in godliness, brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love. ⁸For these things existing and increasing in you cause you to be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For he in whom these things are not present is blind, nearsighted, having received forgetfulness of the cleansing of his past sins. ¹⁰Therefore, brothers, be even more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for doing these things, you will certainly not ever stumble. ¹¹For in this way will be richly provided to you the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

¹²Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you about these things, although you have known them and have been established in the present truth. ¹³But I think {it is} right, as long as I am in this tent, to arouse you in remembrance, ¹⁴knowing that the putting off of my tent is imminent, just as also our Lord Jesus Christ revealed this to me. ¹⁵Likewise, I will be diligent to cause you to always have the remembrance of these things after my departure. ¹⁶For we did not make known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ by having followed cleverly invented myths, but by having become eyewitnesses of the majesty of that one. ¹⁷For he has received honor and glory from God the Father, such a voice having been brought to him by the Majestic Glory: "This is my Son, my Beloved, in whom I myself am well pleased." ¹⁸And we ourselves heard this voice, having been brought from heaven, being with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have the very certain prophetic word, to which you do well to pay attention, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day might dawn and the morning star might rise in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first, that every prophecy of scripture does not come from one's own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever brought by the will of man, but men being carried along by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Chapter 2

¹Now false prophets were also among the people, as false teachers will also be among you, who will bring in heresies of destruction, and denying the master who bought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves. ²And many will follow their licentious acts, because of whom the way of truth will be slandered. ³And in greed, they will exploit you with false words, for whom condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction does not sleep. ⁴For if God did not spare angels who had sinned, but, in chains of darkness throwing down to Tartarus, he handed over those being kept for judgment;^[1] ⁵and he did not spare the ancient world, but protected the eighth, Noah, a preacher of righteousness, having brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly ones; ⁶and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, having reduced to ashes, he condemned to destruction, having set an example of the things that are going to happen to the ungodly ones; ⁷and he rescued righteous Lot, being oppressed by the behavior of the lawless ones in licentiousness, ⁸(for, by seeing and by hearing, that righteous man, living among them day from day, was tormenting his righteous soul by lawless works); ⁹the Lord knows how to rescue godly ones from a trial, and to keep the unrighteous ones to be punished in the day of judgment, ¹⁰but especially those

going after the flesh in its lusts of defilement, and despising authority. Audacious ones! Self-willed ones! They do not tremble while insulting glorious ones; ¹¹whereas angels, being greater in strength and power, do not bring an insulting judgment against them in the presence of the Lord. ¹²But these men, as unreasoning animals, having by nature been born for capture and destruction, slandering about those things in which they are ignorant, they will also be destroyed in their destruction, ¹³being harmed {as} the wages of unrighteousness, considering as pleasure the reveling in the day, stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions while feasting with you;^[2] ¹⁴having eyes full of an adulteress, and never ceasing from sin, enticing unstable souls, having hearts trained in covetousness, children of cursing. ¹⁵Abandoning the straight way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness.^[3] ¹⁶But he had a rebuke for his own transgression—a mute donkey, having spoken in a voice of a human, restrained the irrationality of the prophet. ¹⁷These men are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm, for whom the gloom of darkness has been reserved. ¹⁸For, speaking arrogant things of vanity, they entice by the lusts of the flesh, by licentious acts, those barely escaping from those living in error, ¹⁹promising freedom to them, while themselves being slaves of destruction. (For by what someone has been overcome, by this he has been enslaved.) ²⁰For if, having escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, but, having been entangled again, they have been overcome by these things, for them the last things have become worse than the first things. ²¹For it was better for them not to know the way of righteousness than, having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment that has been delivered to them. ²²This of the true proverb has happened to them: “A dog returns to its own vomit, and a washed pig to the rolling of mud.”

2:4 ^[1]

2:13 ^[2]

2:15 ^[3]

Chapter 3

¹Beloved ones, this is now the second letter I write to you, in which I arouse your pure mind in remembrance, ²to remember the words spoken previously by the holy prophets and the command of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, ³knowing this first, that mockers will come with mockery in the last days, going according to their own lusts, ⁴and saying, “Where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue in the same way from the beginning of creation.” ⁵For this is hidden from them willingly, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth had been formed out of water and through water by the word of God, ⁶through which the world at that time perished, having been flooded by water. ⁷But the present heavens and the earth, by the same word, are having been reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and the destruction of the ungodly men.

⁸But let this one thing not be hidden from you, beloved ones, that one day with the Lord {is} like 1,000 years, and 1,000 years {are} like one day. ⁹The Lord does not delay {concerning} the promise, as some consider delay, but is patient toward you, not wanting any to perish, but all to move on to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come as a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be destroyed, being burned up, and the earth and the deeds in it will be found. ¹¹All of these things being thus destroyed, of what sort is it necessary for you to be in holy behaviors and godly acts, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens, being set on fire, will be destroyed, and the elements, being burned up by heat, will be melted? ¹³But new heavens and a new earth, according to his promise, we are waiting for, in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved ones, while waiting for these things, be diligent to be found spotless and blameless by him, in peace. ¹⁵And consider the patience of our Lord {to be} salvation, just as also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom having been given to him, ¹⁶as also in all the letters, speaking in them about these things, in which are some difficult to understand things, which the ignorant and unstable ones distort, as also the other scriptures, to their own destruction. ¹⁷Therefore, you beloved ones, knowing beforehand, guard yourselves, so that

you might not lose your own steadfastness, having been led astray by the error of the lawless ones. ¹⁸But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him {be} the glory both now and to the day of the age. Amen!

1 John

Chapter 1

¹What was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched, regarding the Word of life— ²indeed, the life appeared, and we have seen it, and we are testifying to it, and we are announcing to you the eternal life that was with the Father and appeared to us— ³what we have seen and heard, we declare also to you, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And indeed, our fellowship {is} with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be fulfilled.^[1]

⁵And this is the message that we have heard from him and are announcing to you, that God is light, and darkness is not in him at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we are lying and we are not doing the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we are leading ourselves astray, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, that he should forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1:4 ^[1], some ancient manuscripts read

Chapter 2

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone should sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²And he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world. ³And in this we know that we have known him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴The one who says, "I know him," and does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in this one. ⁵But whoever keeps his word, in this one truly the love of God has been perfected. In this we know that we are in him: ⁶the one who says he remains in him ought, just as that one walked, also to walk himself.

⁷Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment, which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you heard. ⁸Again, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is going away and the true light is already shining. ⁹The one who says he is in the light and hates his brother is in the darkness until now. ¹⁰The one who loves his brother remains in the light and a stumbling-block is not in him. ¹¹But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

¹²I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven because of his name. ¹³I am writing to you, fathers, because you know the one {who is} from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. ¹⁴I have written to you, young children, because you know the Father. I have written to you, fathers, because you know the one {who is} from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one. ¹⁵Do not love the world, nor the things that {are} in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For everything that {is} in the world—the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the arrogance of life—is not from the Father, but is from the world. ¹⁷And the world is going away, and its desire, but the one who does the will of God remains to eternity.

¹⁸Young children, it is the last hour, and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, indeed now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹They went out from us, but they were not from us. For if they had been from us, they would have remained with us, but so that they would be made apparent, that they are all not from us. ²⁰And you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.^[1] ²¹I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and that every lie is not from the truth. ²²Who is the liar, if not the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This one is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. ²³Everyone who denies the Son does not have the Father. The one who confesses the Son also has the Father. ²⁴As for you, what you have heard from the beginning, let it remain in you. If what you have heard from the beginning remains in you, you will also remain in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵And this is the promise that he promised to us—eternal life. ²⁶I have written these things to you about those who are leading you astray. ²⁷And as for you, the anointing that you received from him remains in you, and you do not have need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, remain in him.

²⁸And now, little children, remain in him, so that whenever he appears, we may have boldness and not be put to shame by him at his coming. ²⁹If you know that he is righteous, you also know that everyone who does righteousness has been begotten from him.

2:20 ^[1]

Chapter 3

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God, and we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know him.^[1] ²Beloved, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that whenever he appears, we will be like him because we will see him just as he is. ³And everyone who has this hope upon him purifies himself, just as that one is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin also commits lawlessness. Indeed, sin is lawlessness. ⁵And you know that that one appeared so that he might take away sins, and sin is not in him. ⁶Everyone who remains in him does not sin. Everyone who sins has not seen him and has not known him. ⁷Little children, let no one lead you astray. The one who does righteousness is righteous, just as that one is righteous. ⁸The one who commits sin is from the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this reason the Son of God appeared, so that he might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹Everyone who has been begotten from God does not commit sin, because his seed remains in him. And he is not able to sin, because he has been begotten from God. ¹⁰In this the children of God and the children of the devil are apparent: Everyone who does not do righteousness is not from God, and the one who does not love his brother. ¹¹For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, ¹²not like Cain, who was from the evil one and killed his brother. And on account of what did he kill him? Because his works were evil, but those of his brother, righteous.

¹³Do not be amazed, brothers, if the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have relocated from death into life, because we love the brothers. The one who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that every murderer does not have eternal life remaining in him. ¹⁶In this we have known love, that that one laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down {our} lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But whoever has the possessions of the world and sees his brother having need and closes his entrails from him, how does the love of God remain in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word nor in tongue, but in deed and truth. ¹⁹In this we will know that we are from the truth and we will persuade our hearts before him, ²⁰that if our heart condemns us, that God is greater than our heart and knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if the heart does not condemn, we have confidence toward God ²²and whatever we ask, we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and we do the pleasing things before him. ²³And this is his commandment: that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another just as he gave us a commandment. ²⁴And the one who keeps his

commandments remains in him, and he in him. And in this we know that he remains in us, from the Spirit whom he gave to us.

3:1 ^[1].

Chapter 4

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²In this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses Jesus Christ having come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. And this is that of the antichrist, which you have heard about, that it is coming, and it is now already in the world.^[1] ⁴You are from God, little children, and you have overcome them because the one who is in you {is} greater than the one in the world. ⁵They are from the world. Because of this, they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us. Whoever is not from God does not listen to us. From this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and everyone who loves has been begotten from God and knows God. ⁸The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹In this the love of God appeared among us, that God sent his Son, the One and Only, into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God thus loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³In this we know that we remain in him and he in us: that he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, we have seen and we testify that the Father sent the Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God. ¹⁶And we have known and believed the love that God has in us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. ¹⁷In this, love has been perfected with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment, because just as that one is, we also are in this world. ¹⁸Fear is not in love, but perfect love throws fear outside, because fear has punishment. So the one who fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, is not able to love God, whom he has not seen. ²¹Indeed, we have this commandment from him, that the one who loves God should also love his brother.

4:3 ^[1]

Chapter 5

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten from God, and everyone who loves the one begetting also loves the one having been begotten from him. ²In this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and we keep his commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we should keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For everyone who has been begotten from God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world, our faith. ⁵But who is the one who overcomes the world, if not the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ—not in water alone, but in water and in blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷For there are three who testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood, and the three are unto the one.^[1] ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater. For this is the testimony of God, that he has testified about his Son. ¹⁰The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in him. The one who does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has testified about his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²The one who has the Son has life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I have written these things to you, the ones believing in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have towards him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us. ¹⁵And if we know that he listens to us, whatever we may request, we know that we have the requests that we have requested from him. ¹⁶If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin not towards death, he will ask, and he will give him life, for those sinning not towards death. There is a sin towards death; I am not saying that he should pray about that. ¹⁷All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not towards death.

¹⁸We know that everyone who has been begotten from God does not sin, but the One who was begotten from God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him. ¹⁹We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the evil one. ²⁰But we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know the True One. And we are in the True One, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. ²¹Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

5:8 ^[1] However, the best copies do not have this reading.

2 John

Chapter 1

¹The elder, to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in the truth—and not only I, but also all who have known the truth— ²because of the truth that remains in us and will be with us to eternity. ³Grace, mercy, {and} peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

⁴I rejoiced greatly that I found some of your children walking in the truth, just as we have received a commandment from the Father. ⁵And now I ask you, lady—not as writing a new commandment to you, but what we have had from the beginning—that we should love one another. ⁶And this is love, that we should walk according to his commandments. This is the commandment, just as you heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it. ⁷For many deceivers have gone out into the world, who do not confess Jesus Christ coming in flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. ⁸Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have worked for, but may receive a full reward. ⁹Everyone who goes beyond and does not remain in the teaching of Christ does not have God. The one who remains in the teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house and do not say to him, “Greetings.” ¹¹For the one who says to him, “Greetings,” shares in his evil deeds.

¹²Having many things to write to you, I did not want with paper and ink. However, I hope to come to you and to speak mouth to mouth, so that your joy might be made complete. ¹³The children of your chosen sister greet you.

3 John

Chapter 1

¹The elder, to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

²Beloved, I pray concerning everything for you to prosper and to be healthy, just as your soul prospers. ³For I rejoiced greatly when brothers came and bore witness to your truth, just as you are walking in truth. ⁴I have no greater joy than these things, that I hear my children are walking in the truth.

⁵Beloved, you are doing a faithful thing whenever you might work for the brothers, and this for strangers, ⁶who have borne witness to your love in the presence of the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God, ⁷because they went out for the sake of the name, receiving nothing from the Gentiles.

⁸Therefore we ought to welcome such as these, so that we become fellow workers for the truth.

⁹I wrote something to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept us. ¹⁰For this reason, when I come, I will call attention to his works that he is doing—accusing us with evil words. But not satisfied with these things, he does not receive the brothers, and he stops those who are willing and puts them out of the church. ¹¹Beloved, do not imitate what {is} evil, but what {is} good. The one who does good is from God; the one who does evil has not seen God. ¹²Demetrius is borne witness to by all and by the truth itself. And we also bear witness, and you know that our testimony is true.

¹³I have many things to write to you, but I do not wish to write them to you with ink and pen. ¹⁴But I expect to see you soon, and we will speak mouth to mouth. ¹⁵Peace to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

Jude

Chapter 1

¹Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James, to the called ones, those loved in God the Father and kept in Jesus Christ: ²May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

³Beloved ones, making every effort to write to you about our common salvation, I have a necessity to write to you, exhorting to contend for the faith that was delivered once for all to the saints. ⁴For certain men have entered secretly, who long ago have been designated beforehand for this condemnation, ungodly ones, changing the grace of our God into licentiousness and denying our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

⁵Now I want to remind you, you knowing all things once for all, that Jesus,^[1] having saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶And angels who did not keep their own domain, but having left their own dwelling place, he has kept in eternal chains, under darkness, for the judgment of the great day— ⁷as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, having committed sexual immorality in the same manner as these, and having gone after other flesh, are being displayed as an example, suffering the punishment of eternal fire. ⁸Yet in the same way also, these ones who dream defile the flesh on the one hand and reject lordship on the other hand and slander glorious ones. ⁹But Michael the archangel, when disputing with the devil, was arguing about the body of Moses; he did not dare to bring a judgment of slander against him. Rather, he said, "May the Lord rebuke you!" ¹⁰But these ones on the one hand slander what they do not understand; on the other hand, what they understand by instinct as unreasoning animals, by these things they are being destroyed. ¹¹Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain and have abandoned themselves to the error of Balaam for wages, and in the rebellion of Korah they have perished. ¹²These ones are the ones who fearlessly feast with you— hidden reefs in your love feasts, shepherding themselves; waterless clouds, carried along by winds; fruitless autumn trees — having died twice, having been uprooted, ¹³wild waves of the sea, foaming out their own shameful deeds; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of darkness has been kept to eternity. ¹⁴Now also Enoch, seventh from Adam, prophesied about these ones, saying, "Behold! The Lord came with myriads of his holy ones ¹⁵to do judgment against everyone and to rebuke every soul concerning all their works of ungodliness, which they did in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things which ungodly sinners spoke against him." ¹⁶These ones are murmurers, complainers, going according to their lusts, and their mouth speaks boastful things, admiring faces for the sake of advantage.

¹⁷But you, beloved ones, remember the words that have been spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁸that they said to you, "In the last time there will be mockers going according to their own ungodly lusts." ¹⁹These are the ones causing divisions, soulless, not having the Spirit. ²⁰But you, beloved ones, building yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. ²²And on the one hand, have mercy on some who are doubting; ²³but on the other hand, save others, snatching from fire; and have mercy on others with fear, hating even the garment having been defiled by the flesh.

²⁴Now to the one who is able to keep you without stumbling and to cause you to stand before his glory blameless, in exultation, ²⁵to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all the age and now and to all eternity. Amen!

1:5 ^[1] but some manuscripts have .

Revelation

Chapter 1

¹{This is} the revelation of Jesus Christ that God gave him to show his servants what must soon happen. And he made it known, having sent through his angel to his servant John, ²who testified about the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, as much as he saw. ³Blessed {is} the one who reads and those who listen to the words of this prophecy and who keep what is written in it, for the time {is} near.

⁴John, to the seven churches that {are} in Asia: Grace to you and peace from the one who is, and who was, and who is coming, and from the seven spirits who {are} before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To the one who loves us and has released us from our sins by his blood ⁶and has made us a kingdom, priests for his God and Father—to him {be} the glory and the power forever. Amen.

⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds,
and every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him,
and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him.

Yes, Amen.

⁸"I am the alpha and the omega," says the Lord God, "the one who is, and who was, and who is coming, the Almighty."^[1]

⁹I, John—your brother and a fellow partaker in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance {that are} in Jesus—was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a scroll and send it to the seven churches—to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." ¹²And I turned around to see the voice that was speaking with me, and having turned, I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the middle of the lampstands {there was one} like a son of man, wearing a robe reaching to his feet and with a golden sash having been wrapped around {his} chest. ¹⁴Now his head and hair {were} white as wool—white as snow—and his eyes {were} as a flame of fire, ¹⁵and his feet {were} like polished bronze, as having been refined in a furnace, and his voice as the sound of many rushing waters, ¹⁶and having seven stars in his right hand and a sharp, double-edged sword coming out of his mouth and his face shining as the sun at its strength. ¹⁷And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as a dead man, and he placed his right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last ¹⁸and the one who lives; and I became dead, but behold, I live forever {and} ever, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. ¹⁹Therefore, write down what you have seen and what is and what is about to happen after these things. ²⁰The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

1:8 ^[1]

Chapter 2

¹"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

'The one who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands, says these things: ²'I know your works and your hard labor and your patient endurance, and that you are not able to tolerate evil people, and you have tested those who call themselves apostles but are not, and you have found them {to be} false; ³and you have patient endurance and have suffered because of my name and have not grown weary. ⁴But I have against you that you have left behind your first love. ⁵Therefore, remember from where you have fallen and repent and do the first works. But if not, I will come to you and I will remove your lampstand from its place—if you do not repent. ⁶But you have this, that you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will grant to him to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'''

⁸'And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

'The first and the last, the one who became dead but came to life again, says these things: ⁹'I know your affliction and {your} poverty (but you are rich), and the slander of those who say they themselves are Jews, but they are not, but {are} a synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰Do not fear at all what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Become faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will certainly not be hurt by the second death.'''

¹²'And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

'The one who has the double-edged, sharp sword says these things: ¹³'I know where you live, where the throne of Satan {is}, and yet you hold tightly to my name, and you did not deny {your} faith in me, even in the days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan lives. ¹⁴But I have a few things against you; that you have there some who hold tightly to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to throw a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat food sacrificed to idols and to be sexually immoral. ¹⁵So, in the same way, you also have {some} holding tightly to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶Repent, therefore! But if {you do} not, I will quickly come to you and will wage war against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will give him of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and on the stone, a new name written which no one knows except the one who receives it.'''

¹⁸'And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

'The Son of God, who has his eyes as a flame of fire and his feet like polished bronze, says these things: ¹⁹'I know your works, and your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and your last works {are} greater than {your} first {works}. ²⁰But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and deceives my servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. ²¹And I gave her time so that she might repent, but she is not willing to repent of her immorality. ²²Behold! I will throw her onto a bed, and those who commit adultery with her {I will throw into} great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. ²³And I will strike her children dead, and all the churches will know that I am the one who searches kidneys and hearts, and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds. ²⁴Now I say to you, the rest of those in Thyatira, to as many as do not hold this teaching, whoever has not known the deep things of Satan, as some call it—I do not put any other burden on you. ²⁵However, hold on tightly to what you have until I come.

²⁶And the one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations.

²⁷And he will shepherd them with a rod of iron,

as jars of clay are broken into pieces,'

²⁸as I also have received {authority} from my Father, and I will give him the morning star. ²⁹Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'''

Chapter 3

¹“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write:

‘The one who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars says these things: “I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up and strengthen what remains, which is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. ³Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard. And keep it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come as a thief, and you will certainly not know what hour I will come against you. ⁴But you have a few names in Sardis who have not stained their clothes, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵The one who conquers will be clothed in this manner in white garments, and I will certainly not wipe his name out of the Book of Life, and I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. ⁶Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”’

⁷“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

‘The Holy One, the True One,
the one having the key of David,
the one who opens and no one will shut,
and he shuts and no one opens, says these things:

⁸“I know your works (Behold, I have put before you an open door that no one is able to shut), that you have little power, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹Behold, I will give those of the synagogue of Satan who call themselves Jews but are not, rather, they are lying—behold, I will make them so that they will come and bow down before your feet, and they might realize that I loved you. ¹⁰Because you have kept the word of my steadfastness, I will also keep you from the hour of testing that is about to come on the entire inhabited world, to test those who live on the earth. ¹¹I am coming quickly. Hold fast to what you have so that no one might take away your crown. ¹²The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God, and he will certainly not go out from it anymore, and I will write on him the name of my God, the name of the city of my God (even the new Jerusalem, that comes down out of heaven from my God), and my new name. ¹³Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”’

¹⁴“And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

‘The Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God says these things: ¹⁵“I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot! ¹⁶So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am about to vomit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷For you say, ‘I am rich and have become wealthy and have need of nothing,’ and yet you do not know that you are miserable and pitiable and poor and blind and naked. ¹⁸I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you might become rich, and brilliant white garments so that you might clothe yourself and would not show the shame of your nakedness, and salve to anoint your eyes so that you might see. ¹⁹I rebuke and discipline as many as I love. Therefore, be earnest and repent. ²⁰Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone might hear my voice and would open the door, I will indeed enter into him and will eat with him, and he with me. ²¹The one who conquers, I will grant to him to sit down with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²²Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”’

Chapter 4

¹After these things I looked, and behold—an open door in heaven, and the first voice that I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after these things.” ²Immediately

I was in the Spirit, and behold—a throne was placed in heaven! And {someone is} sitting on the throne. ³And the one who was sitting on it {had} the appearance like a jasper stone and carnelian, and a rainbow around the throne {had} the appearance like an emerald. ⁴And around the throne {were} 24 thrones, and seated on the thrones {were} 24 elders dressed in white garments, and on their heads {were} golden crowns. ⁵And from the throne burst out flashes of lightning and rumblings and thunder. And seven lamps of fire are burning in front of the throne, which are the seven spirits of God. ⁶And in front of the throne was a glass sea, like crystal, and in the middle of the throne and around the throne {were} four living creatures, full of eyes, front and back. ⁷And the first living creature {was} like a lion, and the second living creature {was} like a calf, and the third living creature had a face as a man, and the fourth living creature {was} like an eagle flying. ⁸And the four living creatures, each one of them have in turn six wings all around and are full of eyes underneath, and do not have rest night and day, saying,

“Holy, holy, holy {is} the Lord God Almighty,
who was, and who is, and who is coming.”

⁹And whenever the living creatures will give glory and honor and thanks to the one who sits on the throne, the one who lives forever {and} ever, ¹⁰the 24 elders will fall down before the one seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever {and} ever, and they will lay their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹“Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive the glory and the honor and the power,
because you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

Chapter 5

¹And I saw in the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, having been sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who {is} worthy to open the scroll and to break its seals?” ³And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to read it. ⁴And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to read it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Behold, the Lion who {is} from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered. {He is able} to open the scroll and its seven seals.” ⁶And I saw in the middle of the throne and the four living creatures, and among the elders, a Lamb standing, as though having been killed, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he came and took {the scroll} from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the 24 elders fell down before the Lamb, each one having a harp and a golden bowl full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sing a new song, saying,

“You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slaughtered, and with your blood you purchased people for God
from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

¹⁰And you made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they will reign on the earth.”

¹¹And I looked and heard the sound of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders and the total number of them was myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying in a loud voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb who has been slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise."

¹³And I heard every creature that was in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea and everything that {is} in them, saying,

"To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb {be} the praise and the honor and the glory and the power to rule, forever {and} ever."

¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.^[1]

5:14 ^[1]

Chapter 6

¹And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come!" ²And I looked and behold, a white horse! And the one sitting on it having a bow and to him was given a crown, and he went out conquering, and in order that he might conquer.

³And when he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come!" ⁴And another horse came out—fiery red! And to the one sitting on it was granted to him to take peace from the earth, and so that people will slaughter one another, and to him was given a huge sword.

⁵And when he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come!" And I looked and behold, a black horse, and the one sitting on it having a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶And I heard as if a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A choenix of wheat for one denarius, and three choenices of barley for a denarius. But do not harm the oil and the wine."

⁷And when he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come!" ⁸And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And the one sitting on it was named Death, and Hades was following after him. And authority was given to them over one-fourth of the earth, to kill with the sword and with famine and with disease and by the wild animals of the earth.

⁹And when he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been killed because of the word of God and because of the testimony which they held. ¹⁰And they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, Ruler over all, holy and true, do you not judge and avenge our blood from those who live on the earth?"

¹¹And to each of them was given a white robe, and they were told that they should wait yet a little time until {the number} was completed of both their fellow servants and their brothers who were going to be killed, as also they {were}.

¹²And when he opened the sixth seal, I watched, and there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the full moon became as blood, ¹³and the stars in the heavens fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its unripe fruit, being shaken by a stormy wind. ¹⁴And the sky vanished as a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. ¹⁵And the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; ¹⁶and they say to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who is seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷because the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Chapter 7

¹After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, tightly holding back the four winds of the earth so that the wind would not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor against any tree. ²And I saw another angel

coming up from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God. And he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was given to them to harm the earth and the sea, ³saying, "Do not harm the earth, nor the sea, nor the trees until we might seal the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴And I heard the number of those who had been sealed: 144,000, who had been sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 were sealed from the tribe of Judah,

12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,

12,000 from the tribe of Gad,

⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher,

12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,

12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,

⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,

12,000 from the tribe of Levi,

12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,

⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,

12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, and

12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin had been sealed.

⁹After these things I looked, and behold, a huge multitude that no one was able to count—from every nation and tribe and people and language—standing before the throne and before the Lamb, having been clothed in white robes, and palm branches {were} in their hands, ¹⁰and they call out with a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation {belongs} to our God, to the one who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying,

"Amen! The praise and the glory and the wisdom and the thanksgiving and the honor and the power and the strength {be} to our God forever {and} ever! Amen!"

¹³And one of the elders replied, saying to me, "These who have been clothed with white robes—who are they, and from where did they come?" ¹⁴And I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming from the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason, they are before the throne of God

and worship him day and night in his temple.

And the one who is seated on the throne will spread his tent over them.

¹⁶They will not be hungry anymore, and they will not be thirsty anymore,

and the sun will not beat down on them at all,

nor any burning heat,

¹⁷because the Lamb who {is} at the center of the throne will shepherd them

and will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Chapter 8

¹And when he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ²And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

³And another angel came, holding a golden incense bowl, and was stationed at the altar, and much incense was given to him so that he would offer it with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that {was} before the throne. ⁴And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose up before God from the hand of the angel. ⁵And the angel took the incense bowl and filled it with the fire of the altar and threw it onto the earth, and there were crashes of thunder and loud sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

⁶And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves that they might sound them.

⁷And the first angel sounded {his} trumpet, and there was hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was thrown onto the earth, and a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.^[1]

⁸And the second angel sounded {his} trumpet, and something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood, ⁹and a third of the creatures—those having life in the sea—died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

¹⁰And the third angel sounded {his} trumpet, and a huge star fell from the sky, blazing as a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. ¹¹And the name of the star is called Wormwood. And a third of the waters became wormwood, and many of the men died from the waters that became bitter.

¹²And the fourth angel sounded {his} trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark, and the day did not shine {for} a third of it, and likewise the night.

¹³And I looked, and I heard one eagle^[2] flying in the mid-heaven, calling out with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe, to those who live on the earth, from the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound {their} trumpets.”

8:7 ^[1]

8:13 ^[2] instead of

Chapter 9

¹And the fifth angel sounded {his} trumpet, and I saw a star from heaven that had fallen to the earth, and the key to the shaft of the abyss was given to him. ²And he opened the shaft of the abyss, and smoke went up from the shaft as smoke of a huge furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened from the smoke of the shaft. ³And out from the smoke locusts came on the earth, and power was given to them as scorpions have power on the earth. ⁴And it was told to them that they should not damage the grass on the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only the men who did not have the seal of God on {their} foreheads. ⁵And it was given to them that they should not kill them, but that they will be tormented for five months, and their torment {will be} as the torment of a scorpion when it would strike a man. ⁶And in those days, men will seek death but will certainly not find it, and they will greatly desire to die, but death flees from them. ⁷And the appearance of the locusts {was} like horses prepared for war. And on their heads {were something} like crowns like gold, and their faces {were} like faces of men. ⁸And they

had hair like hair of women, and their teeth were as of lions. ⁹And they had breastplates like iron breastplates, and the sound of their wings {was} like the sound of chariots—of many horses running into battle. ¹⁰And they have tails with stingers like scorpions, and in their tails, their power to harm men for five months. ¹¹They have {as} king over them the angel of the abyss. His name in Hebrew {is} Abaddon, and in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

¹²The first woe has passed. Behold, two woes are still coming after these things.

¹³And the sixth angel sounded {his} trumpet, and I heard a voice from the horns of the golden altar that {is} before God, ¹⁴saying to the sixth angel who has the trumpet, “Release the four angels who have been bound at the great Euphrates River.” ¹⁵And the four angels who had been prepared for that hour and day and month and year were released so that they might kill a third of mankind. ¹⁶And the number of the soldiers on horseback {was} two myriads of myriads; I heard their number. ¹⁷And this is how I saw the horses in my vision and those who rode on them—having breastplates {that were} fiery red and dark blue and sulfurous yellow. And the heads of the horses {were} as heads of lions, and from their mouths came fire and smoke and sulfur. ¹⁸A third of mankind were killed by these three plagues: by the fire and the smoke and the sulfur that came out from their mouths. ¹⁹For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails—for their tails {are} like snakes having heads, and with them they injure people. ²⁰And the rest of mankind, those who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so that they will not worship the demons and the idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, that are neither able to see nor to hear nor to walk. ²¹And they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorcery nor of their sexual immorality nor of their thefts.

Chapter 10

¹And I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, having been clothed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head and his face like the sun and his feet like pillars of fire, ²and having in his hand a little scroll, which had been opened. And he put his right foot on the sea and {his} left foot on the land, ³and he shouted in a loud voice like a roaring lion. And when he shouted, the seven thunders spoke out with their own voices. ⁴And when the seven thunders spoke out, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Seal up what the seven thunders said, and do not write it down.” ⁵And the angel that I saw standing on the sea and on the earth raised his right hand to heaven ⁶and swore by the one who lives forever {and} ever, who created heaven and the things in it and the earth and the things in it and the sea and the things in it, “There will no longer be a delay. ⁷But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound {his} trumpet, then the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he proclaimed the good news to his own servants the prophets.” ⁸And the voice that I heard from heaven is speaking to me again, and saying: “Go, take the scroll that has been opened in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.” ⁹And I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little scroll. And he says to me, “Take and eat it, and it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey.” ¹⁰And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it, and it was as sweet {as} honey in my mouth, but after I ate it, my stomach became bitter. ¹¹And they said to me, “It is necessary for you to prophesy again about many peoples and nations and tongues and kings.”

Chapter 11

¹And a reed like a measuring rod was given to me, {someone} said, “Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar, and those who worship in it. ²But leave out the courtyard that is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles, and they will trample the holy city for 42 months. ³And I will grant to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1, 260 days, clothed in sackcloth.” ⁴These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. ⁵And if anyone wishes to harm them, fire comes out from their mouth and devours their enemies, and if anyone might wish to harm them, he must be killed in this way. ⁶They have authority to close up the sky so that no rain might fall {during} the days of their prophesy, and they

have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every plague whenever they would desire. ⁷And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the abyss will make war against them, and he will conquer them and kill them. ⁸And their corpses {will be} in the street of the great city (which is spiritually called Sodom and Egypt) where also their Lord was crucified. ⁹And for three and a half days {some} from {every} people and tribe and tongue and nation look at their corpses, and they do not permit their corpses to be placed in a tomb. ¹⁰And those who live on the earth rejoice over them and celebrate and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who live on the earth. ¹¹But after three and a half days, a breath of life from God entered into them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those seeing them. ¹²And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!" And they went up into heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them. ¹³And at that hour a great earthquake happened, and a tenth part of the city collapsed. And in the earthquake, the names of 7,000 men were killed, and the survivors became terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴The second woe has passed. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

¹⁵And the seventh angel sounded {his} trumpet, and loud voices spoke in heaven, saying,

"The kingdom of the world has become {the kingdom} of our Lord and of his Christ,
and he will reign forever {and} ever."

¹⁶And the 24 elders, who sit on their thrones in the presence of God, fell upon their faces and worshiped God,
¹⁷saying,

"We give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, the one who is, and who was,
and because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.^[1]"

¹⁸And the nations were enraged,
but your wrath has come,
and the time for the dead to be judged,
and to give the reward to your servants
the prophets and to the saints
and to those who fear your name,
the small and the great,
and to destroy those who are destroying the earth."

¹⁹And the temple of God that {is} in heaven was opened and the ark of the covenant of the Lord was seen in his temple. And there were flashes of lightning and loud sounds and crashes of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

11:17 ^[1] but most modern versions do not.

Chapter 12

¹And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and a crown of 12 stars on her head, ²and having in the womb, and she cries out in birth pains and is struggling to give birth. ³And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a huge red dragon having seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. ⁴And his tail sweeps away a third of the stars in heaven and hurled them down to the earth.

And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she would give birth, he might devour her child. ⁵And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is going to rule all the nations with an iron rod. And her child was snatched away to God and to his throne, ⁶and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God there, so that they might provide for her there for 1, 260 days.

⁷And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought back. ⁸But he was not strong enough, nor was a place found for them any longer in heaven. ⁹And the great dragon was thrown down—the ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the one who deceives the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. ¹⁰And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying,

“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Christ,
because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down,
the one who accused them before our God day and night.

¹¹And they conquered him through the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony,
and they did not love their lives even to death.

¹²Therefore rejoice, O heavens,
and those who reside in them!
Woe to the earth and to the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you,
having terrible anger
because he knows he has {only} a little time!”

¹³And when the dragon realized that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴But two wings of a great eagle were given to the woman so that she might flee to the wilderness to her place, where she is taken care of there for a time and times and half a time—away from the face of the serpent. ¹⁵And the serpent poured water like a river out from his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away by a flood. ¹⁶But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon poured out from his mouth. ¹⁷And the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war with the rest of her seed, those who keep the commandments of God and who hold to the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁸And he stood on the sand of the seashore.^[1]

12:18 ^[1]

Chapter 13

¹And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on its horns {were} ten crowns, and on its heads {was} a blasphemous name.^[1] ²And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, and its feet {were} like a bear's, and its mouth {was} like a lion's mouth, and the dragon gave his power to it, and his throne and his great authority. ³And one of its heads {was} like it had been killed, but its fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth marveled {and followed} after the beast, ⁴and they worshiped the dragon, because he gave {his} authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who {is} like the beast, and who is able to fight

against it?" ⁵And to it was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and authority was given to it to act for 42 months. ⁶And it opened its mouth for blasphemies against God, to blaspheme his name and his tabernacle—those who dwell in heaven. ⁷And to it was granted to make war with the saints and to conquer them, and authority was given to it over every tribe and people and tongue and nation. ⁸And all those who live on the earth will worship it—everyone whose name has not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb who was slaughtered from the foundation of the world. ⁹If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

¹⁰If anyone {is} for captivity,

{to captivity} he goes;

if anyone will be killed with the sword,

with the sword he must be killed.

Here is the endurance and the faith of the saints.

¹¹And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and it had two horns like a lamb, and it was speaking like a dragon. ¹²And it exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and it makes it so that the earth and those who live on it will worship the first beast—the one whose lethal wound had been healed. ¹³And it does great signs, so that he might even cause fire to come down to the earth from heaven in front of mankind. ¹⁴And it deceives those who live on the earth through the signs that it has been granted to do in the presence of the beast, telling those who live on the earth to make an image to the beast that has the wound of the sword, but lived. ¹⁵And it was granted to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak, and might cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. ¹⁶And it caused everyone, the small and the great and the rich and the poor and the free and the slave, so that they might give to them a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, ¹⁷and so that no one was able to buy or to sell except the one who has the mark—the name of the beast, or the number of its name. ¹⁸Here is wisdom: The one who has understanding, let him calculate the number of the beast. For it is the number of a man, and its number is 666.

13:1 ^[1] at the beginning of this verse, but the best manuscripts include it as 12:18.

Chapter 14

¹And I looked and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with him {were} 144,000 having his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a voice from heaven as a roar of many waters and as the sound of loud thunder, and the voice I heard was like harpists playing on their harps. ³And they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, and no one was able to learn the song except the 144,000 who had been bought from the earth. ⁴These are the ones that have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from among mankind as firstfruits for God and for the Lamb, ⁵and no lie was found in their mouth, for they are blameless.^[1]

⁶And I saw another angel flying in midair, having the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—even to every nation and tribe and tongue and people— ⁷saying in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. And worship the one who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and the springs of water."

⁸And another {angel}—a second—followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen {is} Babylon the great, who caused all the nations to drink from the wine of her immoral passion."

⁹And another angel—a third—followed them, saying in a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰he will also drink from the wine of the wrath of God that has

been poured undiluted into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur before the holy angels and before the Lamb. ¹¹And the smoke of their torment goes up forever {and} ever, and they have no rest day and night—the ones who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name. ¹²Here is the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”

¹³And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write: Blessed {are} the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “so that they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them.”

¹⁴And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud {was one} like a son of man, having a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. ¹⁵And another angel came out of the temple, crying out in a loud voice to the one sitting on the cloud: “Send out your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, since the harvest of the earth has ripened.” ¹⁶And the one who was sitting on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

¹⁷And another angel came out from the temple that {is} in heaven, he himself also having a sharp sickle. ¹⁸And another angel, the one who had authority over the fire, {came} from the altar, and he shouted in a loud voice to the one who has the sharp sickle, saying, “Send out your sharp sickle and gather in the clusters of grapes of the vines of the earth, since their grapes have ripened.” ¹⁹And the angel swung his sickle to the earth and harvested the grapevine of the earth, and he threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood poured out from the winepress up to the bridles of the horses, for 1, 600 stadia.

14:5 ^[1]

Chapter 15

¹And I saw another great and marvelous sign in heaven: seven angels having seven plagues—the final {ones}, because with them the wrath of God will be completed.

²Then I saw {something} like a sea of glass having been mixed with fire. And those who are victorious over the beast and over his image and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.

³And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

“Great and marvelous {are} your deeds,

O Lord God Almighty.

Righteous and true {are} your ways,

O King of the Ages.^[1]

⁴Who will not fear, O Lord,

and glorify your name,

because {you} alone {are} holy?

For all the nations will come

and worship before you,

because your righteous deeds have been revealed.”

⁵And after these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven had been opened.

⁶And the seven angels holding the seven plagues came out from the temple, having been clothed with pure, bright linen and with golden sashes having been wrapped around {their} chests. ⁷And one of the four living creatures

gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever {and} ever. ⁸And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one was able to enter into the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

15:3 ^[1] instead of

Chapter 16

¹And I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the seven bowls of the wrath of God onto the earth."

²So the first {angel} went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and an ugly and painful sore happened on the men who have the mark of the beast and those who worship its image.

³And the second {angel} poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood, as of a dead {person}, and every living thing in the sea died.

⁴And the third {angel} poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and it became blood. ⁵And I heard the angel of the waters saying,

"You are righteous—the one who is and who was, the Holy One—

because you have judged these things.^[1]

⁶Because they poured out the blood of the saints and prophets,

you have also given them blood to drink;

it is what they deserve."

⁷And I heard the altar saying,

"Yes, O Lord God Almighty,

your judgments {are} true and righteous."

⁸And the fourth {angel} poured out his bowl on the sun and it was granted to it to scorch men with fire. ⁹And men were scorched by the great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has the authority over these plagues, but they did not repent to give him glory.

¹⁰And the fifth {angel} poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom became darkened, and they chewed on their tongues because of the pain. ¹¹And they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pain and because of their sores, but they did not repent of their deeds.

¹²And the sixth {angel} poured out his bowl into the great river, the Euphrates, and its water was dried up so that the way of the kings from the rising of the sun might be prepared. ¹³And I saw {coming} from the mouth of the dragon and from the mouth of the beast and from the mouth of the false prophet three unclean spirits like frogs,

¹⁴for they are spirits of demons performing signs, who go out to the kings of the whole world to gather them together for the battle on the great day of God Almighty. ¹⁵("Behold! I come as a thief! Blessed {is} the one who watches and keeps his garments, so that he might not walk around naked and they might see his shameful condition.") ¹⁶And they brought them together at the place that is called Armageddon in Hebrew.

¹⁷And the seventh {angel} poured out his bowl into the air and a loud voice came out from the temple, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸And there came about flashes of lightning and sounds and crashes of thunder, and a great earthquake happened—such as has not ever happened from {when} man had not {yet} been on the earth, so powerful {and} great {was} the earthquake. ¹⁹And the great city became {split} into three parts and the cities of the

nations collapsed, and Babylon the Great was remembered before God to give to her the cup of the wine of the wrath of his fury. ²⁰And every island fled, and the mountains were not found. ²¹And great hailstones, about a talent {in weight}, come down from heaven upon men, and the men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because that plague is exceedingly great.

16:5 ^[1]

Chapter 17

¹And one of the seven angels who has the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, ²with whom the kings of the earth committed sexual immorality and those living on the earth became drunk from the wine of her sexual immorality." ³And he carried me away in the Spirit to a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast being full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. ⁴And the woman was dressed in purple and scarlet and had been adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of detestable things and the impurities of her sexual immorality, ⁵and on her forehead had been written a name: "Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Prostitutes and of the Abominations of the Earth." ⁶And I saw that the woman is drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus, and having seen her, I marveled with great wonder. ⁷But the angel said to me, "Why are you astonished? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that is carrying her, that has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸The beast that you saw existed, does not exist now, but is about to come up from the abyss, and it will go to destruction, and those who live on the earth, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life since the foundation of the world, will be astounded when they see the beast that existed, and does not exist, but will come. ⁹Here {is} the mind that has wisdom: The seven heads are seven hills where the woman is seated on them, and they are seven kings; ¹⁰five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come. But when he comes, it is necessary for him to remain a little while. ¹¹And the beast that was but is not, is itself also an eighth {king}; but is from among those seven and is going to destruction. ¹²And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they will receive authority as kings for one hour with the beast. ¹³These have one mind, and they give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and those with him {are} called and chosen and faithful." ¹⁵And he says to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues. ¹⁶And the ten horns that you saw, and the beast—they will hate the prostitute, and they will make her desolate and naked, and they will devour her flesh, and they will burn her completely with fire, ¹⁷for God has put into their hearts to do his purpose and to do one purpose and to give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God will be fulfilled. ¹⁸And the woman that you saw is the great city that has a kingdom over the kings of the earth."

Chapter 18

¹After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined by his glory. ²And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying,

"Fallen {is} Babylon the great!

And she has become a dwelling place of demons

and a refuge of every unclean spirit

and a refuge of every unclean and detestable bird.^[1]

³For all the nations have drunk from the wine of her immoral passion

and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her

and the merchants of the earth have become rich from the power of her sensual way of living.”

⁴And I heard another voice from heaven saying,

“Come out from her, my people,

so that you might not share in her sins,

and so that you might not receive from her plagues.

⁵For her sins have piled up as far as heaven,

and God has remembered her sinful actions.

⁶Give back to her even as she has given,

and repay her double, twice as much according to her deeds;

in the cup that she mixed, mix double for her.

⁷As much as she glorified herself and lived in luxury,

give her just as much torture and grief.

For she says in her heart,

‘I sit {as} a queen

and I am not a widow

and I will certainly not see mourning.’

⁸Therefore, in one day her plagues will come:

death and mourning and famine,

and she will be consumed by fire,

for the Lord God who judges her {is} mighty.”

⁹And the kings of the earth who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning, ¹⁰having stood at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying,

“Woe, woe to the great city,

Babylon, the powerful city!

For in one hour your judgment has come.”

¹¹And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, because no one buys her cargo anymore— ¹²cargo of gold and silver and precious stone and pearls and fine linen and purple cloth and silk and scarlet cloth and every scented wood and every ivory vessel and every vessel from precious wood and bronze and iron and marble ¹³and cinnamon and spice and incense and myrrh and frankincense and wine and oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep and horses and chariots and slaves and souls of men. ¹⁴And your autumn fruit, the desire of your soul, has gone away from you, and all the luxury and the splendor has perished from you, and they will certainly not be found any longer. ¹⁵The merchants of these things who became rich will stand at a distance from her because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning loudly,

¹⁶saying,

“Woe, woe to the great city—
having been dressed in fine linen
and purple and scarlet
and adorned with gold
and precious stones and pearls—

¹⁷for in one hour such great wealth has been destroyed.”

And every ship's captain and all who sail to a place and sailors and as many as work the sea stood at a distance

¹⁸and were crying out, seeing the smoke of her burning, saying, “What city {is} like the great city?” ¹⁹And they threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and mourning, saying,

“Woe, woe to the great city
in which all who have ships
in the sea became rich from her wealth,
for in one hour she was destroyed.”

²⁰“Rejoice over her, O heaven,
and saints and apostles and prophets,
for God has pronounced your judgment against her!”

²¹And one mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying,

“In this way, Babylon, the great city,
will be thrown down with violence
and will certainly not be seen anymore,

²²and the sound made by harpists and musicians
and flute players and trumpeters
will certainly not be heard anymore in you,
and every craftsman
will certainly not be found in you anymore,
and the sound of a mill
will certainly not be heard anymore in you.

²³And the light of a lamp
will certainly not shine in you anymore,
and the voices of the bridegroom and the bride
will certainly not be heard in you anymore,
for your merchants were the princes of the earth,

because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery.

²⁴And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints
and of all those who have been killed on the earth.”

18:2 ^[1]

Chapter 19

¹After these things I heard as if the loud voice of a large crowd in heaven saying,

“Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power to our God,

²because his judgments {are} true and righteous;

because he has judged the great prostitute

who was corrupting the earth with her sexual immorality,

and he has avenged the blood of his servants

from her hand.”

³And they spoke a second {time}:

“Hallelujah!

And the smoke rises from her forever {and} ever.”

⁴And the 24 elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who is seated on the throne, saying,

“Amen. Hallelujah!”

⁵And a voice came out from the throne, saying,

“Praise our God,

all his servants,

and those who fear him,

the small and the great.”

⁶And I heard as if the sound of a great crowd, and as if the sound of many waters, and as if the loud sound of thunder, saying,

“Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God Almighty reigns.

⁷Let us rejoice and exult

and give him the glory,

because the wedding celebration of the Lamb has come,

and his bride has made herself ready.

⁸And it had been given to her that she might be dressed

in bright {and} clean fine linen"

(for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints).

⁹And he says to me, "Write: Blessed {are} those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb," and he says to me, "These are true words of God." ¹⁰And I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he says to me, "Do not do that! I am a fellow servant of you and your brothers who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

¹¹And I saw heaven having been opened, and behold, a white horse, and the one riding on it is called faithful and true, and he judges and wages war in righteousness. ¹²Now his eyes {are like} a fiery flame, and on his head {are} many crowns, having a name written that no one knows except himself. ¹³And he is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is called the Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies of heaven were following him on white horses, dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵And from his mouth goes out a sharp sword so that with it he might strike the nations, and he will shepherd them with an iron rod, and he tramples the winepress of the wrath of the fury of God Almighty. ¹⁶And he has a name written on {his} robe and on his thigh: "King of kings and Lord of lords."

¹⁷And I saw one angel standing in the sun, and he called out in a loud voice, saying to all the birds flying in midheaven, "Come, be gathered together for the great supper of God, ¹⁸so that you might eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those sitting on them and the flesh of all {men}—both free and slaves—and small and great."

¹⁹And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies having been gathered to make war with the one sitting on the horse and with his army. ²⁰And the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs before him, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image. The two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ²¹And the rest were killed by the sword of the one who sat on the horse, {the sword} that came out from his mouth, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Chapter 20

¹And I saw an angel coming down from heaven having the key to the abyss and a great chain in his hand. ²And he took hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, which is the devil and Satan, and bound him for 1,000 years. ³And he threw him into the abyss and shut {it} and sealed {it} over him so that he would not deceive the nations anymore until the 1,000 years would be completed. After that, it is necessary for him to be released for a short time.

⁴And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them, both the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who did not worship the beast nor his image and did not receive the mark on {their} forehead or on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for 1,000 years. ⁵(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the 1,000 years were ended.) This {is} the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy {is} the one who has a part in the first resurrection! Over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for 1,000 years.

⁷But when the 1,000 years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will go out to deceive the nations that {are} at the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them together to the battle. The number of them {will be} like the sand of the sea. ⁹And they went up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

¹⁰And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet {were}, and they will be tormented day and night forever {and} ever.

¹¹And I saw a great white throne and the one seated on it, from whose presence the earth and the heaven fled away, but no place was found for them. ¹²And I saw the dead—both the great and the small—standing before the throne, and books were opened, and another book was opened, which is the {Book} of Life. And the dead were judged from the things that were written in the books, according to their deeds. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead who {were} in it, and Death and Hades gave up the dead who {were} in them, and each of them was judged according to their deeds. ¹⁴And Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death—the lake of fire. ¹⁵And if anyone was not found written in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Chapter 21

¹And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a great voice from the throne saying, “Behold! The tabernacle of God {is} with men, and he will live with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them.^[1] ⁴And he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death will not be any longer, nor grieving nor crying nor pain. They will not be any longer; the first things have passed away.” ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “Behold! I make all things new.” And he says to me, “Write, because these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶And he said to me, “It is done! I {am} the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end. To the one who thirsts I will give without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷The one who conquers will inherit these things, and I will be his God, and he will be my son. ⁸But the cowards and unbelieving and detestable and murderers and sexually immoral and sorcerers and idolaters and all the liars—their place {will be} in the lake burning with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

⁹And one of the seven angels came—the one who had the seven bowls that were full of the seven last plagues—and he spoke with me, saying, “Come here. I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God; its brilliance {was} like a very precious stone, like a stone of crystal-clear jasper, ¹²having a great and high wall having 12 gates and 12 angels at the gates, and names were written {on the gates}, which were those of the 12 tribes of the sons of Israel. ¹³On the east {were} three gates, and on the north three gates, and on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city had 12 foundations, and on them {were} the 12 names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb. ¹⁵And the one who was speaking with me had a golden measuring rod so that he might measure the city and its gates and its wall. ¹⁶And the city is laid out {as} a square, and its length {is} as much as {its} width. And he measured the city with the measuring rod, at 12,000 stadia (the length and the width and the height of it are equal). ¹⁷And he measured its wall, 144 cubits {thick} by man’s measurement (which is {also} an angel’s {measurement}). ¹⁸And the material of its wall {is} jasper and the city—pure gold, like clear glass. ¹⁹The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone. The first foundation {was} jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. ²¹And the 12 gates {are} 12 pearls; each of the gates was from a single pearl, and the streets of the city {were} pure gold, like transparent glass. ²²And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty is its temple, and the Lamb. ²³And the city does not have need of the sun nor the moon so that it might shine on it, because the glory of God shone on it, and its lamp {is} the Lamb. ²⁴And the nations will walk by the light of it, and the kings of the earth bring their glory into it.^[2] ²⁵And its gates will never be shut during the day, for there will be no night there. ²⁶And they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it, ²⁷but anything unclean will certainly not enter into it, nor the one who does abominations and falsehoods, but only those who are written in the book of life of the Lamb.

21:3 ^[1] but the best manuscripts do not.

21:24 ^[2]

Chapter 22

¹And he showed me the river of the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb, ²in the middle of its street. And on this side and on that side of the river {was} the tree of life, bearing 12 {crops of} fruit, bearing its fruit according to each month, and the leaves of the tree {are} for the healing of the nations. ³And there will no longer be any curse, and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will serve him. ⁴And they will see his face, and his name {will be} on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night, and they have no need of the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, because the Lord God will shine on them, and they will reign forever {and} ever.

⁶And he said to me, "These words {are} trustworthy and true, and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants what must happen soon." ⁷"And behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed {is} the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

⁸And I, John, {am} the one who saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing me these things. ⁹But he says to me, "Watch out! I am a fellow servant of you and of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God!"

¹⁰And he says to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. ¹¹Let the one who is unrighteous still be unrighteous, and let the morally filthy one still be morally filthy, and let the righteous one still do righteousness, and let the holy one still be holy." ¹²"Behold, I am coming quickly, and my reward {is} with me, to pay back each one just as his deeds are. ¹³I {am} the alpha and the omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. ¹⁴Blessed {are} those who wash their robes so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter into the city through the gates.^[1] ¹⁵Outside {are} the dogs and the sorcerers and the sexually immoral and the murderers and the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶I, Jesus, sent my angel to testify to you about these things to the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷And the Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" And the one who thirsts, let him come. The one who desires it, let him freely take the water of life.

¹⁸I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone might add to them, God will add to him the plagues that are written about in this book. ¹⁹And if anyone might take away from the words of this book of prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are written about in this book.^[2]

²⁰The one who testifies these things says, "Yes! I am coming quickly." Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus {be} with the saints. Amen.

22:14 ^[1] some older copies read

22:19 ^[2]

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